

T WOULD be just as easy to portray I'. I. Barnum a saint or signer, exemplar of scoundrelism or success. He was as proud to be called "Prince of Humbugs" as "Prince of Showmen" and his delight in eatching those suckers of whom one is born every minute was never clouded by a meticulous conscience. Yet his fervent devotion to the Universalist Church and to the cause of temperance, were juas sincere as his conviction that people love to be humbugge He prefaced his revealing autobiography with two quotation one from Shakespeare, the other from P. T. Barnum who sa "The noblest art is that of making others happy."

One wonders which phase of this Janus-faced American's life and personality will be emphasized in the Twentieth Century production,
"The Mighty Barnum". Perhaps
author, actor and director of this forthcoming picture will be unifile or unwilling to agree. Then we will see two or three Barrams insteed of a single, unified, consistent personality. If the screen should give us this imprecision it might be neared the truth than in taying to make this "most typical American" better as women than he was in real better or weree than he was in real

life.

His contemporaries certainly disngreed about him from the time he
began playing beyiels penalis on his
Connecticut neighbore metil his
death in 1891; as the world's greatcet showman. Throughout the Si
years of his life people argued
about him and his deings. While it
may be true that his meaning were
more respectable than his friends,
both were ferrent in debating the both were ferrent in dobating the oternal question, "In Ramum a franc?" This led a poetic admirer of Bridgeport's most necession of the write:

all demnition wonderments that swell his fame and pell, a never was a desider one than Barness is blanched."

began long before he beanine a yman. It followed him through obsity occur as bay trader, buy store alouk, fottony tilket, main, book anabianour, country s his New York bearding at 52 Frankfort Street that

New England Thy

Connecticut great, one Coley

the interest in the lade has necessary who was also be partner who was also be partner who was also be self out and return to nearly home. Now let us arrow tell what he found his showerings blood and thirst for profit stirred by out; he want to Philadelsee the 101 year old negrees.

A Romi Carfoolty

"Joice Eight was certainly a re-arkable curlosity, and she looked if she might have been far older

hair; but she was toothless and to-tally bliffs, and her eyes had sunk so deeply in the sockets as to have axed altogether." It all sounds s convincing as the great P. T. Darnum knew how to make things sound. "The evidence seemed authentic," he tells us, and in mower to the inquiry us, and in mower to the inquiry (presumably made by the sceptical Fankes from Connecticut) why so remerkables a discovery had not been made before, explanation was given that she had been carried from Virginia to Kentucky, had been on the plantation of John S. Bowling so long that no one knew or more how old she was, and only account the accidental discovery.

ery exceptly the accidental discovery by Mr. Bewling's sen of the old biff of some in the Record Office in Visible had led to the identification of this magre woman as 'the nurse of Washington.

"Branching seemed so straightforward," says Barnen, that he debarming to hery Juice Hath and hetermined to buy Jeice Heth and be-come a shewman. He had already learned how to buy and quickly best dawn the price from \$3,000 to \$2,000. Even this was high for stoo, but Bernen never lacked to mach it came to backing to interest on a money-making venture. He was by nature a gambler in may passe where he could be will deal the cards and play the He berrowed \$500 and ed upon the career that made

Koon More for News

What distributed Barnum from be keen sense of publihnew as no one before that "It pays to advertise." Instimutively be sensed it was not so at that Joice Heth should all that was claimed if only those claims aroused the curiosity of a sufficient number of prospective cuset of my ca rees," says Barnum, "I saw that everything depended upon getting the people to think and talk and tune, and taught him that he had

Not Proven Fake

Was she really 161 years old? Medical evidence says no. She died in 1836 and the autopsy indicated that she might have been little over eighty. But the doctors disagreed so Barnum felt he was justified in accepting the claims that had led him to invest his entire fortune in this living mummy. In his autobiography Barnum frankly says he does not know whether the old woman was a conscious or uncon-scious impostor. "I taught her none of these things," he adds.

Alexander Hertzen, a Russian novelist and journalise living in London, published in 1856 a scathing analysis of Barnum's character and methods. Basing his conclusions entirely on what he read in the uncensored first edition of Barnum's autobiography, he sum-marizes the Joice Heth episode as "Barnum, incidentally, found an

old, broken-down, half-demented woman who was continually mumbling some incomprehensible nonsense. He conceived on the spot that it would be a good idea to exhibit the old woman as the nurse of George Washington. What is there to require lengthy reflection? Posters-and the thing was settled. He carried her from town to town, and wherever he went with her, everybody said it was a humbug, an imposition, and an absurdity; that Washington's nurse would be, if living, at least one hundred and fifty years old. Everybody was in a hurry to satisfy his or her curiosity, and ran to see the old woman. One crowd left with loud laughter, and another entered the booth, Both are sure that it is all a humbug and nonsense, and meanwhile Barnum pockets thousands upon thousands.

"After he had everywhere exhibited his siren, Tom Thumb, the false nurse of George Washington, and the true Jenny Lind, Barnum shuffled into high honesty. He was the chairman of many charitable societies and gave fatherly advice to those who were just beginning to make a place for themselves in the world. From the middle-class viewpoint, the past does not affect a million in the safe. A million covers a multitude of sins,"

This kind of criticism followed Barnum throughout his life. In the



Josef Heath brought Barnum \$1500 in a week.

about 'the mere spectacle'."

It was in behalf of Joice Heth that he first produced those astounding handbills, posters, transparencies, banners, suvertisements and newspaper pull paragraphs that created a new era in amusement. created a new era in amusement advertising. It was as though Barnum had said: "It's not what you have that counts." Joice Heth herself worked valiantly for her employer by singing old hymns and talking about playing with "baby Greener".

eyes of his contemporaries, he was Janus-faced, looking out on the world with both the benignant smile of religious peace and the crafty sneer of commercial war. One thinks of the self-advertising anties of Huey Long as presenting a modern version of one side of the great showman's personality. Perhaps, when the Louisiana Senator is twenty years older, he, too, will become the benignant patriarch who gives an eager world moral counsel on how to live wisely and achieve success. Perhaps, too, since we all prefer to be charitable, it would be well to remember a few homely lines addressed to Barnum which appeared in the Boston "Saturday Evening Gazette":

"You humbugged us—that we have

We got our money's worth, old fel-

And though you thought our minds were green,

never thought your heart was

Beech Springs P. T. A. Holds Monthly Meeting

The P. T. A. of Beech Spring school held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday night, Jan. 22nd. The meeting was opened by singing, "My Country 'Tis of Thee." The vicepresident, Mrs. Wayland Howell, conducted the devotional and presided over the business session. The 24th Psalm was used as the Scripture lesson, and Mr. J. E. Perry offered prayer. After the secretary, Miss Delsie Whitehead, called the roll and read the minutes of the last meeting, she read the following program:

Song: "Darling Nellie Gray." Reading: by Marian Copeland: Question: Why Should a Child's Day be Not Too Fully Planned? Answered by Mrs. A. E. Layden.

Solo: by Lillian Rae Perry. Reading: by Callie Stallings.

Song: "Onward Christian Soldiers" During the business session Miss Delsie Whitehead made an interesting talk on the Shortage of Funds and the Needs of Our Schools. This was followed by a round table discussion in which all the patrons present took part. Plans were made to renew our subscriptions to the P. T. A. maga-

Miss Whitehead announced that she and nine of her school girls would present a play on Tuesday night, Jan. 29th, entitled "Maw Sweet and Her Nine Daughters." The meeting was well attended. Several new members were present.

The social committee, Mrs. Joe Perry, Mrs. Jim Perry and Mrs. Pat Stallings served a delicious sweet

MISSIONARY SOCIETY CIRCLE MEETS WITH MRS. FOWLER

Circle No. 2 of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Hertford Baptist Church met on Monday night with Mrs. C. C. Fowler.

The topic of the program was "The Banner of the Cross of Our Lord." Mrs. Charles Johnson, the leader, being absent, Miss Ruth Sutton had charge of the program.

Those present were Mesdames Tommie Miller, Seldon Goodwin, V. N Holdren, L. B. Sitterson, George Chappell, T. E. Raper, W. T. Elliett, B. W. Pennington, Jesse Campen, Harry Bond, E. A. Byrum, G. H. Parker and Miss Ruth Sutton. Visitors included Mrs. T. N. Gregory, Woodville Missionary Mrs. E. W. Mayes, Mrs. H. T. Broughton, Mrs. J. E. White and Misses Virginia Stallings, Virginia Fowler and Marie Fowler.

Approximately three-fourths of the cotton parity checks for Cumberland County have been delivered.

Timely Questions On Farm Answered

Question: Should scratch feed for chickens be fed in hoppers or in the

Answer: There is some divergence of opinion on this matter, but for sanitary reasons it is advisable to feed scratch in hoppers. Under ordinary conditions, litter is not changed frequently enough and quickly becomes political with coccida worm eggs and possibly disease producing bacteria. Every practice that reduces the possibility of the birds ingesting such meterial is to be commended; kense hopper feeding.

Question: What is a good method for preparing a tebacco seed bed? Answer: Select a southeast exposure well protected from cold winds. Loamy soil not easily affected by exessive dryness or moisture is best. Sterilize the soil with steam if possible or by burning brush over it. Pulverise the seed bed and fertilize with a 4-8-8 mixture, about two pounds to the square yard. The planting of good seed, free from trash, is essential. A level tablespoonful is enough for 100 square

Question: Now should cattle be treated for Hea?

Answer: De not wait for spring. Apply a spray selution over the entire body in an even, thin layer during one of the warm days. Ten to 14 days later spray again to kill any lice that may have batched after the first application. A two per cent solution of creckin applied with a apray gun or pump will give good results. Or equal parts of ground sabadilla seed and sulphur may be dusted on effectively without regard to the temperature.

BOB SUTTON UNDERGOES OPERATION IN NORFOLK

Bob Sutton, fermer Hertford boy who holds a position with one of the A. & P. stores in Norfolk, underwent an operation for appendicitis last week. His mether, Mrs. R. A. Sutton, of Hertferd, is in Norfolk to be with her son while he is recuperat-

Society Holds Meeting

The Woman's Missionary Society of the Woodville Baptist Church held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday at the home of Mrs. J. C. Wilson.

tional led by the president, Mrs. Max Griffin. After a short business session the following program was enjoyed by a very large attendance: Hymn, "All Hail the Power of Jesus" Name;" Prayer, by Mrs. Jim Lane; reading, "The Banner of the Cross," by Mrs. Stokley; hymn, "Fling Out the Banner;" reading, "Palestine," by Mrs. Johnny Bray; reading, "The Christian Banner in Palestine," by Mrs. N. C. West; hymn, "Jesus Shall Reign;" talk by Mrs. Jim Lane.

Rev. C. Jack Murphey and Mrs. Murphey were also present. Mr. Murphey made a short talk and clased the meeting with prayer.

The hostess served a delicious salad course, after which the ladies pounded Mr. and Mrs. Murphey.

State Poultry Growers Have Ideal Conditions

North Carolina is well adapted for poultry production on a large scale, says Roy S. Dearstyne, head of the poultry department at N. C. State

The climate is conducive to poultry and the soils produce economically the basic feed such as corn. wheat, oats, and barley. The fisheries on the coast supply an abundance of fish meal and menhaden oil. The well developed milling industry is another advantage, he says.

Another important factor is the nearness to markets, he points out. The State itself is a large consumer of poultry products and the large metropolitan markets are within an overnight haul.

But the industry will not thrive, he adds, unless poultrymen follow the methods of scientific and progressive poultry raising.

One of the most important factors is that of breeding, he says. Among the important characteristics transmitted from parent to offspring are egg size, persistency of production, early feathering, and early maturity.

Good breeding is not an accident, but the result of careful studies of the flock, trap-nesting, record keeping, pedigreeing and careful management.

There is a shortage of superior hatching eggs, Dearstyne says, and small flock owners have an opportunity to market all the eggs they can produce from high grade birds. If the flock is inferior, Dearstyne recommends that all eggs be sold for food purposes and chicks from superior eggs be used in starting next year's flock.

If he does this, the poultryman can then enter the superior egg market and command the higher prices The meeting was opened and devo- prid for high grade hatching eggs.



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