

Benny Busily Engaged Murdering Shakespeare

Comic Doing Hamlet With Miss Lombard

"To Be Or Not To Be" Is Title Of Opus Being Made Ready For Fans

By FREDERICK C. OTHMAN
United Press Hollywood
Correspondent

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 20.—(UP)—In the new Disney cartoon, "Dumbo," there is a song as warbled by a crow that he guesses he's seen everything now that he's seen an elephant fly.

One thing he didn't see: He didn't see Mr. Jack Benny, in the gold-embroidered doublet and well-padded hose, playing Hamlet. It was a good thing W. Shakespeare didn't see it either. Else there'd have been a good, gory murder, with headlines like this: "Playwright slays actor—claims actor murdered play."

"But," insisted Mr. B., "it is not my fault. I guess I am the only comic in the business who never did want to play Hamlet. And here I am doing it and I hope it gives the folks some laughs."

Mr. Benny is playing Hamlet to Miss Carole Lombard's Ophelia, in a stirring cinematic presentation entitled "To Be Or Not To Be." (Poor old man Shakespeare; he never realized what the movies eventually would do to him.)

The bard had very little to do with the production, actually. Ernest Lubitsch and Melchior Lengyel wrote the story. Edwin Justus Mayer turned it into a movie script and the mighty Lubitsch, with an unlit cigar poked into his face—is directing the proceedings.

For four years now we've been bumping into Lubitsch and he's invariably had a half-smoked cigar in his mouth. We even hear reports that he sleeps with it and that it has been the same cigar. He is a first-class movie maker and a good guy to boot and we can report only that he has in the works and opus which scrambles the Gestapo, some handsome British spies and the characters of Shakespeare.

Seems that Mr. Benny is a Shakespearean tragedian in Warsaw when the war breaks out, Miss Lombard is his leading lady. The Gestapo causes him plenty of trouble, but the English cause him more. They're always dating up his Ophelia, when he needs her.

BENNY'S ACTING IS INTERRUPTED

This afternoon Hamlet Benny stood—bony knees and all—on the stage before an audience of perhaps 400 extras, and started to say: "To be or not to be, that is—"

British flier Rob Stack got up at that from the front row and scrambled around back stage to see Miss Lombard. And so on. Three times during the picture Benny starts this immortal line, only to have one of the customers get up and go back to see Ophelia. This is tough on Shakespeare, tough on Benny, too.

It also is funny and that, of course, is the idea in the first place.

Benny said, incidentally, that the war and the worry and the excitement is good for comics like him.

"It used to be that we'd get so keved up, we figured the world would come to an end if we didn't give a good performance," he said. "Egotistical is what we were."

"Sunday we had some of that knocked out of us. I knew I felt suddenly that nothing I did mattered at all. So did the rest of the members of my radio cast. And that night we went on the air, completely relaxed, because we knew our performance was of no earthly importance in today's scheme of things.

"And what happened? We worked better, probably than we ever did before."

FOREST MASONS SELECT NEW LIST OF OFFICERS

(Lima News Bureau)
FOREST, Dec. 20.—Elmer Burk was installed as worshipful master of Senate Lodge, No. 678, E. Free and Accepted Masons, at Forest at the annual ceremony which followed a dinner.

Other officers installed are: J. W. Shields, senior warden; Ralph Kellogg, junior warden; Richard Larp, senior deacon; Deie Kellogg, junior deacon; L. V. Snider, secretary; H. Dale Shields, treasurer; Halbert Shields and Leon Hune, stewards.

Myron Formy acted as installing officer. The lodge voted to invest \$100 in defense bonds.

Comedian Berle Scheduled On Bergen Program Sunday

Lou Costello Recovers Quickly When He Hears About Signing; Steelmakers Will Present Youthful Marimba Band

All it took to make Lou Costello snap out of a case of laryngitis was announcement that Milton Berle would substitute for him on the Bergen program over WEAJ Sunday at 8 p. m.

A musical Christmas card, highlighted by a return appearance of the youthful marimba band, made up of nine children ranging in age from seven to eleven years, will be presented by "Musical Steelmakers" on Sunday at 5:30 p. m. over WJZ.

Bill Stern, ace sportscaster, will reveal the secret of his mile-a-minute delivery on the "Behind the Mike" program Sunday, at 4:30 p. m. over WJZ.

Along with orating on the general subject of "How to Become a Sports Announcer," Stern will relate some of the interesting experiences he's had in his career.

Decorating a twelve-foot Christmas tree with three ornaments

LONDON, Dec. 20.—(AP)—King George VI will broadcast to the empire on Christmas Day at 3 p. m. (9 A. M., E. S. T.).

(well used) and a highly original string of lighted bottle caps, will keep Jack Benny and his gang very busy during their broadcast over WEAJ network Sunday, at 7:00 p. m.

A new popular song adapted from a melody in Tchaikovsky's Sixth Symphony, titled "Promise We'll Never Part," by Frances, will be sung by Conrad Thibault, baritone during "Manhattan Merry-Go-Round" Sunday over WEAJ at 9:00 p. m.

"The Man from Yesterday," new mystery thriller from the fertile pen of Milton Geiger, produced and directed by Human Brown, will be the "Inner Sanctum Mystery" offering Sunday, at 8:30 p. m. over WJZ.

Glady's Swarthout will sing a Merry American Christmas, and the well-loved Ave Maria, and a hundred voice choir will sing the beautiful carols, Silent Night and On Come All Ye Faithful, as features in the pre-Christmas

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

Eastern Standard P. M.—Subtract One Hour for CST., 2 Hrs. for MT.

(Alterations in program as listed due entirely to changes by networks.)

2:00—Country Club Golf—nbc-blue

2:00—Radio City Concert—nbc-blue

2:00—The Church of the Air Sermons—cbs

2:00—Singing Christmas—nbc-blue

2:00—World Is Your Oyster—nbc-blue

2:00—Harold Lloyd's Movies—nbc-blue

2:00—This Is the Life—nbc-blue

2:00—The Lutheran Hour—nbc-blue

2:00—Sammy Kay's Movies—nbc-blue

2:00—Great Plays—nbc-blue

2:00—Spirit of '41—Defense Program—nbc-blue

2:00—Chicago Roundtable—nbc-blue

2:00—World News—nbc-blue

2:00—This Is Fort Dix (Recorded)—nbc-blue

2:00—Bob Becker Dog Chat—nbc-blue

2:00—Jack Benny and Marie—nbc-blue

2:00—N. Y. Philharmonic Symphony—cbs

2:00—No. 10 Announced (60 mins)—nbc-blue

2:00—Caldwell's Movies—nbc-blue

2:00—Listen America, Guest—nbc-blue

2:00—The Walt Disney Song Parade—nbc-blue

2:00—Jack Benny and Marie—nbc-blue

2:00—Lutheran Hour's repeat—nbc-blue

2:00—Sunday Vespers by Radio—nbc-blue

2:00—Public Affairs—nbc-blue

2:00—Looking Behind the Mike—nbc-blue

2:00—Andra Kovalevich and orchestra—cbs

2:00—Young People's Church—nbc-blue

2:00—Shadow Drama—nbc-blue

2:00—Radio Opera Amateurs—nbc-blue

2:00—Sisters—nbc-blue

2:00—Clady's Swarthout's 45-m.—nbc-blue

2:00—South's Scene—cbs

2:00—The Screen Guild Theatre—nbc-blue

2:00—The Nicholas Family—nbc-blue

2:00—The Musical Steel Makers—nbc-blue

2:00—The Shadow and the Comet—nbc-blue

2:00—Young People's rpt.—nbc-blue

2:00—Wm. J. Shire's Comment—cbs

2:00—Catholic Radio Service—nbc-blue

2:00—Organ: New Friends Music—nbc-blue

2:00—Conrad Nagel's Sunday Theatre—cbs

2:00—Double or Nothing Quiz Show—nbc-blue

2:00—Gildersleeve the Great—nbc-blue

2:00—Pearson & Allen Comment—nbc-blue

2:00—The Screen Guild Theatre—nbc-blue

2:00—Building Drummond Adventures—nbc-blue

2:00—Mrs. Roosevelt's Talk—nbc-blue

2:00—Jack Benny and Marie—nbc-blue

2:00—News from European War—nbc-blue

2:00—Wallenstein Orchestra—nbc-blue

2:00—C. McCarthy & Guests—nbc-blue

2:00—Bandwagon Orchestra—nbc-blue

2:00—Capt. Frank & Sgt. Quirt—nbc-blue

2:00—The Screen Guild Theatre—nbc-blue

2:00—Profiles and Preview—cbs

2:00—Nobly's Children, Dramatized—nbc-blue

2:00—McCarthy & Guests—nbc-blue

2:00—Blue Echoes by Orchestra—nbc-blue

2:00—Helen Hayes and Theatre—cbs

2:00—Columbia Radio Orchestra—nbc-blue

2:00—American Forum Radio Debate—nbc-blue

2:00—"One Man's Family"—nbc-blue

2:00—The Crime Doctor Drama—cbs

2:00—Gale's Heatter—nbc-blue

2:00—"Inner Sanctum Mystery"—nbc-blue

2:00—Sun, Merry-Go-Round—nbc-blue

2:00—Walter Winchell's Column—nbc-blue

2:00—Albion Fleming's Music—nbc-blue

2:00—Old Fashion Revival Service—nbc-blue

2:00—"The Ticker Family"—nbc-blue

2:00—The Screen Guild Theatre—nbc-blue

2:00—Irene Rich 15-m. Drama—nbc-blue

2:00—Dinah Shore and Song—nbc-blue

2:00—Good Will Hour via Radio—nbc-blue

2:00—Bob Hawk Take It or Leave It—cbs

2:00—The Music Orchestra Period—nbc-blue

2:00—Sue Lock Holmes Play—nbc-blue

2:00—Workshop Dramatic—cbs

2:00—The Screen Guild Theatre—nbc-blue

2:00—Keep 'Em Rolling, Var's Prox—nbc-blue

2:00—News & Late Variety—nbc-blue

2:00—Dance, nbc-blue

2:00—Half Hour of Dancing Music—nbc-blue

2:00—"London's Answering You"—nbc-blue

2:00—Two Hours with Dancing—nbc-blue

NITE LIFE FOOTNOTES

CASTLE FARM—What with the Michaelmas period now in full blow the jingling is terrific down on the Farm. It is being bruted about that Serge Fockler, hide-hammerer in the band, will don faetal foliage and play Santa Claus.

NEW YORKER—Much merry takes place here now that the Christmas drinking season is with us. This is an exceptionally cheap spot anyhow, and right now, more so.

FLORENCE—Just the place to take that visiting maiden aunt from Peoria—or that college room mate anxious to prowl and howl while visiting in the provinces.

COUZY CAFE—Widely known for the smoothness and potency of Yuletide beverages.

JUDY'S—Said to be S. Claus' second home.

ALPINE VILLAGE—They never did need red and green lights to liven up this establishment, but the seasonal addition of same makes the confinement of joy all the more so. George handles the beverage and Christmas carol departments.

MILANO CAFE—Fast attaining a reputation for being THE steak house in town. Besides knowing just the right touch in applying seasoning and secret kitchen "yarns" to the beef, Frank Guarenti is an authority on dinner wine sequence.

BARR RAINBOW ROOM—Because of the popularity of the East Room with the dancing set, this one is packed nightly. Right now it has a definite collegiate tinge—not unpleasant.

STONE'S GRILL—On the Square, and just that when it comes to supplying copious portions of food and drink.

BLINKING OWL—A very fine place, indeed.

WALDO—In addition to being a right swell tap room, the rathskeller is probably one of the best natural "bomb proofs" in the village.

Story Of Air Now Showing At Majestic

Screaming air raid warnings. The ring of hobnail boots against once peaceful pavements. All of the old world blacked out—except for one tiny spot along the southern coast of Lisbon. Here, in the small capital of Portugal, remains the last outpost of sanity, peace, laughter, music and romance.

Caught in the sharp focus of the camera's lens, this last bright spot on the dark continent looms up like a beacon to a care-worn, troubled world. For Lisbon, with its century-old mystery and natural beauty, is alive with dancing feet, peopled with men and women bent on a mad merry-making chase while they still have a chance to enjoy the sunny side of life.

Starring the season's most sensational hit team, beautiful Madeline Carroll and fun-loving Fred MacMurray, Edward H. Griffith, producer-director, has turned out a comedy story of Europe's last gay city. "One Night in Lisbon," which will open on Sunday at the Majestic theatre.

Fred MacMurray plays the part of an American aviator who ferries bombers across the Atlantic to the RAF. He falls harder than a parachutist for Madeleine Carroll, glamorous volunteer chauffeur to a British Foreign Office official. The locale is evenly divided between air-raid shelters in London and Lisbon's glittering gay night-life. Fifth columnists stalk and out the picture between suspense, furnishing exciting suspense and more than one reason for romance.

Dubbed into the film are realistic air-raid warnings especially recorded for the picture by Paramount's London office. Additional realistic background material includes exact replicas of current street scenes in black-out London and brightly-lit Lisbon.

Thrilling behind-the-scenes training activities of the 501st Parachute Battalion provides the sensational background for "Parachute Battalion" the co-feature attraction appearing at the State theatre.

It's the story of a radio "crime creator" who is captured by racketeers who want him to invent a "perfect murder" for them. His two girl friends are abducted along with him. Then complications start, and the wily radio star succeeds in turning the tables on his enemies after a world series of trials and tribulations.

Skelton presents his unique brand of comedy and chatter, and the girls stage a hilarious fight over him.

Thrilling behind-the-scenes training activities of the 501st Parachute Battalion provides the sensational background for "Parachute Battalion" the co-feature attraction appearing at the State theatre. The story is one of powerful emotional appeal and co-stars such favorites as Robert Preston, Nancy Kelly, Edmond O'Brien, and Harry Carey while Buddy Ebsen, Paul Kelly, Richard Cromwell and Robert Barrat are featured.

FUNNY BUSINESS



NEWS IN COLORED CIRCLES

Social Items, Lodges, Societies, Personals

Mrs. Clara Haitheox was hostess to the Aeolian club Thursday afternoon in her home, W. Elm-st. Christmas carols were sung. Mrs. Turner read several Christmas poems. Those present were Mrs. Mattie Turner, Mrs. Alberta Davis, Mrs. Linnie Richardson, Mrs. Fannie Martin, Mrs. Frances Colman, Mrs. Hazel Clemens, Mrs. Ethel Hunter, Mrs. Mary Mrs. Nora Shoecraft, Mrs. Louise Haitheox, Mrs. Tina Tucker, Mrs. Erma Haitheox, Mrs. Clara Haitheox, Miss Lena Haitheox, Shirley Brown, John Burden, Maurice Irwin Haitheox and Betty Mae Haitheox. Mrs. Erma Haitheox will be the hostess Jan. 8.

Wm. Haitheox of Morris Brown college, Atlanta, Ga., is spending the pulchre season with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Haitheox, W. Elm-st.

The Nounpariel club met Wednesday afternoon with Mrs. Laura Harger. Members attending were Mrs. Della Moxley, Mrs. Reverta Jones, Mrs. Catherine Brown, Mrs. Louise Haitheox, Mrs. Ella Webb, Mrs. Anna B. Crockett, Mrs. Velma Thomas, Mrs. Lelia Jackson, Mrs. Mary F. Barnett, Mrs. Mildred Rickman of St. Marys, Mrs. Mary Minor and Miss O. Owens were guests. Mrs. Elizabeth Harper will be hostess to the club in two weeks.

The Ladies League of Second Baptist church met with Mrs. Cora Johnson on Wednesday evening. Attending were Mrs. Nora Shoecraft, Mrs. Della Moxley, Mrs. Bertha Thomas, Mrs. Essie Clemens, Mrs. Myrtle Kennedy, Mrs. Clara Haitheox, Mrs. Mary F. Barnett. Election of officers was held and all officers were retained for another year. A gift exchange was held.

Mrs. Ada Carr was hostess to the Ladies Aid of Second Baptist church Wednesday evening. Members present were Mrs. Florence Cook, Mrs. Fannie Baker, Mrs. Catherine Brown, Mrs. Catherine Manley, Mrs. Osa Byrd, Mrs. Emma Wilson, Mrs. Hazel Watson, Mrs. Grace Webb, Mrs. Flora Hawthcock, Mrs. Gladys Lewis, Rev. G. J. Johnson. The next meeting will be a covered dish dinner served to members and husbands to be held at the home of Mrs. Catherine Brown.

Cyrene chapter O. E. S. No. 31 observed its 20th anniversary

CREAM-SEPARATING DENT
In Santa Barbara, Calif., they use milk bottles with dents in them. If poured slowly, the dent serves to separate the cream from the milk.

THE LADIES LEAGUE OF SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH MET WITH MRS. CORA JOHNSON ON WEDNESDAY EVENING. ATTENDING WERE MRS. NORA SHOECRAFT, MRS. DELLA MOXLEY, MRS. BERTHA THOMAS, MRS. ESSIE CLEMENS, MRS. MYRTLE KENNEDY, MRS. CLARA HAITHEOX, MRS. MARY F. BARNETT. ELECTION OF OFFICERS WAS HELD AND ALL OFFICERS WERE RETAINED FOR ANOTHER YEAR. A GIFT EXCHANGE WAS HELD.

This Dress Has Been FULLERIZED

Dry Cleaned For Christmas

Its colors are bright, its lines are "right". It's spotless and full of life, ready to contribute to a happy holiday.

Have YOUR clothes FULLERIZED Dry Cleaned by Snowflake NOW. Better appearance, longer wear are assured that way.

SHIRTS "Dated" Laundered Finished in any regular family service.

10¢ ea.



Book Reviews

Obtained At The Lima Public Books Reviewed Here May Be Library, Main Library

By MARY LATHROP
Lima Public Library Staff
There are so many lovely Christmas stories published this year that we are going to devote the book review column this Sunday to a mention of a few of them. Many of our favorite authors have written stories especially for this season.

COUNTRY CHRISTMAS, By Paul Hoffman. Alfred A. Knopf, Inc. \$0.50.
"Country Christmas" is a true story of a Christmas eve ceremony in Maine, a ceremony unique and beautiful, with flaming bonfires and a great tree with fat candles.

THE BIG SNOW, By Herman Fetzer. Houghton-Mifflin Company, \$1.50.
Nobody can write about Ohio quite like Fetzer can. This book is a companion volume to "Jacob's Corners" and describes the delights of the Christmas holidays among the simple friendly people of the author's Ohio childhood.

THE WELL OF THE STAR, By Elizabeth Goudge. Coward-McCann Inc. \$0.75.
Elizabeth Goudge has special ability in creating fairy tale atmosphere and in picturing delightful children. These two specialties she combines in this story of the first Christmas and of little David, the shepherd boy who lives on the hills above Bethlehem. David's family is very poor and he wishes he could do something to help them. He remembers the magic well on the road to Bethlehem and makes up his mind to brave the terrors of the night and go down to the well. What he saw in the well and what happened to him afterward makes the story.

THE CHRISTMAS CARP, By Vick Baum. Doubleday, Doran and Company, Inc. \$0.50.
Vicki Baum's contribution to this year's Christmas literature is the story of the Christmas joys and festivities of Vienna. In the Lauer household the festivities were always presided over by the austere aunt who made cookies and shopped for the carp that was always the piece of resistance at the Christmas feast.

CHRISTMAS IN MAINE, By Robert P. Tristram Coffin. Doubleday, Doran and Company, Inc. \$0.50.
A description of an old-fashioned Christmas on a salt-water farm on the Maine coast. It is told in the beautiful prose of a great poet.

CHRISTMAS TIME, By Rachel Field. The Macmillan Company. \$5.00
Each year Rachel Field writes a lovely Christmas story. This year instead of the story she has compiled a choice little collection of verses offered as a Christmas Garland. There are poems old and new, long ones and short ones, some gay and some serious but all of them full of an intimate understanding for the rich meaning of the holiday season.

"Pray God that all of us may keep Our Christmas spark the whole year thru."

LEIPSIC GIVES PAID WATER BILLS FOR YULE
(Lima News Bureau)
LEIPSIC, Dec. 20.—A Christmas present in the form of a water bill marked paid for the last quarter of 1941 was received by consumers of the Leipsic municipal waterworks this week.

The board of public affairs of Leipsic voted to issue the paid bills after they checked and found sufficient fund balances in the waterworks coffers. It is the first time such a step has been taken.

Apothecaries sold sugar and spices in the 14th century.

THE TRADE WINDS HOTEL

That gracious, hospitable atmosphere that prevails only in carefully restricted resort hotels is the very foundation of the popularity of the Trade Winds. Thoroughly modern, luxurious appointments. Fine cuisine. Cocktail Lounge. Planned sports and social activities. In Florida's newest exclusive playground. Kindly make reservations early.

CLIFTON CORPORATION, OWNERS, OPERATORS

ON THE OCEAN AT FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

FRED'S FOOD MARKET

Corner Main & Kibby—Phone 43211
OPEN 7 DAYS & 7 NITES A WEEK 7 A. M. TO 10 P. M.

Store Hours Christmas Day 7 A. M. to 1 P. M. 4:30 P. M. to 7 P. M.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Popular Brands | Sunsweet |
| Gigarettes \$1.49 | Prunes Lb. Box 13¢ |
| Tax Paid Ctn. | 2 Lb. Box 23¢ |
| Large Size | Butter Lb. 38¢ |
| Tangerines Doz. 21¢ | Deerwood Shortening 3 Lb. Can 64¢ |
| Cal. Sunkist 150's doz. 41¢ | Laurel Salleens Lb. 17¢ |
| Oranges 220's doz. 27¢ | Deerwood Cake Flour 2 1/2 lb. Box 19¢ |
| ...288's doz. 19¢ | Large Loaves Bread 2 For 19¢ |
| Mushrooms 17¢ | Nice For Slicing Bologna Lb. 19¢ |
| Laurel Salleens Lb. 17¢ | Calla Hams Lb. 23¢ |
| Deerwood Cake Flour 2 1/2 lb. Box 19¢ | Christmas Hams Lb. 31¢ |
| Large Loaves Bread 2 For 19¢ | |
| Nice For Slicing Bologna Lb. 19¢ | |
| Calla Hams Lb. 23¢ | |
| Christmas Hams Lb. 31¢ | |

Fruits, Vegetables, Candies, Nuts, Christmas Trees, Chickens, Steaks, Roasts, Oysters, Groceries

Kris Kringle Revue

WITH AN ALL STAR CAST

—ALSO—
Farewell Party For America's Loveliest Girls
They're Going Out On Tour
—ADDED ATTRACTION—
JEAN HOLLAND
"COMEDY AS YOU LIKE IT"
Frank Schirmer—Serge & The Boys

CASTLE FARM

"The Showplace of Lima"

MARTIN'S TAVERN

••• TOPS • OF • NITE • SPOTS •••

A Merry Christmas To All

For a Glorious Evening of Holiday Pleasure
SEE THE PARADE OF SENSATIONAL HITS

| |
|-----------------------------|
| RITA ★ DIANA ★ SALLY THE |
|-----------------------------|