Behind The Scenes In The Nation's Capital

Uncle Sam Takes a Flyer in the Theatrical Game, and There Follows a Rude Awakening—About Liberty Theatres
—Couldn't Fool Mrs. Longworth.

By THOMAS F. LOGAN. list, the government has gotten along in the theater with which to respondent to ancient Media).

Restoration of Turkish do very nicely as the boss of an appalling learned to tread with fear.

mercial producer. "Our audiences are observation of sentinels stationed in drafted for us," observed this cheerful the "wings" and, at the fall of the finphilosopher with a complacency born al curtain, was marched back to the of utter ignorance. "When we put on guardhouse until the hour for the next wil lhave absolutely no opposition. s show at one of the cantonments it is sure to prove a riot, because we The boys will be grateful for almost any form of amusement. Therefore, when they observe the very high quality of dramatic productions we propose to present, it will be merely a question

writer of comedy in earlier days. It that are bewildering to both sides. would be a brilian tidea, he figured, on the training camp circuit at exact- of refreshment. 4 8:15 o'clock on propitious Monday evening It ended its run shortly befort 11 o'clock that same night. Why? Well the verdict of the audience was unanimous, but not in the anticipated direction. There was no disorder, no bloodshed, no comments and no "booig." But, after a half hour or so, th theater tersely commented, "it's the and I'll stack you up against it." storehouse for you!" Meliere attained success when he was a living play wright, but his delivery is not quite speedy enough for a Liberty theater

It may shock high-brow lovers of classic drama to hear this bitter truth, but it is an unalterable fact that the discriminating art lovers in army cantonments fall naturally and easily into the ranks of theatrical patrons known to fame as "tired business men." Shakespeare, Ibsen and Pinere may be all right in their proper sphere, but they are out of their class when drafted for an effective offensive, in the Liberty theaters. The drama's only reliable shoc ktrops on the training camp circuit must be recruited from the "merry-merry." The boys in khaki perceive more art in peppy songs and dances interpreted by reasonably prepossessing coryphees to the accompaniment of jazz melodies than a delegation of studio graduates tould extract from an elaborate, new the war is over, the United States government will regard Flo Ziegfeld and Jake Shubert as intellectual giants. And the admiration will not be confined to one side of the partnership between Uncle Sam and the gentlemen

who specialize on "revues" and "folagents and company managers begin drama. Minor details, such as orchestras of forty pieces that do not bother about union rules, small armies of

borrowed from the theatrical busiknowledge and supplement it with a new knowledge of undreamed of powmanager yawned, but reached for his He listened languidly for a moment game with the Cardinals.

and then issued a "request." "Slip Washington, June 25.—War has for me four of the best you've got," he Washington, June 25. Washington government into ki-clad experts snapped a salute, remore new activities than various agi- ceived instructions and delivered an tated members of the ruling organi- artistically painted "lobby display" in sation had even heard about prior to something under 18 minutes. Unfor- Palestine and Drak (an extensive dis-

Recently, in a Maryland cantonment number of new industries. It has fall- theater, a big musical production that en down a bit on aeroplane construct requires difcult lighting effects arriven down that difficult manuface ed for a three-nights "stand." When turing business has begun to look up. the work of setting the stage was bethe administration's really spectacu- gun, someone discovered and reported lar troubles began to pile up, however, to the manager of the theater the fact when the biggest democracy in the that the master electrician the house gents. world decided to take a fiver in the was ingloriously confined in the guardtheatrical game. If the powers that house for a violation of some army had known as much about the rule. The theater manager promptly trials and tribulations of the amuse- had himself conected wit hthe comment purveyor when they took on the manding ofcer. "We can't put on pb of entertaining soldiers as they this show without our boss electriknow now, it is just posible that cer- cian," he wailed. "Don't get excited," tain officials would have finiched un- advised the C. O. in soothing tones der commands to rush in where a when the situation was explaned. "If long line of theatrical "angels" that's your only trouble, I'll release him for the evening and send him up It sounded quite simple at first. As to you under guard." And that is exone optimist pointed out. Uncle Sam, actly what was done. The prisoner impressario, would never be bothered | was marched to the theater, handled by the first problem of the purely com- the light effects under the grinning

It would be a mistake to suppose that visiting theatrical men are at the of the capacity of the cantonment receiving end of all jolts that develop theaters. The undertaking is really from Uncle Sam's plunge into the theatrical business. Occasionally, the It was a beautiful dream, of course, technical talk and peculiar idiosynbut a fiction of the subconscious imag- crasies of the traveling experts bewilinatio ndomed to a rude awaken- der the commissioned officers and othing. Do the dear boys applaud the ers in authority at the army cantonjudgment exemplified in all forms of ments. There are, for example, numdrama that get past the government erous recruits from American social censors? No, gentle reader, they do life who labor earnestly in the army not! There was, for example, the vineyard. It happens, infrequently, case of Meliere. Some enthusiast re- that these patriotic women encounter called the fact that the celebrated strenuous representatives of the com-French dramatist did rather well as a mercial theater with consequences

night's performance arrived.. "Holy

Mackerel," commented the traveling

manager, "If we could pull that rough

stuff on the outside show-game, life

on the road would be one grand, sweet

One theatrical expert made his deto revive a Meliere play for America's but on the training camp circuit a to revive a Mellere play for America's but on the training camp circuit a light-hearted soldiers. It was easy enough to revive one, but not quite as Washington. When he concluded his easy to "put it across," as they say conference with the manager of the in the vernacular of the theater The Camp Mead liberty theater the noon revival inaugurated an indefinite run hour had arived and he felt the need

"Where," he inquired "can a guy et eats in this point?" Why not take a shot at the Hostess

House?" the manager suggested. "What the Klaw-and-Erlanger is that?" asked the visitor.

"It's a high-brow cafeteria," exaudience arose with great dignity and aplained the manager. "It's very much decorum and conducte dan orderly exit like the hash-houses you've 'made' in are said to be thoroughly awake to from the theater. "If your audience Los Angeles and other western towns, walks out on you," as the sage, ex- only it's run under the auspices of the of the Austro-Hungarian government perienced manager of the cantonment Y. M. C. A. on a cost basis. Come along already struggling with a half-starved

The visitor armed himself with a tray and started down the line. He got along swimmingly until he reached a display of asparagus, marked down to 10 cents a portion. He ordered a supply and received three stalks. "Is that all I draw for a dime?" he inquired in injured tones. He was told that it was.

"Well, gimme five more orders," he observed, apparently with entire resig-

En route to the cashier's stand, however, he assembled the six orders of asparagus on one dish, palmed the five "empties" and proceeded to settle his account on a one-asparagus-order basis. His strategy did not, however, be had by troops directly from Amerescape the attention of the alert ica and, even more important by amdispensor of asparagus. She followed up the transaction and instructed the cashier to collect 60 cents for her department. A battle royal ensuied, but, after much heated argument, the advance agent grudgingly paid the bill exhibit at the Louvre. By the time and joined the mangager at a table. "Say," commented that gentleman.

"do you happen to know who that was you were scrapping with about the asparagus you pinched?"

"No," replied the visitor, "I'll bite. Who was it?"

"Nobody in particular," observed the The eyes of theatrical advance manager with elaborate sarcasm, "except that she happens to be Mrs. Nich- in the Indian lineup. to hang out on their cheeks when they olas Longworth, formerly Miss Alice observe the efficiency which the gov- Roosevelt, and the oldest daughter of ernment has applied to the staging of the scrappiest president the United States has ever produced!".

However, the liberty theater circuit is gradually settling down to the roustage-hands who are not interested in tine of an established institution. But the standing of visiting "crews" with when the kaiser and his gang finally their "locals," and billposters who realize that they are up against a losneither indulge in strong drink nor ing proposition, the American governinaugurate "paper" ghts, are but pre- ment will know a whole lot more liminaries in the list of innovations about producing plays than it did that startle and amaze the visiting when Washington first took on the less amusing task of beating sense The managers of the Liberty theater into several million thick German

hess. They retain their professional The Strong Withstand the Heat of Summer Better Than the Weak Old people who are feeble and

er. A few days ago, for example, the younger people who are weak vill be manager of a New England canton-strengthened and enabled to go ent playhouse was entertaining an through the depressing heat of sumadvance agent. The visitor after ar- mer by taking GROVE'S TASTELESS routing routine details, mentioned the chill TONIC. It purifies and enriches fact that a printed sign for the lobby, the blood and builds up the whole that emphasized a special feature of system. You can soon feel its strengthhis attraction, might be helpful. The ening, invigorating effect. 60c.—Adv.

desk telephone. "Gimme the Adiu- Fred Luderus, of the Phils, achieved tini." he commanded. "How are you a fond desire of every pastimer the fixed on sign painters," he inquired other day, when he hanged out a when the proper connection was made. home run with the bases filled in a

WAR AIMS OF TURKEY PUBLISHED IN BERLIN

To Surrender All Occupied Parts of Palestine and Irak-Hold Sea

Amsterdam, June 25.-Turkey's war aims, according to the Turkish newspaper, Aati, as re-published in the

Berlin Vorwaerts, are as follows: Surrender of all occupied parts of April, 1917. Considered as a whole tunstely, there wasn't a drop of whistrict in west central Persia, corre-Restoration of Turkish domination

> in Egypt. Independence of Persia and the wiping out of British influence there. Domination of the Black sea by placing an Ottoman prince in Crimea, a German prince in Georgia and an Austrian prince in Armenia, as re-

Austria to keep the occupied portions of northern Italy until Tripoli, Dodecunese and Cyrenaica are returned to Turkey.

AUSTRIANS WILL JOIN IN **NEGOTIATIONS LATER**

Germany Learned of Bulgar-Turk Dealings Only by Espionage Service.

London, June 25.-Preliminary negotiations presumably regarding the Dobrudja have been begun between Bulgaria and Turkey and Germany only learned of them through its espionage service, the Daily Mail corespondent at the Hague is informed. Austria probably will participate in these separate negotiations in the course of a

The recent speech in the reichstag of Dr. von Kuehlmann, the foreign secretary, it is added, resulted from conversations between Bulgaria and Turof King Ferdinand of Bulgaria.

M. Malinoff, the new Bulgarian premier, is said to agree entirely with the plan of King Ferdinand to exact fulfillment of Bulgaria's demands at whatever cost.

COLLAPSE OF AUSTRIA

Half Starved and Riotious People Will Break Under Italian Rout.

Washington, June 25.-The Germans the probability of a complete collapse and riotous people, in the event of a complete Austrian route at the hands of the Italians. Realization of this fact, Rome believes, has caused the German general staff practically not to abandon its great offensive in France and has been evidenced by the com-

parative lull there for the past week. German soldiers are being rushed by rail to the northern end of the Austro-Italian battle lines with the purpose of restoring Austrian morale and not only checking the Italian counter attack, but by force of numbers breaking through the mountain

passes into the plains of Venetia.

With such help as the entente armies can give immediately supplemented as rapidly as transportation can ple military supplies and food for the army, the Italian general staff, is reported to be convinced that the victorious sweep of the Italian army will traverse the famous Bainsizza plateau -the scene of the great battles of last fall-and will not stop until the Italians have reclaimed all of the country up to the right bank of the Izonso, which marked the extreme of General Cadorna's advance.

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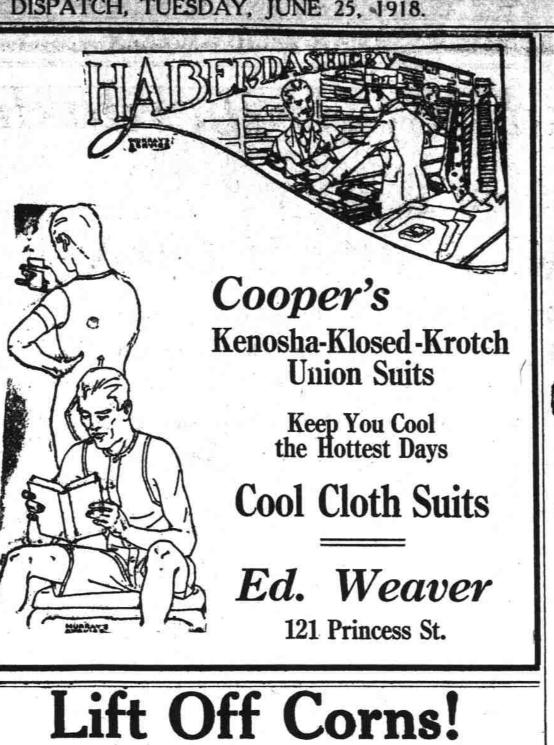
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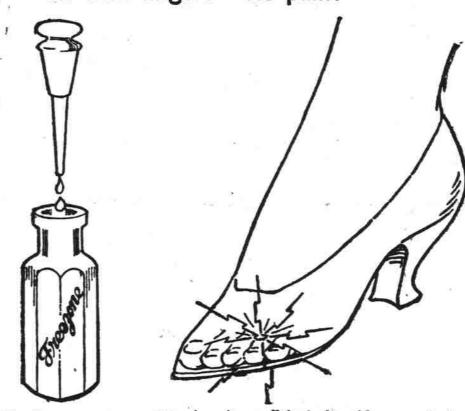
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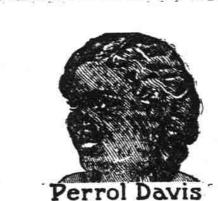


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until until 5:30 P.M. 5:45 P.M. 6:20 P.M. *6:10 P.M. 6:50 P.M. 6:30 P.M. and every half 7:15 P.M. hour thereafter and every half

hour thereafter until 11:00 P.M. 11:45 P.M. 12:10 A.M. Local trains stopping at all stations (on request) may be expected to leave the Center and Lumina at the times

* The 6:10 express leaves daily exc cept Saturdays and Sundays, stopping at Fifth, Ninth, Seventeenth and Market streets, Wilmington; Winter Park Gardens, Sea Gate, Wrightsville and all stations on beach.

FREIGHT:

Lv. Beach Ev. Wilmington 7:05 A.M. 5:30 A.M. 12:15 P.M. 9:30 A.M. 9:30 P.M. Freight depot open daily except Sunday, from 7.30 a.m. until 1:00 p. m. and from 2:00 p. m. until 6:00 p. m. Freight depot telephone No. 96.

SUNDAYS: Lv. Beach Lv. Center 6:40 A.M. 7:00 A.M. 7:45 A.M. 8:30 A.M. and every half 9:15 A.M. hour thereafter and every half hour thereafter until 11:00 P.M. until 2:10 A.M. 11:45 P.M.
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the Center and Lumina at the times

Lv. Wilmington Lv. Beach 12:15 P.M. 11:00 A.M. Freight depot open 10 to 11 a. m. Freight depot telephone No. 96.

During periods of heavy travel exe press trains will be operated between Wilmington and Lumina, stopping only at Fifth, Ninth, Seventeenth and Mark ket streets, Wilmington; Oceanic Hotel. Seashore Hotel, Carolina Yacht Club and Lumina, on the beach.