

# GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH IS GIVEN FOR PLAYGROUNDS

"Slippery" McClung and His Co-Workers Exhibit Under Big Roundtop.

DEATH-DEFYING ACTS THRILL THE CROWD

Sum of \$2.19 Realized As Contribution to Much-Needed \$2,500.

For three days before the big circus, the gaudy posters with the scarlet lion, announcing its coming, drew its hundreds of admiring small boys and girls. In a gaudy semicircle they stood before the beauty, and read and re-read it and marveled at the workmanship.

This they knew to be the last stand in defense of the playgrounds for the winter months. Unless the remaining amount necessary for the \$2,500 was raised within the next few days they knew the playgrounds would have to close, and they were determined to stand by with might and main to whatever extent they might help.

Also there was much difference of opinion and some heated argument as to the proper classification of the gorgeous red figure at the top.

"Why, say, it's a lion! Anybody can see that. Ain't it a lion, Billy?"

"Aw, nit! Who ever saw a lion what looked like that? It's a mustang."

Questioned, Billy was found unconvinced in his information concerning mustangs.

Other hazards had him a mule, a limousine, a boa constructor, and a "trebrow."

But all agreed that the drawing, whatever it was, was splendid, and the sale of tickets went merrily forward. And wild was the delight when yesterday was attached a further notice to the effect that the performance would be held "tonight!"

And pasted to the bottom of the last was yet another which attempted to detail at some length the blood-curdling, heart-chilling thrillers, which could be viewed for the small sum of 1 cent.

"See 'Slippery' McClung, nee Davy-yellow, leap the Gap of Death, darling, desperate, and tasteful"—and others almost as lurid and edifying.

Suspicion Rests On "Slippery."

The authorship of the addition was unknown, but in view of the fact that "Slippery" McClung's name and deed headed the list in letters as high as those by which any other act was heralded, the finger of suspicion was directed immediately at him, and his "hope to croak 'I did'" availed not.

The pick of five schools composed the performers in the Playground's Stupendous Combined Shows, and the business of choosing these, and the least damage to the feelings of his friends, drew a tiny pucker in the brow of "Jimmy" Dugan.

"Piez ter it!" he complained, "I gotta smooch every one up that don't pit in the show, and then smooch those at do, cause they can't be no other." "For many hours were spent in Jimmy's barn in loud voiced argument concerning the personnel of the circus. From "Tibby" Myers clear up to the lordly Jimmy and the mighty "Reddy" Hayes, each show for all time, was specially fitted by an all-wise Providence to wear the motley of the circus kings, and to break the sad news to the luckless ones and give the peace required a tact and finesse consummate.

"Slippery" McClung was consulted with the glamour of the death-defying leap of the Gap of Death, and the glory hunger of one "Reddy" Hayes was appeased with the berth of the stone man. To the wounded feelings of "Jinks" McClung was applied the balm of the lion tamer's job, and the howl that "Tiny" Morris raised shrilling to the shingled leg grew still when he was told that others could be found to take his place if he was not satisfied.

Thus soothing here, cajoling there, and haltingly everywhere else, "Jimmy" Dugan brought his show into tact up to the afternoon of the great event.

All the fears and misgivings of the show owner in the first few moments before public opinion approves or condemns his show for all time, was Jimmy's. On the size of the crowd depended the extent of the help they might extend to the playground. If big, it might go a long way. Otherwise, well every little bit helps.

The show was scheduled for 4 o'clock, but as early as 3 the stream of small boys and girls began to drift up the alley behind Jimmy's house. First came "Squid" Clarke, who wanted to be passed in free, having played football on the same team with Jimmy. When told that the profession would be honored for the small sum of 1 cent, he departed wrathfully, swearing that he didn't want to see the old show anyhow, to return later with the price of admission clutched in his sweaty palm.

Later came Lavinia Harris, the little cripple, and was admitted free. Jimmy had wanted to borrow her for an exhibit in the show, but had been dissuaded. Came Ethel Flinder and Ella Ford, came Grace Watson and Buddy Smith, came every tiny tot see



Help the PLAYGRONDS ONE CENT GRAND CIRKUZ

"WHAT-IS-IT" POSTER, Used To Announce Coming of Great Circus.

many blocks around, until the reserved seats at the top of the barn off above the hay were gorgeous with the multicolored fiery of the feminine contingent, and the foot or so of weather boarding between the seat and the hay was hidden with innumerable legs—some short, some long, some thin, and some fat—like the tubes of a pipe organ. And the heart of Jimmy was glad.

And in the pit around the roped arena where the death defiers were to perform, gathered the rabble of boys, and all the left hummed in the effort of everyone to make himself heard at once.

The Actors Appear.

From behind the curtain at last stepped the inimitable Jimmy, magnificent and gaudy in yellow spangled clown dress, and red and white paint. Followed "Jinks" McClung, the lion tamer, leading Able Stinemetz, around whom was tied by a rope a woolly black bear pup. Followed "Reddy" Hayes in a bathing suit, and "Slippery" McClung in athletic shirt, knickerbocker trousers, unbuttoned at the waist, and a pair of sister's red silk stockings.

And followed last of all a hurried presentation as to which act to present first.

Then "Reddy" Hayes stepped forward and grasping two chairs with much affection of terrific straining, pitched them out. He bowed to the swift pater of hands from the reserved section, and stanced sheepishly at the rabble of small boys. They saw through his bluff he felt sure, and he wondered if any were traitor enough to tell "her" the next day.

The lion tamer, with Able straining at the leash, next walked nimbly to the fore. In spite of Able's stage whisper protests, he walloped him with a broom handle and yanked him about by the rope until the rag became displaced and he was tamed to the entire satisfaction of the most bloodthirsty. They refused to readjust the rug, and "Slippery" McClung climbed up the side of the wall for the leap of death. With bated breath the audience waited for the consummation of this much heralded stunt.

Reaching his perch ten feet above the hay, "Slippery" drew from his belt a piece of fly netting and bandaged it around his eyes. This he thought might lend a little pep to an act which he was beginning to fear was going to fall below expectations as a blood curdler. Poised at last he leaned out and with a loud yell to add excitement, leaped over the hay hole into the seat hay on the other side. He waited for a hand. There was a sickening silence.

Then from way up near the middle

"Reddy" Hayes, "Tiny" Morris, "Jinks" McClung Lend Aid.

LION TAMER FALLS DOWN HAY CHUTE

Friends Rush to Aid and Find Him More Scared Than Hurt.

of the reserved bench came the feeble pat pat of one pair of hands. He knew who this was, and with burning face that she should be the only one he hurried down and slipped behind the curtain.

"Stalling" For An Inspiration.

The show began to die a natural death. Interest lagged. Everyone had exhausted his repertoire. To stall until some one had an inspiration, "Reddy" Hayes muscled out the chairs for the fifth time and "Jimmy" Dugan cracked his lone joke for the sixth. "Jinks" nearly jerked Able's head off, and Able feeling something incumbent upon him danced spasmodically about.

It was this last that proved the god-send, and saved the show from a flat and unhappy ending. In prancing too close to the hay hole Able's foot slipped and with a frightened squawk he disappeared into the depths below. There was a wild shriek from the reserved sections, and the feminine contingent came tumbling down in a whirl of white lace and a tangle of flying legs.

They found him at the bottom, thoroughly scared but unhurt. They looked him over fore and aft. They examined his head and his face, and his arms and legs. They could find no bruise or scratch however small upon which to hang their sympathy.

There seemed to be nothing else to do and several started on their way home, knocking the show. Others followed, also knocking the show.

"Jimmy" Dugan was a bum clown and "Slippery" McClung was a fake.

In the loft above Jimmy stared hard at a handful of pennies. There was \$2.19—the charge extra for reserved seats—to help save the playgrounds. Somehow or other he felt that his efforts were unappreciated, and he knew that unless some one came forward before Saturday to make up the balance of the necessary \$2,500 the playgrounds were going to close.

Very softly he entered the house and sought comfort from mother.

## BICYCLIST INJURED; RUNS INTO AUTO

George C. Hough, of 700 Randolph street, Petworth, was thrown from his bicycle and bruised about the head and body today in a collision at Ninth and T streets northwest with an automobile driven by Stewart V. Prince, of 222 Second street northeast. Hough refused hospital treatment, and rode away on his wheel.

## RAILROAD RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

A report on the receipts and expenditures of the railroads during last July was issued by the Interstate Commerce Commission today, showing in round numbers the total operating revenues as \$29,759,000, an increase of \$4,000,000 over July, 1909. The operating expense in July was \$17,000,000, an increase of \$1,700,000 as compared with July, 1909.

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Get Instant Relief in Our Free Sample

ASK your favorite druggist, or write a postal this minute, for a liberal 3-day Free Sample of famous "Kondon's". Do not apply violent snuffs, sprays, douches—to irritate, smart and burn the inflamed mucous membrane. Kondon's Catarrhal Jelly, applied to the affected surface, destroys the germs.

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## NEY & CO.

It Pays to Come From Any Distance

Black Untrimmed Shapes Beavers, Velvets and Cut Plushes, None Worth Under \$7.50

**\$1.98**

For tomorrow, a great purchase in large, medium, and small shapes. The season's best styles.

Handsoms Caracul Cloth Coats for Children, \$4.98

Rich, lustrous quality, hardly discernible from real fur, sizes 4 to 14 years. Made to sell for \$8.00 regularly.

Women's \$4 Black Tref-silks Under \$1.98

Enough for one day's selling.

Pennsylvania Avenue and Eighth Street S. E.

## The Most Important Sale of Trimmed Millinery

Ever Placed Before the Women of Washington--No Question About It!

Tomorrow we place on sale Trimmed Millinery actually worth \$12.50 to \$25, at the most extremely low price ever known.

Beautiful styles made in the height of fashion. No woman after reading this announcement would be so foolish as to let this opportunity of securing an elegant hat at such a little price go by. The least you can do is to come see how NEY & CO. DOES IT when it comes to giving phenomenal values in millinery.—SATURDAY ONLY—2d floor.

**\$5** to **\$25** Values **\$5** For Choice

None Worth Less Than \$12.50

## Share in Our Fortunate Purchase of Women's and Misses' Suits, Caracul and Broadcloth Coats Tomorrow

**\$19.75 to \$25 Values, \$10**

What woman can resist such an offering. Surely no one who needs a suit, because this is the greatest lot we have ever purchased.

**Up-to-the-minute Fall and Winter Suits**

In fine quality All-wool Broadcloths, Plain and Fancy Worsteds, Cheviots, Shadow Stripe and Pencil Stripe Worsteds and French Serges.

**Full Length Caracul Coats**

A beautiful lustrous quality, hardly distinguishable from real fur. New, deep, shawl collar, and deep turn-back cuffs, fasten in front with four jeweled buttons; lined throughout with best quality Venetian lining.

**Imported Black Broadcloth Coats**

They're 54 inches long, body and sleeves lined with guaranteed two seasons' satin, strictly tailored, perfect fitting models.

## Sale of Overcoats for Young Men and Boys

Boys' Overcoats, values \$4, \$5 and \$6, for **\$2.98**

Made of the finest cassimeres, chevots, vicunas and kerseys, fabrics that will give splendid service.

Double breasted, mannish looking coats that will delight the boys' combination collars, blue, brown and neat gray mixtures, in sizes 3 to 5.

Young Men's and Boys' Overcoats . . . **\$3.98**

You will have to pay \$6 or more elsewhere for the same coats, swell snappy garments, full of warmth, sizes 8 to 16.

Lot of Stylish Overcoats for Young Men, \$8 and \$10 values, for **\$4.98**

Here's a value that you will surely appreciate, as these coats come in the stylish brown and gray mixtures, cut full length, automobile collars. We will probably sell every one of these tomorrow and advise you not to delay.

## Come Tomorrow! There's Money to be saved on Men's and Young Men's Overcoats.

Best Made this Season at \$15 for **\$9.90**

These Overcoats will surprise you. There is no question but that they are the biggest money's worth in Washington. We want to impress you with the importance of this sale; think a moment, right in the height of the season—

ALL WOOL BLACK KERSEYS, with velvet collar, full cut and hand tailored throughout.

ALL WOOL FANCY MIXTURES, in gray and brown stripes and invisible plaids with CONVERTIBLE automobile collars, full length with serge or Italian cloth lining. You can figure on a saving of \$5.00 tomorrow.

Important Sale of Men's \$25 Overcoats At **\$14.75**

We just purchased a maker's surplus stock of exceedingly handsome Overcoats for men of good taste, plain black chevots and kerseys, new gray effects and fancy mixtures. You'll be sure to like them, and actually save \$10.25. If you want the best value obtainable you'll surely come here tomorrow.

## There's 25c to Be Saved Tomorrow on Boys' Suits

Boys' \$5 and \$6 Suits, **\$3.75**

Every Suit all wool, every pattern new this season. Every size up to 17. Double breasted knickerbocker, with all the man-tailored features the boys like so well.

Boys' \$3 and \$3.50 Suits, **\$1.95**

Double breasted knickerbockers, made of fancy cassimeres, a quality that will give the boys good service; all sizes up to 17.

## Best Men's Suits

You Ever Saw To Sell For **\$8.85**

Not one worth a penny less than \$15.00

Pick from our vast assortment of the best tailored suits, cut from the newest fabrics and with the finest trimmings ever seen in Washington at \$8.85.

Guaranteed all-wool fabrics from the best American mills, plain and fancy worsteds and stylish cassimeres which wear so well.

All sizes and styles for men and young men.

Compare these suits with the best \$15.00 ones you have seen at exclusive clothiers, then you will realize what a sensational suit value we offer at \$8.85.

## Big Savings in Men's Furnishings

To Emphasize Our Phrase, "It Pays to Come From Any Distance," We Quote the Following:

Men's \$4 and \$5 Coat Sweaters—Made of Pleisher's all-wool yarns, and no-tailor button holes, with buttons to match each garment. In plain gray and white, also gray with navy, white, and maroon borders; all sizes. On sale at **\$2.98**

Men's \$2.00 Hand-Finished Coat Sweaters—Two-thirds wool; large lot in gray only. On sale tomorrow, at **98c**

\$1.50 Coat Sweaters for Boys—Famous Y and K make, in blue, gray, and combinations; all **98c** sizes. Sale price **\$3.49**

Men's \$5 Hand-Made Cardigan Jackets—All pure wool and finished by hand. Garnet, gray, and navy, in all sizes. A value you will appreciate **\$3.49**

"Wright's Health," "All-wool Ginstenburg," "Famous Cooper R'bed," "B. W. U. Scarlet"—Perfect qualities, in all sizes, including stout drawers. You cannot buy better garments at **\$1.00** the price

Men's \$1.00 Piece-Lined Underwear for Men—A make that will give entire satisfaction. All sizes shirts or drawers. A garment **50c**

Men's 12 1/2c Wool Socks—In white and gray; all sizes. A pair **10c**

## Sale of Men's \$25 Suits at \$14.75

Hundreds of men have been more than delighted with the suits which they have purchased here. There's no chance about it when you come here. You get everything you would expect the high price, exclusive stores to give you—splendid fabrics, perfect fit and workmanship. No matter how tall, stout, or slender you may be, we can fit you. The fabrics are the very finest all-wool worsteds plain black, blue and black invisible stripe effects neat patterns in a variety to suit the most particular man.

The Big Southeast Store Open Until 9 P. M. Saturday