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lined up with the influences of Reaction.

One thing is to be remembered, however. The ballet has advanced through a series of historic changes while maintaining the "five positions" (since 1661), and floor patterns have suffered radical innovations while the "pointes" remained. It's true that the changes have never been of a fundamentally revolutionary quality, revolutionary particularly in the social, economic sense, but there have been changes; the art has not been completely static. This considered, and not forgetting the popular inclination to the brilliance that a ballet virtuosity may attain, it is not beyond possibility (though there may be considerable doubt) that a proletarian ballet technique may yet develop. It should be stated, certainly, that signs of such a major development are not yet visible.

OWEN BURKE.

## THE THEATER

THE scouts of the American Youth Congress might well look into the title song of the new Rodgers and Hart musical, *Babes in Arms*, to see whether it isn't close to a theme song for an American youth movement. And the rest of you had better begin tuning up for "Way Out West on West End Avenue" and "That's Why the Lady Is a Tramp," two other numbers from the very acceptable score which will probably be echoing strongly over dance floors and the air waves in the near future.

As for the show itself, it's mainly a large collection of pleasant and talented young folks cavorting to perhaps the best words and music of the Broadway season, and proceeding along the lines of a light narrative about how a neighborhoodful of vaudevillists' offspring, rather than go to the township work farm for the summer, defy the powers and engage in a coöperative effort to feed themselves while the old folks are away. Naturally, they decide to put on a revue, and there you are.

Apart from the title song, there's rather more than the usual quantum of social and political content in this musical. True, Communists come off badly where they're mentioned, but the most solid body of social viewpoint in the book is anti-white-chauvinist. New York's Mayor La Guardia gets a plug in the song, "That's Why the Lady Is a Tramp."

Mitzi Green, whom you may remember as being a child cinema performer, has grown up enough to be a top-notch feminine lead, and certainly knows how to use the old sock to put over a song. The hoofing in the show is top-notch, especially that by Duke McHale and those two young Negro brothers, Harold and Fayard Nicholas. And with all due respect to Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart (which is not inconsiderable, in view of their history from the first *Grand Street Follies* through *The Connecticut Yankee* and many other shows, including *On Your Toes*), it must be recorded that without the expert direction of Robert Sinclair there might have been some yawning moments. As a whole, it is good,

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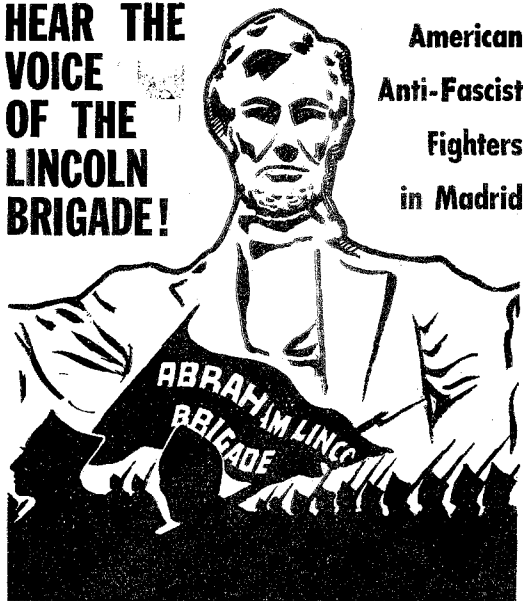
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### Forthcoming Broadcasts

(Times given are Eastern Daylight, but all  
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Henry A. Wallace. Secretary of Agriculture to  
speak on farm problems, Tues., Apr. 27, 1:30  
p.m., N.B.C. blue.

Child Labor and Growth. A discussion by Richard  
A. Bolt, director of the Cleveland Child Health  
Association, Wed., Apr. 28, 4:00 p.m., N.B.C.  
blue.

Music. Frank Black will direct string symphony,  
Wed., Apr. 28, 9:00 p.m., N.B.C. blue.

Problems Before Congress. A Representative will  
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#### PLAYS

Excursion (Vanderbilt, N.Y.). Thunder on the left  
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Miss Quis (Henry Miller, N.Y.). Small-town social  
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Red Harvest (National, N.Y.). The raw stuff of  
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