

American Jazz Makes Big Hit In London Theaters

Our Musical Comedies Better Than Anything Produced On Other Side Since War.

By FRANK E. MASON. International News Service Staff Correspondent. Berlin, Oct. 30.—Ten years ago America paid fancy prices for standing room to see imported European musical comedies; today Europe turns eagerly to America for the latest jazz hit.

The war taught New York producers that American composers and playwrights can write better musical comedies than we can bring over from Europe. declares Gustave Amberg of New York, who is purchasing European plays and operettas for the Shubert theatrical interests.

Mr. Amberg should know; for he has been importing European shows into the United States for the past 25 years. "We learned that the war substitute made in America is better than the imported article."

New York Succeeds Vienna. Vienna was the world's capital of operetta before the war. There is every indication that New York has succeeded to the title.

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American jazz has captured allied countries and is a thorough foothold in neutral lands. In Copenhagen and The Hague you will hear the latest American ragtime. Jazz is making its way among our recent enemies as rapidly as their cheapened money will permit them to pay for it.

Old Chestnuts Popular. In Berlin you will pay a whole pocketful of marks or about \$15 in real money to dance to "Moonlight Bay," or "I Want to Be in Dixie."

Until her death Gaby Deslys, in Marseilles and Paris made you pay prices that would make a Broadway scalper blush and hold his breath to listen to French words sung to American music, none of which was newer than four or five years old.

Much of the European attempt to render American ragtime reminds one of the highbrow music teacher who never played anything less than Liszt in her life, but who will gingerly attempt a piece of the despised 10-cent-store music just to please the company present.

Europe will not have real jazz, however, until it introduces the saxophone, unknown here, and the slide trombone player, with the pained hand. It is making progress, however, for the trap drummer is getting more resourceful and he scrapes and pounds and foots in quite the approved fashion.

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Girl Keeps Lonely Vigil Watching for Forest Fires

Former Denver Newspaper Woman Wins Distinction as Only Member of Fair Sex in Service.

Denver, Oct. 30.—Following two successful seasons, during which Miss Helen Dowe, pretty Denver girl, in her capacity of forest fire lookout, has discovered more than a score of incipient blazes.

Miss Dowe is the only member of her sex in the United States who holds the position of forest fire lookout, but scores of applications from women for similar positions are on file with forest service officials here, and it is expected the record achieved by Miss Dowe may lead to the appointment of many more of the fair sex to this rather hazardous occupation.

From June until late October Miss Dowe lives on the summit of Devil's Head peak, 9,300 feet above sea level—65 miles southwest of Denver.

A Lonely Vigil. From sunrise to sunset she scans the horizon, sweeping the thousands of acres of forest lands beneath her with powerful field glasses, constantly alert for the least sign of smoke, which often means the birth of the terror of the timber country—the forest fire.

While it is a lonely vigil that Miss Dowe keeps, forest service officials declare the work has advantages and compensations that no other employment affords.

Strenuous Work. It is no summer vacation that Miss Dowe enjoys, however; witness some of her strenuous duties: She must arise before the sun every morning; she must make observations periodically until darkness.

There are no Sundays or holidays "off." Occasionally, immediately after a heavy downpour of rain or when clouds obscure the earth below, she gets a brief respite. Going to the fire lookout station



MISS HELEN DOWE

early in summer, Miss Dowe must cook her own meals; perform all the work necessary to keep her cabin and lookout station in repair; she must chop her own firewood; she must carry her own water, and oftentimes during the dry season it must be conveyed in water bags for a long distance up the mountain side.

In 1919 Miss Dowe discovered 16 incipient forest fires in the Pike national forest. This vigilance enabled forest rangers to extinguish blazes before they got fairly started on their path of destruction.

Through an extensive system of communication established by the National Forest service, Miss Dowe is enabled to immediately communicate by telephone to forest rangers the location of a blaze. Instantly they are off to fight the fire before it can get well started.

Twice this summer Miss Dowe has painted the lookout station where she is on duty, a feat that requires steady nerves and extreme daring, as the cabin is perched on the very edge of a dizzy cliff at the mountain-top.

Previous to assuming her duties as forest fire lookout, Miss Dowe was a Denver newspaper woman.

Omahans Go on Stage; Fare Well Behind Scenes

(Continued From Page One.) last year was graduated from the University of Southern California, has made a rapid advance in moving pictures since he left Omaha. He has already appeared in "World Aflame," with Thomas Keenan and with Jack Pickford in "The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come."

Clark went to the Lake school in Omaha. When he was only 6 years old he charmed Omahans with his interpretation of "Little Lord Fauntleroy," with the Woodward Stock company. One of the first productions he appeared in was with Pete Raymond in "The Poor Relation."

He has an uncle living in Omaha now, Dave Clark, 2579 Harney street.

Sidney Powell was graduated at the Omaha High school 17 years ago. He first went on the stage with the Coburn players in a series of Shakespearean parts. He has been in vaudeville with Eva Tanguay and has been with Maude Adams. He is now in Greenwich village.

Notable movie stars have made Omaha their home. Harold Lloyd, celebrated film comedian, a Nebraska boy, attended Central High school for one term in the school year of 1908-9.

Priscilla Dean, the cinema actress, is another claimed by Omaha by virtue of her residence here. Alice Drey, musical comedy star, though a Plattsmouth girl, has been in Omaha many times.

It was a slim little Omaha lassie, Ruth Thompson, who won the distinction in April, 1918, of being one of the youngest singers on Broadway. She appeared in "Flo-Flo."

Ruth started her career with Mrs. Leslie Carter in "Sarah Crue," when she was only 10 years old. She was then a dancer.

Ruth left Brownell Hall in 1914 and went on the Orpheum for a year. Next she appeared in "Gypsy

Love," and later "Flo-Flo." She has since been studying voice culture under Prof. R. Sapiro, an Italian coach.

Lloyd Ingraham, Emile Ellsler, Crane Wilbur, Marguerite Fisher and Willard Mack were Omahans by adoption, when they played here in stock.

Others known to the stage and screen who have lived in Omaha are Paul Reese, Cecil Marquard, Frank Western, Emma Dunn, Mabel Eaton and Frank Bacon.

There are many others who have slipped away quietly and worked their way to prominence on the stage and before the glare of the movie studio lights.

Intense activity is reported in the plastic earth industry in Belgium as well as in the furniture and porcelain industry and in refractory plants.

Belgian Academy to Admit Women on Same Basis as Men

Paris, Oct. 30.—The Belgian Academy of Letters, which is to be Belgian literature what the French academy is to the French, is about to be inaugurated.

The Belgian academy, which bears the imprint of French culture, is a moral link in the chain holding France and Belgium together by the military and political alliance. It will consecrate French as the official language of Belgium, thereby relegating Flemish, which is spoken as much in Belgium as French, into the background.

The Belgian academy will admit women as members on equal footing with men. It will be the first European academy of its kind to do this.

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