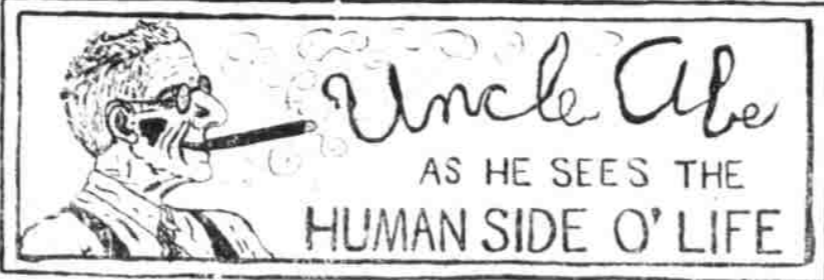


Two Stars Hit A Dramatic Highspot



Spencer Tracy, Myrna Loy, Wade Boteler in "Whipsaw"

A jewel thief and a secret agent match wits in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's new dramatic hit, "Whipsaw," which will be shown at the Park Theatre Christmas day. Myrna Loy is the thief and Spencer Tracy is the secret service man, and between the two of them you can be sure that there is not a single dull moment in the picture.



THE CHRISTMAS OF MY BOYHOOD.

Some 'round kloose children an' young fokes . . . Unkle Abe's a-goin' to tell ye about Christmas back when he wuz a boy. (But, of course, ye no they didn't call me Unkle Abe back then.)

Some folksed then in December, usually a week or two before Christmas—ye see it only lasted 4 months, no countin' the 2 weeks off 'fer fadder.

Unkle Abe, as a boy, allus comene gitten Christmas well into his bones 'bout a week before good ol' Saint Nick wuz supposed to come around. It took a day or two to git in the "Christas wood," as we called it; now the only difference I could see in "Christmas wood" an' ever day wood wuz that it didn't go neer so hard with me to prepare the Christmas wood.

We didn't have many Christmas trees back then—no, sir-ee! Little fellers, boys an' gurls too, hung their stockin' by the fire place to be filled instid. Boys an' gurls both wore home-mad wool stockin', which they tuck jist below the nee with a cotton string. So, ye can imagine what a size it wuz—4 pr., maybe 1/2 doz. pairs of stockin' wuz to be a-hangin' on the mantel by the wide wood fire place!

Santa claws back in them days usually brawt boys an' gurls striped stick candy, apples, oranges, fire cracker, an' sweet-bread. Little gurl, kom-sol, total them solves very fortunate an' joyful if they got a cheap doll—an' soild a boy if he got a trench harr.

Now back when Unkle Abe wuz a boy, there wuz plenty of stores out in the country, so fokes didn't have to go to town to buy their Christmas things. The komunity store wuz filled with shoppers for a day or two before Christmas . . . people who had rode hoss back, come in wagons or buggies an' on foot over ruff, narrow an' often muddy roads to reach the stores.

by other, studyin' other phases of local government is the author of the booklet, "The Proposed Constitution for North Carolina," issued June, 1934, which received wide comment from students of government.

Fokes didn't have much money back then . . . they bartered or exchanged corn, chickens, eggs an' sumtimes wool, roots and erbs an' dried apples for the things they needed from the store, such as dresses, cloth, shinin' leather, coffee, sugar an' rice.

So, ye see, the country peopl didn't kongregate in the towns then at Christmas time, or any time, like they do today . . . the main reason bein' that it wuzn't neer so cozy to git to town as it is today. No, sir-ee, it wuz a day's journey, an' from sum parts of this county, like Cattaalooch, Big Creek an' Hurricane, it took a about 2 days.

So much for the young fokes—an' things in general.

Now, the older fokes celebrated Christmas very much as they do today, cookin' an' feastin', visitin', givin' parties an' frolickin' around in general. But the givin' of gifts an' sendin' of Christmas cards an' so fourth, wuz not so much in stile as it is today . . . no, they didn't give 1/2 so much back then. I don't say that people air any better now or have more of the tru Christmas spirit, it jist wuzn't the stile an' therefore, wuz not so much expected 25 or 40 years ago.

An' back in Unkle Abe's boyhood days, ever komunity wuz have one or more "Christmas parties." They wuz sumtimes begin 2 or 3 days before Christmas, but the usual time for these parties, or country dances wuz on Christmas eve, an' on these occasions both the young an' old wuz attend, the young fokes, of course, don't most of the merry-makin'.

These dances wuz held sumtimes in the dinin' room, sumtimes in the parlor; but whir ever held, the room wuz half to be clurd of furniture, etc., to accommodate the crowds. The fiddlin' an' dancin' wuz usually komtinue till 2 or 3 o'clock, sumtimes till chicken crow.

But after all, it wuz the same Christmas spirit that moved fokes back then, an' usually made them happier, less selfish an' better 'bout Christmas time, as it does today, only it wuz in another generashun an' under sumwhat different customs.

An' may this spirit continue to make better the whole world.

IT'S TRUE! By Wiley Padan



"IT'S TRUE!" that Harry Kapf, producer of 'Whipsaw,' was handling vaudeville acts twenty years ago. He opened a new Canadian circuit with the act of Friedman and Lewis. The Friedman was Ted Lewis. At their first stop they found the same wouldn't fit on the marquee, and changed the act to Lewis and Lewis as a result. Hence Ted Friedman became Ted Lewis and has so remained ever since."

To Begin Punching License On Jan. 1

RALEIGH. State highway patrolmen will start punching the driver's

In closin' Unkle Abe wants to say. Thank-ye for the many kind words of encouragement a great host of you have given me on behalf of the "Unkle Abe" column during the past 12 months. I hope you will not think me vain or presumptus when I say that at least 5,000 people read this every week . . . an' here's wishin' all of you a very good Christmas. UNKLE ABE.

licenses of all drivers who are arrested, stopped, or warned for various traffic law violations on and after January 1, Captain Charles D. Farmer said. In addition, the name and address of every driver, the number of his driver's license and the violation will be taken and sent to the central office of the patrol here, where it will be made a part of the record of that driver, in the files where the duplicate licenses are kept. In addition, the driver's permit of every driver arrested or stopped will be punched or marked according to a special code so that any patrolman, in any part of the state, can look at the driving permit and tell whether or not the driver has been arrested before and if so, for what violation.

Institute Of Government Official Making Study Here

Is Assembling Data From Various Offices In Order To Compile State-Wide Report

Dillard S. Gardner, associate director of the Institute of Government, of Chapel Hill, is spending several weeks in town making a study of the various county offices in the court house and the manner in which they are being run. His work is in no sense an inspection or an audit, but is a result of the voluntary co-operation on the part of the officials to assist in the splendid work being undertaken in the state by this agency. The work of the Institute of Government, which was begun six years ago by Dr. Albert Coates at Chapel Hill, is a pre-eminent contribution to the study of government in the United States, as there is no similar work being done elsewhere in the country. It receives neither federal nor state aid, but so far has been carried on by endowments and the contributions of public spirited officials and citizens. It has been the outgrowth of interest

on the part of officers, students of government, and a realization of the public in general of a need of a clearing house to which governmental problems might be carried.

At present there are four men doing specific field work; Albert Coates, director, is working on criminal law enforcement, Henry Brandis, Jr., on taxation, T.N. Grice is working with the accountants and fiscal officials, and Dillard S. Gardner, who is making a study of the offices of the clerk of the court, sheriff, the register of deeds and the inferior courts.

The time is not far distant in the state, when a man elected to county or city office, in many cases, not because of his peculiar qualifications for that particular office, but because he received the most votes, will be able to find assembled material that will enable him to approach his work with some vision of what it means.

The magazine, "Popular Government," at one time published quarterly, but now monthly, by the institute, contains in each issue an enormous amount of governmental information for officials, teachers and citizens. From time to time guide books are being compiled that are proving invaluable to the citizens of the state. The last one, "The Highway Safety Booklet" is being recommended for study by all organized groups in the state.

Dillard S. Gardner, who is making the study here at present in his particular field, and who will be followed

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