

Johnny Hudgins Tells of Topsy Turvy Customs in S. America

Men Wear Peg Leg Pants, Four Button Coats, Tip their Hats, Kiss Each Other's Hands and Make Up their Faces with Powder and Rouge. Stage Manager and Assistant Wear Dinner Clothes. Every Thursday a Holiday, Stores Shut Tight. Meters Hidden in Taxis. Any Woman Found in the Streets After 11:30 P.M., May be Freely Insulted.

Johnny Hudgins, the famous Wah-Wah man, with the now famous shoes, made a South American tour, some time ago, covering the principal cities of that continent under the direction of Cairo, the Ziegfeld of Latin America. He was at the head of a troupe of excellent performers.

Hudgins was fresh from his European triumphs. He had enjoyed the acclaim of English and French monarchs and the wild applause of the Paris music halls. He found applause in South America, but not the same type of applause as Europe offered him. He was a bit non-plussed.

It took him only a short time to find out that the South American, while he is like the Parisian in many ways, takes his entertainment in a more leisurely fashion. And this is not all that Johnny Hudgins found out about the Latin Americans.

He observed many of their customs and found first, amusement, then a genuine interest in the manner in which they went about their daily affairs. In speaking of these things between chuckles he gave an interesting sketch of South American life. "I could talk all day about the customs and habits of the South Americans. They are an interesting people. I certainly enjoyed myself the whole month I was there with my troupe. All the girls in the troupe enjoyed the experience, too. I can not remember any connected story of the tour, so I'll just mention the things as they come to me.

Blacks Up in Brazil
"In Brazil I found black people occupying all positions. I saw them in the banks, in the exchange, in the police force, in the most aristocratic and select gatherings, in the swiftest restaurants, in politics, and in the civil occupations.

"French and Spanish are the languages spoken. I tried to learn them both and succeeded in getting a smattering of each. Just to make myself understood with some difficulty. It was a lot of fun trying to make the people understand me. I used my hands a great deal.

"I was there when the Prince of Wales opened the Exposition.

No Fast Shows
"The first thing I found out about South American audiences was that they do not like a fast show. I mean by that, if you come out on the stage and do a fast Charleston dance, they just look in wonder at you; they don't follow you at all. They like a nice

leisurely dance with a lot of grace to it too. And it doesn't make any difference how good you are, they do not applaud while you are in your act. And when your act is over they shout, 'Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!' and you need not look for any more either. That is sincere applause, but no such thing as the repetition of a number that is particularly good. They just don't like peppy shows as the Americans call them. Don't give a South American audience too much, or they will hiss. One prima donna was hissed for her overanxiety to please.

"Our show was under the auspices of Cairo, the Ziegfeld of South America. He referred to me as the Black Maurice Chevalier.

"I didn't understand what was wrong with the show until a colored lad, who spoke Spanish, told me what the trouble was. It was a job to slow the show down, too, but we finally did and then the response from the audience showed that they were pleased.

Stage Manager In
"It was a real problem to get the stage manager to see that the lights were changed on time, the scenes shifted and proper entrance cues carried out. You see, the first and second stage managers wear tuxedo suits and do not touch the lights or the props. This is the way it is done: The first stage manager tells the second stage manager, who in turn informs a third stage manager, who does the job. Imagine what a time I had with these managers, and my bad Spanish, too.

Every Thursday a Holiday
"The people down there eat a leisurely lunch, taking off an hour or more. Every Thursday is a holiday, and what a day. You can't even buy a collar button on that day. From 4 o'clock till 8 on Thursdays the whole city turns out for a promenade up and down the main streets. The interesting thing to note in these promenades is that the men make up, too. That is, they have male manequins.

"People whom I did not know often bowed to me and spoke. They knew I was an artist.

"The most beautiful race tracks I have ever seen are in South America.

Four-Button Suits for Men
"You don't find any airplane shoulders or bell-bottom trousers there. The men wear awkward looking four-button suits. Two buttons are near the lapel and two near the bottom of



JOHNNY HUDGINS in two characters.



the coat. All of them wear bow ties and peg-leg pants. The people love loud colors. The women are beautiful. They do not wear mantillas except out in the provinces.

"The parks in Buenos Aires are wonderful; and statues are on nearly every green spot of ground.

"Every nationality is to be found in South America. Most of the black people are to be found in Brazil; that is, in large numbers.

Men's Hands Kissed
"The people kiss your hand like the Englishman, when he is introduced to a lady.

"A taxicab in Buenos Aires is not like a taxicab in New York. Every cab in a fine looking American-made car that looks exactly like a private car. The meters are hidden and the chauffeur has a uniform. All the cars are right-hand drive. You may keep a cab all day and pay not over six or seven dollars for the fare.

"The bananas in South America are small.

Wine With Every Meal
"Wine is served with every meal. There is the cheap wine that is always placed on the table just like water; other wines of a more expensive variety are ordered. The people like brown beans and the large peas. I very seldom saw peas. The people eat much fruit, apples, pears, bananas, and grapes.

How Grapes are Eaten
"The most peculiar sight I saw at a meal was a man eating grapes. He took a grape, put it in a little bowl of water, wiped it on his napkin, and then put it into his mouth. Just magnify the speed of this action about a dozen times above normal, and you can see what a funny action it appears to be, and yet this man did this while holding a conversation. All the people eat grapes like that. You could mark time to the tune of 1, 2, 3, 4 in quick fashion if you watched long enough.

Americans Drank Everything
"The coffee and tea shops were there in profusion. The people drink hot tea and coffee even during the hot part of the day. The folks in our troupe drank everything. I liked champagne and always kept a bottle in my room.

Females in Orchestras
"The restaurants have their regular meal hours and rarely do you find them serving between meals. Breakfast is early and supper is between eight and nine. All of these restaurants have women in the orchestra in

BEWARE OF REDS SAYS DEPRIEST

DES MOINES, Iowa.—"Put men in office who will give you a square deal and you will win out."

That was the message of Representative Oscar DePriest as he spoke at the State Fairgrounds during the first anniversary celebration of the Republican Voters' League.

Representative DePriest flayed the federal civil service for using photographs instead of fingerprints, and stated that the Communists are using the colored man as a tool to undermine his jobs.

He was welcomed by Governor Dan Turner and by Mayor Crouch on behalf of the city and state and was introduced by the Hon. C. C. Dowell, U.S. Representative from the Seventh Iowa District.

Many other dignitaries were present and music was furnished by the Des Moines Booster Band and by a chorus of 50 voices.

costume. They play the harp, cello, etc.

"All of the orchestras are in a balcony perched up on the side of the wall, reached by a ladder.

"Some of the bands in South America are good. I saw some colored fellows playing in them; some of them were the leaders.

Tip Your Hat
"Everybody tips his hat when he meets you on the street, even the policeman on the beat. When a funeral passes by everybody stands still and holds his hat in his hand. "A man came to me to ask the time. He immediately removed his hat.

Bad Women
"The woman who goes to the cabaret is generally of bad character. There are only a few cabarets where respectable women can go. Any woman who remains out after 11:30 p.m., is subjected to insult without police intervention.

"The prostitutes wear hats in South America. The red light district is under government supervision.

"One never says "Good morning" in South America; it is always "Good night."



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Look to this cause—

Does your baby have nights when he fusses, tosses and seems unable to go quickly, quietly to sleep? Look for one common cause, doctors say. A constipated condition.

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HER HUSBAND LEFT AND BROKE HER HEART

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healthy and physically attractive. This rich, vegetable tonic which contains nature's own roots and herbs, invigorates and strengthens you, and helps to give abundant vitality, energy and strength. Start taking G.F.P. today. You'll feel better than you have in years. Your dealer sells the big \$1.00 bottle on a money-back guarantee.

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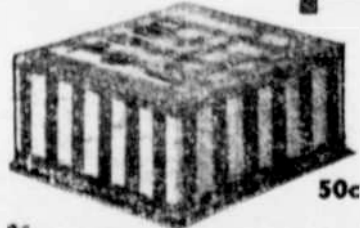
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