

Musical Comedy on World Bill Looks Big Time Stuff

Jack Patton and Loretta Marfo, who play the featured roles in the brilliant musical comedy revue "Bits and Pieces" at the World theater were last seen in Omaha as the stars of "Going Up." The pair recently concluded a starring engagement in the Broadway success, "Rose of Stamboul."

In "Bits and Pieces" these two artists assisted by a large company of girls offer excerpts from various successful Broadway plays, both of the comedy and musical type. Included in the list are scenes from such well known shows as "Breakfast in Bed," "My Lady Friends," "East Is West," "Greenwich Village Follies," "Scandal," "Tea for Three," "Maytime," "Fred Stone's 'Jock O' Lantern,'" "Chu Chin Chow" and "Going Up."

A carload of scenic effects and properties are carried by the attraction to permit of realistic and elaborate settings for all the various bits introduced.

American Photoplays Meet Troubles Abroad

American-made motion pictures run up against difficulties in the European market, a stringent, almost prohibitive import restriction by Germany and in France the competition of French films.

So says Al Kaufman, for the past three years in charge of production and distribution for the Famous Players Lasky corporation on the continent. Mr. Kaufman arrived in Los Angeles recently and was met by Cecil B. DeMille, with whom he is to

Famous Benson Orchestra Comes



In the realm of dance music that just ignites the feet to do their best, there are a few names that shine out above all others, and among these is the name of the Benson Orchestra of Chicago, with Don Bestor, director.

This Benson orchestra will be the special attraction at the World theater for its first anniversary week, starting Saturday, April 14. Mr. Bestor, organizer of the famous orchestra, has been one of the largest em-

ployers of musicians in the United States for some 20 years and in this orchestra a special effort has been made to gather the best musical talent known in playing popular dance music.

The orchestra will come to Omaha complete, presented by Edgar A. Benson as he presents it in Chicago. Don Bestor is pianist and director and the others are George Bass, violinist; Joseph Mueller, banjoist and player of

guitar, mandolin and violin; Stuart Williams, saxophone player and also clarinet, oboe, bassoon and English horn; Frank Trumbauer, saxophonist and sarapophonist; Marvin T. Thatcher, saxophonist; Walter Zuzawski, first trumpet and flugelhorn; Myles Van Derane, second trumpet; Arthur Weisner, trombone, euphonium and baritone; Pierre Oker, sousaphone and string bass; George W. Brommersberg, drums, xylophone, tympani and accessories.

but the competition is terrific. The French make films which would not attain popularity in this country, but are specially suited to French taste, and the American film salesmen must show very special merit to his goods to get by this condition.

Belasco and Warner to Screen "Tiger Rose"

Through a partnership arranged between the firm of Warner Brothers and David Belasco, it was learned

that Leonore Ulric will be starred in a screen version of Mr. Belasco's great stage success, "Tiger Rose."

Miss Ulric has been appearing for the past two seasons in the Belasco play, "Kiki."

An important feature in connection with the arrangements is that Mr. Belasco will personally, and for the first time in his career, invade a photoplay studio in order to infuse into the filming of the production the high standards he so successfully employs in his stage plays. He is expected to leave for Los Angeles soon.

Authors of Classic "Bird Seed" Will Show Omaha How

Frank Davis and Adele Darnell will come to the Orpheum theater soon in their laugh-provoking skit entitled "Bird Seed," the most successful offering that delighted Broadway audiences for several months. The piece was written by Mr. Davis solely for laughing purposes, and he is a wizard in selecting material that fills this requirement.

The playlet was accorded the unusual distinction of being a feature in three successive musical comedies on Broadway without a single change in the act. First, in the "Galities of 1919," then "Frivolties of 1920," and following in the "Greenwich Village Follies." It is said to be the first "irritation" act to reach the ranks of Broadway's musical shows.

Not only is Mr. Davis a first-class comedian, but a recognized author as well. He has written and produced so far nine different and all successful vaudeville acts, which are bringing in nice sums in royalty. One of these is "The Oarsman," now a big hit on the Orpheum circuit.

Mr. Davis also wrote the book for the "Ginger Box Revue," a Greenwich Village theater production, to be produced at an early date.

Robin Hood Goes Well

Two hundred and fifty-five thousand people viewed Douglas Fairbanks in "Robin Hood" at Grauman's Egyptian theater in Hollywood in 17 weeks. And in the Capitol theater 101,000 people viewed it during its first week's showing. Now how long will it take the remainder of the world to view it?

Knows He's Fat and Only Worries From Fear of Getting Thin

"What do they mean, nobody loves a fat man?" demands Frank McIntyre, who is appearing at the Orpheum this week with his one-act comedy, "Wednesday at the Ritz."

"Why, I get more mail than anybody in the theater. Just look at this, for instance. A company is getting out a new mattress and they want to send me one to carry on my travels, I suppose, and guarantee that in six months I will not have slept a hollow in it."

"Here's one from a suspender guy. Says he knows it's a long time since I've seen my waistline, but why worry, when his galuses will hold me up until Rome falls. All sorts of fallors from all sorts of towns write me pleading little notes saying that they will be delighted to make me a 'stylish stout' for little or no expense, if I will only mention casually when I walk on the stage that I was outfitted by 'Needles and Threads, Inc.'"

"But the antiflat bugs are the worst. Here I am making an honest living by getting into the wrong bedroom and bath every night, as helpless as only a fat man can be, and they want to make a perfect 36 out of me, so that the audience will be sorry for me instead of laughing. They recommend running three times around the park every morning, or stretching, leaning, twisting and dieting. Now, as it happens, practically the only exercise I get on the road is eating. It is good exercise and I am fond of it, as long as nobody tries to introduce calories and other foreign matter into my food. And here they want to take even that fun away from me. But I am too smart for them. I have hired a secretary to read all my mail except the mass notes."

"Oh, yes, fat as I am, I get those quite frequently! True, they are generally from women who assume that it is pretty hard for a fat man to get married, and that I ought to be willing to take a widow with six children or a maiden lady with a parrot and a farm in Wisconsin. So far no 'Follies' girls have applied. But you never can tell. And I'm not going to get thin worrying about it."

Palmer Photoplay States Writers Not Born Rich

Where do they come from—the writers? From the great houses of the rich? Occasionally. From the tenements of the poor? More often. But oftentimes from what is known in Europe as the minor bourgeoisie and in America, as the middle classes. Farmer boys, they trudge over wet fields to country schoolhouses; town boys, they early assume their share of the responsibilities, and the economies, of the household. The fields and the mountains nurture them in their youth and you are most likely to find them in those small houses that, lighted at night, make it difficult to differentiate between the villages and the stars.

That this is true is attested by the lives of great writers as well as by psychological studies of the heredity, environment and training of men of genius, according to the Palmer Photoplay corporation, the educational department of which is interested in training new writers for the screen. Take, for instance, Zola, in his parret in Paris, "living on bread and coffee, with 2 sous' worth of apples on gala days;" Francis Ledwidge, the poet, a grocer's boy in Dublin, longing for the Irish lanes; Masfield, a bartender in a Greenwich village saloon; Albert Samain, a minor clerk in a sugar house, without a single literary friend or acquaintance; Henning Berger, a self-imposed exile, working as a masseur in Chicago; Jack London, O. Henry, Mark Twain!

Well Known Comedians Appear in "Hollywood"

dians are to appear in the James Cruze production, "Hollywood," for Paramount. Scenes have just been made at the Christie studio for a part of the production and among the notables appearing are Ben Turpin, Ford Sterling, James Finlayson and Kalla Yasha.

The Cruze unit is going from studio to studio in Hollywood and vicinity making scenes, as most of the famous people in pictures are to have parts in this production.

Beautiful girls without number are being employed as bathing beauties, society folk, minor players seeking jobs, etc.

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