

# HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE---

The Box Office Clerk?

## HER WORK IS NOT SO EASY AS IT LOOKS

Women More Fastidious Than Men in Selecting Theater Tickets.

There are some mortals who believe that the last word in occupational greatness is to sit behind a box office window and sell tickets "to the show." Some believe that this is about as easy as eating pumpkin pie, but the work is not all sunshine and smiles, if the statement of these public servants may be accepted according to the standards which George Washington established.

The work has some alluring features and oftentimes it tests the temperamental qualities of the subject. The casual observer sees only the outside. He thinks it is easy to hand out the tickets and take in the money and wishes that he might fall into something which seems to be the mere simulation of work.

Here is a typical situation of the many which occur during the day's work at the box office: There is a line being held by a person who believes in the divine right of impressing individual importance. He, or it may be a "she," seems to gloat over the fact that he is holding the line.

**Shifts to Other Foot.**  
"What kind of seats do you have?" he asks, with aggravating complacency.

"We have them from 50 cents to \$2.50 each, plus the war tax. How many do you wish?" the box office official inquires, casting a furtive glance along the row of impatient faces.

"I don't want the seats behind a post. Are you sure they are not behind a post?" the person of inquiring mind continues, while a fat man in the line stands on his other foot and inwardly says some mean things.

The box office person would like to reply "We will have all of the posts removed for you," but he puts on a sickly smile and assures the prospective patron that there are some seats with unobstructed view and he gently reminds him that there are others waiting to be served. The transaction is accomplished and the line moves up another notch, whereupon the next in line remarks something about the nerve of some people's children, or he says something just as meaningful.

**Lots of Amusement.**  
"Oh, yes, we have lots of amusement along the way; it is not all gloom," the veteran box office man remarked, reminiscently. "Frequently we have a visit from the person who asks to have tickets held. He asks 'Will you be sure to hold those seats?' A woman asked me that question three times yesterday and I was tempted to reply that we would hold the seats, because they were fastened to the floor and I was sure they would not get away. But business ethics required that I should smile, which I did, and I



also thought that I would not want to be her husband.

"Then we have the man who eats garlic and insists on letting us know it. The most adorable type is the woman who requires about five minutes to find her money. Life would be dull without her. We utter a prayer of thanks for the man who comes up to the window, throws down a bill and says 'Gimme two of your best seats.'"

"There is another type—the person who wants to know all about the play, and sometimes we have people who want to see the seats before they will buy tickets."

**Full of Human Interest.**

"I tell you it is a great life if you don't weaken. It is full of human interest and is fine and dandy if you don't take it too seriously. One soon learns a thing or two about human nature. The dilatory ones usually respond to a little coaching, when there is a rush. When we see a bald-headed man at the window, and if it is that kind of a show, we know he wants seats in the front row."

The box office ticket seller knows every seat of his house and he has tickets for each seat and for each open date. This requires 14 sets of tickets for a week in a theater having performances every afternoon and every evening. In the sale of tickets for advance performances the box office attendant must be sure that the tickets given are of the date and performance desired. Even in the best of regulated theaters a mistake will occur now and then. Occasionally a patron will present tickets which bear a date other than the one of which they are offered.

In the box office charge d'affaires sells all tickets for a performance, it is not difficult to check his cash, because he knows how many seats there are of each admission price and the application of a little multiplication will show the amount of

the house." Tickets not sold are known as "deadwood," which must be counted in order to determine the amount of cash he should have, and the stubs collected by the door man is another check against the box office cash drawer.

The advent of the movie theater has brought an increased demand for women ticket sellers in the regular, as well as the motion picture theaters. The strip tickets which are sold at the movie houses do not entail much clerical work, for they are numbered serially or their sale registered automatically. This simplifies the box office work.

Another duty of the box office clerk in the regular theaters is the filling of advance ticket orders. Some patrons reserve the same seats for the entire season and it would be an egregious error to sell their seats

**Dutton Exhibit at Show**

**Attracts Much Attention**

Each year the Kissel exhibit at the Automobile show has some outstanding feature that is the big tremendous hit of the week. This year they pulled off a double-header from the standpoint of attractiveness. The Kissel six-passenger sedan was acclaimed the handsomest and most practical closed car of the show. Its straight line body, with remarkable seating space for six people, immediately attracted the man or woman who desired to combine the practical with the beautiful.

The red sport model Kissel speedster was the sensational hit of the show. This car is a real sport model in every sense and its attractiveness was proclaimed by the thousands of people who were continually crowded about it from the time the show opened in the morning until the closing at night.

The two cars above mentioned, with a big Moon 6-48 touring car, completed the Dutton exhibit.

by mistake. Others telephone advance orders which are held until a certain time, when they are released for general sale if not taken by the original holders.

"I have found that patience and tact are needed in this work," said a box office woman. "At first I thought I would never make good, because when I saw that line out ahead of me I became frustrated. As a rule men are more reasonable than women at the box office window. I could almost scream sometimes when I see a woman fuss through her handbag looking for her money, and a line of people behind her. I like meeting the public and I have learned to like the work of pleasing the public at the box office. One grows to almost anticipate their likes and dislikes."

"It is amusing sometimes to hear them describing the kind of seats they want. My experience is that all seats should be aisle seats if you would satisfy the public. But there is no work quite so interesting after all. I like it."

## Many Years Necessary for Light to Travel to Mars

London, March 6.—British mathematicians calculate it would take many years to get a single wireless message from Mars to the earth.

The time taken for a signal to pass from the Eiffel tower, Paris, to Arlington, near Washington, and back, a total distance of 7,674 miles, is .000 seconds. Consequently, a wireless signal moving day and night at the same rate would take four years four months to reach Alpha Centauri, the nearest star from the earth, 40,000 billion kilometers distant.

Another proposal is to switch on simultaneously the whole street lighting of every city in the United States.

The combined street illumination of London, probably the most brilliantly illuminated city in the world, is 1,250,000 candle-power. It was calculated by a German scientist that the smallest light signal visible on Mars from the earth is 4,000,000,000,000 candle-power. It would, therefore, need the combined light of millions of cities as brilliantly lit up as the city of London to aggregate sufficient candle-power to flash a light to Mars.

## Omaha Auto Show Compares Well With Eastern Shows

R. C. Reuschaw, jr., son of the president of the Mitchell Motor company at Racine, Wis., was a visitor at the Omaha Automobile show last week and guest of J. T. Stewart.

Mr. Reuschaw expressed the opinion that the Omaha show equals in splendor and importance everything except the New York and Chicago shows. Mr. Reuschaw has visited the Milwaukee, Chicago, Minneapolis, Nashville, St. Louis and Louisville shows and feels that the Omaha show is holding its own with all of these exhibits.

The Mitchell people are standardizing on a standard chassis and motor and in this way hope to bring production to the maximum very shortly.

## New Advertising Manager For Sprague Tires Is Here

Announcement is made by the Sprague Tire and Rubber Co. of this city of the appointment of R. C. Hudson of Portage, Wis., as advertising manager.

Previous to his coming to Omaha, Mr. Hudson was copy chief for the Conner Advertising Agency of Denver. He was formerly advertising manager for the Denver Alfalfa Milling and Products Co. of Lamar, Colo. For two years he was the space buyer for the Gramer-Krasselt Advertising Agency of Milwaukee.

Plans are now being made for a more extensive advertising campaign which will fully acquaint auto owners of the western states with the merits of Sprague tires and tubes. "I have never seen a tire that comes up to the Sprague," said Mr. Hudson. "Its sales possibilities are enormous, and I believe that the day is not far distant when this Omaha product will be known from coast to coast."

## Slang Gives Vigor to Our Language Declares Woman

Chicago, March 6.—Slang has a vigor and freshness which ought to be kept in our language and cherished, in the opinion of no less an authority than Mrs. Katherine Knowles Robbins, chairman of the American speech committee of the Chicago Woman's club.

When Bill says to Joe, "pipe the dame with the trick lid," it isn't vulgar.

"What we object to," said Mrs. Robbins, "is the cheap, vulgar slang and endless stupid repetition of certain phrases." She quoted slang expressions used by master modern writers of English, including some of the late Theodore Roosevelt and some of Woodrow Wilson.

## Automobile News From All the World

Frank C. Kip, former sales promotion manager of the Packard Motor Car company, has retired from the distributors' corporation he formed a year ago in San Francisco. Mr. Kip gained success distributing Hassler shock absorbers. He is now forming a new corporation with five Pacific coast branches and one at Denver to distribute Pasco wire wheels, Empire tires and tubes, Shaffer bearings, staff wrenches and other lines. He already has 10 traveling men.

Definite announcement has been made that the Elgin road race will be held in the fall of 1920, according to Harry P. Branstetter of the Chicago Automobile club. The race will be run on the old Elgin course, some time the latter part of August or the first part of September. The exact date will depend upon the coming of the Glidden tour.

Expansion plans of the General Motors corporation have reached Dallas, Tex., in that a new building, to cost in the neighborhood of \$250,000, will shortly be erected for the use of the United Motors Service, Inc., of Detroit, a subsidiary of the General Motors corporation.

According to J. Walter Drake, chairman of the board of directors of the Hupp Motor Car corporation, and also chairman of the foreign trade committee of the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce, nine-tenths of all the automobiles in the world have been built in the United States. During 1918, 863,000,000 worth of passenger cars and motor trucks were exported, despite greatly curtailed production. Of these 41 went to Iceland and the Faroe islands. In the first nine

months of 1919, motor car and truck exports exceeded \$75,000,000, at which rate the year's exportation will be above \$100,000,000, or an increase of nearly 60 per cent over 1918.

Eddie Rickenbacker, American ace of aces, will, in all probability, be the leader of the aviators for the proposed air line between Denver, Ogden, Elko and San Francisco. Rickenbacker, it is said, has been offered a large salary to superintend the 500 planes that have been purchased by the Denver corporation promoting the line.

Earl H. Seelbach, for several years past connected with the motor truck department of the Pierce-Arrow Motor Car company, at Buffalo, has joined the motor truck department of the Franklin Automobile company, Syracuse, as assistant engineer.

Henry Ford, Thomas A. Edison and others are said to have combined to place upon the market a 1,000-pound electric car to sell at about \$1,000, and to carry as a great improvement in electric automobile production a small gasoline motor which will keep the batteries recharged constantly, and so give the car almost equal distance range with a gas car.

What appears to be a boon to the aviation world is a new motor which has recently been invented by Fred Parker of Mankato, Minn. The motor is a combination of four principles, the turbine, the rotary, the supplanting and the oscillating motor. The general principles of this machine are taken from the Le Rhone, the Simplex, the Beardmore and the Gnome. A peculiarity of the engine is that there is no crankshaft and no valves. The motor gives eight power impulses per revolution. At 1,400 revolutions per minute the engine delivers an excess of 47 horsepower, and at 2,700 rev-

olutions per minute the machine is capable of more than 93 horsepower. The inventor states that 2,700 revolutions per minute is the fastest that the motor has been run, and that it was discovered that at 1,400 revolutions per minute the motor used the same amount of gasoline and oil as a Ford engine did. The motor weighs 153 pounds complete when it is ready to run, and is composed of 76 parts. The oil is mixed with the gasoline, and one of the outstanding features of the motor is that while all others require castor oil this machine will use any oil.

Ground is about to be broken for the erection of the new Buffalo plant of the Philadelphia rubber works. Plans call for the construction of a \$2,000,000 factory, and it is estimated that at the beginning of operations about 400 men will be employed.

## EMPIRE GARAGES



10x12 Ford size.....\$115.00

10x14.....133.00

10x16.....143.00

10x20.....152.00

12x16.....180.00

12x18.....180.00

12x20.....199.00

20x20, double.....278.00

Send for Circular

Redi-Made Housing Co.

2211 Howard. Omaha. Doug. 3657.

## SPECIAL AUTOMOBILE SHOW ALL THIS WEEK

At the Automobile Show the crowds were so large that it was impossible for us to go over the car in detail with you as we would like to have done.

The Super-Six and the Essex were such attractions at the Show that many could not get near them.

So we are going to hold a "Special Exhibition" at our Show Rooms all this week. We will show all the special cars we had at the Show. We will be open every evening until Nine O'clock and hope we may see you here.

We want an opportunity to show you the cars at your leisure when we can give you our undivided attention.

We know our cars will give you the service you expect out of the Motor Car you intend buying and feel certain that we can prove this to your satisfaction.

We would like to see you at this Special Showing, and would appreciate your calling. We know your time will be well spent.

There are not going to be enough cars to meet the demand this year—Why not make your selection now when we can insure delivery.



GUY L. SMITH

"Service First"

2563 Farnam Street

OMAHA, U. S. A.

Douglas 1970



We Are Pleased to Announce to Our Friends and Customers

—the arrival of the first trainload, containing 50 carloads of

**NASH SIXES, Built In**

5 and 7-Passenger Touring Cars

4-Passenger Sport Models

2-Passenger Roadsters

Sedans and Coupes

This train arrived in Omaha at 7 o'clock Saturday morning, accompanied by our own representatives, having left our factory at Kenosha, Wisconsin, at 8 o'clock Wednesday night, making the run to Omaha in the remarkable time of 60 hours, via the Northwestern Line.

The wonderful demand for the Nash Six, with its perfected valve-in-head motor, is enabling the Nash Motors Company to build their product in a continually increasing production.

**Nash Sales Company**

General Distributors  
10th and Howard Streets  
Omaha, Nebraska

**Hayward-Cameron Nash Co.**

Omaha Distributors  
2043-45 Farnam Street  
Omaha, Nebraska