

EAVES DROPPING IS MADE TO PAY

The Dictograph Finds New Place in World of Business

"I don't care for this guy Wallace Reid," says Bill to Mamie as they pass through the foyer after the last lingering kiss and soothing "fade-out" have marked the end of the movie romance.

"I think he's a dear," returns Mamie. In an office on the second floor, separated from Bill and Mamie by a lot of thick walls, sits the manager of the theater, listening for just such remarks as those made by Bill and Mamie.

This particular conversational passage he mentally jots down the notation: "Show making good with the women." Which means that the week's show will be a winner, because it's the women's choice that controls the attendance at the motion picture houses.

But how does he overhear the remarks made by Bill and Mamie and the many other movie fans, when he is removed from them by a floor so and several walls that smother sound like a wet blanket does a flame? That is the latest secret of the movie theater, and it enables the manager to get a line on how his show is "getting over."

It permits him to overhear valuable criticism and suggestions, and to estimate the general hundred dollars to him that week.

Secrets in a Receiver If one could peer into the manager's office he would get a hint of the secret in the receiver that the manager holds to his ear. It looks just like an ordinary telephone receiver—but it isn't.

Little switchboard on the manager's desk enable him to overhear what is being said in almost every part of the theater. It is the latest application of the dictograph.

A Chicago motion picture house is said to have been the first to try the dictograph. It was an instantaneous success. When Frank L. Newman built the Newman Theater here he installed a dictograph apparatus and according to Milton H. Fuld, manager, the device has been of inestimable value in registering opinions of the audiences.

Just to see how the dictograph operates, let one step into a manager's office and take the receiver for a little while. There comes a lull in the orchestra's playing; it is the end of a picture. A feminine voice is heard speaking.

"That love scene is just too sweet." "Yes, but who would want to kiss with a hedge fence between them? Why doesn't he climb over?" comes the highly practical masculine answer.

Another switch is opened and the listener thereby connected with another part of the theater. A masculine voice now is overheard. It is that of "the man who knows," that chap who is present in every movie audience and who explains how it is done and what is going to take place next.

"The speed of the film is regulated by—" but what is the use of listening to an old acquaintance whom we've heard a time or two much to our distress. So another switch is opened. "It is too warm in here," remarks a feminine voice. There is a criticism the manager needs to hear. The dictograph has proved its worth. The manager hurries out to see that some of the heat is shut off.

"Did you see that woman's coat? Isn't it positively ridiculous?" speaks up a feminine voice. Interesting, but of no value to the management in the way of helpful criticism. "I wish they would show another Charles Ray picture. I like the bashful way he makes love and he can do so many funny things," says another feminine voice. The management mentally notes that Charles Ray is a good drawing card with the women. He will watch out for the next picture featuring the timid Mr. Ray.

Get Criticism and Praise So the conversation runs. There is much in it that is valuable to the listener in the manager's office—things about motor cars, plumbing, the high cost of living, the relative beauty of browns and blue eyes and other subjects of great consequence to the speakers, but of no importance to the man running the show. But interspersed in between these remarks will be bits of illuminating criticism and praise, with here and there a hint as to how the show can be improved. One manager says he has obtained at least one valuable suggestion at every night performance. Perhaps several remarks will be of aid to him. If that is favorable, the music will be repeated the next night. A singing feature was retained an extra week at the Newman just because of the dictograph. A certain type of picture went into permanent disfavor for a similar reason.

The dictograph at the Newman is connected with eighteen different sections of the theater. The microphones, or sound detecting apparatus, is cleverly concealed so that nobody in the audience would suspect their presence. And, for the comfort of those in that audience, it may be said that the dictograph doesn't register worth a hang when the orchestra is playing. It is only in the lulls in music or during intermissions when the audience is passing out that it performs its helpful work.

So George and Hortense may feel free to indulge in those delightful little personal chats that lovers enjoy, but don't care to have overheard—if they watch the orchestra.

PERSHING ASKS FOR SMALLER U. S. ARMY [Continued from First Page.] tary training was essential to preparedness. Makes Better Citizens "Military training makes better citizens," he declared. "Its benefits should be extended to all our young men. Through service it increases their physique, broadens their view of life, and it is democratic. With universal service established, he continued, the military establishment could be made up first of a small party of regulars—sufficient for expeditionary forces, which may be called out to sustain our obligations on the American continent—and to garrison outlying possessions—which would be backed up by a force in training, and behind that a citizens' reserve."

Draws Lessons General Pershing discussed in detail the army reorganization bills pending before Congress. "In our experience in France," he said, "it became evident that a transport corps to include all classes of

Clemenceau's Daughter to Visit America

personnel, rail, water, and highway, should be maintained. "The experience with the air service makes it certain that this will be an element of increasing importance in warfare. America should not be allowed to lag behind other countries. Consolidate Forces. "It might be well to consolidate air forces, military, naval and commercial, under a single head as an assistance to progress. The general also urged retention of a tank corps. He also said the nurse corps deserved recognition, and he praised its service during the war. "It is necessary in time of war that the decision as to organization of corps and service be left to the President," he said, "and I believe the authority should be left to him in time of peace."

Provisions of the Senate bill, General Pershing said, created "too many general officers." "Our traditions call for fewer men of the ranks," he said. "Now as to the general staff provisions, it seems to me that under them line officers might suffer in the matter of promotion. "Our general staff has never functioned as such. Few officers have been trained for it. So at the beginning of the war it was found necessary to create one from the ground up. "We came out of the war with general staff experience and with trained officers. There should now be no opposition in its retention. "Some provision should be made by which the President could remove any time of an inefficient man who happened to become a bureau chief."

Says Labor Section of the Peace Treaty Was Not Understood

Washington, Oct. 31.—Formally opening the fight on the labor section of the Peace Treaty, Senator LaFollette, Republican, Wisconsin, moved in the Senate late yesterday to strike out the entire section which provides for establishment of an international labor organization. Senator Penrose, Republican, Pennsylvania, suggested that the Peace Conference agreed to the labor section without understanding it, and declared if it were understood now, every trade union in the United States would condemn it. No vote is expected before next week. Several other Senators expect to put up a stubborn fight for the LaFollette motion though they concede there is little hope of its adoption.

BALLOTS READY Ballots and election supplies will be sent to the county district tomorrow and to the city districts on Monday, the county commissioners announced today. A few applications for registration have been filed already and it is believed more will be received tomorrow.

Wilson to Announce Soon That He Will Not Be in Field for Third Term Washington, Oct. 31.—Announcement from the White House that Woodrow Wilson will not be a candidate to succeed himself as President of the United States may be expected at any moment. The President, according to one who is so close to him that his words have the force of authority, has made up his mind that the time has arrived to speak out frankly on the question of a third term, that William Gibbs McAdoo, A. Mitchell Palmer, Josephus Daniels, Newton D. Baker, Governor Cox, of Indiana; Alee Pomeroy, Franklin D. Roosevelt and others who are taking themselves seriously as candidates for the Democratic nomination may have a chance to get their hopes going before the session of the Democratic national committee in this city on January 7.

Three factors have caused the President's decision. In the order of their weight in shaping his determination these are: His illness and the slowness and uncertainty of his convalescence, realization that his veto of the prohibition enforcement act

will alienate from him the support of the strong dry states of the Middle West, a sudden antagonism to him in the ranks of organized labor for his emphatic warning to the miners that the government will meet the threatened strike with armed force.

DISPUTE OF CHURCH PROPERTY IS HEARD

Attorneys engaged in the equity suit brought by officers of the Holy Communion Evangelical Lutheran Church, against the pastor, the Rev. John Henry Miller and others of the congregation, spent most of the morning in Courtroom No. 1, before President Judge George Kunkel, agreeing upon points raised in the bill and answer which had been filed some weeks ago. The principal questions raised in the proceedings are that the minister had no right to withdraw from the Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium and at the present time has no right to the church property in State street. These contentions are denied by the pastor, who with the others named as defendants have William M. Hargest, William Hain and E. M. Hershey, as counsel. William H. Ernest and S. S. Rupp represent the plaintiffs.



Distinguished daughter of a famous sire, Mrs. Clemenceau-Jacqueline will visit the United States this autumn, leaving France October 25th.

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Scientific Discussions by Garrett P. Serviss

"Please answer the following questions: (1)—Is the sun a planet or a star? My friend insists it is a planet because the nearest star is about four light years away. (2)—Why do Venus, Mercury, Mars, etc., look like stars if they are only planets? (3)—Does the earth look like a star to man supposed to be on Mars or Jupiter? Two Students." The frequency with which such questions are asked proves the utility of answering them. Popular ignorance of astronomy and of the simplest facts about our relations to the things surrounding the earth in plain view of every eye is colossal. But things are improving in this respect. I have recently had letters from two mothers living in widely separated parts of the United States, one of whom is bringing up her little girl and the other her little boy in a knowledge of the "ordinances of the heavens," and both of them tell planets from stars, understand the phases of the moon and know the principal constellations and the great stars that have separate names. Those children when they have grown up will thank their mothers for an education that will give them distinction as well as pleasure during all their lives. Now, for answers to the three questions asked above: (1)—The sun is a star. Why should your friend insist that a star must necessarily be enormously distant from the earth like the one he refers to (Alpha Centauri), which is four light years away? The sun instead of being four light years away is at a distance of about 88,000th of one light year; in other words, while it takes a wave of light four years to come from Alpha Centauri it takes a similar wave only about 8 minutes and 2 seconds to come from the sun. This shows that the distance of Alpha Centauri as it is actually seen as great as the distance of the sun, and since the two are somewhere near equal in actual luminosity while the intensity of light varies inversely as the square of the distance, Alpha Centauri appears to our eyes to be only one 88,000,000th as bright as the sun, although if, as might have been the case, we were as near to that star as we are to the sun it would appear as bright as the sun now does to us, while, on the other hand, the sun would twinkle afar in the sky with a brilliance about equal to that of Alpha Centauri as it is actually seen from the earth. Unless you fix firmly in your mind the fact that the sun is a star you will always find yourself astray in matters of astronomy. (2). Mercury, Venus, Mars, etc., look like stars although they are not stars, but planets, because they are so far from us that our unaided eyes cannot see any details of their surfaces or even their outlines. Being many millions of miles away,

they are virtually mere points to our eyes, but illuminated by the sun, and, therefore, visible as dots of light. The resemblance of their light to starlight is due to the fact that it really is the reflected light of a star (the sun), and that, owing to distance, their surfaces are contracted to round points, as explained above. From the moon, however, owing to its much greater nearness, the earth would appear not like a star, but like a moon, about fourteen times larger than the moon appears to us. When seen as a star, from Mars, for instance, the earth would probably show a distinctive color, as Mars does to our eyes.

CLAIM STRIKE LOST

Chicago, Oct. 31.—Additional mills were operating at the South Chicago steel plants today and the statement of F. A. Newton, general superintendent of the Illinois Steel Company's mills, that the strike of steel workers, now in its sixth week, was broken so far as that place was concerned was added to statements of Gary, Ind., steel mill operators and strike leaders that the strike there was lost. From the remainder of the Chicago district no reports of changes in the industrial situation were received. Army intelligence officers at Gary today continued investigating three supposedly incendiary fires, in connection with which three men have been arrested.

TO HOLD MASQUERADE

The Women's Benefit Association of Macabees, No. 288, will hold a Halloween masquerade dance this evening at 8.30 in Fackler's Hall. Refreshments will be for sale in the hall.

OUR OPTICAL OFFER FOR 10 DAYS ONLY

In order to further advertise our office and the high-grade work we do, we are making this exceptionally low offer. If you are suffering with poor sight, headaches, dizziness or watery eyes, often due to eyestrain, do not fail to take advantage of this remarkably low offer. Special Attention to Children's Eyes Kling, Heverling, Rogers Graduate and Registered under the Laws of Pennsylvania. 302 Market Street Over Claster's Jewelry Store Hours: 9 A. M., to 8 P. M.

Life Insurance Men Attend Convention

John R. Rote and E. K. Eppen-shade, representatives of the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States, are attending the "Founder's Day" convention of the Edward A. Woods Company, at the Port-Pitt Hotel, Pittsburgh, Mr. Rote will make an address on "The Ethical Side of Life Insurance" at the monthly meeting of the "Central Pennsylvania Underwriters' Association" to be held in the Penn-Harris, Monday, at 12 o'clock.

TEST FERTILIZERS

Ground treated with sixteen per cent acid phosphate, produces the best results, according to the results of potato fertilizing demonstrations, recently completed on the Beaufort farms, E. B. Mitchell, manager. The demonstrations were conducted by the Dauphin County Farm Bureau. A series of nine tests were conducted on the farms of Mr. Mitchell. Three plots were left unfertilized. On an acre of such ground, it was estimated that yields of 57.5, 59 and 79 bushels would be secured as compared to 88.6, 90.4, 97, 91.4, 91.9 and 100.3, on plots which had been fertilized. Fertilizing charges did not nearly counterbalance the gain in increase yield, it was shown.

Judge Ames to Take Charge of Coal Strike For the Government

Washington, Oct. 31.—Judge C. B. Ames, assistant to the Attorney General in charge of antitrust suits and the enforcement of the food and fuel control law, has gone to Indianapolis to take active charge of the government's fight against the illegal coal strike.

BUY MAIL ORDER HOUSE

By Associated Press New York, Oct. 31.—Control of Montgomery, Ward & Company, a Chicago five million customer mail order house of international reputation, has been acquired by the United Retail Stores Corporation interests, it was announced today. The corporation also controls the United Cigar Stores Company. The Montgomery, Ward management will remain unchanged.

Army Preparing to Meet Emergency in the Coal Strike

Chicago, Oct. 31.—High officers of both the Central Department of the United States Army and the Illinois state military forces have taken cognizance of the possibility that armed forces might be called out for protective purposes after the strike of soft coal miners went into effect at midnight to-night. At headquarters of the central department it was said that maps of fifteen states within the department, showing the location of all coal mine properties were being prepared. Adjutant General Frank S. Dickson had temporary headquarters here, established in connection with the steel strike, and said to-day that the state was ready to meet any emergency in preserving order.

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Advertisement for Kling, Heverling, Rogers optical services, including eye examinations and contact lenses.

Advertisement for KENNEDY'S Saturday Prices, listing various toiletries like Face Powders, Toilet Creams, Toilet Soaps, Talcum Powders, and FRESH CANDIES.

Large advertisement for KENNEDY'S Saturday Prices, featuring a grid of various household and personal care products with their respective prices.

Advertisement for Pills and Tablets, listing various medicinal products like Doan's Kidney Pills, Bells, Edward's Olive Tablets, etc., with prices.