

FUTURE

The Newsweekly for Today

Vol. I No. 23

Kansas City, Missouri, June 14, 1935

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FUTURISMS

There is a certain pathos in the statement of Attorney-General McKittrick in re the conference on the insurance compromise. As quoted by the St. Louis Star-Times, he said: "I had previously been asked by O'Malley to attend the conference, but I pleaded I was too tired to go. Then Pendergast called me, and asked me to go. I said I would and I did."

In a recent trial in the United States district court here, W. W. Graves, Jr., Jackson County's overworked prosecutor, was asked whether political influence ever had entered a criminal case since he had been prosecutor.

"There never has been political influence used in any case, except the Gadwood case," he replied.

John Gadwood was sentenced to a ten-year term in the penitentiary when a circuit court jury found him guilty of manslaughter in connection with one of the murders on Kansas City's last bloody election day. Those who control this city's political destinies have not bothered to inquire as to the identity of the ten or more gunmen who accompanied Gadwood on his sanguine errand. Gadwood, of course, has appealed.

For once the rabbits have turned on the foxes. Sheriff Thomas B. Bash, sure-shot gangster nemesis; "Doc" L. C. Johnson, veterinarian director of the city fire department, and Mitchel J. Henderson, probate judge, Rabbit Democrats all, have assembled a 1,200-acre tract near Lake Tapawingo for fox hunting. Scarlet coats and other trick outfits are taboo. These Missourians sit on a hilltop and listen to the baying of their hounds on the chase.

Newspaper headline: Hopkins Has Surrendered His Nonpartisan Principles—State Administrators and Lesser Officials Will Disburse the Billions with Eye on 1936 Campaign. Some inkling of this fact seeped through Kansas City's subconscious mind several weeks ago when Matthew S. Murray, Pendergast director of public works, was appointed Missouri works progress administrator to spend the state's millions of the public works fund.

Jazz, declared John T. Harding, eminent lawyer and patron of the arts, in a recent address, is a monster, a mental miasma, a contagion of lawlessness, perversion, distortion and lewdness, a thing that sneers at chastity, a rebellion against the masters, the "Gloria Patri" chanted backward, the "Descent from the Cross" hung upside down, a mockery that denies Christ and stones the prophets.

We didn't realize it was so bad. We always thought it was a lot of noise to which people danced.

Another group of Eagles received letters early this week, incidentally dunning them for the year's dues, but primarily spreading the glad news that T. J. Junior was to head another class to be initiated Wednesday night, June 12.

AND ONLY MAN

Mayor Smith made a neighborly proposal a few weeks ago, to improve living conditions in certain parts of the city by beautifying vacant lots to make them like little parks at city expense. At about the same time it appeared that if we scrambled pretty hard we might get two million

dollars for the beasties in Swope Park. Then we had a Federal Housing Survey to show how many persons per bathtub there were in this city, how many had lights and gas. It began to appear that the animals had a better time of it than some of the citizens.

The gentleman tiger sitting up there on the first page lives in a cage lined with very hand-
IS VILE

some tile. The floor is smooth cement, painted, and covered with fresh country straw. Sally, the giddy chimpanzee, sits in the sun reflectively eating tidbits, a very comfortable and decent (now that she's glassed in) old lady with her best years behind her, but peace ahead to the time she dies.

In the nearly roofless house you see above, there lives another old lady. Her habits are no cleaner than Sally's, and she has no one to clean up after her. This second old lady's house has no lights in it (she burns kerosene), no water, no gas, no toilet. There is a privy on the back porch, but it has had infrequent attention and cannot longer be used.

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FUTURE

June fourteenth

FOREIGN

Laval Forms Cabinet

After a week which saw six French political leaders fail in their efforts to form a government able to command a majority in the Chamber of Deputies and during which a serious flight from the franc took place, Pierre Laval, Minister for Foreign Affairs in the defeated Flandin Cabinet, succeeded in organizing a government which was promptly given the dictatorial powers thought necessary to save the franc and to combat the growing evils of deflation from which France has been suffering. Although the Chamber and the Senate showed no enthusiasm when he appeared before them, M. Laval has received favorable comment from all sections of the French press. The only criticisms made were directed toward some of his cabinet selections. This indicates the utmost confidence in M. Laval and places entire responsibility for the success or failure of his as yet unformulated program upon his own shoulders.

As a result of the support given M. Laval, most observers believe the next few months in France will be relatively quiet with little prospects for devaluation of the franc. But it is feared that unless the budgetary and Treasury problems are solved by Autumn, a new period of political and monetary uncertainty is bound to recur regardless of the strong technical position of the Bank of France.

British Government Reorganized

The long expected reorganization of the British Government also took place during the week with Stanley Baldwin, Conservative party leader succeeding J. Ramsay MacDonald, Laborite, as Prime Minister. The new cabinet retains the national complexion of the former government with the allocation of three cabinet posts to the National Laborites, three to the National Liberals, and the remaining sixteen to the Conservatives. As was anticipated, Sir John Simon was shifted to the Home Office, and Sir Samuel Hoare, Secretary of State for India in the MacDonald cabinet, was made Foreign Secretary. This change in the foreign portfolio is expected to promote Anglo-American cooperation as well as to usher in a more nationalistic foreign policy with special emphasis placed on Great Britain's defense problems. An entirely new

procedure designed to strengthen the representation of the Foreign Office in the Cabinet was instituted by the appointment of a Minister without Portfolio to deal especially with League of Nations affairs. Anthony Eden was given this new post, one which he well deserves in view of his unusual success at Geneva during the past year.

Chaco Peace Expected

Through the good offices of an American mediating group which included the United States, representatives of Bolivia and Paraguay are reported to have reached an agreement providing for an armistice in the Chaco hostilities during which the two countries will endeavor to settle their differences by direct negotiation. The Paraguayan Government has already assented to the plan and South American diplomatic circles are confident that Bolivia's acceptance will soon be received. The accord is understood to provide for eventual arbitration at The Hague Court if the territorial question cannot be adjusted through direct talks.

G. L. C.

ARSON

AYLOR

Ben C. Aylor, Webb City, Mo., real estate dealer, who owned the Rochambeau Hotel here, which burned March 11, 1932, lost a federal court civil case last week and was ordered to return to the insurance companies \$77,500 he had collected on the fire, declared to have been arson.

A federal court jury found that Aylor had "committed a crime" and Judge Merrill E. Otis directed a verdict for the return of the \$77,500.

This was the same Ben Aylor against whom arson charges were successfully bungled in the state courts here by W. W. Graves, Jackson County prosecutor. So feeble and faulty was the case presented against Aylor by Prosecutor Graves that the trial judge threw the case out of court. The prosecutor then dismissed charges against Hugh A. (Frock) Thompson, who said that he caused the burning of the Rochambeau, and that he collected \$12,000 from Aylor for doing so, after the insurance companies had paid up.

Thompson went to Ralph E. Truman, chief agent for insurance companies in the prevention and detection of arson plots in this section of the country, after failing to collect additional money from Aylor. He offered to "spill the beans" for \$20,000. Truman was not summoned as a witness in the state trial.

William S. Hogsett, attorney for the insurance companies in the federal court case, asserted in court that the state's arson case against Aylor and Thompson had failed because the two had retained lawyers with political influence. The county prosecutor, in other words, was just going through the motions. John G. Madden, George Aylward and James Daleo were attorneys for Aylor and Thompson in the state courts. The federal court jury, by its verdict, proclaimed its faith in what Mr. Hogsett told it. That phase of the case was not emphasized in Kansas City newspapers.

This is, of course, not the first case in which a federal court in Kansas City has found a man guilty after he had been allowed to go free in a state court. The Gargotta and Claiborne scandals are cases in point. It will be remembered that scandalously perjured testimony permitted Gargotta, a minor gangster and killer, to be acquitted in an open and shut murder case in which he had been caught red-handed with a blazing pistol in his hands shooting at Sheriff Tom Bash, after a gang murder. Bullets from Gargotta's pistol were found in the

murdered man's body.

Murder was not involved in the Rochambeau arson case. The good name and good faith of the officials sworn to enforce the law in Jackson County was involved, and still is. Pretty deeply involved, we'd say.

The federal court has saved \$77,500 for the insurance companies and their stockholders. It has given crime a setback in Jackson County. Crime in Jackson County needs
DIKES, THEY SAID

Some 200,000 (McElroy count) sacks of sand and dirt were piled helter skelter along the banks of the Kaw to "protect the city from a flood." The piles of sacks were referred to as dikes or levees.

The water never came within 10 feet of reaching the tops of the banks but it is a poor disaster that can't put some money into the pockets of the political machine boys.

Engineers who viewed the flood "levees" laughed loudly. They said they would not have held back a drop of water. But the city is to get a bill. The work was done by two politically-affiliated companies, the Boyle-Prior Construction company and the Paul Patton Construction company.

Citizens who took time to go down and look at the dikes erected during the last week when the Kaw was rising were astonished. From the Terminal bridge to the Twenty-third street viaduct a thin, low line of sacks were dumped. A large number of the sacks were so rotten that the sand split them and spilled along the railroad tracks. It was a poor imitation of a levee.

But these "levees" were down in the Bottoms where few would see them and police were stationed at the roads entering the district to keep the public away. The administration did not want the public to see the "levees."

Carrying on the farce, City Manager McElroy issued a statement about how he did not want to take any chances in having the city flooded but said he was not ready to say how much the bill would be.

"It is better to be prepared although we had to spend money and the floods did not rise high enough to hurt us," said the city manager.

And everybody who saw the "levees" knew that if the waters had risen high enough to go over the banks the politically-scattered sacks would have been so much boondoggling for the boys.

LUSCIOUS PRIZE- "COMPROMISE"

Down to the dock in New York harbor raced Jobholder R. Emmet O'Malley, Missouri insurance commissioner. Into the rose-perfumed stateroom of T. J. Then out he bowed, wreathed in smiles, with some orders to take back to the Missouri state capitol.

So gleeful was the tale-bearing O'Malley he let the cat out of the bag. He was going back with orders to crack the whip over Governor Park and Attorney General McKittrick to speed up the insurance rate "compromise" that would dump millions of dollars of Missouri insurance buyers' funds into the hands of politicians—Pendergast politicians, of course.

This incident, staged between O'Malley and Pendergast as the Kansas City Democratic machine boss waited for the gangplank to be raised for his pleasure jaunt to Europe for three months, afforded good Missourians a spectacle of servility on the part of state officials.

No seance props were needed for good Missourians to picture the good ship Normandie, which bore the boss abroad, with the city hall atop one funnel and the dome of the state

capitol atop another.

No one doubted Jobholder O'Malley's flying, last-minute frolic to the boss' ear was financed by the taxpaying citizens of Missouri. What a spectacle; a public servant chasing off to New York to see Pendergast to get orders.

A scheme had been cooked up to dump about \$2,500,000 of impounded fire insurance funds, saved by previous administrations, into the lap of the state political machine, which is Pendergast. Attorney General McKittrick, who has ambitions to be governor next year, has stayed away from the cooking. Many conferences have been held between the harassed insurance companies and representatives of the machine, chiefly Jobholder O'Malley, a Pendergast lieutenant.

Stop Thief!

It seldom occurs to any of us that we might be a thief. But . aren't we just that if we rob ourselves? And aren't we robbing ourselves if we neglect to provide for the men we will be at age 55, 60 or 65? Why not arrest yourself today and start the plan that will bring you a steady, guaranteed income month after month, as long as you live after that age. Provident Mutual has just the warrant for such an arrest. It's known as the PROVIDENT PROVIDOR and it's one of the most popular, attractive, and comprehensive retirement income contracts available today. Look what it offers you: (1) \$200 a month for life beginning at 55, 60 or 65; (2) \$20,000 to your family if you die before that age; (3) \$40,000 if death is due to accidental cause. Investigate the PROVIDENT PROVIDOR today! Make sure that "Stop Thief" will never apply to you.

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plenty of setbacks. Perhaps what is really needed is more trials in federal courts, and none at all in state courts under the present set-up.

McKittrick has stayed away from all these meetings with the exception of one. It was understood on that occasion Pendergast himself got McKittrick on the telephone Follow to page five

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June fourteenth

FUTURE

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THIRD BULL'S EYE

Ho, Hum, Charley (Cheese) Casciola is free. Also Charley (The Wop) Gargotta. Also John, alias Frank, Mangiaricina. All three hoodlum machine politicians faced murder charges. Three times the county prosecutor's office hit the bull's eye for the political machine which fosters Casciolas, Gargottas and Mangiarieinas and turns them loose upon the citizens.

By hitting the bull's eye is meant that the prosecution functioned weakly; just strong enough that the three boys "beat the rap" and now are night club heroes if you know the kind of night clubs spoken of.

Last week Casciola was put through the formality of trial with not much prosecution. The defense treated the prosecution as a joke. The public looked upon it as a farce. Even some of the boys held their noses. But that time there was reported to have been one man on the jury who made the statement he would not vote to free a so-and-so of a so-and-so even if he knew he was not guilty. Three others felt that the ' thing was too' raw to vote innocent despite the lack of prosecution and a hung jury wound up the first trial.

Back to trial went Casciola Monday. Next day he was free with a verdict of not guilty. He was charged with killing a Negro precinct worker at the last bloody city election. The slayer of the Negro was seen to have been shot in the stomach.

A few minutes after the poll killing Casciola was picked up nearby with a wound in his stomach and taken to the general hospital. There he gave a fictitious name, later admitted his identity. No testimony was given as to what happened at the hospital. The doctor was prevented from testifying as to what Casciola told him. Casciola would tell nothing about how he was shot when questioned by police.

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AROUND AND ABOUT THE AUDITORIUM

Kansas City’s Municipal Auditorium is nearing completion. It is a building of which the city well may be proud. So far its present cost—more than 4 million dollars— is not excessive, taking everything into consideration. Many taxpayers hope the same may be said when the last street is widened and the Municipal Auditorium becomes a going concern.

This article frankly deals with gossip. But “the boys in the know” insist that when the last sale of property adjacent to the auditorium is made, present plans call for a handsome profit to the Yellow Cab Company, an institution manned by an amiable group of gentry known as politicians. The “boys” say further they would not be excited to the extent of swallowing their cigars if Yellow should wind up in possession of old Convention Hall as a home for its saffron vehicles. Whether this will be true is of little consequence. What the citizenry is interested in mainly is to see that the lush trafficways fund of the ten-year improvement program is not spent injudiciously; a fund that began with more than 8 million tempting dollars.

Politicians, like the birds, have been known to feather their nests when doing business with a boss- controlled city administration. FUTURE is brazen enough to express the hope not too many nests will receive lavish linings when the last chapter on the Municipal Auditorium is written. In this respect we submit a few facts dealing with the past, present and probable future of Kansas City’s new meeting place.

City Manager McElroy paid about 1 million dollars for the Auditorium block, bounded by Thirteenth and Fourteenth streets, Central and Wyandotte streets. That some of his awards to favored property owners were excessive is generally known and, we blush to admit it, accepted complacently by the business men of the city. That, however, is ancient history. Then the city decided to apply for a PWA grant for the construction of the building, amounting to 30 per cent of the cost of labor and materials. The project was approved and a contract awarded tentatively to the Boyle-Pryor Construction Company, a firm of political contractors that has been waxing prosperous under the beneficent smile of the Boss, and to a St. Louis organization.

To the unbounded amazement of political hangers-on who believe that not even the government nor the United States army can cross the city administration, Uncle Sam vetoed the contract. He refused to approve it. Why, never was printed for the benefit of Kansas City’s inquisitive readers. But the report was current the contract was so worded with confusing “alternates” it could have permitted a “steal” of from y_2 to % million dollars without interfering with the efficiency of the building. A second contract to a different firm finally was approved and Henry McElroy graciously conceded he could have been wrong in saying a new contract would cost more money. The fine new building arose. It now has almost 4 million dollars of ten-year plan money invested in the enterprise.

Recently the city manager announced Thirteenth Street would be widened fifty feet more by
slic- Follow to page eight

ONE MAN, AT LEAST

An outstate revolt against the machine took form this week with a bitter denunciation of the Kansas City and state machine boss, Thomas J. Pendergast, by William Hirth, Columbia, president of the Missouri Farmers' association.

nominate for the United States senate, or for the great office of governor and other high state offices, and last but more sinister still, who shall or shall not sit upon our supreme bench, and the assumption

NO DEFICIT!

NO DEFICIT?

NO DEFICIT!!

Thomas J. Pendergast, speaking to newspaper men in the swank Waldorf-Astoria hotel in New York before sailing for Europe, said Kansas City did "not have a deficit."

In a lengthy statement Mr. Hirth broke the ground for a Democratic movement in the 1936 primary election to break the Pendergast machine of control of the state administration. Mr. Hirth pointed especially to the fact Pendergast power over the state's government is so far-reaching that Pendergast says who will serve on the bench of the state supreme court.

There has been a ground swell within the Democratic party since the last election to free the party of Pendergast boss control. Mr. Hirth is a potential foe and has the ear of Missouri farmers and a large portion of the party outside of Kansas City. At the last election it was necessary to have Pendergast's OK to get on the Democratic ticket.

In politics nothing succeeds like success and by taking over the state government as fully as he has the city government Pendergast has whipped many a politician into his fold. By special privileges and through the power of his appointments Pendergast has built up a strong machine in St. Louis. By the same system of appointments and political favors he has extended his machine into every county in the state.

At least one man in Missouri has the courage to raise his voice. In a statement issued at his home in Columbia last Sunday, he said, in part:

"And now I want to say that whatever the shortcomings of the recent general assembly may have been, in my opinion they pale into insignificance when compared to the menace of the ever increasing control of the Democratic party in Missouri by Thomas J. Pendergast of Kansas City who in the last two years has, in this respect, become monarch of all he surveys, and who like a certain immortal warrior of old may soon become disconsolate because there are no more worlds for him to conquer.

"Either the self-respecting Democrats of our state must destroy this man's power, or he will destroy the Democratic party, and I am entirely willing to let the future decide the soundness of this prediction.

"In the Kansas City Sunday Star of May 26 there appeared, in my opinion, two of the most astounding news comments that have ever graced the pages of a Missouri newspaper. One of these comments appeared below the likeness of four prominent and worthy Democrats, two of whom are alleged to have the promise of Pendergast support for the supreme court, and the other two for re-election to high state office. In the other article it was stated that the big boss, who was on the eve of departing for Europe, likewise had determined upon certain other

candidates for state office, but with reference to the governorship he still had an open mind—that the suggestion had been made to the big flock of prospective gubernatorial candidates who have made a beaten path to his door to “warm up the track and see what they could do,” and that then when he returns next fall he that this condition of affairs can continue is unthinkable.

“Because Ewing Mitchell of Springfield, Mo., dared to criticize Pendergast and his Kansas City machine a year or so ago the big boss is said to have demanded his scalp as assistant secretary of commerce, and if Senator Truman knows whereof he speaks, Mitchell is ‘on the way out’; and so because Mrs. Emily Newell Blair, who is a credit to the Democracy of Missouri, has dared to criticize a favorite of Mr. Pendergast who will dispense the huge new public works fund in Missouri, she likewise is said to be on the spot.

“I do not know Mr. Pendergast personally, and therefore I am not passing on his merits or demerits as an individual, but if he were a paragon of virtue, and deeply learned in statecraft and the affairs of our state, he would not be fit to exercise the tremendous power he has arrogated to himself, and I repeat that either the Democratic party in this state must purge itself of this power, or its destruction is as certain as the rising and setting of the sun, and those who are in doubt on this score need only recall what happened to Tammany in the last election, to the Vare machine in Philadelphia, to the Mellons in Pittsburg, and to ‘Big Bill’ Thompson in Chicago, and in my opinion the day of reckoning is close at hand.”

Kansas City would like to know about:

The deficit in the sinking funds needed to pay off about \$5,000,000 in bonds maturing next month.

The deficit in law enforcement that makes this a hideout for known criminals and gives protection to all forms of racketeering.

The deficit in payrolls that has forced city workers to go on a diet to keep alive the past fiscal year.

The deficit in street improvement from gasoline tax funds, fraudulently used for general expenses of the machine.

The deficit in the prosecutor’s office that permits the politically engineered springing of such alleged murderers as Charley Gargotta, Cheese Casciola and John, alias Frank, Mangiaricina.

The deficit in honest elections that inspires murder and fraud at the polls.

The deficit in garbage contracts that makes it a racket here.

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Nineteen Thirty-five

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June fourteenth

FUTURE

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FUTURE

The Newsweekly for Today ISSUED EVERY FRIDAY

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“LIVE IN HOPE----”

LITTLE MAN, WHAT NOW?

CITY MANAGER PLAN

“Things ain't never as bad as you think they are, 'cause if they were as bad as you think they are, you couldn't stand it.”

The line is a quotation, or an approximate quotation, from a play called “The Dawn of a Tomorrow.”

Without being sappily optimistic, it is well to remember that things never are as bad as people are inclined to think they are. If they were, our world would have turned up its toes and passed into outer space long years ago, to float through the dim recesses of the universe, a

dark, cold, burned-out little planet, instead of a live, wrangling, puzzled, sometimes even hopeful, one.

Hopeful? you say incredulously, despite depressions and human stupidity, and the recurrent inanities of politics and government, which, at its worst, is merely the seamiest side of human nature in action.

In the two decades following the downfall of Napoleon Bonaparte, the prophets of calamity found plenty of reason to shake their heads gloomily, and assert that the world had lost its grip, and was sliding toward a chaotic finish. Those of the prophets who viewed it through spectacles of the deepest blue would add that, the sooner that occurred, the better, since man had proved his inability to run his little world.

There was widespread unemployment in victorious England in those post-war years, as the invention of machinery threw men out of work. The Duke of Wellington, victor of Waterloo, became a member of the British cabinet, was followed through the streets of London by a hooting, jeering mob, threatening to do him violence, on the very anniversary of the Waterloo battle.

There was a sight for you, my lords and gentlemen! There was proof that the sturdy fiber of English patriotism had gone utterly rotten, if you will, and that hearts of oak had turned to poison ivy.

But the Duke of Wellington survived, and so did England, and government in England was far nearer being representative at the end of the period than it had been at the beginning.

We had a pretty sorry decade or two of our own in the United States following the Civil War; corruption and thievery in high places, a member of the president's cabinet forced to resign when he was caught red-handed in petty graft. Business morals too often were about on the level of those obtaining among pirates during the sanctimonious 1870's. They graded up after a while, even as they have graded up with us since the lush days of normalcy and Jimmy Walker, prosperity and Bill Vare.

The point we are trying to make in all this is that it takes time and infinite patience to make any progress toward a happier world. It takes the passionate belief of youth, and the considered patience of maturity to see us through. Well, we have both, and in what quantity it takes.

The charge is frequently made that, machine or no machine, city government is inevitably extravagant, graft-ridden, and inefficient. This is simply a defeatist alibi not to be tolerated by intelligent citizens. As an example of a city operating under the city manager plan, with real non-partisan government and civil service requirements for city positions, we give you Cincinnati. A recent communication from Manager Dykstra of that city lists the following accomplishments:

1. The sinking fund sold Cincinnati bonds during refunding operations, to yield an average return of 2.55%. Bond authorities say that this is an all-time record in municipal history.
2. The gross bonded debt was decreased by \$5,291,740.
3. The general fund closed with an operating surplus of \$485,931— and all hills paid.
4. The city ended the year with a balance in every trust and operating fund, did not borrow a penny from the banks, issued no deficiency bonds, and paid off the bonds issued for relief purposes in 1932.
5. The computations of Rightor for the National Municipal Review credited Cincinnati with

the lowest tax rate for comparable cities— \$9.92 per thousand. The 1933 rate was \$10.69; the rate for 1935 is \$8.15.

6. Partial pay cuts were restored to city employees.

7. An electric rate settlement refunded more than \$1,200,000 to consumers on bills for the preceding nine months, and provided for reductions in electric bills from 1934 to 1938 of almost \$9,000,000.

8. The year brought the city into a program of public housing and slum elimination. Plans are ready for a \$7,000,000 enterprise and much land is under option.

9. For the first time definite progress has been made towards a completed Columbia Avenue entrance into the heart of the city.

10. There were four significant developments in police progress: (1) Establishment of an Advanced Police School, (2) Creation of a Homicide Squad, (3) Establishment of a Crime Laboratory, (4) Development of a Medical-Legal Institute.

11. Fire losses reached a new low level—\$555,162 for the year; 180,000 inspections and reinspections were made by the fire force.

12. Completion of barless enclosures for a number of the larger animals at the Zoo indicates progress in the modernization program begun in 1933.

13. Archaeologists pronounced the University of Cincinnati's annual expedition and excavations to the region of Ancient Troy the most important archaeological undertaking of this generation.

14. Thirty-two miles of new sewers were constructed—the largest program in any one year in the history of the city. Mill Creek was finally and for all time freed of the pollution which menaced the public health.

15. Thirty-two constructive projects representing 49 improvements were filed with PWA authorities; all of them were approved, and 36 completed.

C. A. Dykstra.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH

“The health of the people is really the foundation upon which all their happiness and all their power as a state depend. ... It should be the first duty of a statesman.”—Disraeli.

Venereal Diseases and the Health Department

What appears to be a common sense attitude is being assumed by the Director of Health, Dr. Schorer, with regard to the control of venereal diseases.

First of all, Dr. Schorer refuses to recognize syphilis and gonorrhea as diseases which are so much more important than diphtheria and typhoid fever that a special department must be conducted and extra help hired to combat them. Neither does he regard these two widespread, controllable diseases as of less importance than the other communicable diseases. His new rules prove that. His discontinuance of the office of Director of Social Hygiene is a warranted economy since the office was provided by his predecessor as a pension to a friend and nothing tangible had been done after many months of opportunity.

In the second place it is the purpose of the Health Department to use the powers already vested in it to enforce the quarantine of those in a communicable stage of either gonorrhea or syphilis if there is failure of cooperation on the part of the victim. Dr. Schorer has gone so far as to state that he will, if necessary, place in solitary confinement under guard, any person who fails to reach the innocuous stage of syphilis through wilful neglect of medical instructions,

whether that person be an indigent going to a public clinic or a private patient reported as non-compliant by his doctor. As this dangerous stage of syphilis can be controlled in from 15 to 21 days under proper management, it is not too much to ask on behalf of the community that infected persons submit to rigid supervision during this minimal period or suffer penalty such as the law amply provides.

In the third place, Dr. Schorer aims to preclude the capitalizing of quacks as a result of the quarantine rule by inviting the ethical members of the medical profession, who desire to treat venereal diseases, to volunteer their services to his department, so that cases able to pay a private physician may be offered a choice from among a group of doctors who will take seriously their social obligations. Failure of a member of this panel to comply with requirements such as fair charges, adequate treatment, the rendering of necessary reports, and the keeping of adequate records, will (and should) result in his removal from the list and the possible loss of income.

This latter provision puts squarely up to the medical profession the Follow to page five
Nineteen Thirty-five

June fourteenth

FUTURE

5

FINANCE

Thus far the country seems to have been able to withstand the loss of the NRA with no serious effects. Most speculative markets apparently view the situation with no alarm. Securities in particular have scored an abrupt rally following the first reaction when the decision was handed down and in most cases now are; higher than they were before. The industrial and utility averages have climbed to new highs for 1935 and even the defunct rails have shown a little life. This does not indicate that business is very perturbed by the abolition of NRA. On the contrary, it seems to point to a belief in better times in store for most lines.

In the commodities there has been some confusion, but it has not been due entirely to the loss of NRA. At first prices of grains and cotton reacted due no doubt over the fate of the AAA program, but apparently the administration plans to go on with its program with certain reservations to keep within the law and now the situation is clearer from that angle.

Wheat has given an exceptionally good account of itself since the supreme court decision was handed down when it is taken into consideration the other influences with which it has had to contend. Most important has been the improvement in crop prospects, indications now pointing to a total yield in excess of domestic requirements, whereas before the breaking of the drought it appeared that the crop again would be decidedly deficient.

Then there is the threatening situation in Canada where the government has worked itself into a situation worse than the old United States farm board found itself, if that is possible. The Canadian government in its price pegging operations has accumulated around 220 million bushels of wheat, and the new crop may add another 300 million to the total. Such a huge surplus hanging over the world market and the necessity of liquidating it is not encouraging to future world prices. The market here also has to contend with lack of speculative or public interest with the new winter wheat harvest and subsequent hedging pressure approaching. Federal interference and high taxes have driven much needed support from the market.

Cotton has been rather erratic, swinging sharply up and down, with the trend lower. The

NRA decision came on the heels of several weeks of rising prices and sudden curtailment of buying power naturally caused a reaction. Another factor has been the drop in cotton textile output, but this cannot be blamed entirely on the loss of NRA because as a result of slackening of orders, mills had been reducing their output since last March. Shading of prices should result in increased demand for cotton textiles and in the long run be a help to the market.

Little change has been noted in heavy industries as a result of the NRA decision and no adverse effect is expected. In fact, the passing of the codes should be an aid to the building industry. New home building is on the upgrade and renovation and repairing of old buildings shows signs of increased activity.

The important thing from the standpoint of business men is that the situation has been returned to their control. Can business continue forward without the codes?

Luscious Prize— “Compromise”

Prom page two

and ordered him to get over to the meeting. Governor Park has stayed away from the meetings and has stated he thought the “compromise” was too one-sided and against the best interests of the public. Neither have approved the said “compromise.”

O’Malley was so elated over his New York coup he could not keep still. When he left Pendergast he was reported to have made the statement that “Park and McKittrick are in accord in favoring the compromise.”

That meant Pendergast had passed the word on down the line for his governor and attorney general to get right on the insurance fund split-up that would be a luscious windfall to the politicians. It also meant that Jobholder O’Malley in his enthusiasm had been a little indiscreet in that he had revealed in such a frank and open manner how Missouri’s state government is run by Pendergast.

This week O’Malley was back in Missouri to conduct “conferences” with state officials on the proposed “compromise.” Many obstacles, especially that part of the funds in the federal court, still face Jobholder O’Malley.

The “compromise” would return only 20 per cent of the impounded funds to the policyholders and O’Malley expects about 20 per cent

R. Emmett O’Malley

of that will never be paid out due to the likelihood policyholders never will be located.

The 80 per cent would go to the

We believe it can. The administration undoubtedly does not believe business can do the job. Right now President Roosevelt is waiting to see. If business fails, then there will be a swing in public sentiment back to the basic idea of NRA and it will be written into the 1936 presidential platform. If business does not fail, NRA will be forgotten. Our guess is that it will be forgotten. insurance company group and from the 80 per cent would be paid about \$1,500,000 for lawyer fees and “any other expenses.” Obviously it would be unwise to list a political payoff in an itemized statement of “expenses” in this case.

O’Malley met his first defeat on the plan when Judge Nike Sevier of the Cole county court kicked out the insurance company suit to recover the impounded funds and found for the policyholders. Obviously if the insurance companies lost their funds and the public recovered them there would be no impounded funds for the political boys to split.

The insurance commissioner, supposed to represent the insurance buying public, became

fighting mad when it looked like the public might win and get the funds returned. He ranted over the state against the judge, appeared before the Chamber of Commerce here and wound up on Pendergast's coattails.

The Kansas City Chamber of Commerce insurance committee rushed into approval of O'Malley's plan after he made a brief explanation of the "compromise" and not such a brief attack upon the Jefferson City judge.

The chamber's insurance committee is composed largely of insurance company representatives who would like to see the rate case ended, fair rates fixed and the whole matter taken out of politics. To the committee that day went chamber president J. Emmet Woodman- see, a Pendergast favor seeker and server.

Perhaps the chamber committee was too quick on the trigger and saw it had stuck its nose into it. A few days later another committee was named to "review" the action of the insurance committee. It met in silence, probably intending to let the thing die.

Briefly, the history of fire insurance rate case in Missouri is this:

In 1922 Ben C. Hyde, then insurance commissioner, ordered a 10 per cent reduction in fire insurance rates. The companies filed suit to stop it and the funds were impounded until 1929 when Hyde's order was upheld by the courts. The policyholders located got all their impounded money back. In 1930 the companies put in an increase of 16 2/3 per cent. The state filed suit this time and funds have been impounded on the increased rate since.

This fund has been piling up and political mouths have been watering to get into it since the machine moved into Jefferson City.

Out of this desire came the O'Malley "compromise" in which the poor public would get a mite and the insurance companies probably would be shaken down for a substantial portion, if not all, of the other 80 per cent.

There's nothing like a good old impounded fund to keep the boys in the political game as it is played by the administration in Jefferson City which is the same machine that stuffs ballot boxes, kills and otherwise governs Kansas City.

CARROLL'S PRETTY G, TOO - -

Kansas City's flair for culture in the theatre has long been recognized as a missing link among the chain of assets that are credited to it. It does seem a shame that productions such as the Vanities play to crowded houses while worthwhile plays such as those of the Abby Theatre Players and Mary of Scotland play only to a mediocre audience. And now we notice among theatre notes that a new revue, the Sketch-Book, produced by that master of nudity, Earl Carroll, is taking its place among the ranks of Broadway summer offerings. Doubtlessly the Sketch-Book, featuring a third-chorus will be offered to Kansas City next winter instead of some of the better plays that would be more appropriate for a populace possessing the intelligence we sincerely believe Kansas City does. To be fair, however, we must admit that some of the fault lies in the fact that Kansas City is not allowed enough of the better-type plays to either prove or disprove their popularity. 'Tho scarcely any of the theatre offerings for the next season have been mentioned, and the type of plays that will reach Kansas City is indefinite as yet, why don't we lose a bit of our sophisticated taste for the risque and cultivate our natural intelligence toward plays of the better- than-average? Or are we being a bit too provincial?

Veneral Diseases and the Health Department

From page four

choice of cooperating with the health authorities or allowing the salaried employees of the city to care for victims of syphilis and gonorrhoea, many of whom are able to pay for their treatment. It should quiet the indignation of some who claim, not without reason, that certain paid employees of the Health Department are getting all of the non-charity referred cases. Judging from the performance in anti-diphtheria campaigns the medical profession will measure up to its responsibilities and spike one more avenue leading to state medicine.

The Missouri Democrat justifies the diversion of gasoline tax funds to the General Hospital fund on the grounds that the people who use cars on the streets are most likely to need the services of the hospital. There are intersections and streets around where a little improvement might lessen the burden on General— but the money goes to General to take care of the accidents at the intersections . . . You figure it out. We're tired.

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6

FUTURE

June fourteenth

THE LONG GREEN

By KATIE KITCHEN

MANNERS

MODES

PARIS SKETCH-BOOK: Schiaparelli scores again with the new East Indian silhouette featuring

soft folds and draped skirts . . . and shows high necklines for daytime wear ... an introduction to coquetry: the long handled parasols of taffeta or taffeta ribbon shown by the above house . . . Lucien Lelong, like all the rest of the Parisian designers likes sheer materials of mere nothing, chiffons, nets, and laces . . . gray is a new thought on the color horizon . . . and not for the Middle-Ages either . . . combine it with blue, you young 'uns . . . the effect is rather startling and very smart . . . Molyneux shows two evening silhouettes . . . and only two . . . one, slim and straight showing the ankles in front . . . the other full from gathers or pleats at the waistline or hips ... what's all this furore about coolie coats . . . seems to be something to it . . . worth investigating . . . for moonlit nights Mainbocher puts a few flower wreaths in the hair . . . now it's not only ruffles . . . but ruffles either horizontal or vertical . . . more sheer materials and still more . . . Maggy Rouff drapes the bodice and puts fullness at the back of the skirt.

It sounds like an extravagant saying, but "sheers" are sweeping the country. It's "sheer" time in Paris ... in New York ... in Boston ... in Kansas City. As they stream into American ports, the new sheer materials possess an international flair that stamps their popularity almost before arrival. And if anything else were needed to prove this popularity, there's the oncoming hot weather that threatens to take the place of our recent flood season (or is this mere optimism?). For there's nothing like combating the summer season with a wardrobe of cobweb-sheer dresses that defy the heat.

These sheers are going to be the first love of every fashion-loving woman. The choice of colors, patterns, and weaves is so varied that everyone's own particular yen may be satisfied. They are divided principally into two classes: the flats and the heavy, chief of which is flat chiffon. This, as you know, is that most diaphanous of all materials that seems to spell every woman's heritage in its own magic ethereal way. But most interesting about it is the Cinderella-like history that is woven about its come-back. Put on the back shelf of fashion for so long, it had been completely forgotten. To even mention bringing it back into high fashion was a faux pas on the part of any designer. But now, in some magical manner, it has risen to be the last word in summer materials, like the little Cinderella who rose from a chimney wench to a princess. And most welcome it is to women who love to dance about-town o' nights in its clinging softness, or gadabout in the afternoon in a tailored navy chiffon with lingerie touches.

If you've been hiding a yen to be soft and sort of robe-de-stylish, you may indulge in the new back to femininity movement to your heart's content. The evening is best interpreted by the floating, ethereal quality of chiffon, not to mention mousseline de sole and lace. The picture is a charming one ... a flash of rainbow colors . . . yards of skirt trailing behind you both swishing and floating taffeta as an underslip for the

This is the asparagus season. In fact, by the time this appears the season will be on the wane, which seems a pity. It is always a pity when perfection fades and the nice long green spears begin to show unmistakable signs of wanting to feather out into stuff for bouquets. But before it's too late let's dwell on the subject for a bit, or a bite, and be sure that we are extracting all the juice from the grape.

No asparagus is good if it reaches the table with a long, hard stem that is just about as edible as the stem of a sturdy sapling. Because the asparagus has to have a strong underpinning is no sign that one has to eat it. It's like serving the hoofs with a beefsteak. To really have it at its best take each stalk individually and break it at the place above the butt end where it first snaps cleanly. You'll see what I mean when you try it. Then scrape each stalk to remove the

outer skin, being careful to cut off the leaves especially along the lower part. Bother? An awful bother but we are considering asparagus and not speed. Then tie the asparagus in bundles with clean cotton string and either steam them, cook them in parchment paper, or if you must boil them, use as little water as possible. Also cook them until the stalks are tender but not until they are mushy.

Now you are ready to proceed. Of course I like asparagus just as is, with a little drawn butter. Toast under it is all right, especially if you're a little short on asparagus. There's nothing like toast to make one portion into twins. Another excellent way to serve it that is a trifle more dressy is with a cream sauce. Personally I like it better than Hollandaise, though that can be pretty superlative. The trouble with Hollandaise is that its own flavor is so masterful that the more shrinking taste of the vegetable is apt to creep quietly away and be forgotten.

I don't mean a white sauce. I mean a cream sauce. The method of course is the same as for white sauce, but the ingredients are richer. Use plenty of butter, two tablespoonsful, say, and rub the flour perfectly smooth. Then instead of milk use cream, or at least part cream, and season it well with white pepper and salt. Have your asparagus ready on a hot plate, and pour the sauce over it. Anyway, I like it.

Gold asparagus has a lot of possibilities, so many in fact that it's worth while cooking some extra just to have it on hand. In a salad it's unbeatable. And here again beware of too powerful tastes running in competition with it. Indeed, unless you haven't enough to go around it's best just laid peacefully on lettuce leaves and serve up with a home made mayonnaise.

Warming up also can be interesting especially if you put it on toast and sprinkle a little grated cheese over it. Run in under the flame and serve very hot. And don't forget asparagus omelettes. Just proceed as usual and when you reach the folding over stage tuck your asparagus into the middle. And a little cheese at this point never hurt anybody's feelings. swishing . . . and chiffon, of course, for the floating. It promises to be portrayed quite a bit this summer at the Country Club and on roof-gardens in town.

Lloyd's, who have the smartest and largest variety of fabrics in town, are showing flat chiffon in twenty-nine shades (if you don't believe it, count them yourself.) Your taste may, according to fashion, run towards either printed or plain. Plain, however, seems to have the edge over its rival at present. The shirtwaist dinner dress occupies most of its attention right now, mostly seen in black.

All of which leads up to the fact that with such a bewildering selection of materials this may be quite a summer for dressmakers and home sewers. Whether sewing yourself, or merely instructing your pet dressmaker, remember, despite the popularity of cotton, silk keeps its pristine glory under the repeated cleaning that is so necessary for you to maintain that soignee look. Such trifles as sewing silk materials with silk thread and vice versa, having a matching belt instead of a contrasting one, if your waistline is inclined to be at opposites with dieting, are not amiss either.

Aside from silks, Brockman's are featuring a nice selection, though not so varied, of sheer gingham and dotted swisses. They make up beautifully in demure little dresses that somehow have returned to us from the bicycle age. Pastel shades are most prominent in the cotton laces also found at Brockman's, but the usual black, navy and brown will delight the conservative. By the way, don't forget the new Zinnia brown that makes the homely brown something new all over again.

All this talk of sheers and hot weather brings about the need of a cool foundation for such a cool exterior. Della Bonita is the only one in town showing a side-hook all-over lace pantie girdle that combines daintiness and style all in one. And now let's whisper the best part about it—the little pantie tab may be removed and washed without necessitating the washing of the whole garment. It comes in white and tea rose with a brassiere to match. Another cool thought is a dotted swiss negligee from Brent- nail's or perhaps a starched net with taffeta foundation.

With sheers rolling around so prominently, don't miss the sheer crepe suits at Harzfeld's in dubon-net and a sea-foam green. They feature shirring as the newest trimming, and one even boasts a whole shirred cape with a double band of shirring as a skirt trim. While there, we were torn between two loves. One was a rose red chiffon formal with a removable cape of ruffles that, for once, wasn't too, too beruffled. Ruffles around the bottom of the skirt float out gracefully while dancing. The other was an orange red chiffon of surprisingly similarity in style (not enough to spoil the individuality of each, however) whose train was so long that it might turn a dramatic entrance into a trip or a slip.

Jean Coventry shows both ruffled and tailored chiffons with a particular love for blue the color of the sky at early dawn and peach with a sea-green sash.

This is all more than just "sheer" rumor. It's fashion's facts, but don't take it so seriously that you will be floating around all summer in a sheer cobweb. Just keep cool, by all means.
M. R. E.

GALLIMAUFREY
DEPARTMENT

We wonder if the vogue for country weddings will be taken up in Kansas City. If so, the wedding at the "little church around the corner" will become decidedly a thing of the past. Since young Jim Walsh chose the paternal estate for the setting of his wedding to Nancy McQueeny, the idea may strike others also during this merry, romantic month of June. The Mission where the wedding took place is situated on the Walsh estate and proved very picturesque for the ceremony. So much so, in fact, that it aroused quite noble emotions in us. 'Tho we couldn't vouch for all the others present, we did see a tear slipping from an occasional eye that should have been quite hard and bright about everything concerned. Maybe we're not just foolishly romantic and old-fashioned after all.

A visitor from New York tells of the increasing number of sidewalk cafes that have sprung up there of late. After having returned only recently from Paris, she reports that it would seem as though our own little old New York was trying to outdo Paris in the matter of its own native sidewalk cafes. It wouldn't be a bad idea for Kansas City to adopt for the summer either.

Speaking of vogues, the latest one in England for some time is the sherry party that takes the place of the familiar cocktail party. We thought the French had all rights reserved as the finest connoisseurs of wine, but England with its usual savoir vivre may soon take their place, apparently. Port, by the way, seems to be most in favor there. We admire your taste, lords and ladies!

The latest invention for lethargic people with a bit of sand in their eyes is a little gadget that enables the driver to shift gears without moving a finger—it's all done with the foot. The simple little device consists merely of a small lever that is slipped over the gear, extends outward on the floor of the car, and when manipulated by the foot,

shifts neatly from gear to gear.

Sometimes we think there's no place in the world left for people with ambition and energy in their bones. Witness the number of inventions and gadgets making life a more simple thing to live every day.

There's one woman in town who teeters every morning between sanity and the borderlands. The first telephone call of the day is from
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her grocery store, and the clerk newly in charge of Mrs. Brown is a mixture of Mary Boland's vagueness, Gracie Allen's mind, and a third intangible quality all her own. This is slowly getting to Mrs. Brown, and the breaking-point came several weeks ago when Mrs. Brown was faced with a tea-party. She decided three hours before the function that her assembled food might seem meagre to the guests, and she didn't want any muttered remarks going the rounds later. Little cakes, she thought, would be just the thing; you could take them or leave them after the marshmallowy salad and cream-cheese sandwiches. She didn't, however, want to order them from her own grocer—further contact with Miss Pearl might throw her out of line for the whole day. So she phoned six or seven other stores in town but none carried the kind of pastry she had in mind. As the quarter-hours flew Mrs. Brown gave in, hoping against hope that Miss Pearl would not be on the receiving end. She was out of luck; Miss Pearl even recognized the disguised voice. "Good morning, Crowley's Market!" "Uh-h, do you have pet- its fours?" Miss Pearl's answer came slowly but with great candour: "No, I haven't, Mrs. Brown, but there's a girl here at the store has 'em awful bad." Mrs. Brown remembers nothing else.

To FUTURE:

Your paper called "Future" gets better every week. I certainly want to compliment the commentator and member of the editorial staff who seems to know his facts and how to state them.

I will certainly be glad to help keep your publication alive to the best of my ability. Frankly, I think it's the only mouth-piece that seems to be left to express the viewpoint of the decent citizenship of Kansas City.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

C. T. Thompson.

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FUTURE
7

LEAVES WITHOUT FRUIT
Columns of Criticism and Comment
MUSIC

Some weeks ago there was offered in this column comments quoted from Pierre Key on the Americanization, so to say, of the Metropolitan. We quote below more of Mr. Key's fine column, "Sharps and Flats," on the same subject.—N. If. S.

Spirits of departed great artists must have nodded approval over what occurred in the general manager's sanctum of the Metropolitan Opera on a recent afternoon. Nothing quite like it ever happened there before. Or anywhere else, in all probability. The occasion was a gathering of some fifteen journalists to hear what Edward Johnson had to say to them. At the end of a full hour's continuous talk Johnson had made clear what the Metropolitan's policy will be. Along with it he set forth his own position in words so modest, so sincere, and so broad-gauged that every scribe was more ready than ever before to give him every assistance possible in a task that is the most difficult an impresario ever has undertaken.

Johnson made indisputably clear that the Metropolitan will be conducted in a manner to preserve its finest traditions. That is, of course, with respect to the "international season." The post-season operations will be on another scale, with artists of lesser abilities figuring.

But if anyone has had the notion that there will be any lowering of artistic standards in the performances which will take place during the fourteen weeks beginning December 16 next any such notion should be dismissed. What is presented will be of the finest available quality, only. That doesn't mean that every presentation will be as perfect as possible. What it does mean it that it will be as perfect as the monetary means permit. Quite frankly Johnson expressed his belief that it will require five years of endeavors to achieve what the Metropolitan should achieve; what its directors want it to achieve.

Keynote Is Cooperation

Henceforth the doors will be thrown open to members of the press. That is to say, they will be invited to meet with Johnson once every fortnight to have explained to them what is being done. They will hear what the heads of the various departments have to say concerning their current activities. Also their problems. In this way the actual workings of the opera machine will be exposed to view. Knowing the vital matters which are taking place will enable every

journalist to weigh these matters with an accuracy never before made available to them.

If all goes as Johnson anticipates there will be a new kind of co-operation from the press. Criticism will also be of two kinds: one which appears in print; another which can be offered by word of mouth at these fortnightly meetings.

The novelty of such conferences quite bowls over the oldtime music reviewer. Never has he encountered such managerial frankness. And for the first time in the Metropolitan's history he will be asked to make suggestions. Moreover, if they are practical and conditions admit of their acceptance these suggestions will be acted on.

PICTURES

One of the best actors, if not the best, in the whole motion picture game is at the Newman this week in "Black Fury." Paul Muni is the man and as always, he delivers a fine, authentic performance. Mr. Muni always studies the role assigned to him very carefully, and then he lives the role for weeks before the film goes into production.

"Black Fury" is the simple dramatic tale of the mining district around central Pennsylvania. A crooked organization stirs up a strike in the mine where Joe Radek (Paul Muni) works. In his blundering way, Joe becomes the leader of the striking faction. He really does not realize just what it is all about until his best friend is killed by a brutal guard. Then he takes over the mine and single-handed breaks the strike. Karen Morley is the Slovak love interest and does a nice piece of work. The picture is well-cast throughout and is well worth your time. Go see it.

Hot Stuff in Old Mexico

There is a very entertaining film at the Mainstreet called "In Caliente." Dolores del Rio, one of the most beautiful women in the movies, is the star, and she is ably supported by Edward Everett Horton, Pat O'Brien and Leo Carillo. Also in the cast is a handsome young man with an excellent tenor voice who used to be a member of New York's "finest." He is Phil Regan. The studio officials of First National must be grooming him for stardom, for in each successive picture Phil has been getting better parts. More power to him. We think he has what it takes.

The story of "In Caliente" is negligible but for all that it is gay and amusing. Miss del Rio can't act very well but you don't have to act when you can look as gorgeous as she does. Horton carries the picture as usual with his nervous breezy manner and even Pat O'Brien has a few moments of seeming to be an actor.

Hot Stuff in Brazil

Warner Baxter, the old smoothie, is back on a horse again in his latest picture, "Under the Pampas Moon." And his voice is still as good as it was in "In Old Arizona." He plays a gaucho (South American cowboy to you) who lives, rides and loves madly and with a flourish, to say the least. The French girl, Ketti Gallian, is the lady who finally wins the hero. How, we never discovered, for Miss Gallian doesn't do a thing except talk with an accent during the whole picture. Jack LaRue has a small part as the villain along with John Miljan, who, it seems, is always going to be the mean ole man in every film in which he is cast.

The story is light and gay, and everyone seems to have a pretty good time. Despite the review the New York Times gave it, we went and really enjoyed ourselves, especially during the horse races.

J. D.

ANTIQUES

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("When Johnny Comes Marching Home," An American Overture by Roy Harris. The Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra conducted by Eugene Ormany. Victor Record No. 8629—\$2.00.)

America has found strong voice in all the arts but Music. Of her living composers Roy Harris is one of the few who might survive for posterity. A description of the present disc together with an attempt to recapture the mood in which "Johnny" was composed is given below by Harris himself.

"When RCA Victor requested me to write an American Overture especially for recording they presented me with a very specific set of problems. First the work should express a gamut of emotions particularly American and in an American manner. Secondly, the form of the work being an Overture should be complete in itself and yet indicate that it was only a concentrated announcement of materials and moods which could unfold in a development of much greater length. Thirdly, the work must give these impressions and yet be eight minutes in length and divided into two well-balanced equal parts.

"The moods which seem particularly American to me are a noisy ribaldry, a sadness, a groping earnestness which amounts to sup- pliance towards those deepest spiritual yearnings within ourselves; and finally a fierce struggle of will for power, sheer power in itself. There is little grace or mellowness in our midst. That will probably come after we have passed the high noon of our growth as a people.

"With the moods of ribaldry, sadness, suppliance and willful power in mind I chose an American theme which is not only well known and loved but capable of extended development:

"When Johnny Comes Marching Home." This was one of my father's favorite tunes and it was he who planted in me the unconscious realization of its dual nature. He used to whistle it with jaunty bravado as we went to work on the farm in the morning and with sad pensiveness as we returned at dusk behind the slow weary plodding of the horses.

"These impressions have undoubtedly influenced me in deter' mining the use of this theme, yet the same realization of the dual character of this peculiarly fertile theme might have been arrived at by observing that it is very minor in its tonality and gay in its rhythm.

"The first half of the work expresses openly and directly the ribald quality of the theme itself and its transformation into a slow, sad mood. The second half opens with a rhythmic pattern parallel to the opening of the first half and then goes directly with the mood of sup- pliance. For this section the traditional treatment of the contrapuntal choral is used in which the theme in slower tempo becomes the bass. This resolves into the last section which treats the mood of struggle for power and ends in an unresolved continuance of that struggle.

"All material throughout is either a direct statement of the theme or characteristic fragments of the theme or variations of the theme, so that the work is abstract from the musicians' point of view.

CAT'S
AWAY

About two years ago Henry Mc- Elroy, city manager for Pender- gast, fronted for the slot

machine racket here. He did it both privately and in the press.

But pressure came from Boss Pendergast and the slots had to go. Pendergast was interested in getting all the betting done at Riverside race track. Also, some of the boys near the big boss were launching some rather good size gambling joints in town then, including the one at 1108 Baltimore avenue. It was understood that if there was any dough to be taken from the credulous it was to go that way.

Slot machines were in the hands of peewee politicians but to them it was the best of the robbing-baby's- bank rackets. School children's nickels and dimes could be taken in. In the bootlegging joints the drunks poured nickels, dimes and quarters into the slots. The "take" on the machines ran into thousands of dollars daily and looked big to the bigger time gamblers. They wanted it stopped; figured they would get part of the big daily turnover.

So out went the slot machines from almost every place in town. Out in the county a group of Rabbit politicians jumped in, got together a group of the machines and put them to work in various night resorts. The income has been good to the few highups in the Rabbit organization but nothing to get excited about.

Everybody thought the slot machine had been ruled out.

But this week, after the departure of Pendergast for Europe, slot machines clicked and collected nickels, dimes and quarters all over town.

The word went out that the boys were going to cheat while Boss Pendergast was away; that they were going in north of Thirty-first street but not south. The first report was that they were to be confined to bars and night clubs. But next day they were clicking merrily in cafes, drug stores and elsewhere. It was predicted that they will spread in the next few days to their former status.

The machines going in are new ones. It is understood the split on the slot machine racket is three ways, one to the owner where the machine operates, another to the man behind the scenes who finances the purchase of the machine, and, of course, the politician who fixes things.

The slot machine racket was understood to have been operated from the North End in the old days.

The revival of the slot machine with the departure of Pendergast has caused much speculation as to whether somebody is trying to put one over on the boss while he is out of the city.

It is generally understood in political circles that Pendergast was the one who ordered the slot machines out the last "cleanup."

SO SWEET

As lugs go, the one reported to have been levied to keep the Boss' stateroom on the palatial Normandie filled with fresh flowers, is not a big one. Only about \$2,000, it is reported. For that amount, raised by the boys kicking in, the ship is to keep the stateroom of the dumpy Democratic boss from Kansas City filled with sweet smelling flowers. Flowers crossing the ocean cost money and perhaps the boys trying to meet payments on cut pay understand why it was unavoidable that it had to be done.

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8

REPORTER'S

NOTE

Though disappointment met all the people who swooshed down to the Station several weeks ago in the hope of seeing Garbo for a brief moment, there was one incident which everyone hut the photographers deeply enjoyed. So distraught were our press-gentlemen after ten minutes of wheedling the maid to go in and awaken her mistress that they were ready to click shutter at anything even remotely resembling the Divine Greta. Presently one of the boys caught sight of a tall, quick-moving woman descending the steps, a corsage of orchids pinned high on the shoulder. Oh, the withering glance he shot at Garbo's maid for the ten precious

minutes she had tricked him and his fellows into wasting while the goddess roamed undisturbed in the upper regions. With a strange, camera-impeded movement he skipped forward. Flash went the bulb and click went the shutter. The other photographers, fumbling apparatus and knocking things over, rushed on him with cries of "Whaja get, Joe?" and "Dija snap 'er?" They all saw at the same instant the only thing on the platform Joe could have snapped—a decidedly pleased and good-looking housewife departing for Chicago. Joe made a very quick attempt to pass the whole thing off as a swell joke he was playing on the others; but that failing he broke into a stream of low, self-addressed remarks until the train pulled out. During the flood scare I saw a newspaper picture of these photographers riding through the streets of Manhattan, Kansas, in a boat. Joe was seated in the bottom with a far-off relentless look in his eyes while the others rowed.

We see that Senator Walsh of Massachusetts is urging that aviation be taught in the public schools. Looking over the motor accident list, wouldn't it be better to teach ground navigation first?

Speaking of zoology, the United States supreme court has shot down the blue eagle but the rampant goat still capers on in Kansas City. The goat is a tough old veteran. Neither Constitution, city charter, nor state laws have greatly hampered his activities.

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Around and About the Auditorium

From page three

ing off the front of Convention Hall and all of the Robert E. Lee hotel, as if by a huge carving knife. He did not announce what it would cost, probably because that has not been determined.

The city council, which does Henry's bidding, although by some comical convention he technically is its employee, has approved the sale of %-million dollars of traffic- ways bonds with which to purchase old Convention Hall. As a nonprofit organization, the directors have agreed to return \$725,000 to the city manager with which he will complete a theatre and meeting room in the Municipal Auditorium, retaining \$25,000 to pay off obligations. This brings the cost of the Auditorium almost to 5 million dollars, counting the trafficways money to be used. Of this deal the Civic Research Institute has this to say:

"Question may be raised as to the legality of a part of this transaction. . . . Trafficway bonds may properly be used to widen Thirteenth street and take whatever part of Convention hall may be necessary for the purpose, but to believe that the whole building may be purchased, torn down and a parking station created as part of a trafficway requires a severe stretch of the imagination."

The Convention Hall site, McElroy has announced, will be cleared to provide a public parking station for 500 motor cars and to be used part time as a playground. What it will cost to widen Thirteenth street is only a surmise. The Kansas City Life Insurance Company, owner of the Robert E. Lee, is said to hold the building at \$600,000 while Mc- Elroy is understood to have

offered \$400,000. FUTURE has the temerity to point out the building might be jacked up and moved in its entirety to the lot north for \$50,000 or \$100,000, netting a nice profit to some perspicacious person. Such things have been done.

Now we come to Fourteenth street. It is contemplated that this street, too, will be widened. Much property is to be sold, and the Yellow Cab Company building obstructs the way. The plan, the "boys" say, is for the city manager to give the Yellow Cab Company old Convention Hall in exchange for the destruction of its! building a block away. He then could point with pride to another savings of taxpayers' money. Although it probably will irritate him, FUTURE concedes that Henry McElroy is a good trader. At financial hocus-pocus he has few peers. Were he able to forget political favoritism, he would serve the city well. What throws some light on the proposed swap is the personnel of the Yellow Cab Company's board of directors. When Yellow was purchased recently by the Terminal Cab Company, its directors were announced as Ed G. Borserine, president; C. Jasper Bell, a former circuit judge snatched up by T. J. Pendergast and deposited in the halls of the nation's congress, Louis Borserine, J. Frank Hudson, John J. (Buck) Manning, James M. Pendergast, Dale Harman, Charles D. Williams and J. E. McDavid. All are known to bask in the sunlight of the Boss's smile.

Municipal Auditorium and its widened streets will cost in the neighborhood of \$6,500,000, the Civic Research Institute estimates. Kansas City residents who are not politicians will do well to scrutinize closely all sales for street widening. We venture the hope the prices will not be exorbitant.

FUTURE

And Only Man Is Vile

From page one

The place stinks to heaven.

The old lady lives with an old man who never talks, and a middle aged man who has a dog but no job. The old lady lugs water for the three of them about a hundred and fifty yards; she carries it in buckets. They never bathe, but they need a little water for cooking and drinking. Last summer she folded up one hot day, collapsed on the sidewalk, and the water ran down the gutter. Neighbors hauled her in the house and called the police. Two patrolmen came in a car. One went in and immediately came out, his stomach playing tricks with him. The younger one stuck to it long enough to find out what was wrong, and the hospital was called. The neighbors got the old lady washed up a little and then for a few days one of those tired, invincible saints, the visiting nurses, paid calls and straightened her out. She will probably "get took" by the heat again this summer.

Our old lady isn't the only one who smells bad and lives like a pig; don't comfort yourself with the smug thought that she is. There are hundreds upon hundreds of people who live nearly as miserably as she, people who fry in the summer, and collect anything that will burn to keep themselves from freezing in the winter. If they have children they run the streets, and a lot of them get into a little trouble before they are well along in their teens. They gang up on corners and steal things to get a little money. If the law gets them it can't keep them out of the gangs and the streets for long. If their families stand in with the precinct captain, the law doesn't amount to a lot anyway.

So it looks pretty silly, if you know how living goes for some thousands of Kansas Citians, to ask two million dollars to get a swell zoo like St. Louis's. Two million dollars would house a large

number of people in decency, with light, air, and mechanical conveniences. If the contractors were honest the cost per living unit could be kept down so that a poor man could rent fit quarters for him and his wife to raise a family in. As for the vacant lots, in a well ordered city no collection of trash, tin cans, and ragged weeds is permitted. In cities such as Dayton, Ohio, property owners keep their vacant lots sightly; if they don't do it the city cleans them up and sends the owners a bill for the work.

Bathroomless —

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