

CALIFORNIA

THE learned chief editorial writer of the Pasadena Star-News:

Newspapers are to be thanked, for the most part, for the heightened intelligence and stabilized judgment of the people on things political.

Note on the state of American civilization from Hollywood:

There seem to be a great number of people in the United States who do not read newspapers, according to numerous letters being received at the offices of the United Artists Corporation, asking questions about the late Rudolph Valentino. The mail is still so heavy that it has been necessary to put a special secretary on the work. The letters include requests that Valentino mail the writers photographs of himself; many tell how much they admire his work and numerous others ask what the title of his next picture will be.

Tracticited in the same appalling town: SPOONING—PETTING

The worst degeneracy known to the human family is the filthy act of spooning, and it has been truly said that it is an act universal.... Spooning is the vilest form of degeneracy known to mankind, it is dirty, it is nasty, it is filthy—and yet, even those who profess to be decent and respectable, and even the most religious, will resort to that vulgar act of spooning without any compunction of conscience whatever. The newspapers most everywhere will dwell on the subject, and it is occasionally discussed by women writers in our metropolitan dailies, regardless of the fact that no one spoons unless burning with lust.

When the sex pervert is haled into court to be tried by a jury of men and women, they may bring in a verdict of guilty when they themselves (the entire twelve) ought to be ashamed, for the poor unfortunate brought before the bar of justice is put to shame by the very ones whose acts in privacy are just as depraved as the act committed by the so-called sex pervert. If the spooner is called respectable, and the sex pervert called not respectable, then God forbid!

Rev. Amos Binney

COLORADO

THE REV. DR. J. C. McILHENNEY, pastor of the First Reformed Presbyterian Church of Denver, as reported by the Rocky Mountain News:

God is the greatest advertiser and He blazed the way in outdoor advertising.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

PORTRAIT of an American worthy in the celebrated Washington Daily News:

Dr. Joseph G. B. Bulloch, 2700 18th street, N. W., has an unusual place among men with long organization affiliations. It is pretty generally agreed that he has founded more patriotic and historical societies than any other Washingtonian. Secondly, he claims the record for membership in these organizations. Dr. Bulloch founded or helped found the Order of Lafayette, Order of Washington, Order of Pulaski, Order of the Secret Pact, Knights of the Golden Horseshoe, Order of the White Crane, Sons of the Revolution of Georgia, and the National Genealogical Society. He also belongs or has belonged to the Society of Colonial Cavaliers, Order of the Barons of Runnymede, Georgia Medical Society, Florida Medical Society, American Public Health Association, and the Brotherhood of St. Andrew of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

FLORIDA

The art and science of municipal government in the great city of Madison:

PROCLAMATION!

The continued drought in our county is becoming a serious and an alarming problem to our people—

If continued, the results will be a failure of our crops and as a consequence much suffering to many—

There is One who has never failed us when called upon by his faithful followers in the right spirit—

A mass meeting is called to assemble at the First Methodist Church in Madison on Monday, at 10:30 A.M., to offer up our petitions to the Giver of all things for relief from the prevailing drought—

Lay aside your pleasures and your business and come with meekness prepared to offer up your prayers to our Heavenly Father at this time.

The Fire Alarm will be the signal to gather. If a season of rain should intervene we will assemble for thanks.

All places of business are requested to close for this hour.

E. J. HARRIS, Mayor.

182

Hilit keep her internet. INCIDENT of the Christian life among the Aframerican devotees of Dahlonega, as reported by the eminent Nugget:

The dark complected black man, who appeared in Dahlonega about a month ago, and got up in the colored church, claiming to be a North Carolina preacher one hundred and thirty miles from home, remained around about a week, till they raised him a right nice little purse of money, saying he would return the 4th Sunday of last month and give them another and better course of his religion. Notwithstanding the old chicken roosters went to sleep on a high limb every night during his stay here. Although there was no danger for them, but they didn't know it, because the sisters had their acting good man three meals a day, with ham and steak, streaked gravy and eggs cooked on one side. Well, the day arrived, but no Negro. The people of Dahlonega, both white and black, have been imposed upon by strangers who claimed to be overloaded with religion before.

Effect of the Al Smith propaganda in the capital of the Invisible Empire, as revealed by an ecclesiastical notice in the eminent Atlanta Journal:

'I WOULD RATHER BE A ROMAN CATH-OLIC THAN A MODERNIST, UNITARIAN, OR CHRISTIAN SCIENTIST

SUBJECT 7:30 P. M.

ALSO Cotton Belt Quartette BAPTIST TABERNACLE WILL H. HOUGHTON, Pastor

From the Rules and Regulations of the State Normal School, the jewel of States-

14. "Dates." "Dates" or calls from young men will be allowed only with the permission of parents and the approval of the President or Dean of the College. Arrangements must be made separately for each caller and no caller may stay longer than one hour and a half, nor come oftener than twice per month.

IDAHO

WANT AD in the National Miller, of Chicago:

Position Wanted—Boomer miller; 46 years of old age; have family, poor eyesight, deaf in one ear, hard hearing in the other, know very little about milling, been in the game 25 years, and have spent much time in oiling and sweeping. Reference not worth anything to you or me either. I will take a chance. Are you game? W. V. Miller, P. O. Box 793, Nampa, Idaho.

ILLINOIS

ITEM in the glorious history of the Chicago cops, as revealed by the Spokane correspondent of the Tacoma, Wash., Times:

Chicago's police officials Monday wired local authorities: "Is the reward for Isadore Edelstein still good? We have located a man positively identified as Edelstein, Spokane robber. We know where he is." "So do we," was the wired answer of Chief of Police McDonnell.
"He's in jail here at Spokane and has been for two years.

What people talk about and are envious of in Decatur, as disclosed by the Review.

Mack VanDeventer of Westfield, N. J., who is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. VanDeventer, and his wife's parents, Mr. and Mrs. David H. Patterson, was one of the many who saw and greeted Col. Charles A. Lindbergh when he arrived in New York. From Mr. Van-Deventer's New York office on Wall street could be obtained an excellent view of the bay. The entire marine parade of more than 200 ships was easily seen by Mr. and Mrs. VanDeventer and the latter's sister, Miss Helen Patterson of Decatur. Later they had a glimpse of Lindbergh.

EXULTANT gloat of Capt. Melville Mucklestone, past commander of Woodlawn Post, No. 175, American Legion, in *Hob-Nails*, the weekly publication of the local organization:

The time has already arrived, and rightly so, when civic matters, to receive consideration and acceptance by the public, must have the stamp of Legion approval.

KANSAS

Ecclesiastical news from Fort Scott:

A colored woman harangued on religion at Wall and Main streets Saturday night, swinging a three-pound carp on a stringer in one hand and a gallon bucket in the other. Yesterday afternoon she held a service all by herself at the same intersection, beginning about three o'clock and continuing until the Salvation Army drowned her out around eight o'clock last night.

LITERARY news from Lawrence:

The Shakespeare Club had an unusually inter-The Shakespeare Club had an unusually interesting meeting with Mrs. J. E. Wilson. The members responded to roll call by giving quotations from Kansas authors. The study of "The Comedy of Errors" was begun. Two papers were also given, one by Mrs. C. A. Lane on "Walt Mason" and the other by Mrs. Hewitt Taylor on "Edgar Guest." . . . On next Wednesday evening this club will entertain the husbands at a seven club willenger at the home of bands at a seven o'clock dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Ruchty.

KENTUCKY

Human progress in the Bible Belt, as set forth in an advertisement in the eminent Louisville Times:

An Unusual New Life Insurance Policy Insures Your Church the Biblical "One-Tenth"

This is called the "Tithe Policy." For fifteen years it pays the church, or any other institution you may designate, \$10 per year, per thousand dollars of insurance. (For example, if the amount of the policy is \$10,000.00 the annual payment would be \$100.00.)

These payments are made annually for fifteen

These payments are made annually for fifteen years. Upon death one-tenth of the principal (\$1,000.00 if the policy is for \$10,000.00) is paid to the church. The remainder goes to the

beneficiary. . . .

The "Tithe Policy" was originated by the Inter-Southern Life. It is an example of how this Company is serving you better through new and practical ways of using life insurance. Any agent of the Company will be glad to give you full details about it.

INTER-SOUTHERN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY CAREY G. ARNETT, President

Home Offices, Louisville, Ky.

Capital, Surplus and Reserve for the Protection of Policyholders

\$13,563,462.03

MARYLAND FREE STATE

THE HON. FRED P. ADKINS, former president of the Delmarva Eastern Shore Association, as reported by the Baltimore News:

I say it reverently, when anyone asks me who started the Delmarva Eastern Shore Association, I answer, God.

MASSACHUSETTS

DITHYRAMBS sung to the tune of "My Rosary" by the Men of Vision assembled at New Bedford in the annual conference of Rotary's Thirty-First District:

Come, come, I love you, Rotary!
My heart is true.
Come, come, my life was lonely till I met you.
Come, come, naught can efface you.
Everyone's longing to embrace you.
Thou are for me.
Come, come, I love you only,
My Rotary.

MICHIGAN

Patriotic doings in the great city of Detroit, as reported by a spy serving the eminent *Nation:*

You and your readers may be interested to know that the Michigan Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution has appointed its committees for the coming year, and that on the Committee on Public Welfare and Defense are Truman H. Newberry and Edwin Denby, and on the Committee on Americanization and Patriotic Education is Charles Beecher Warren.

Humane ukase issued by the commander of Camp Custer:

HEADQUARTERS Camp Custer, Michigan

CIRCULAR NO. 3

PAR. II. Serving of Onions at Meals.

No onions will be served at any mess of the Regular Army, Organized Reserves, ROTC, or CMTC on dates on which scheduled dances are to be held for the respective components.

By order of Colonel Sheldon.

D. A. Stron Captain, Infantry, (DOL) Adjutant.

MISSOURI

Religious news from Cape Girardeau:

Continuing his series of sermons on "Automobile Religion," the Rev. H. C. Hoy at the Centenary Methodist Church Sunday night will speak on the subject, "The Filling Station." His opening sermon of this series on "A Flat Tire" drew a large crowd to the evening services last Sunday.

NEBRASKA

RETURN address on the business envelope of a Louisville idealist:

THE HOLINESS SHAVING PARLOR

S. W. Ball, Proprietor

Louisville, Nebraska

HAVE FAITH IN GOD

NEW JERSEY

PATRIOTISM comes to the aid of the judicial arm in Atlantic City:

"Join the Navy or go to jail for six months," was the ultimatum imposed in court by Recorder Cono upon Dan Maloney, eighteen, a bellhop in a beach front hotel, when the youth was arraigned a third time to answer a charge of disorderly conduct.

NEW YORK

News imparted to a palpitating world over the sign manual of the Hon. Arthur Brisbane:

The Rev. Dr. John Roach Straton, the New York Fundamentalist, says Christ's coming will eclipse even Lindbergh's reception.

From the Clip-Sheet of the Bureau of Education, Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C.:

Trial for neglect of duty is faced by teachers in the public schools of New York City who absent themselves from school in order to marry or to take a wedding trip. Such action, according to a recent general circular to the

schools, is regarded by the superintendent of schools and the board of superintendents as inexcusable and a neglect of duty.

Miracle reported from a branch office of the Christian Scientists:

THE MISSION YACHT ASSOCIATION, INC. 411-415 Thirty-sixth Street

Brooklyn, N. Y.

During the month a steamship blew up in the Erie Basin. She had been supplied with Christian Science literature, and not one of the sailors on board was injured. A miracle, said the shore people; the protection of Divine Love that comes through Christian Science, said the sailors. One of the sailors, however, that was on the pier was injured. He regained consciousness in the hospital after the cuts in his face had been sewed up. He declined their medicine and a few days later came to the Home Port. That morning, he said, he neglected to read his "Unity of Good" which he received in his Christmas Comfort Kit. The scars on his face was hardly noticeable and he was grateful for Christian Science, and said his limited knowledge of which saved him from being blown to pieces. All his clothing was gone and we supplied his need, including a new Comfort Kit with another "Unity of Good."

Very sincerely yours, CAPT. BENN, Secretary.

NORTH CAROLINA

OATH exacted of candidates for the schoolma'm's office in the swamps of Eastern North Carolina, as reported by a corre- \vee spondent of the eminent Nation:

I promise to take a vital interest in all phases of Sunday-school work, donating of my time, service, and money without stint for the uplift and benefit of the community.

I promise to abstain from all dancing, immodest dressing, and any other conduct un-becoming a teacher and a lady.

I promise not to go out with any young men except in so far as it may be necessary to stimulate Sunday-school work.

I promise not to fall in love, to become en-

gaged or secretly married.

I promise to remain in the dormitory or on the school grounds when not actively engaged in school or church work elsewhere.

I promise not to encourage or tolerate the least familiarity on the part of any of my boy

I promise to sleep at least eight hours a night, to eat carefully, and to take every precaution to keep in the best of health and spirits in order that I may be better able to render efficient service to my pupils.

NORTH DAKOTA

SINISTER public notice in the Devils Lake World:

WARNING: Flanie Peterson. You are forbidden to come on the Munig farm home and also keep your nose out of the telephone leading to the farm home. You must respect this notice. If you don't, you will respect the buckshot.

(Signed) JOHN MUNIG.

OHIO

LITERARY news from the progressive town of Howard:

The Browning Literary Society gave its semi-monthly programme Friday afternoon. A splendid paper on the origin of baseball and a reading entitled "Casey at the Bat" were interesting features of the afternoon's programme.

PENNSYLVANIA

THE worship of God in Philadelphia, as reported by the eminent Record:

As soon as it was clear to the audience of nearly 3000 who crowded Grace Baptist Temple last night that the pastor, Dr. Alonzo Ray Petty, was going to answer a thunderous "No" to his topic, "Should His Religion Bar Al Smith from Running for President?" about fifty persons arose and walked out as if on preconcerted signal, while one woman shouted hysterically, "Have you kissed the Pope's toe yet?" As the persons, whom Dr. Petty later characterized as strangers and not members of his church, were walking out, the pastor called to the organist, Frederick E. Starke, "Play the Funeral March." Then, turning to the 3000 who remained, Dr. Petty said: "I see most of you knew when a fellow needs a friend." He was greeted by a roar of applause.

The Rev. Michael Earls, vice-president of Holy Cross College, speaking before the Wilkes-Barré Rotarians:

More than even the colleges, which are sometimes theoretical, the service clubs are the guards of American culture.

News item in the distinguished Sunbury Daily:

C. C. Fisher is confined to his home with illness at the corner of Fourth and Hanover streets.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Solemn notice to both the damned and the sanctified, by the Hon. Marvin R. Reese, "lawyer and character analyst" of the rising town of Greer:

We are living in the very last days before the second coming or reign of Christ. The race has been run and all the prophesies concerning man have been fulfilled. MARK THIS PROPHESY AND REVELATION: THIS EARTH WILL MOVE INTO ANOTHER CLIME WITHIN TEN YEARS AND CHRIST WILL BE HERE TO RULE, REIGN, JUDGE, SENTENCE AND FREE. These truths are not only shown by the numerous revelations in recent months all over the world for they are also in line with all the history of the world. Every insincere and stony heart shall crumble, melt, confess and repent and every knee shall bow. This is the most momentous year since Christ. The world needs men of vision, revelation, thinkers and men of truth as it never has. The world has not been living; it has been only existing upon the mere physical. Men and women still dread, fear and try to avoid the whole truth. But alas! It is coming with great speed. The "I told you so's" will soon be in abundance. Closely observe the events of the 25th day of December, 1927.

TENNESSEE

Advertisement in the Nashville Tennes-sean:

A kiss will last but a day, ten pounds of candy she will eat and forget, the roses you send will fade with the dawn, but a Persian kitten or a police puppy is an hourly reminder of you. Write us for prices. Mc's Eden Kennels. Franklin, Tenn.

TEXAS

News item from the celebrated Houston Post-Dispatch:

Following some criticism by Confederate veterans, the newly designated name of the Abraham Lincoln school was changed to Sidney Lanier, and that of the Theodore Roosevelt school was changed to Albert Sidney Johnston, at an informal meeting of the school board.

DIVERTISSEMENTS of the he-men of Galveston:

Approximately sixty Kiwanians and ladies attended the ladies' night cabaret-vaudeville programme given at Gaido's. At the conclusion of the programme a handshaking contest was staged, wherein all men were required to shake hands with as many ladies as they could in the space of one minute. J. M. Parke won with a total of seventy-four handshakings.

Sporting news from the rising town of Bryan:

A unique and novel entertainment feature of a recent Sunday-school class social here was a talking contest between Mrs. H. S. Locke and Mrs. H. L. Durham. The judges were compelled to declare the contest a tie, as neither contestant paused a moment or showed the slightest sign of weakening during the time allotted to the contest.

VIRGINIA

Ecclesiastical circular widely distributed in the lovely town of Scottsville:

READ, READ!

State District Sunday School Convention, to meet at Sharon Church, in Albemarle county, on Sunday, at 10:30 A. M. Be on time and hear the President unfold the Bible. It contains 3,566,480 letters, even number; all these letters spell 773,746 words, even number; all these words make 31,173 verses, odd number; all these verses make 1189 chapters, odd number. The odd verse and the odd chapter are both found on the same page, and written by a man who walked with God; the odd line is found on a different page and contains only six words, one for each day in the week, and in my Bible has the meaning written in small letters at the end of the line, meaning made bright or made new. The words in the odd chapter represent the number of years Christ lived and preached, commencing with praise and ending with praise.

The President is a man named John, raised in Buckingham, and never made a speech in his life, never got further in education than the sixth grade, has been married twice, and is a plug horse trader. He went to a convention in 1926, heard fine speeches made, but he did not know enough to speak on. In the afternoon John was nominated president of the Convention for 1927—the presiding president at that time stated we always nominate two or three and vote on them, but they refused to nominate anybody but John, and gee, what mistakes people can make, but there must have been some cause for this. John had his vision before this, took his teams and men, cut logs and hauled lumber, and helped to build the church where moonshining and hunting on Sunday was being conducted. That church lives and John helps in teaching Sunday-school in this church. The first meeting ever held in regard to building this church was held in John's home, and whenever you take the church into your home the Bible will unfold itself to you. I am fully convinced that God hands down to the man that hands up. John was a name brought down by the angel Gabriel from Heaven before John was born, and he said "his name shall be called John." So was Jesus' name brought down by the same angel. John and Jesus were cousins on their mother's side. Where does the Bible say this, "Let John tell you at the Convention"? John will first talk on evolution and then show what the Bible said about it. You certainly ought to hear this. said about it. You certainly ought to hear this. John expects to talk just forty minutes, will talk from four texts, the first text, "Ye Are God's Building"—the second, "We Are His House"—the third, "We Are His Spiritual Temple"—the fourth, "Jesus Christ Being the Chief Corner to the fourth, "Jesus Christ Being the Chief Corner to the fourth, "Jesus Christ Being the Chief Corner to the fourth, "Jesus Christ Being the Chief Corner to the fourth, "Jesus Christ Being the Chief Corner to the fourth, "Jesus Christ Being the Chief Corner to the fourth, "Jesus Christ Being the Chief Corner to the fourth, "Jesus Christ Being the Chief Corner to the fourth, "Jesus Christ Being the Chief Corner to the fourth, "Jesus Christ Being the Chief Corner to the fourth, "Jesus Christ Being the Chief Corner to the fourth, "Jesus Christ Being the Chief Corner to the fourth, "Jesus Christ Being the Chief Corner to the fourth, "Jesus Christ Being the Chief Corner to the fourth, "Jesus Christ Being the Chief Corner to the fourth, "Jesus Christ Being the Chief Corner to the fourth," The first Being the Chief Corner to the fourth, "Jesus Christ Being the Chief Corner to the fourth, "Jesus Christ Being the Chief Corner to the fourth," The first Being the Chief Corner to the fourth, "Jesus Christ Being the Chief Corner to the first Being the Chief Chi Where are John's texts found in the Stone." Bible?

Talk about Sam Jones, D. L. Moody, and Billy Sunday, you ought to hear John, the uneducated man, who wants to talk to five hundred people the first time he talks from the pulpit. Bring the children. Lo, children are an inheritance of the Lord (Psalm cxxvii, 3). Where there is no vision the people perish (Proverbs xxix, 18).

Meet me at the Convention-

JOHN R. ELAM, Box 4, Scottsville, Va.

Associated Press dispatch from the grand old town of Norfolk:

Last year the Four County Fair Association, which annually holds a county fair at Suffolk, had a hog-calling contest. This year the association is arranging a husband-calling contest and inquiries indicate the announcement is creating wide interest. The contest is to be open to all married women and the decision of the judges will be based on the persuasive qualities of the call, the language in which it is couched, and the amount of endearment or command put into it.

WASHINGTON

Psychiatrical discovery in lovely Yakima, as revealed by the Seattle *Post-Intelligencer*:

The source of man's wickedness was disclosed today by Leon D. Green of this city, in an address before a luncheon meeting of the Christian Brotherhood. It comes, he said, from a "torrid zone" in the brain, an inch and a half thick from the ears up. Persons who commit suicide are soft behind the ears, he said.

From the catalogue of studies of the celebrated State Normal School:

SOCIAL ETHICS

2. Camp Fire Leadership Training Course. 2 credits. This course will include lectures on the principles and theories of Camp Fire, girl psychology, leadership, and citizenship; laboratory work in the form of practical demonstrations in homecraft, campcraft, healthcraft, handcraft and nature study.

tions in homecraft, camperaft, healtheraft, handcraft and nature study.

3. Scout Leadership Training Course. 2 credits. This course will include the principles and theories of the Boy Scouts, boy psychology, leadership, and citizenship; laboratory work in the form of practical demonstrations in camperaft, scout craft, handcraft, and nature

study.

POLITICAL advertisement in the Tacoma News-Tribune:

LIVED HERE SINCE 1888

Paying taxes for thirty-six years. I trimmed lights for seven years, from 1889 till 1906. I voted here when it was a territory. I have six children and the oldest one is not eighteen yet, and all are girls. Their mother died five years ago; and I put my name in for constable. I would like to have one term. It would help me. I did not get cards out. I need what I have instead of spending money to get a \$100 job, and I would be thankful to the people of Tacoma if they vote for me. Yours truly,

John Cunningham.

7031 Park avenue.

WEST VIRGINIA

Another reason why this great State is internationally famous for its educational standards, as revealed by the Shepherdstown Register:

The incoming board of education of Opequon district in Berkeley county will not tolerate school teachers who wear short skirts, according to an announcement made by the Rev. William Hesse, a retired Lutheran minister, who was elected to membership on the board last Fall. Sixteen teachers will be needed in the district, and Mr. Hesse has informed them that if they want to teach in the district they must sign a contract that they will wear dresses "reaching from their Adam's apple to their ankles."

WISCONSIN

Profound deliberations of the apostles of Service in the town of Waukesha:

A much heated discussion by way of debate is to come up at a joint meeting of the Waukesha Kiwanis Club and the Waukesha Rotary Club on Thursday night. The question is, "Resolved, That the use of the old fashioned night shirt is more beneficial to the health of the community than are pajamas." The Rotary Club will uphold the pajama while the Kiwanis will defend the night shirt.

WYOMING

REFINED item from the society columns of the Meeteetse *News:*

Miss Elberta Pickett, a denizen of the town of Manderson, is enjoying a visit here, inhaling and exhaling this bracing mountain air and inhaling the hospitality that abides in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Harvey.

THE PHILIPPINES

WANT AD in the Manila Daily Bulletin:

Wanted: Sealed bids for life size oil paintings to portray "A Congressman in Action"; two canvases to show (1) Congressman defying imperialistic colonel at a social affair; (2) Congressman defying dictates of decency by dining with Governor General in shirt sleeves, knickers and golf sox.—Sign painters will please not apply. P. O. Box 2776, Manila.

IN PARTIBUS INFIDELIUM

CABLE from Berlin:

"The most important task of science is to invent a machine which will register rays of mutual sympathy between a couple who want to get married," declared Karin Michaelis, noted author, to an audience here tonight in a lecture on "Happiness in Marriage."

THE PASSING OF VAUDEVILLE

BY W. A. S. DOUGLAS

≺wo mammoth movie palaces stand side by side in Chicago's Loop section. The blaze of electric lights on one announces that Paul Ash "and his mad, merry gang" are presenting "Harem Hokum," followed by Marie Provost in some movie or other. A score of attendants dressed up like comic opera chorus-men handle the dense crowd outside. Inside, the house is full to capacity. But the throng is patient, sheeplike, waiting its turn to gaze on the wonders of "Harem Hokum"and the fair face of the celebrated Marie Prevost.

The columns run snake-like to the corner, where there is a break just sufficient for those who have business to do to get past. Round this corner follow more columns, officered as before by the comic opera ushers. They move slowly, these hundreds, thousands. The other night I timed the parade and found folks who waited in line an hour and a half for a chance to see "Harem Hokum"—and the picture.

This first crowd was lined along the north half of the block. The other theatre was playing a picture called "The Naked Truth." "For Women Only—Over Twenty-One Years of Age" said one electric sign. "Men and Children Barred Because of the Delicacy of the Subject" said another. The inference was plain enough. Women of all ages, many of them evidently less than the required twenty-one years, were here battalioned by another crew of ushers, receiving and transmitting their signals, moving and halting their troops in the slow approach to the doors and the ultimate squint at "The Naked Truth." These women occupied the lower half of the block—easily

fifteen hundred of them, waiting by the hour for seats.

"I didn't know there were so many dirty-minded women in the world, never mind Chicago," spoke a man loudly as he gazed at the spectacle. But instead of being offended, those who heard him laughed.

Mr. Paul Ash is a large, husky man who wears his hair in the style made famous by Tom Powers in the days when he drew cartoons of the dove of peace laying its eggs in the hind locks of William Jennings Bryan. Mr. Ash has a big orchestra which plays all the latest tunes. While it does so he stands in front of it, shaking himself after the manner of a Western butter-andegg man taking a well-liquored fling on Texas Guinan's dance-floor. As he leads his musicians he indulges in intimate conversation with members of the audience. He borrows candy from the girls who sit in the front rows and either eats it himself or throws it at one of his players. How the seat buyers love his elephantine antics! With what, in Joe Miller's prime, was snappy quip and jest he introduces the occasional hoofers and ballad singers. In honor of the title of the current show, "Harem Hokum," he is dressed up as a sheik. Next week he will do the same thing, but probably arrayed as a gondolier and calling his act "A Night in Venice."

Before Mr. Ash appears on the stage an organist plays popular songs to a coloredslide accompaniment, exactly as was done in nickelodeons twenty years ago. As the words are placed on the screen the audience joins in. If the response is weak, other slides are inserted to demand a pep-up. In so many words these cash customers are