

Hilarious Minstrel Show Is Highly Applauded

BIG ATTRACTION GIVEN JUNE 10, WELL ATTENDED

Show Said To Be Most Outstanding Entertainment This Season

Quite possibly the largest and certainly one of the most appreciative crowds to attend any of the series of entertainments prepared for Ecusta employees was present last Thursday evening to enjoy a minstrel. The show, which lasted for about an hour, was followed by a dance, for which Rhett Talley's all-Ecusta string band furnished the music.

Roland Wilber acted as interlocutor and executed his part in a gracious manner. The parts of the blackface men were taken by John Wilber, Otto Whiteside, Leon English and Dewey (Ginny) Wood, whose jokes excited gales of laughter and whose singing was excellent.

A material contribution to the splendid program rendered was the singing of the Ecusta quartet, consisting of Wilber, Pete Eberle, Odell Scott and Howard Wilkie, who sang "Coming in on a Wing and a Prayer." Others who sang were Miss Emmi Neuberger, the Davis sisters, Odell Scott and Howard Wilkie. Each of them was called back for an encore, and the singing of the whole cast showed careful selection and harmony and thorough training. The score for the minstrel was played by Mr. Eversman on the violin, Mrs. Mary Glass at the piano and Clyde Spencer, of Asheville, on the cello.

An entire stage had been constructed for the minstrel and it was prettily decorated with varicolored flowers and mountain greenery.

There was at no time any suggestion of confusion or fumbling, and the impression given by the various actors was that they had not only learned but had assimilated their parts, thus enabling them collectively to give a highly creditable and pleasing performance.

—The Times.

GLAD TO GET ECHO

May 27, 1943

Dear Mr. Wells and Friends at Ecusta:

I received the Echo yesterday and was certainly glad to get it. I can see by the paper that a good many of the boys I used to work with have been drafted since I left and new ones taking their places. I just wonder how many Ecusta employees have been drafted since this war started. I would certainly like to know.

Tell Messrs. Kappers and Bagwell 'hello' for me, and I hope that I will be there soon working for them. Tell Mr. Kappers, also, not to work too hard in his victory garden. I hope he has the best of luck with it.

I certainly wish that I could have been there last month and could have seen that Minstrel Show that you had in the Cafeteria. I bet it was certainly good.

Every time I read the Echo it just seems to me that I am right there with you all and makes me want to be there with you more than ever.

I must close now as I can't think of any more to write.

Sincerely yours,

Pvt. James C. Gevedon

Mr. Barker's Daughter Celebrates Birthday



IN THE SPRINGTIME—a young man's fancy turns to thoughts of little Betty Barker with no effort at all when such a coquettish smile is flashed his way. We don't believe we have seen such an attractive snap shot in many moons, so we wanted to pass it on to you. Little Miss Barker is the six-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. V. E. Barker. (Mr. Barker has recently come to us from Greensboro, N. C.) The snap shot was taken at Betty's birthday party on May 1st. when she entertained twelve of her little friends. We believe one lucky boy, especially, was an honored guest.

Just For Fun

LIKE EGGS - FRESH AND NEW, YOU BET!

(PASSED BY THE NON-SENSOR)

Now In The Spuds

A soldier on duty in Egypt received a letter from his wife saying there wasn't an able-bodied man she could hire anywhere, and she was going to dig the garden herself.

Her husband wrote at the beginning of his next letter: "Please don't dig the garden; that is where the guns are hidden."

The letter was duly censored, and in a short time a van-load of soldiers arrived at the house and dug up the garden from end to end. The wife wrote to her husband in desperation, saying that she didn't know what to do, as the soldiers had dug up the whole garden plot.

Her husband's reply was short and to the point: "Now you can put in the spuds."

"It is raining cats and dogs outside."

"I know it. I just stepped in a poodle."

"Com-pa-nee atten-shun!" bawled the drill sergeant to the awkward squad. "Com-pa-nee, lift your left leg and hold it straight in front of you."

By mistake one soldier held up his right leg, which brought it out side by side with his neighbor's leg.

"And who is the galoot over there, holding up both legs?" shouted the sergeant.

Captain: "If anything moves, shoot."

Pvt. Jackson: "Yas, suh, and if anything shoots, I moves."

The rifle fell from his unaccustomed hand; the drill sergeant approached with a steely eye.

"How long have you been in the Army?" asked the sergeant.

"Er- all d-day, Sir."

A moron was eating a banana on a train and just as he finished the train started through a tunnel. Nudging his friend, he said, "If you haven't eaten your banana don't do it. I just ate mine and went stone blind!"

The moron poked his girl's eyes out so he could have blind date.

"I wonder why fat men are always so jolly and good natured."

"That's easy. They can't run and they can't fight."

Friend (visiting hospital patient): "Do you know, old man, that's a swell looking nurse you've got."

Patient: "I hadn't noticed."

Friend: "Good Lord! I had no idea you were that sick."

Then there was the traveler who asked a native of the Ozarks if he didn't have trouble getting the necessities of life in such an inaccessible spot.

"Yes, we do," said the mountaineer, "and half the time we do get it, it ain't fit to drink."

Customer: "I'd like a dollar dinner, please."

Waiter: Yes Sir. On white or rye bread, sir?"

A neutral, visiting Berlin, was curious about the food situation. He turned to a native, who was acting as his guide, and asked: "Is it true that Germans are eating horsemeat?"

"Ah," reminisced the Nazi, "those were the good old days."

"Here, boy," said the wealthy motorist. "I want some gasoline, and please get a move on! You'll never get anywhere in the world unless you push. Push is essential. When I was young I pushed and

BAND NOTES

Band notes missed the deadline on the last Echo and therefore was left out. To forestall a recurrence of this for the June issue the writer has seen to it that this copy was gotten in on time.

A few weeks ago, our director, J.D.E., reorganized the band and brought in several new members who have been training in the winners' band. This has greatly increased the size of the band and gives a lineup something like:

Gladys McKinney, trumpet; Rice, trumpet; Bobby Norwood, trumpet; Hazel McKinney, clarinet; F. S. Best, clarinet; Maymie Nolds, clarinet; Helen King, clarinet; Alta Case, clarinet; Allen, clarinet; Edith Ridenour, clarinet; George Buchanan, clarinet; Charles Glass, clarinet.

Gus Grose, tenor sax; The Greene, alto sax; Frank Kornowski, horn; Goode Loftis, trombone; Lita Stepe, trombone; Fred Lin, trombone; Eva Sentelle, trombone; Roland Wilber, bass; Ben Edwards, bass.

Mary Glass, piano; Martha Lers, bells; Jack Wilber, drums; Margaret McKinney, drums; Margaret Collins, drums; Marie Spence, drums; Ginny Wood, drums; Leon English, drums.

This new and larger band presented to Ecustans on the night of May 21st, when it took part in the stage show which was given during intermission time of the square dance. The band did a swell job and was well received.

The band members all missed the Steppe who has been away several weeks because of illness. We understand, though, that she is well on the road to recovery and that soon she will be back with us.

Charlie Glass has been back several times lately to visit and with us. We are glad, Charlie, that you are back at Ecusta, some time again.

The band is now working on a program for the big Ecusta party for July 5th. Looks like a big party is being planned for everyone and we'll be seeing you there.

CHORUS TO HAVE REGULAR PRACTICE

A chorus was organized to take part in the Ecusta minstrel show which was held in the Cafeteria on June 10th. There have been many requests from members of this group to have the chorus continue, so plans have been made to increase the membership and to hold regular rehearsals each week on Wednesday nights at 8 o'clock. As has been the custom in the past, taxis will leave Martin's stand at 7:45 and all chorus members are urged to be there on time.

Everyone can sing, some better than others, but all can sing. You do not have to be a fine concert singer or a graduate musician to belong to this chorus. All that is needed is the desire to sing. So come out, we'll do the rest for you besides you'll have one of the best times you've ever had. It's real fun.

that got me where I am." "Well, gov'nor," replied the motorist, "we ain't got a drop of gas in the place, so I reckon you'll have to push again."

Buy U. S. Government Bonds and Stamps regularly.