



HOLLYWOOD SLIGHTS
ROBBIN COONS
 HOLLYWOOD, Mar. 28. — The screen capital for some time has been asserting its claims as the "style center of the world," and the musical film, attracting hosts of song-writers from the east, has given the city a Tin Pan Alley to vie with Broadway's. But before long Hollywood smugly may be declaring its right to be known as the nation's capital of the dance as well.

With all the musical comedy and revue attractions being made or contemplated by the various companies, special dances are being designed as for the stage, and the effect, once America's theaters all have been wired for the exhibition of talkies, may be similar in Terpsichorean fields to that of the movie songs on popular music.

More "Theming?"

As most pictures now make their bow to the world accompanied by a "theme song," it may be only a matter of time before every movie has its "theme dance" as well. A start in this direction has been made in a picture about modern jazz youth, in which Lois Moran, Nick Stuart and a galaxy of youthful exemplars of the wild fun spirit are stepping lively in a new ballroom movement especially "created" to be danced to the tune of the theme song.

If all the "wild young party" pictures follow suit, the country's light fantastic trippers soon should be able to dance an entire evening away without once departing from movements designated by the names of motion pictures.

New Studio Sport

Setting an entire company of actors and studio workers on a half-hour's hunt for a cricket is the latest freak trick attributed to Hollywood's talkie craze.

The company of Eddie Dowling's new starring picture had left the production of a sound-proofed stage the other day to "shoot" an outdoor sequence on the lot; microphones were erected, and prayers were in the hearts of all that no extraneous sound would arise to interfere with recording.

Then a merry chirping began—the song of a hidden cricket. With every wasted minute costly, a reward of \$50 was offered to the man, woman, or child who would locate the unseen musician. It took half an hour for one of the film editors to capture the prize.

FRANCE AWAKENS TO VALUE OF ADVERTISING

PARIS, Mar. 28. (AP)—American tourist travel in France had a setback last year and French officials and newspapers finally are admitting that glory and prestige are useless to meet the competition of Germany, Italy, England and Switzerland. Those countries are spending money to advertise their attractions.

The Riviera, which France always has considered a sort of tourist Heaven, had a bad year. French newspapers tried to maintain the polite fiction that "winter is only a name" down there, but the people of every other country were told by correspondents that it rained, snowed and froze on the Mediterranean coast as it did elsewhere in France.

Therefore it is dawning on some of the wiser heads that unpleasant facts can't be suppressed so there had best be efforts to overcome criticisms of tourists instead of coolly assuming that people should feel privileged to spend their money in France.

MEAT EATING PLANT WANTS STEAK DIET

LONG BEACH, Cal., Mar. 28. (AP)—Chrysanthemum, a meat eating flowering plant found by W. K. Moore has developed temperament under the influence of cultivation.

Mr. Moore discovered it in the Washington mountains, where he says it lived on flies, other woodland insects and even small snails and worms. It snares them in a funnel shaped gullet.

Under cultivation Moore declares this plant dies unless supplied with choice bits of steak, chicken and other delicacies. The plant has a hollow stem, at the base of which is a receptacle that digests the animal diet.

SNOWS BREAKFAST FOOD IN HOLLYWOOD STORMS

OMAHA, Neb., Mar. 28. (AP)—Don't shiver when you see snow in the movies; it's just breakfast food.

J. E. Stimmel, chief miller at Omaha cereal mills, has prepared and shipped seven carloads of "snow" to Hollywood. He makes it this way:

White corn is first made into pearly hominy. Next is flaked and cooked, and finally baked to provide crispness. The only difference between this and corn flakes is the lack of malt and sugar. Sugar discolors the flakes used for the breakfast cereal, but "snow" must be kept white.

It can be swept up and used repeatedly in a movie studio, says Stimmel.

EGGS FOR THE CHURCH

DEERFIELD, Ill., Mar. 28. (AP)—Eggs filled the collection plates when the Bethlehem Evangelical church prepared to celebrate the anniversary of its dedication. Sunday school pupils conducted an egg hunt so a giant angel cake could be made.

U. S. IN GRIM FIGHT WITH MISSISSIPPI

WASHINGTON, Mar. 28. (AP)—The engineer corps of the United States army is preparing for its big annual battle. The enemy flies a dun-colored flag. He never sleeps. In spite of appropriations of congress and all of man's precautions army men agree that they never can tell when they will be "kicked."

The enemy is the Father of Waters — the Mississippi river, whose drainage area is a million and a quarter square miles, or 40 per cent of the continental United States.

"Providence alone can tell," said an army engineer when asked if congressional measures for flood control would prevent a recurrence of former Mississippi flood disasters. "When the ground gets soaked the water runs off in sheets. Gutters overflow. Main sewers cannot carry the load. That's what happens nationally in a wet year like 1927. What will happen this year no one can tell, but we are preparing."

All along the 1,200 miles of the unmanageable part of the Mississippi below Cairo, Ill., levees are being re-inforced and patrolled, weather conditions studied. Maj. Gen. Edgar Jadwin, chief of the engineer corps, is kept fully informed of storm warnings. Emergency preparations are being made in the various districts along the great river. Engineers recognize the Mississippi as the "mani storm sewer" of the country. It drains off water from 30 states and a part of Canada.

Battles won and lost there are similar to major engagements on a battle front. Old river men like to tell of their fights with the Father of Waters just as other veterans do of their battle engagements. Congress has appropriated \$100,000,000 for the fight with the Mississippi since the big flood of 1927. Investigations for flood control of other streams are being

Today's Worst Yarn By A Dam Site

Some persons, being ignorant or just plain "dumb," take figures of speech literally. Others have a keen sense of humor.

Ken McBride is still wondering in which of these two categories to place a venerable gentleman in a long black overcoat and long grey hair and a long face, who alighted from a west-bound train for a few moments the other evening and, standing about chatting with a group of Las Vegans, suddenly asked, with most serious mien:

"Say, how far from the station is this here divorce mill you hear tell about?"

The boys all had to go scurrying real fast to keep the old gentleman from seeing their mirth, says Keeneth.

made, but nothing definite has yet been done.

With the Mississippi the army is mapping out a campaign just as though the swift muddy currents were advancing columns of a human enemy. Niagara Falls flows 225,000 cubic feet a second. The mighty Mississippi when in flood discharges a volume of water equivalent to two Niagaras! And it's not a glorious Niagara, but savage and relentless. So re-inforcements of concrete blocks, which generally take the place of the old woven willow barricades, are being put along the levees. Every district is being mobilized for emergency.

LINER ARRIVES IN FRANCE LEAKING, AFTER GROUNDING

CHERBOURG, France, Mar. 28. (AP)—The Cunard liner Transylvania, with American tourists on board, came into Cherbourg today listing sharply and well down after running aground near Urville, Hague. The pumps were kept going and held their own with the water coming in.



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