

Theatre Guide At Our House

MONROE
This is Cinerama
(Unobjectionable)
A-1
BABES IN TOYLAND
A-1
PARAMOUNT
Flower Drum Song
(Unobjectionable for adults and adolescents)
A-2
PALACE
The Comancheros
Five Golden Hours
(Unobjectionable for adults)
A-1
LOEW'S
Pocketfull of Miracles
A-2
REGENT
The Errand Boy
Wings of Chance
A-1
LITTLE
Francis
A-2
CINEMA
Carry On, Constable Not listed
A-1
FINE ARTS
Invasion Quartet

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'A Song In His Heart'
By MARY TINLEY DALY

Favorite game around the piano; favorite place at our house, has been a guessing game.

For years now, the Head of the House would play a certain melody, "Carry Me Back to Old Virginia," and ask guests to name the tune.

Everybody, old and young, could identify it, would look at us in amazement that we should ask such a silly question.

Came the loaded part of the game: "Who wrote it?"

Almost invariably the answer, still incredulous, would be, "Why, Stephen Foster, of course!"

Part two: the Head of the House would follow with a playing of "In the Evening by the Moonlight" and "Oh, Dem Golden Slippers."

Same answer: "Sure, Stephen Foster!"

If you readers would like to join the game, who do you think wrote those American classics?

VERY RARELY would the true author be identified, James A. Bland, Negro minstrel writer during the 1880's.

The Head of the House, an author himself and a long time lover of minstrelsy, resented the injustice that, quite innocently, was being perpetrated against one of America's great songsmiths. Recognizing the fact that Stephen Foster's works are worthy of respect, also that the music and words of Bland's are similar to those of Foster, the Head of the House decided to right a wrong.

"A Song in His Heart," published by the John C. Winston Co. of Philadelphia, finished in 1950, the book was a biography of the little-known Negro minstrel whose works have far outlived the memory of their author.

The book was never a great success, its sale limited nationally. However, one heartwarming outcome was that the Lions Club of Virginia started a campaign to collect one million dollars for the erection of a Temple of Music in Richmond, in memory of Bland, composer of Virginia's official State Song.

DURING THE 1950's and until the present, in our own little test-clinic around the piano, more and more people know of James A. Bland, although a discouragingly large percentage still attribute the tunes to Stephen Foster.

As far as the Head of the House was concerned, that seemed to be that. He had tried, but a myth once imprinted in people's minds is hard to erase.

"Poor Jimmie Bland," the Head of the House would shake his head as he played "Old Virginia" and the others, the well-knowns and the lesser-knowns, written by the little Negro boy who wanted more than anything,

else to join a minstrel troupe. Ironically, even while he lived, James Bland was not allowed to play as a minstrel because he was black. Only white men who blackened their faces were admitted to the ranks. His music was welcomed, but not his presence.

Also ironically, even after his death, James Bland's music was still admitted to the inner circle of American folklore, but his name was never mentioned.

James Bland, seemingly, had been relegated to oblivion. So too, seemingly, had been his champion.

Came a surprise at our house recently. The telephone rang one evening. I answered as a man's voice asked, in a discouraged tone, if this was the home of a John Daly who had written a book. The voice brightened as I answered that he had written several.

"One called 'A Song in His Heart'?"

"That's right."

"Well, thank goodness," came a chuckle. "My name is Edmond Chevie of Hollywood—I've trailed John Dalys all up and down the east coast. I have a proposition I'd like to make to your husband about his book."

UPSHOT: Harcourt Productions, Ltd., Goldwyn Studios, has signed a contract with actors, script writers and the Head of the House as technical advisor to do a movie in 1962 based on the life and times of James A. Bland.

Its title? At this stage, we don't know. We only hope that by it James A. Bland will receive recognition for his songs that have made American hearts sing.

Arthur Fiedler Set At Eastman

Arthur Fiedler comes to Rochester, Saturday, Jan. 13, to guest-conduct the Rochester Pops Orchestra at the Eastman Theatre. He will bring with him the Boston Pops arrangements that have made him renowned the world over.

One of the most popular works of the Boston Pops repertoire, the Liszt Piano Concerto Number 1 in E flat major, will be performed by Rochester's own Orazio Frugoni. Last spring Frugoni went to Boston to perform with Fiedler on the regular Boston Pops concert series.

Other popular works on Fiedler's Rochester program will include selections from "South Pacific," the Strauss Emperor Waltzes, and "Mack the Knife" from "The Three Penny Opera." This is the third consecutive year that Fiedler has appeared at the Eastman Theatre.

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CYO In The News

The Holiday Season at the CYO was brought to a close with the finals in two of its annual events.

In the Men's Padd' ball Championship, a new Champion was named. Peter Todd, of the CYO Staff, defeated John Felber with the scores of 21 to 14 and 21 to 7. Both men gained the finals after engaging in some hotly contested preliminary contests.

THE ANNUAL CYO Holiday High School Boys Basketball Tournament was brought to a close Sunday, December 31, 1961, with the crowning of the St. Monica's Mustangs as the new champion. St. Monica defeated Our Lady of Mercy by the score of 43 to 26.

St. Monica gained the finals by defeating Holy Apostles 66 to 18; and Gates CYO All Stars, 52 to 50. Our Lady of Mercy gained the finals by defeating defending champion Our Mother of Sorrows 32 to 26; then in the semi-finals by upsetting Holy Cross 43 to 40. As is true in every tournament, there are many upsets. This tournament was no different. Holy Cross being the victim of the upset twice; by Our Lady of Mercy 43 to 40; and in the consolation game they were upset by the Gates All Stars 66 to 62.

Seton Groups In Action

11TH BRANCH of Seton Workers of St. Mary's Hospital will meet Tuesday, Jan. 9 at 10:30 a.m. in St. Mary's Hospital auditorium. New officers taking over are: Mrs. George Conway, president; Mrs. John Butler, vice president; Mrs. George Haas, secretary; Mrs. Philip Hafner, treasurer.

72ND BRANCH meeting Wednesday, Jan. 10 at home of Mrs. Richard Tschiederer of 60 Diere Drive.

49TH BRANCH elected these officers for 1962: Marguerite McIntyre, past chairman; Emma Cromey, chairman; Elnore Stoe, secretary; Marcella Schickler, treasurer; Mary Griffin, social chairman. Next meeting at home of Mrs. Elinore Stoe, 44 Fenton Road, Monday, Jan. 22, 8:15 p.m.

73RD BRANCH meeting at home of Mrs. Anthony Calabrese of Wyndham Road, Monday evening, Jan. 8. Election of officers to be held.

Alborno Missioner

Milan, Italy—(NC)—Catholics in Milan have presented Father Carlo Maria Turini, O.S.M., with an airplane and are collecting money to buy him a helicopter. The gifts will be used by the Servite missioner to visit, teach and look after Indians in Patagonia, in the southern tip of South America.

Solemn Requiem Held For Former NCCW Aide

Funeral Mass for Miss Margaret T. Lynch, a former executive secretary of the National Council of Catholic Women who had many friends in the Diocese of Rochester was offered in St. Mary's Church, Potsdam, Tuesday, Dec. 26.

Miss Lynch, 91, who served in the NCCW post from 1924 to 1944 died Dec. 23, 1961 in the Frances Schervier Home and Hospital, Roverdale, the Bronx.

Surviving are two brothers, Cornelius T. and John J. Lynch of Geneva.

SOLEMN REQUIEM Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Daniel W. Lynch, C.S.C. with the Rev. James Ruddy, deacon and Rev. Mr. John McAvoy, subdeacon.

Family Rosary Radio Program

Friday, Jan. 5 — Charles Faust, St. Michael's accompanied by Kolping Society.

Saturday, Jan. 6 — Vincent Cirincione, St. Monica's.

Sunday, Jan. 7 — A representative of St. Michael's Legion of Mary.

Monday, Jan. 8 — Raymond Doran, SS. Peter and Paul's.

Tuesday, Jan. 9 — John Caine, SS. Peter and Paul's.

Wednesday, Jan. 10 — George Engels, Holy Ghost, Coldwater accompanied by Men's Club of that parish.

Thursday, Jan. 11 — Carlton Servas, Our Lady of Mercy accompanied by Laymen's Retreat League of that parish.

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FUNERALS IN WHITE

WHEN HE OFFERS THE "MASS OF THE ANGELS" AT THE FUNERAL OF AN INFANT, the priest wears, of course, white vestments. This happens in MARYKULAM, southern INDIA, more often than you'd like to think... MARYKULAM, with 3,000 Catholics, is remote, at times each year completely isolated. Dirt roads (they look like wagon-tracks) turn to slush when drenched by the monsoon rains. Doctors and medicine, for most parishioners, are 50 miles away... Recently settled by poverty-stricken farmers in search of soil, MARYKULAM is a sordid collection of grass huts with thatched roofs. "Home" is a one-room hut with dirt floor, no sanitary facilities, insects, germs... Small wonder that our parish priest in MARYKULAM, zealous and devoted, is dismayed! The filth he sees—in the streets, in the huts, all about him—breeds disease. Disease brings death, especially to children... In INDIA, of all the children born, one out of ten dies before he is one year old. That's the reason for so many funerals "in white"... Common diseases like diphtheria, diarrhea, pneumonia, scarlet fever, can be prevented and controlled—even in INDIA. But once contracted, they must be cured... The ARCHBISHOP OF CHANGANACHERRY writes us that he'd like to build a "hospital" in MARYKULAM. The "hospital" will be a dispensary, where native SISTERS will give medical attention to the poor. It will also include a maternity ward, where mothers will come to have their children safely... To build the "hospital" the ARCHBISHOP needs \$4,800. It will serve the poor, save hundreds of lives, for years and years to come... Will you help? Medicine, in the hands of SISTERS, can save souls as well as bodies... Will you send something now—even \$1—to help the ARCHBISHOP get started?... The ARCHBISHOP already has the site. Whatever you can do without—\$5, \$20, \$100, \$1,000—will put "hospital" floors, walls, medicines, equipment, where they're most desperately needed... Measure your sacrifice by the need... God will not forget your generosity!

Dear Monsignor:
Here's my sacrifice. Let's build that "hospital" in MARYKULAM!

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THE SISTERS MAY BE OURS

THE SISTERS WHO WILL STAFF THE "HOSPITAL" IN MARYKULAM, (if someday soon, please God, it's built) chances are, these same SISTERS were trained by folks like you who read this column!... For years now, our readers have been helping regularly to train native SISTERS for work in countries like INDIA... Would you like to help train a SISTER? It costs only 41¢ a day... In KOTHAMANGALAM, INDIA, right now, SISTER HUBERT, SISTER GEROSA, SISTER ALMA, and SISTER AUDREY, need help to complete their training as MEDICAL SISTERS. You may pay by the month (\$12.50), by the year (\$150), or in one lump sum for the entire two-year course (\$300)... Write to us... Women like these give their lives. Ought we not give something?

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