The Public Be Served

THE NEWS SCIMITAR

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The News Scimitar

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THE TABLES TURNED

One of J. P. Morgan's bankers, associated with the peace conference in an advisory capacity, turned over to another of Mr. Morgan's associates, connected with the Red Cross, a copy of the treaty submitted to the Germans, and the second banker, instead of confining his consideration to its effect upon Red Cross work, turned the copy over to another member of Mr. Morgan's banking house in New York, who in turn presented it to Senator Root.

Senator Lodge and Senator Borah, in an attempt to discredit President Wilson, sought to rebuke him by inserting in the Congressional Record the text of the proposed treaty.

The News Scimitar remarked at the time that the document was not a treaty until it was signed and was without interest until it bore the signature of the contracting parties.

Now comes the announcement that the entire treaty must be rewritten; that the document textually will be entirely different, when it contains the answer to the German counter-proposals, from the document originally presented to the German delegates.

It is hoped that the full significance of this act will be appreciated by Senator Lodge, Senator Borah and Senator Johnson.

The impossibility of communicating daily to the senate the work of the peace conference which the next day might be entirely nullified is made evident.

The decision of the conference renders obsolete the text printed in the United States, and the senators who have endeavored to embarrass the president, if they are possessed of the finer feelings, must be exceedingly embarrassed over their own predicament.

CONDENSED LITERATURE

Purveyors and perpetuators of literature have come to the conclusion that too much white paper is being used in printing and too much time is spent in reading the standard literature of the world, and they are going to condense it and give it to us in short meter, or tabloid form. Much good can be done along this line if the activities are properly directed.

The three-volume novel of some years ago can be abridged without injury. When a chapter begins "Ten Years Later," it could be made to read "Twenty Years Later," and thus save ten years of inane recital every now and then. There never was a reason why Sir Walter Scott's "Peveril of the Peak," for instance, should have been dragged out and attenuated as he wrote it. Besides couriers, courtiers and petty officers, it contains 108 characters, many of them of no importance. If they had never lived the world would have been none the poorer and their place in literature were better filled by a vignette or a comic cartoon.

Many people believe that much of Browning ought to be scrapped. Nineteen out of twenty who read "Mr. Sludge, the Medium," will lay down the book, wondering what it is all about and why it was written or printed. It has a meaning and it is a clever piece of work. It is as keen-edged and as mordant a satire as may easily be found in any book.

A very clever Scotchman named Home posed as a spiritualist. He was a great humbug, but a man of impressive personality; so much so that the gentleman who exposed his charlatanism and rascality was induced to lend him a large sum of money after talking to him for a while. The theme was worthy the keen wit of Browning and he made the most of it. Without knowing its purpose, a very pious person might read it over the second time as a penance for some great sin, but not otherwise.

"The Ring and the Book" is a dreary puzzle to those who read the pitiful tragedy, but it is a profound psychological study to those who know the story, and it contains masterpieces unsurpassed in any language. The beautiful character of Pompilia and of Caponsacchi, the young priest, who rescues her, are the work of a literary Phidias, and the speech of the pope rises in solitary magnificence above everything else that the mind can recall, as "Satan's Address to the Sun" rises like a Chimborazo above all other peaks in "Paradise Lost"—and there are many, and of great altitude.

Homer is so implacably literal that it were difficult to condense him, yet Pliny tells us that at one time the entire 24 books were copied in so small a handwriting that they could be shut up in a nut shell, from which it may be inferred that there were coconut shells in Piny's day, and probably liars, also. If the first half of the second book could have been shut up in a nut shell in Pliny's day and left there, the recording angel would have many pages of cuss words less charged up against students, and there would be fewer men prematurely gray.

Milton is so loftily literary that to condense him would be like reducing the size of the Colosseum at Rome.

A good many books could be skipped and not read, but who is going to keep young men from reading Fielding's "Tom Jones," Byron's "Don Juan," Boccaccio's "Decameron," Rabelais' "Gargantua and Pantagruel," and modern books by the females of the species that are engagingly "smutty"?

Who is going to condense Carlysle's jerky, nervous, epigrammatic "History of the French Revolution"? The Scandinavian Sagas and Eddas are too alluring to miss, and who dare elide one line from "Lives of the Saints," of the halcyon days when stories in print, however preposterous, were implicitly believed? Many people have lived to a ripe old age who never read Bacon's "Abridgment of the Laws of England," but until recent years no lawyer was supposed to ripen and become richly mellow unless he had wrestled with the hog Latin of these countless pages.

Fitzgerald compressed the tetrastichs of Omar Khayyam, but there was only one Omar—and one Fitzgerald.

Anyone who masters the Harvard classics will obtain as much from books as one mind can contain, and some of it will stay with him perhaps into the second year.

On the whole it might be better to let the books alone. No human being can have a cubit added to or taken from his stature; neither should a book.

The writings of Strabo, Thucydides and Herodotus show us a world that no longer exists. Condensed literature, forsooth! Each reader can do his own condensing. When a work no longer pleasures or interests it can be laid aside. No one reads too much and he can waste time on short stories as well as on long ones. The only difference is that it requires a greater number of them. No one obtains too much. The mind will overflow, but never explode. No matter how busy the gettery may be, the forgettery is keeping pace with it and often outstrips it. No one can know all literature. Such an ambition is—

"The desire of the moth for the star."

Meantime, the weeds are growing in the cotton and cornfields.

Oh, Man!—By Briggs

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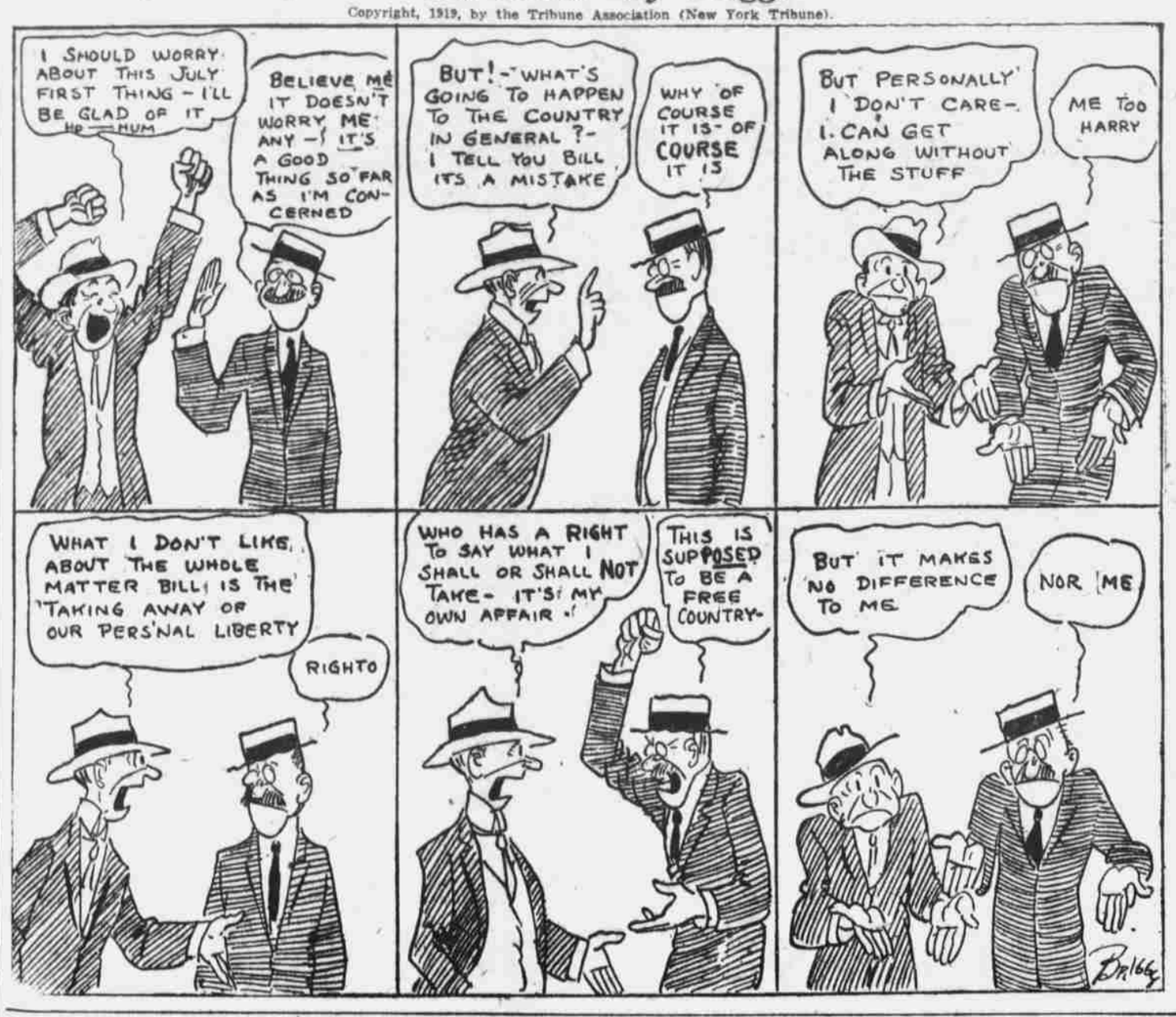

Twice Told Tales

10 Years Ago Today in Memphis.

JUNE 13, 1909.

Crop reports had it that excessive rains east of the Mississippi river had played havoc with the cotton crop. Grass was literaly taking the fields on this side of the big stream.

Henry A. Greer, a prosperous planter, living near Olive Branch, Miss., while riding a horse, was struck by lightning and killed. The rider and dead horse were found side by side a short distance from Greer's home.

The federal authorities were on the point of declaring a state of martial law in Hawaii, due to the strike and mutiny of Japanese laborers.

Mystery surrounded the death of B. K. Jones, Glasgow, Ky., whose body was found on the tracks of the Louisville & Nashville railroad, two miles this side of Bartlett. He had been a visitor to Memphis during the reunion and the supposition was that he was murdered and his body placed on the tracks.

With solemn and appropriate ceremonies, the St. Andrews' Catholic church, for negroes, Hill street and Robeson avenue, was dedicated, Bishop Thomas Sebastian Byrne, of Nashville, presiding.

W. C. Davis, chief of police, and Ed Kehoe, chief of detectives, went to Detroit, Mich., to attend the convention of the National association of police chiefs. They planned to visit New York before returning home.

The steamer Georgia Lee, of the Memphis-Vicksburg run of the Lee line, was pulled up on the cradles of the Paducah Marine company, for extensive repairs.

MEMORIAL MEETING CAMPAIGN IS NOW ON

JACKSON, Miss., June 13. (Spl.)—Meetings in the interest of the Mississippi memorial campaign, which will be held the week of June 26-July 5, have been held in every congressional district, the final one of the series being at Brookhaven yesterday. H. M. K. Smith, campaign manager, conducted the meetings and reports that the memorial plan is arousing enthusiasm all over the state.

J. W. Culkin, superintendent of schools in Warren county, and Lieut. W. L. Shaddix, who directed the recent Salvation Army drive in two Mississippi zones, are field workers for the campaign and are already at work.

Half a million dollars will be raised by popular subscription for the memorial. Four-minute speakers have been called into service and will present the plan beginning Sunday.

IS W. S. S. HEAD.

COVINGTON, Tenn., June 13. (Spl.)—J. W. Darby, secretary of the Covington Business Men's club, has been appointed chairman of the Tipton county war savings campaign organization for the remainder of the present year. He announces that no drive will be inaugurated, but that banks, stores and postoffices will be asked to encourage the sale of the stamps. The county's quota for the month of June is $7,309.

Just a Moment

DAILY STRENGTH AND CHEER. Compiled by John G. Quinlus, the Sunshine Man.

"In the daytime He led them with a cloud, and all the night with a light of fire.—Ps. lxxvii, 14.

My Father, gird me still with Thy Presence, both by day and by night. By day, teach me to remember my weakness, and by night tell me where lies my strength. By day point me down into Gethsemane, and by night lead me up into the mount of transfigured glory. By day show me the burden, and by night reveal to me the crown, so shall my days and nights be girt about with Thee.—Gene Matheson.

Why carry thine own burden
Day by day?
Why through the thickest shadows
Take thy way?
A Savior is beside thee,
A loving friend would guide thee;
Therefore, pray.

Why are the days so shadowed
By thy care?
Why do thy fears pursue thee
Everywhere?
The dread of each tomorrow,
The pressure of all sorrow,
Let Christ bear.

Why art thou so forgetful
Of His might
Hast thou not learned love's lesson
Of delight?
Thy sin and care and sadness
Will vanish in the gladness
Of the light.
—Marianne Farningham.

Dayton, Ohio.

LITTLE ROCK IS HOST TO ARKANSAS TRAVELERS

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., June 13. (Spl.)—Hundreds of merchants from every section of the state are guests of the Arkansas Travelers in annual convention here. The travelers and merchants began arriving Wednesday night. The victory dress parade will be held Friday night in which the 57th infantry from Camp Pike will participate. The Mardi Gras parade was put on Thursday night.

ALL CROPS ARE LATE.

HUNTINGDON, Tenn., June 13. (Spl.)—The continued rains in this county have interfered seriously with farm work, and in the greater portion of the county there will not be anything like an average acreage of any crop, and the corn crop will be exceptionally late. Crops that have already been planted are suffering materially for want of cultivation. Very little farm work could be done this week in this section, but in the eastern part of the county, near Buena Vista and Yuma, there has not been so much rain and the farmers have been busy in their crops all week with good results. In that community there will be more nearly an average crop, according to present prospects.

KILLED BY LIGHTNING.

GREENEVILLE, Tenn., June 13.—Mrs. Julia A. Willhoit was killed here by lightning Thursday afternoon.

On the Spur of the Moment

by Roy K. Moulton

A LITTLE SLICE O' LIFE.

The other day a happy young man,
Connected with our office,
Took unto himself a wife,
And he came down to the old dump
The next day after the ceremony
To hear what people would say.
The single men in our place
All rushed up and shook his hand
And palavered over him
And told him how lucky he was
To be married.
After the single boys
Had exhausted the dictionary
And "The Book of Polite Phrases,"
The married men filed by,
In a slow, melancholy procession.
As the serried ranks of veterans
Shuffled up toward the bridegroom
There were tears in many eyes.
Silently they took his hand
And gazed at him in gloom.
"Congrats," murmured one, "Woof-woof!"
"Good luck," grouched another.
"I didn't think it would come to this."
Sighed a third.
Finally the dean of our
Undiplomatic corps approached.
He held in his hand a little decoration.
He had been married three times.
He pinned the medal to the bridegroom.
"It's a Croix de Guerre," he said.
"My son won it in France.
But it goes to you—our hero.
With the cost of living where it is—
'N everything!"

* * * *

The Philadelphia undertakers are the greatest advertisers in the world. One of them advertises in the street cars as follows: "When You Come to Us You Take a Step in the Right Direction."

Wouldn't "flop" be better?

* * * *

A New York minister says that there are no miracles these days, but he is mistaken. Only last week we got the right person on the phone after calling him only three times.

* * * *

Dear Roy: While going through Norwalk, Conn., I noticed a sign over a doorway which read:

G. H. COFFIN,
Undertaker.

—C. W.

* * * *

There is no woman who can look more innocent than the one who hasn't paid her friend's street car fare and doesn't intend to.

INDOOR SPORTS.

HELPING THE RETURNED DECK SCRUBBER UNLOAD HIS BAG WHICH IS LOADED WITH EUROPEAN SOUVENIRS

MISSISSIPPIANS TO TACKLE STATE PROBLEMS

JACKSON, Miss., June 13. (Spl.)—Leading Mississippians will meet in New Orleans June 17 and 18 at the Grunewald hotel for the purpose of considering some of the state's pressing problems, according to a call issued here by Jack C. Wilson, executive secretary of the Mississippi Welfare league.

The names of the following members of the league are signed to the call for the meeting: A. H. Stone, Dunleith; Bishop Theo. D. Bratton, Jackson; J. T. Thomas, Grenada; Oscar F. Bledsoe, Jr., Greenwood; S. M. Jones, Laurel; Cliff Williams, Meridian; Frederick Sullens, Jackson; W. E. Lampton, Columbia; J. R. Bingham, Carrollton; A. T. Stovall, Okolona.

The purposes of the meeting are outlined in the following statement issued by Secretary Wilson:

"The intellectual and patriotic manhood and womanhood of our state is equal to any problem which may confront us. Mississippi's natural resources and favorable climate warrant us in our hope of becoming one of the wealthiest states in the Union.

"We can and we must realize our hopes. Co-operation will bring it to pass. Education is fudnamentally essential to civilization and advancement. We must therefore be concerned about the education of all our children. Ignorance is a reproach to any people.

"The citizenship of our state, being composed of two races, the white race, the dominant one, must give consideration to the other race, that we may at all times have the approval of our conscience and help the negro advance and thereby become a greater factor in the development of our state, of which he is a citizen.

"We believe that if we give proper consideration to the task before us Mississippi will be free from labor troubles, with which many of our sister states are threatened.

"These subjects are vital and pressing issues and must have attention. We must take advantage of the industrial opportunity which is now facing us or be left behind in the progress of the nation toward universal prosperity."

TAX ASSESSORS ARE FAR BEHIND IN MISSISSIPPI

JACKSON, Miss., June 13. (Spl.)—Fewer than five per cent of the assessors in Mississippi filed their rolls with the board of supervisors on the first Monday in June, as required by the new statute enacted by the legislature of 1918, according to reports made yesterday at the joint conference of county tax collectors with the state tax commission. Only in the smaller counties were the assessors able to comply with the provisions of the law.

In every instance, according to reports, the delay has been due to inability to get the assessment rolls, and it will take at least three weeks longer to complete their compilation. This means that boards of supervisors will not commence the work of equalization until the first Monday in June. According to lawyers who have carefully examined the statutes, this delay will not invalidate the assessments, although boards of supervisors have no legal authority to grant assessors an extension of time.

The purpose of the conference between the state tax commission and the county tax collector was to see if plans could not be devised to speed up the work after assessments have been equalized by the county boards. The collectors are anxious to get hold of the tax rolls as soon as possible during the autumn, as this is their last year in office, and they want to clean up as much as possible. The tax commission gave assurance that it will endeavor to push the work as rapidly as its facilities will permit. It is not believed that this will be very rapid for the commissioners are running for reelection this year, and they will have political worries on their minds until after the 5th of August.

WARREN COUNTY PLANS $500,000 GOOD ROADS

YAZOO CITY, Miss., June 13. (Spl.)—The county of Warren, adjoining Yazoo, proposes to put $500,000 into roads, principally in its eastern section, adjoining and leading into the good roads that Yazoo county is now building. Over $300,000 of this amount is expected in federal aid. The matter of a $50,000 bond issue in the county has been carefully considered by the Warren county board of supervisors and by the attorney for that board. It has been found that the entire county will have to be organized into one giant road district and the matter be submitted to the people of the county at an election before the bonds can be issued. However, members of the board of supervisors and those interested in the county's good roads are confident that the voters will sanction the bond issue and plans are progressing to that end.

The road work proposed has been divided into six projects: Project one extends from the end of the Novaculite road to Haynes' Bluff, 8.4 miles, and is to cost $192,000. Project two extends from the Novaculite on the Jackson road to Villa Nova, and from Oak Ridge to the Yazoo county line toward Phoenix, 22 miles, and is to cost $220,000. Project three extends from the end of the Novaculite at the Schoo place to Baldwin Ferry bridge, and is to cost $80,000. Project four is from Tucker's viaduct to Hankinson's ferry, 13 miles, and is to cost $120,000. Project five is a continuation of the Fisher's road and Jeff Davis academy road, 11 miles, at a total cost of $88,000. Project six calls for the maintenance of present bridges and equipment and various new equipment to the total of $52,700.

HUMPHREYS CO. PLANS $72,000 IN SCHOOLS

YAZOO CITY, Miss., June 13. (Spl.)—The new county of Humphreys, in the recent formation of which a part of Yazoo county was taken, plans the building of $72,000 worth of public schools, and the bond issue for that purpose is to be voted on in four separate districts in the county on June 27. Three consolidated school districts and one rural school district, known as the four-mile consolidated district, the Isola consolidated district, the Louise consolidated district and the Silver City rural district, are to make the improvements. The four-mile district is to vote on an $8,000 bond issue, the Isola district a $30,000 issue, the Louise district a $12,000 issue, and the Silver City rural school district an issue of $22,000.

The trustees of the various school districts have adopted the plans and specifications for the proposed new schools and just as soon as the bonds are voted and the contracts made with the carpenters, the work will be rushed for the September term of school. In the Isola district the trustees are O. T. Eddleman, R. H. Hooker, W. H. Gillon. In the four-mile district they are W. Siddon and Cosby Simmons. In the Silver City district they are D. J. Rhyne, R. E. McMurtrie and H. E. Taylor. At Louise the trustees are J. D. Upshaw and B. A. Holaday.

RAILROAD CLERKS WILL ORGANIZE AT JONESBORO

JONESBORO, Ark., June 12. (Spl.)—The Brotherhood of Railroad Clerks caleld a meeting of all union men in the city for tonight at the Knights of Pythias hall.

L. W. Lowry, general organizer for clerks and also organizer for the American Federation of Labor, is in the city, and will address the meting.

tI is desired by those interested to form a central trades and labor council in Jonesboro, composed of al lthe trades unions, that will be a clearing house for al llabor news of the county, as well as an asset to the general upbuilding of the community interests.

NO SUMMER SCHOOL.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., June 13.—The summer school of the South, which for 17 years has held annual sessions at the University of Tennessee, will have no 1919 session because of the work on new buildings on the university campus.

SOUTHERN WHEAT ESCAPES TAKE ALL

Government Investigator Fails to Find Fungus in This Section.

The terrible wheat fungus called "take all," or "white heads," which has been ravaging the standing grain in the Northwest, has not invaded Shelby county, and it is thought the South has escaped the danger.

A noted cereal pathologist of the State university at St. Paul, Minn., has just completed a careful inspection of the wheat fields in the vicinity of Memphis for the United States department of agriculture, and has said that he found none of the wheat infected with "take all."

This disease, so-called because it attacks the roots of the wheat and literally takes all of the plant, is new to American wheat fields, and was imported into this country during the war in shipments of Argentine wheat. A certain seed dealer, so the United States government investigation has shown, mixed some of this Argentine wheat with domestic seed and it was sold throughout the Northwest. The disease has since been located in Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin and Illinois.

It is believed the South escaped because the Southern wheat growers depend upon seed produced in their own territory and buy very little seed wheat from the North and West.

Since the disease was discovered in American fields the government has spared no effort to trace it down to its last ramification.

The take all fungus rots the roots of wheat so that the affected plant may be easily pulled up, according to a description of its operations written by J. T. Pridham, an Australian plant breeder in the Agricultural Gazette of New South Wales. The straw of wheat attacked does not become normal in tint, and has a darkened brownish appearance immediately above the root; the head, when formed, is thin, flat-sided and faded in appearance, showing an absence of the fresh tints of the healthy heads.

"In an extreme case," said Mr. Pridham, "the plant forms no ears, merely showing a tuft of rotten leaves a few inches high. In another form the ears are formed, but are bleached and empty, giving rise to the name 'white heads.' Partial infection, which is most common, results in one or more heads being affected, generally the later stools. These form light, pinched grain, or no grain that the harvesting machine will retain. The loss due to these diseased ears, though the rest of the ears on the plant may be perfectly healthy, producing heavy grain, is hardly grasped except by an unusually observant person."

The application of two fertilizers, Chile saltpeter and Thomas slag meal, is about the only definite suggestion of success antidote for the disease. The rotation of crops is also recommended, which should include bettering of the mechanical condition of the soil.

Mr. Steel found some smut and red rust on the wheat in this vicinity, but told Dr. E. R. Lloyd, director of the Chamber of Commerce farm bureau, that there was not enough of these two diseases to cause serious apprehension.

THEATERS.

LOEW'S LYCEUM
CONTINUOUS 1 TO 11 P.M.
A Show of Many Pleasing Parts
Jimmy— Sergeants —Robert
SHEA & BOWMAN
Of the U. S. Tank Corps.
"The Turning Point"
A Domestic Comedy With
Beresford Lovett & Nestor Kerin
Robb & Robertson
"Back to School Days"
TWO OTHER SNAPPY ACTS
And
Ethel Clayton
In "VICKY VAN"
Love and Mystery Happily Blended
LOEW'S "CURRENT EVENTS" SHOWS MANY PICTURES OF INTEREST
Matinees 10c, 15c — Nights 10c, 20c, 30c
Including War Tax.

ORPHEUM
SUMMER SEASON
Today, Continuous 2 to 11 p.m.
Feature Picture at 2:15, 4:15, 6, 8, 10.
Vaudeville, 3:30, 7:15 and 9:15
La France Bros.
Howard & Helen Savage
Coscia and Verdi
Pauline Haggard
Mae Murray
—in—
"What Am I Bid?"

MOVING PICTURES.

LOEW'S PRINCESS
CONTINUOUS 10 A.M. TO 11 P.M.
PHOTO PLAYS
TODAY AND SATURDAY
MARGUERITE CLARK
IN
"Let's Elope"
She wanted to elope but her husband objected.
This is one of the picture treats of the season.
Loew's Weekly
Showing Reed M. Chambers, Memphis Ace.
10c Until 7 p.m. — After 7 p.m. 15c
Including War Tax
Children 10c All Times.
SUNDAY-MONDAY
Vivian Martin in
"The Home Town Girl"