

FINDS BIRTHPLACE OF BILLIE BURKE

Prof. Maurice Joyce Discovers House Where Comedienne First Saw Light of Day.

The house where Ethel Burke was born has been identified and its number formally recorded.

The average Washingtonian will not get so excited about this sort of a statement of the work which Prof. Maurice Joyce finished up yesterday—a labor of love and devotion to the memory of his old days as a circus acrobat. But if the statement is changed a bit and the fact that the house where Billie Burke, the comedienne, was born has been identified—it means something.

It will probably be news to many Washington people that Billie Burke is a native of the city. It will be still greater news that her name is really Ethel and not Billie at all. And, further than that, she was known as Ethel Burke while she was a child and while she was growing up.

Prof. Joyce, Discoverer.

Prof. Joyce hunted out the house at the request of Miss Burke's mother, Mrs. Burke as a widow of John Hodgson, kept a boarding house at 112 Twelfth street, near L street northwest. To that boarding house one winter season came William Burke, one of the best known circus clowns in the world. He was known in the profession as Billie Burke, and was a talking and singing clown of note before the days of the three-ring or hippodrome show.

He and Prof. Joyce were both employed in the "Edison" variety show—Burke a clown and Joyce an acrobat.

It was because Joyce lived in Washington that Burke came here for a winter season. He met Mrs. Hodgson, they fell in love and were married.

Mr. and Mrs. Burke continued to live at the Twelfth street house, although Mrs. Burke ceased to keep a boarding house, as her husband was one of the highest salaried entertainers in the country at the time.

When he went on the road with his show Mrs. Burke elected to remain in Washington, as she had several children by her previous marriage, one of whom was grown and married at the time of the mother's marriage to Burke.

First To See Little Ethel.

Joyce was summoned home one day in the middle of the circus season to welcome his oldest daughter, and three days later received word that the Burke family also had been visited by the stork.

He hurried to the Burke home and was shown the baby girl, Ethel. He was one of the first persons in the world to ever see the young woman who was to become so well known to so many people.

It was shortly after this that Joyce was appointed a deputy city assessor marshal and quit the circus business. Burke was practically put out of business by the introduction of the three-ring circus. He devised a plan to make a trick thought and a collapsible cab which he thought of putting on the stage. The act did not go well here, however, and Burke was advised to go to Europe with it. In London he made a tremendous hit. He sent for his family, and Mrs. Burke and Ethel went to London. The family remained in England and in Europe until the father died.

Ethel was the inseparable companion of her father. Under his guidance she was given a thorough education in English and French schools, Burke having been rated as a man of scholarly attainments.

When the father died Miss Joyce went on the stage and took the name of Billie, her father's name.

Price of Platinum Drops Down to \$64 an Ounce

Platinum prices are going down. While the metal cost \$100 an ounce last winter it was only \$64 an ounce yesterday.

Before the war it was \$42 an ounce, and not so many years ago it was cheaper than gold.

Most of the platinum comes from Russia. Whose production fell from 20,000 ounces in 1912 to 14,000 in 1914. In the same period the Colombia mines increased their production from 12,000 ounces to 18,000. The falling off in price has not been due to increased production, but to the use of substitutes in electrical and other lines.

"Encyclopaedia" Quits When Asked About Fleas

CONNELLSVILLE, Pa., July 23.—An editor who is the Connelleville "Walrus," when information is wanted on any subject and who has settled in Washington, has been asked by another newspaper man in history, has passed up that end of his job.

During a busy afternoon, when he straightened out disputes as to whether the Mills hotel was in Seventh avenue or Sixth, in New York, he supplied the date on which the statue of Zachariah Connell was erected on the old Fourth ward school building; settled a dispute as to whether Pittsburgh had distanced Cleveland since the 1900 census, and gave the batting average of Scrappy Bill Joyce the last year he was with the old Senators, he was appealed to by a feminine inquirer.

"Will you tell me how to get rid of fleas?" the musical voice asked over the telephone.

Not wishing to give offense by suggesting that she first catch her fleas and then squeeze it gently between two blocks of wood, he suggested that she write the information bureau at Washington, if table salt failed to do the work.

COMEDIENNE AND PLACE OF HER BIRTH



House at 1012 Twelfth Street Northwest, and BILLIE BURKE.



ALEXANDRIA WANTS SUNDAY LAW EDICT

Tourists Who Pass Through City Every Sabbath Day Are Disappointed.

ALEXANDRIA, July 23.—Alexandrians are hoping that Judge L. C. Barley, of the corporation court, will soon hand down a decision that will settle the Alexandria storekeepers.

Hundreds of tourists visit Alexandria every Sunday, and they gaze longingly at the soda fountains in drug stores which are covered with white cloths. The appeal of J. Recco Cason, who was fined \$5 for selling cigars and soda water on Sunday, was argued ten days ago by Cason's attorney, Leo P. Harlow, and Samuel G. Brent, Commonwealth's attorney, and Judge Barley took the case under advisement.

It is said there are many authorities to be considered, and Judge Barley is anxious that his decision will be upheld by the court of appeals.

Robert S. Barrett, president of the Virginia Press Association, accompanied by Mrs. Barrett and his mother, Mrs. Kate Walker Barrett, will leave tomorrow for Staunton, Va., to attend the annual convention of the association, which convenes on Tuesday. Mr. and Mrs. William F. Carne and Mr. and Mrs. Alexander J. Wedderburn, of this city, will also attend the meetings.

Grace Episcopal Church was reopened this morning after having been closed for several Sundays on account of extensive alterations and repairs. A feature of the new interior decoration is the ornamentation of the chancel by Miss Ann Shea, of Washington.

George W. Pettit, employed for years by the Hydraulic Press Brick Co., died yesterday afternoon at his home, 212 Jefferson street. He is survived by his widow, four daughters, and two sons. He was a member of Alva Aerle, No. 571, Fraternal Order of Eagles and James W. Jackson Council, Junior Order of United American Mechanics. The funeral services will be conducted tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock from the residence by the Rev. J. W. Duffey, D. D., pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

Edwin S. Steele, seventy-four years old, formerly in the employ of the Washington-Virginia Railway, died at 4:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon at his home, 190 North Fayette street. He is survived by his widow and three daughters, Mrs. William Baxley, Mrs. Gayton Arrington, and Miss G. D. Steele. Mr.

DISTRICT CAMP ON BORDER INSPECTED

Colonel Noble Finds Condition of Quarters at Bisbee Very Good.

BISBEE, Ariz., July 23.—The camp of der, and his staff. The condition was who are now here was inspected yesterday by Colonel Noble, camp commander, and his staff. The conditions were found excellent.

HYATTSVILLE.

A number of prominent Democratic leaders of this section are planning to attend the formal notification of David J. Lewis of his nomination as the Democratic candidate for the United States Senate.

The regular quarterly meeting of the Pomona grange will be held at Brightsart, July 27 at 10 o'clock.

The Sunday school of Forest Grove Methodist Episcopal Church at Meads, Iowa, held its annual Children's Day exercises this morning.

Doctor Ordered Never To Return to Oregon

PORTLAND, Ore., July 23.—Dr. Gustave Phillip von Braun Ehrenstrom, banished from Oregon by District Judge Davis, has left for Astoria, where he was to take a steamer for San Francisco.

The judgment of Judge Davis was that the physician should be arrested if he ever returned to this State. Dr. Ehrenstrom was arrested on a charge of threatening to kill his wife and little child who had taken refuge in the Louise Home to escape him.

Octogenarian's Bride Of 17 Seeks Divorce

LOS ANGELES, July 23.—"Age and youth will not happily wed," an axiom quoted by Mrs. Beulah Maaber Eyster last May, shortly after she left her octogenarian husband, John Thomas Eyster, found its fruition in her estimation when she sued him for annulment of their marriage, and asked for a divorce on the grounds of extreme cruelty.

Eyster is eighty-two years of age, and a wealthy citrus grower of Altadena. Mrs. Eyster was only seventeen when she married him on November 24, 1915.

Gnats Taken for Fire.

JANESVILLE, Wis., July 23.—An alarm of fire the other evening brought two companies of the department to the First Congregational Church. An excited individual "flagged" down the equipment and pointed to the steeples with the information that the blaze was inside it. Investigation showed a great dense swarm of gnats about the spire. This was the "smoke."

White Shark Captured.

NEW YORK, July 23.—A white shark, one of the most vicious of the shark family, was caught in Jamaica Bay yesterday afternoon by William Cring, Jr., and Harry Fuller. Both men say they know it is a white shark because they have seen them before several times.

A Million Acres at \$2.50.

PORTLAND, Ore., July 23.—Approximately a million acres of agricultural lands of the Oregon and California land grant will be thrown open to entry and settlement by fall, it was announced here yesterday by the United States Land Office. Settlers will be permitted to file on tracts of 160 acres each, paying the Government \$2.50 an acre. These lands, which were granted to the Oregon and California Railroad Company, have been in litigation for years. The Government sued to enforce the terms and won the case in the United States Supreme Court. Recently Congress passed an enabling act to restore the lands to entry, but the Southern Pacific Company, which succeeded to the interest of the Oregon and California Company, has served notice that it would refuse to abide by the act, and that it intended to fight the case anew through the courts.

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Washington's Fastest Growing Department Store

LANSBURGH & BRO.

Summer Store Hours, 8:15 A. M. to 5 P. M. Daily

SAMPLE JEWELRY, 13c
Values up to 50c each, 13c

A special purchase of 1,000 sample pieces of jewelry at a big price concession is responsible for this extraordinary offer. Included are: 1st Priz Earrings, Gold-filled Brooches, Sterling Silver Rings, Shell Hairpins, and Casque Combs; Hat Pins, Bar Pins, and Floral Colored Beads. Values to 50c; choice at 13c.

Main Floor—Lansburgh & Bro.

Now For the Closing Days of the Great July Sale

The supreme efforts of every buyer in our store have been brought to bear to make the last week of our July Sale one long to be remembered. This page of wonderful economies is evidence of the extraordinary savings which await you in every department.

WHITE AND COLORED Wash Goods in the July Sale

The items listed below are but to give you an idea of the many others that are offered in this July Clearance Sale

| | |
|---|--|
| 40-in. Printed Voiles 15c The regular 25c quality, yard..... | 40-inch Printed Organdy 25c 50c quality at half price, yard..... |
| Hundreds of pieces—over 12,000 yards purchased at a big price concession and will be sold to you at nearly half price. Full 40 inches wide, in a great variety of stripes, figures and dots, in every color combination that was ever printed. Choice of white and colored grounds in both light and dark shades. Every yard is absolutely perfect and the quality that sells regularly at 25c a yard. Now 15c. | One of the most extraordinary values ever offered. Every yard is absolutely first quality. Choice of plain or striped grounds printed in a great variety of beautiful floral designs in pink, blue, lavender, and yellow. This is one of the most popular fabrics for women's, misses' and children's cool waists and dresses—for the hot weather. 100 pieces in the lot for Monday's sale. The regular 50c kind at half price. Yard, 25c. |
| 25c White Double Warp Skirting..... 20c 36-inch white double warp skirting. Extra heavy shirking. 25c value, a yard, 20c. | WHITE FRENCH VOILE, Regular 40c quality, yard..... 19c A Fine, Sheer Quality White French Voile. The two-ply tape edge kind. Only 20 pieces or about 500 yards to sell tomorrow. Regular 40c quality, yard, 19c. |
| \$3.00 Linen Sheeting, a yd..... \$1.98 90-inch White Linen Sheeting. Extra heavy weave for skirts, suits, etc. The regular \$3.00 quality. A yard, \$1.98. | |

Monday Specials

For Monday Only No Mail, Phone or C. O. D. Orders

MONDAY SPECIAL \$5.00 Marseilles Spreads

Extra large size Satin Marseilles Spreads, cut-edge, with scalloped edge. Choice of several handsome highly embossed designs..... \$4.14
Fourth Floor.

MONDAY SPECIAL \$2.00 Crochet Quilts

Large size Crochet Quilts, finely finished. Choice of three beautiful patterns..... \$1.66
Fourth Floor.

MONDAY SPECIAL \$2.50 Summer Blankets

Full double-bed size Pile Blankets in white or gray; finished with wide satin binding. Choice of pink or blue border..... \$1.95
Fourth Floor.

MONDAY SPECIAL 20c Middy Twill

36-inch Middy Twill Suiting; extra fine quality, with a twill finish for blouses, skirts, uniforms..... 15c
Main Floor.

MONDAY SPECIAL 20c Mercerized Nainsook

36-inch White Lingerie Mercerized Nainsook, fine quality for women's and misses' undergarments..... 15c
Main Floor.

MONDAY SPECIAL 12 1/2c Domestic Longcloth

36-inch domestic finish Longcloth; sheer and fine quality for women's and children's undergarments..... 8 1/2c
Main Floor.

MONDAY SPECIAL 25c Pillow Cases

45 by 36 inch Blue Bird Pillow Cases. Best of the finest quality Sea Island cotton; heavy and firm and finished with 3-inch hem..... 18c
Main Floor.

MONDAY SPECIAL 15c Cannon Cloth

36-inch white Cannon Cloth; heavy, closely woven quality for middie blouses, skirts, and suits..... 11 1/2c
Main Floor.

MONDAY SPECIAL 8c Apron Gingham

Standard Apron Gingham in a variety of blue and white checks; strictly fast colors..... 6 1/2c
Main Floor.

MONDAY SPECIAL Infants' Short Dresses

Infants' Short Dresses of fine quality nainsook embroidered yokes. Some are hand-embroidered; 1 1/2 to Dutch neck styles; sizes 8 months to 2 years..... 50c
Third Floor.

July Sale of Silks

Another day of unusual values, showing the underselling power of this big store.

All-Silk Crepe de Chines \$1.00

40 inches wide; \$1.50 quality; Yd.....

These are all pure silk, heavy, crepe quality, strong and durable. Perfectly finished, in a large variety of the most popular shades, including pink, flesh, light blue, peach, apricot, old rose, Nile, pea green, cerise, brown, navy white, cream, ivory, and black.

| | |
|--|---|
| 85c Jap Habutais..... 59c | \$1.39 Black Taffeta..... \$1.09 |
| Choice of black or white all pure silk and perfectly finished. Blacks are fast color, perspiration and shower proof. Whites will launder perfectly and retain finish; 36 inches wide and a very special value. | 36 inches wide. All pure silk. Heavy soft quality that will give entire satisfaction. |
| | Cheney's Shower-proof 40-in. Foulards..... \$1.19 |
| | These are all pure silk. Dark grounds with white figures. \$1.75 quality. |

72-in. All-Silk Jersey Cloth \$3.75

Regular \$5.00 Value, a Yard.....

A very extraordinary value. The colors include Copenhagen, purple, emerald and hunter's green, gold, old rose, orange, black, and white.

Main Floor—Lansburgh & Bro.

JULY SALE OF WAISTS

New Summer Blouses 97c

\$1.50 and \$2.00 Values at.....

New Blouses of fine voiles and organdies, in plain, fancy and striped effects. Dress waists prettily trimmed with laces and embroideries and strictly tailored styles. All sizes.

\$3.00 Dress Blouses, \$1.98

Women's Blouses of fine voiles and flesh batiste. Some with dainty colored trimmings, others with laces and embroidery. Very stylish models in all sizes.

Third Floor—Lansburgh & Bro.



July Sale of Normal Sheets

A sale looked forward to by hundreds of housewives who know the real worth of Normal Sheets. They are seamless and made of heavy, strong quality undressed cotton. Absolute satisfaction guaranteed.

| | | | |
|---|------------|--|------------|
| 54x90-inch Normal Sheets, 89c value; each..... | 55c | 72x90-inch Normal Sheets, 75c value; each..... | 62c |
| 54x99-inch Normal Sheets, 72c value; each..... | 59c | 72x99-inch Normal Sheets, 80c value; each..... | 69c |
| 54x108-inch Normal Sheets, 79c value; each..... | 65c | 72x108-inch Normal Sheets, 90c value; each..... | 75c |
| 60x90-inch Normal Sheets, 72c value; each..... | 59c | 90x99-inch Normal Sheets, 95c value; each..... | 79c |
| 60x99-inch Normal Sheets, 75c value; each..... | 65c | 90x108-inch Normal Sheets, \$1.00 value; each..... | 85c |

Main Floor—Lansburgh & Bro.

July Sale of Undermuslins 67c

Offering 1,000 Garments, Regular \$1 Values at.....

Included in This Extraordinary Offer Are

- Women's Night Robes of the nainsook and cambric. Yokes all prettily trimmed with dainty lace and embroideries.
- Envelope Chemise of fine nainsook, trimmed with dainty laces.
- Women's Combinations of fine cambric, lace and embroidery trimmed.
- Corset Covers and Drawers. Lace trimmed.
- White Petticoats with deep embroidery ruffles.

Undermuslins \$1.95

Values to \$3.00 at.....

Women's Night Robes, Envelope Chemise, Combinations, Petticoats, Silk Envelope Chemise, and Pussy Willow Satin Bloomers. Any number of pretty models in each. All very specially priced at \$1.95.

Third Floor—Lansburgh & Bro.



STEINWAY

And Other PIANOS

—PLAYER-PIANOS—

Victor Victrolas and Records

E. F. DROOP & SONS CO.

1300 G Street

Want a used car? --at a bargain.

Then turn to page 15 and read the selected lists of the leading dealers in used cars.

There's a car there for you at the price you want to pay.

Each Sunday you will find in The Times the best bargains of Washington's representative dealers. Get the habit of looking for them.