

by RAY J. GRDINA

Crusaders Reach New Heights

Forget the Radio, Ken Williams

Featured Performers Score Hits



We've been scribbling a long time now. Some eight, nine years. And in all that time no one, not even any of our best friends, has ever accused us of being a George Davis or an Archie Bell—much less a George Jean Nathan. Though back in the rah-rah days we did help cover the flickers and some of the stage shows for the Dayton News, we never were rated as a dramatic critic. Perhaps we lacked the hard-boiled cynicism which distinguishes that gentry from their newspaper contemporaries, or maybe it was because we did not have the courage to make open condemnations and were too unadvisedly guided by advance notices, press-agenting and the ballyhoo of promoters. But whatever the cause, the fact remains we have never possessed the power to make or break a show by drippings from an acid pen—or having the power, have not availed ourselves of it.

Still we have always secretly envied them. Unruffled by the glamour of a first night, they toll in their seats, outwardly very bored and occasionally tapping back an unsolicited yawn—yet all the while mentally alert and thinking of all the nasty things they can say about the production in tomorrow's column.

Three weeks ago, at the Modern Crusaders' anniversary celebration, we had the opportunity of playing such a role. Only one thing was wrong. There was nothing to condemn! The performance presented in the afternoon was unquestionably the best ever staged by local Slovenians—talent, direction and staging considered.

Similar presentations offered in the community have been entertaining enough, but always left the taste of amateurism. They lacked that professional touch. There was nothing amateurish about the Crusader show. The whole thing moved along with the planned rapidity and smoothness of the big-time show. Add better lighting facilities, more elaborate costuming, a little ironing out of a few rough spots and the presentation would be worthy of a downtown showing. Truly, Matt Grdina, the director, is to be commended upon his splendid moulding of the available amateur and professional talent and facilities into such an entertaining show in so short a time.

And while we are on the subject, we may just as well pass a few comments on the individuals in the show. And the master of ceremonies, Ken Williams, is just about as good as anyone to start with. We've seen Ken perform on many occasions, and—to be truthful about it—didn't like his work (outside of the dancing). But his performance that day has changed our mind. Ken has grown up and stepped out of the amateur ranks. His gags, some of them just on the border, scored heavily with the audience. He flavored them with just the right amount of clowning, using a cigar to good advantage. All in all, he did a great job of emceeing and definitely established himself as an actor-performer. True, the majority of his gags and antics were "borrowed," yet he possesses the rare talent of putting them over. Yes, it's bigger things for Ken. However, we did miss his old white canvas gloves. They added much to his act in the past, especially in his snake dance. And, believe it or not, we think that Frank Ilc is a better and more catchy stage name than Ken Williams!

The most pleasant surprise of the day, however, was Jack Nagel's Orchestra.

Other welcome newcomers in the entertainment field were the Cernelich sisters, who pleased with vocal and piano selections. All done in a quiet and unpretentious, though appealing style.

Other performers, of whom you have already heard, turned in their usual capable performances. This includes the popular Five Foot Harmony Four, who never fail to tear down the house with their farewell "Hallelujah" number. The boys have added a little more hatching to their singing. A big improvement. Joe Sodja—Banjo Buddy to you—likewise had an addition to his act. He now sings—or was I hearing things? At any rate, his "Tiger Rag" is better than ever. The blind Emmett and Larry, WJAY performers, scored heavily with their nickelodeon imitation and the piano duo of "Alabama Bound," the latter flavored with a "Rhapsody in Blue" introduction. The

CLAIRWOODS DEFEND LEAD AGAINST CRUSADERS

EASTERN STARS RENEW SOCIAL ACTIVITIES WITH LARGE AFFAIR AT HOLMES AVE. HOME MONDAY

Johnny Gribbons and His Popular Jazz Boys to Furnish Music at Hop; Depression Prices to Prevail

The Eastern Stars, originators of the now so popular after-the-meeting parties, will be back in the social swim after quite a lengthy layoff, with another such affair at the Slovenian Home, Holmes Ave., Monday evening, Feb. 27.

The Stars, who have been setting a stiff pace in fraternal, athletic and social endeavors ever since the beginning of the Central Committee, are now faced with the problem of a somewhat depleted treasury and it absolutely necessary that this be replenished in the near future if they are to live up to the extensive program they have outlined for themselves for this year.

It is hoped that this can be done through a series of monthly socials and so to this end they are doing everything possible to make Monday night's frolic as appealing to the guests as possible. To start things off, they have secured the services of the popular Johnny Gribbons and his Jazz Boys to furnish the syncopation. There will, of course, be the usual ample supply of refreshments on hand. All at reasonable prices, too.

However, it really isn't necessary to go into any lengthy discourses anent the good time you have by attending an Eastern Star social. Those who have attended any of their affairs in the past, know just what they can expect in the way of entertainment from that Collinwood group. Those of you who have not as yet availed yourself of the opportunity of becoming better acquainted with this jovial and friendly outfit, can not possibly realize just what you are missing until you have participated in one of their gala affairs. And it is our advise to you not to wait longer than Monday evening to acquaint yourself with the Eastern Stars and their socials.

Admission for the party is only 15 cents.

more progress than any other Slovenian newspaper or publishing company in the country. By the way, gentlemen, how about an invite for a personally conducted tour through the new place sometime?

Hobnobbin With the Stars

Monday evening, Feb. 27, 1933, After Depression, is the date we plan on getting out the glad rags, dancing shoes and best girl friend and toddling over to the Slovenian Home, Holmes Ave. It's a big social night and we're all hopped up about meeting the Lone Rider and all his little Eastern Star-lites. It will be a get-together affair. We'll dine, dance and be merry together. "Kid" Gribbons and his Jazz jokers will do the tricks with the musical instruments. Which means that there will be standing room only—we defy you to try and sit still while Johnny and his merry lads are blowing away. Remember, we'll be looking for you that night. Admission is 15 cents for good folks.

DON'T OVERLOOK THESE DATES

Feb. 27.—Eastern Stars' Social.
April 20.—Martha Washington Seventh Anniversary.
May 28, 29, 30.—Penny Depression Bazar.
July 2, 3, 4.—S. D. Z. Olympics.

Modern Knight Flashes

By SMILES

It may be so and then again it may be, but it appears to the writer as if we were the jinx. All previous dances sponsored by the Modern Knights and which we had nothing to do with went over in great style. The Hard Time Hop saw us hard at work and the affair was not a howling success—despite reports to the contrary.

Which reminds us that evidently the Fox, Lone Rider and Dimples, who claimed the affair went over with a bang, probably attended the wrong affair or perhaps their powers of discernment were somewhat dulled. Or can it be that they weren't even there!

And speaking of the Lone Rider reminds us that if that gentleman isn't careful will disclose his identity. Not through the press, but by word of mouth. Look out, Lone Rider!

Those who received tickets from Fay Debenjak for the Hard Time Dance, are urged to make returns to her as soon as possible.

In behalf of the Modern Knights, we wish to congratulate the Slovenian Young Men's Club on the success of their social last Saturday night. We hope you are able to keep it up, boys.

In closing, we wish to remind you that Monday night the Eastern Stars are holding another of their popular after-meeting socials. We'll be looking for you at the Slovenian Home, Holmes Ave., then.

S. Y. M. C. SOCIAL PROVES TO BE HUGE SUCCESS

It looks very much as if the proposed Slovenian Young Men's Club's come back is something more than a threat or a rumor—it is bordering on the reality. That is if one can judge by splendid turnout at the group's first social at the St. Clair Bathhouse last Saturday night.

The affair was a decided artistic and financial success and it appears as if the Young Men are off on the right foot. Some 200 guests were on hand for an enjoyable evening and at the same time set the group off on a flying start up the road of recovery.

The much talked about surprise of the evening proved to be the Slovenian Young Men's Club's own quartet. The group feature Slovenian numbers exclusively and were well received. Incidentally, the vocal qualifications of the S. Y. M. C. members are so profuse that the quartet can be swelled to an octet at a moment's notice as they proved during the course of the evening.

Among the billed entertainers were the Five Foot Har-

TWO SDZ TEAMS WAGE BATTLE FOR FIRST PLACE IN INTER-LODGE LOOP WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Tilt at St. Clair Bathhouse Will Have Definite Bearing on League Crown as Well as S. D. Z. Championship

Next Wednesday evening, the Clairwoods and the Modern Crusaders tangle at the St. Clair Bathhouse in an Interlodge tilt which will not only decide the Slovenian Mutual Benefit Association champs, but will have great bearing on the Interlodge crown itself.

WRITER COMMENTS ON POLICY OF SIGNING NAME TO ARTICLES

EDITOR'S NOTE: In the S. D. Z. News of last week, Jos A. Rosa, conductor of the Soap Box, voiced his opinion regarding the use of pen names in the S. D. Z. News. The article has aroused considerable comment, pro and con, and it is the intention of the staff to get the opinion of the readers in this respect, and to act accordingly. You are invited to write in your opinion of the matter.

To Brother Joe A. Rosa, who has again mounted his Soap Box and resumed his educational articles, I offer my heartiest congratulations.

But nix on that paragraph, stating that I might be the Lone Rider. Honor should be given to those who are worthy of it, and I don't care to be given any credit not due me. So better luck on your next guess, Joe.

At the last Central Committee meeting of 1932, an attempt was made by the president of the group to have the writers agree to have all the articles in the S. D. Z. News published under the writer's own name.

Personally, I do not see why the writers should not use their own names. It will do them more good than writing under an alias.

Here is a suggestion: Why not give the editor the power to reveal these people who have been conducting columns in the S. D. Z. News since its inception? Then we could get together and give them the great big hand they deserve.

Michael Lah Jr.

SDZ CONTRIBUTORS

In submitting contributions to the SDZ News, please consider the following rules and regulations:

1. All contributions and material must be received by this office not later than 12 o'clock Tuesday, prior to the date of intended publication. Any material received later, will not appear in that week's issue.
2. All contributions must be signed by sender. Names will be withheld from publications, if so desired.
3. No contributions written with pencil will be accepted. All contributions must be written in ink or typewritten. If typewritten, double space.
4. Any manuscripts received, will not be returned, and will become the property of the SDZ News.
5. Address all communications to the SDZ News, 617 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, Ohio.

With the second round of play now underway, official standings of the loop show the Clairwoods heading the lengthy parade with a record of eight wins and one defeat, while the brother Crusaders quintet is just one place behind, boasting a mark of seven victories and two losses. They share the runner-up post with the Loyalties and the Pioneers, defending champs.

In the first encounter between the two leading S. D. Z. squads, the Clairwoods grabbed the decision to establish themselves as league and S. D. Z. favorites. The Crusaders, however, have won the recognition of being in and outers and the first round proved that the tougher the opposition the better brand of ball they play. Against weaker teams they have appeared only "mediocre," while on the other hand, they have risen to unbelievable heights against loop leaders. Outstanding in their season's record was the surprising upset of the highly favored Pioneers, who up to the time had been coasting along without a single blemish on their record.

That a real tussle will be on tap is plainly evident and league followers can expect a knock-'em-down-drag-'em-out affair from the opening whistle to the final gun. Unfortunately, the tilt will open the evening's card and will therefore get underway at 6:15. Collinwoodites especially should make arrangements for an early supper so that they will be able to take in the entire fray.

The Eastern Stars, third S. D. Z. club in the loop, draw a bye for the week and will have to be content with viewing the games from the upper track and getting a line on their opponents.

EASTERN STAR PRESIDENT IS IN HOSPITAL

Frank—"Doc" to you—Gregoric, president of the Eastern Stars, was taken to Glenville Hospital Monday, where he underwent an appendix operation.

The operation, performed by the capable Dr. Louis Perme, physical examiner of the S. D. Z. lodges in Collinwood, was reported a success.

Rumor has it that "Doc" over-exerted himself while striving to keep up the work of being a good president for an up and coming lodge and at the same time playing basketball with the lodge team in the Interlodge loop.

Friends, of course, may visit him. A speedy recovery, "Doc."

and nature of the next affair have not yet been definitely decided.

Out of the Mail Bag

By THE FOX

"Vas you dere, Shally?"—You bet I was and you should have seen the jolly crowd that packed the St. Clair Bathhouse last Saturday night (not for the weekly ablution) to send the Slovenian Young Men's Club off on a flying start to prosperity and fame. The entertainment was up to pre-social predictions, providing that St. Clair guy, Monsieur Edward Blatnik, knows the hows and wherefore of giving the people their money's worth. Which, we would have you understand, is a most commendable trait. We'll be seeing you Young Men again and thanks for the use of the hall.

Try and Stop Us

Sometimes the Fox wonders

