

ing in competition for coffee-drinking radio listeners. Major Bowes was rushed in lest, because of their dislike of Verdi and Gounod, the grocerymen lose their enthusiasm for urging Chase & Sanborn on the customers.

You are not likely to consider the Rudy Vallee program the greatest thing in the history of entertainment unless you are a person who can be persuaded that each season of the year has its harmful effect on your inner mechanisms and that the harm can be removed along with pimples by the eating of packaged yeast. If you, despite the warnings of Senator Copeland, are not likely to worry much about constipation, any enjoyment you derive from the Vallee Varieties will be accidental. It is not designed for the likes of you. Or perhaps you do not find Easy Aces very witty. Their sponsor tells you that Anacin is better than other trademarked pain killers because it is like a physician's prescription in that it contains more than one ingredient. That sponsor, in other words, has selected as his audience the people who can believe that the virtue of a doctor's prescription lies in the number of ingredients it contains. Unless you have that special naivete, the sponsor is not interested in whether you listen or not. You do not belong to his audience.

R. PETERS.

Current Theater

Bury the Dead (Barrymore Theater). Irwin Shaw's unforgettable war play, first produced as a *New Theater Night* program, now running regularly on Broadway. Filled with poetry and passion, it is one of the major contributions of the Left theater.

Bitter Stream (Civic Repertory Theater). The Theater Union's current production: Victor Wolfson's dramatization of the life of small farmers in Fontamara is the first play about the Mussolini tyranny to reach America. "An honest portrayal of conditions today in Italy," says John L. Spivak, recently returned from a visit to Fascist Italy, and he adds: "Indispensable," urging "everyone to see it."

New Singers (New School Auditorium, 66 West 12th St.). The spring concert of the brilliant choral group, under the direction of Lahn Adomian, will include the concert version of Hanns Eisler's *Mother*, and choral works and transcriptions by Adomian, Davidenko, Knipper, Mossolov, North, Robinson, Schaefer, Shishov, Shostakovich and Siegmeister. May 3, 8:30 p.m. Tickets 55 cents.

Blood on the Moon (Brooklyn Little Theater, 126 St. Felix St., Brooklyn). The first production of the Brooklyn Progressive Players, a new organization which is to provide a permanent social theater for Brooklyn. Claire and Paul Sifton's *Blood on the Moon* portrays anti-Semitic persecution in Hitler Germany with feeling and frequently incisive drama. A solid contribution to the anti-fascist theater. S. B.

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Between Ourselves

MICHAEL GOLD, Robert Forsythe and Gardner Rea, the judges of the New MASSES Cartoon Prize Title Contest, informed us that they expect to complete their tasks in a few days. We hope to be able to announce in an early issue the names of the fifty-two NEW MASSES readers who will receive the first prize of \$1,000, the second prize of \$250 and the fifty prizes of \$5 each.

International Publishers advises us that the first edition of the anthology of *Proletarian Literature in the United States* has been exhausted; a second edition of 5,000 copies, already off the press, will be sold as a \$1 reprint. The anthology was prepared by a number of former and present NEW MASSES editors, including Michael Gold, Joseph North, Granville Hicks, Isidor Schneider; the introduction is by Joseph Freeman. Recently the London Times Literary Supplement devoted its front-page article to an extended review of American literature of the Left in an analysis of this anthology.

Malcolm Chisholm, whose drawings accompany Amy Schechter's story of the victory of the longshoremen on the Pacific Coast, spent seven years of his life as a sailor. He is now living in New York City.

Bruce Minton will speak on the latest developments in the case of the eight California Criminal Syndicalism defendants at the April

Quarterly Membership Meeting of the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners. The meeting will be held at the home of Dr. Frankwood E. Williams, 44 West 12th Street, April 30 at 8 P. M.

Stanley Burnshaw will speak on "Can the Theater Survive?" at the next meeting of the Friends of THE NEW MASSES. Time: May 6, at 9 P. M. Place: Steinway Hall, Studio 717A, 113 West 57 Street. There is no admission charge.

Lester Cohen, one of our contributors, will lead a "Life and Literature" travel-study project in the Soviet Union under the auspices of EDUTRAVEL, an institute for Educational Travel. Cohen will present several discussions in connection with Soviet literature and with special emphasis on the place of writing as a social force in Soviet life.

Vincente Lombardo Toledano, whose "Greeting from Mexico" appears in this issue, is a veteran trade-unionist. He is now General Secretary of the recently formed Mexican Confederation of Workers (C.T.M.) which comprises over 500,000 organized proletarians.



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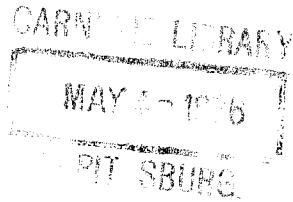
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