"Topper Takes a Trip" Is Week-End Feature at Catlow

"You Can't Cheat An Honest Man" Opens Run Here Wednesday

Fredric March and Virginia Bruce romp through the merriest adventures of the year in "There Goes My Heart," gay comedy romance, which begins a two-day engagement at the Catlow theatre Friday.

The story casts Virginia as a madcap heiress who tries to run out on her fortune and March as a reporter who tries to run out on his job. Virginia gives up her yacht for a job in a bargain basement and finds a new world full of walk-up apartments, kind-hearted salesgirls and eccentric motormen.

Then into her life roams the roving reporter and she quits her barrel of fun, eating hamburgers, visiting skating rinks, riding in the subway and falling in love.

Hal Rosch's hilarious screen comedy, "Topper Takes a Trip," sequel to "Topper," one of last year's biggest laugh hits, opens Sunday at the Catlow with Constance Bennett of the latter production again cast in a light comedy role which permits her to go through a series of "dematerializations."

The supporting cast, reading like a bluebook of Hollywood celebrities, includes Roland Young, Billie Burke, Alan Mowbray, Alexander D'Arcy, Verree Teasdale, Franklin Pangborn and Paul Hurst.

The story of "Topper Takes a Trip" concerns the mad, merry antics of Constance Bennett, as Marion Kirby, and Roland Young, as Cosmo Topper, on the sunny sands of the French Riveria, whither Miss Bennett has gone to "do a good deed" and where, instead, she almost upsets the Toppers' lives.

How a group of youngsters from ten to twenty years of age, brought together through heedlessness, stealing to keep themselves from starvation, and pitting their wits against citizens and the law are finally trapped and unwittingly delivered into virtual slavery in a notorious turpentine camp is vividly presented in "Boy Slaves" a grim slice of film fare, coming to the Catlow Tuesday.

Double featured on Tuesday with "Boy Slaves" is "Nancy Drew, Reporter," latest adventure of the girl reporter, Bonita Granville.

An array of talent that reads like "Who's Who in Hollywood," was assembled for "You Can't Cheat an Honest Man," which comes to the Catlow Wednesday for three days. Heading the cast of this comedy, declared one of the best ever to come out of Hollywood, are W. C. Fields, Edgar Bergen, and Charles McCarthy. For a comedy combination you just can't beat that trio. Fields has been a star in his own right for nearly 40 years.

Local Librarian Writes General Resume on Growth of Libraries

The following is a general short story of public libraries in the United States which has been prepared by Miss Olive Dobson, local librarian.

The first public library in America was that of Harvard university in 1638, and followed in 1700 by Yale. These two are still among the greatest university libraries in America and admit the general public more or less freely to the shelves. In 1696, the Rev. Thomas Bray was sent from England to Maryland as superintendent of religious affairs, and introduced a number of small church libraries into the American colonies as an aid to his work. These were open to the public.

The Philadelphia public library started by Benjamin Franklin, who was called the "Father of the Circulation Library" was found in 1731. The establishment of this library is related in the Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin, who tells there that at the time he established the library in Pennsylvania, there was "not a good bookseller' shop in any of the colonies to the southward of Boston." The printers in New York and Philadelphia were stationers, selling only paper, school books, almanacs, etc.

Those who loved reading were obliged to send to England for their books. Franklin and his friends formed a club, and he proposed that they should all bring their own books to the club house for the mutual use of all members. This was done, and contented them for a while. Finally seeing the advantage of this collection, he decided to start a subscription library for the public. He drew up a sketch of plan and rules, and had them put into a form to be agreed upon by the subscriber, who thereupon agreed to pay a certain sum down for the first purchase of books, and an annual amount for increasing the collection.

It was difficult to find more than 50 subscribers, because of the lack of readers, and the majority of them being very poor. Most of the subscribers were young tradesmen. The books were imported and the library was opened one day in the week for lending to the subscribers on their promissory note to pay double the amount of the cost of the book if not duly returned. This institution was soon imitated by other towns. Reading became fashionable, and the people became better acquainted with books and in a few years Franklin judged by strangers to be better instructed and more intelligent than people of the same rank in other countries, according to Franklin.

A further development in the library idea came with the social name, or library clubs and the apprentice library organized for young men. These libraries served as public libraries for many years. The free work for and social considerations played little part in the selection of the members.

This popularization, however, did not go far enough, and with the establishment of the public school which had proved its worth, the time was ripe for the free public library to assume form.

No account of the development of public libraries in American can omit the name of Prof. Charles C. Jewett, librarian of the Smithsonian Institution and later of the Boston public library. In his conviction of the importance of the library in the community of the need for library cooperation, and his enthusiasm that bore fruit first in a conference of public librarians in 1853, which ultimately resulted in the organization of the American Library association in 1876.

Confident with this awakening of librarians to the value and tremendous possibilities of their profession, there was an awakening on the part of men of wealth to a new and elegiac predecessor field of philanthropy. Already men like John Jacob Astor and Henry Lenox of New York had founded institutions bearing their names. Joshua Bates of London gave gifts to the Boston public library, the Newberry bequest had just fallen to the citizens of Chicago in 1876. However, now begins the era of gifts to American libraries that have added up to astounding figures. Most of Andrew Carnegie alone totaling about $60,000,000, the terms of his gifts making it possible for nearly any community to have a library who were willing to support and develop it.

State and municipal aid have also entered strongly into this great expansion of library activity, and more and more money is the idea of free books placed within reach of all being realized, even in the remotest districts.

This, of course, has meant a complete transformation of the whole concept of the library. Formerly it was a conserver of knowledge, a storehouse of books. Now it extends an invitation, inviting all to come and share in treasures, thus realizing its true destiny. The library thus becomes an active instead of passive agency, joining with schools and other institutions and becoming a continuing university free to all.

The support given by the states and by the communities is a clear recognition of the popular esteem in which libraries are held. Laws have been enacted in nearly every state in the union enabling any community to establish a public library and tax itself for its maintenance. Library boards and systems have also been established in many states. These are generally under the direction of the state library commission.

The activities of the public library are many and varied. They work hand in hand with the schools; they use many means for reaching every child, and offering the best of every kind of material; they endeavor to fill the needs of their own community; to give every reader the book for which he is looking.

Alfred Meather, 73, Former Supervisor, Buried at Fairfield

Funeral services for Alfred G. Meather, 73 years old, were held at the Grace Evangelical church in Fairfield, Wednesday afternoon. Burial was in Fairfield cemetery.

Mr. Meather, who served as supervisor of Vernon township from 1906 to 1916, died of euremic poisoning at the Condell Memorial hospital in Libertyville early Saturday morning. He entered the hospital March 24, ten days after his wife died. Mrs. Maud Knoll Meather, entered. Mrs. Meather is still a patient there.

Throughout his 16 years as supervisor from Vernon, Mr. Meather served as chairman of the board of supervisors and of the board of review. For 46 years, he was domestic commissioner from Vernon. He relinquished this office to his son-in-law Frank Storey, in 1928.

Born January 7, 1856, at the family homestead 3½ miles west of Prairie View, Alfred Meather was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Nick Meather.

Fifty-five years ago he first went to work in the general store opened by Victor and Albert Bauer at Long Grove. In 1890, he moved to Prairie View and went into Albert Bauer's store located in the Seely and Gridley building there.

On November 18, 1891, Mr. Meather married Susanna Hanna of Quentin's Corner were married in Palatine. They had three children, Lloyd L. Meather, Percy A. Meather and Mrs. Florence Storey, all of Prairie View. On September 21, 1925, Susanna Meather died.

Mr. Meather and Mrs. Maud Knoll were married February 3, 1931.

Camera Club Meeting

There will be a meeting of the Barrington Camera club Friday evening, April 14, in the club rooms, 306 E. Station street.

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JOHN CARROLL, Veteran of Village Board, Agrees To Seek Re-election

Has Been In The Foreground of Fight for Civic Betterment

Although JOHN CARROLL has served during the ten (10) most trying years for Barrington, he has agreed to seek re-election for another term and to help solve the ever increasing need of some action concerning the consequent taxes and delinquent special assessments which are retarding the growth of Barrington, and to take some action concerning the greatly reduced corporate income.

JOHN CARROLL has been a resident of Barrington for a number of years. For many years while serving as a locomotive engineer for the Chicago and North Western Railroad Company he devoted much of his spare time to plans for improving the condition of railroad men. He was soon given recognition by his fellow workers and has for many years held an important place in the Councils of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

In 1930 when the very serious condition of Barrington Special Assessment Bonds became known, Carroll headed a Citizens' group who aided in the protection of Barrington Bond Investors. Later when there was chaos in the Village Board, he initiated proceedings for the clearing up of this unhappy condition. While the damage resulting from this muddled condition could not be entirely removed Carroll has constantly worked to restore Barrington to a sound financial position.

During the past four (4) years JOHN CARROLL has served as Chairman of the Finance Committee. Cooperating with the other members of the Village Board and the Village President in an effort to regain the prestige which the Village of Barrington had and should have retained as to its good Government and financial stability.

The measure of success achieved along this line can be best evidenced by the fact that in 1937 the Village of Barrington sold its General Obligation Bonds to liquidate old claims and judgments and received a premium of more than four (4) points. In financing the sewer project about the same time the sewer and water revenue bonds sold at a high rate for a Municipality the size of Barrington. Such financial conditions not only evidences the fact that Barrington is a better place to live in, but also reduces the cost of maintaining a Government.

During the last ten (10) years during which CARROLL has served on the Village Board part of this time as Chairman of the Finance Committee, tireless effort and energy was needed to face and solve the many trying problems which faced the Village of Barrington. During this time the Village has faced and successfully concluded the sewer problem, which has hung over the Village since 1925 and now is permanently settled. The controversy between the Jewel Tea Company and the Village with reference to the sewer connection which was disposed of after considerable discussion, satisfactory to both sides. The litigations with Gjellifald Construction Company, Suhr, Bennett, Peterson & Suhr; Langworthy, Stevens and McKeag were disposed of before trial and for an amount satisfactory to the Village. Suits brought by bondholders for over-issued bonds were tried in Court and the Village was freed from liability. Other litigations developed following the closing of the First State Bank of Barrington. All of the questions which have troubled the Village of Barrington for a number of years have been cleared up, with the single exception of one remaining law suit.

There has never been a time when men experienced in the handling of Public Affairs are so necessary to hold Public Office. The Citizens of Barrington should recognize ability in Public Office and give JOHN CARROLL a overwhelming vote at the election April 18th as evidence of their appreciation for the valuable services which he has given to the Village.

Friends of John Carroll

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