

The WILDCAT

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Japanese Stage Show Presented At 317th Hospital's Theater

Last night the 317th Field Hospital Theatre was the scene of a Japanese stage show.

The performance was put on by a troupe of Aomori grade and high school girls and boys. Lasting an hour, the show gave the spectators a good idea of the Japanese artistic dancing and their slow and rather stringy songs.

In all there were nine numbers, including some of the most famous songs and dances known to the Nipponese.

The first dance, "The Cherry Blossom," symbolizes a spring day festival, while the second, "Pretty Girl," also symbolized by cherry flowers, is marked by a Japanese girl dancing to her heart's content.

The program's novelty was an "Umbrella Dance," in which a colorfully clad girl whirled around the floor twirling an umbrella around her head.



Good reason—Bill DeWitt, vice-President of the St. Louis Browns, plans more night games in the coming season than the Browns played in 1945. Why? In 32 night games Sportsmans Park registers marked up 60 percent of the year's total attendance. The St. Louis club's decision marks another in the growing number of teams being completely won over by the "lights."

Reversal—Loyalty to the Board of Education led Pittsburgh high school coaches, who were out on strike for increases in pay to cover after school varsity team coaching, to tour the city in police cars begging strike-supporting students to go back to school. P.S.—The strike was called off.

Potential—Some of these high-scoring players in Wildcat Division basketball leagues are potential college or professional stars. They have been hitting the hoop with steady assurance.

Athletic Equipment Is Sped To Overseas GI's

ANS - Since victory in Germany and Japan a steady flow of athletic equipment, more than \$1,000,000 worth in one recent month has been sent by the Special Services Division to soldiers stationed in Europe and the Pacific, the War Department announced.

These post-victory shipments of equipment for a wide variety of sports are in addition to the \$1,000,000-worth of athletic and entertainment supplies shipped in advance of V-E Day for use after hostilities ended in Europe.

Soldiers in the Pacific have received 311,274 baseballs, 339,408 softballs, 55,700 volleyballs, and 41,071 pairs of basketball shoes, among other items since V-J Day.



ING Crosby popularized 'White Christmas.' He crooned a tune which vibrated in our hearts and expressed ardent longings. Well, we have a 'White Christmas.' The dream is realized. Is there something else we want now? I'm afraid there is. It may be possible that we pay too much attention to the external celebration of Christmas and sidetrack the true inner meaning. The outside delights the eye and suits fancy and wishful thinking. The inner meaning of Christmas too easily escapes our attention because it demarks scrutiny and sound thinking.

The theme of Christmas is peace and unity. When our Divine Lord came to this earth thru the virginal womb of Mary, strange as it may seem, the world enjoyed peace. The mighty Roman Empire released its tension on occupied lands and the spell of peace settled over the Holy Land to usher in the reign of the Prince of Peace. Dramatically, heaven joined earth to publish the glad tidings throughout the land soon to reverberate over the entire world until the end of time. The Angels sang: "Glory to God in the highest, peace on earth to men of goodwill." Forthwith, the shepherds came, the lowly men of the fields to the place where Jesus lay.

Soon, came the Wise Men from afar, Kings of the Orient, bearing gifts and paying homage to the New Born King. These were the ambassadors of the world of that day—the world of today. At the feet of the King of Kings came the rich and the poor, the humble and the proud, the strong and the weak, the learned and the unlearned, the shepherd and the king. Truly, it was the first meeting of a united nation's organization. The first step in promoting peace and unity.

For centuries, our world has listened to the Christmas Gospel. To some it carried a deep message and they went their way as the shepherds and kings filled with the grace of God. Through life they went sowing seeds of goodwill, placing the will of God above the whims and caprices of men. To these we owe whatever peace and unity has existed in our land or in every land under the sun. To others it was just a story. Christmas lost its glow, confined to the narrow limits of Christmas trees, cards and gifts. Goodwill soon changed into 'my will.' Through life these have gone sowing seeds of hatred and unrest, as they placed their own selfish wills above the will of God. To these we owe the disunity and discord which exists not only in our land but in every land under the sun.

Our President is not misguided when he dedicates his term to peace and unity. This objective can only be accomplished by a strict compliance with heaven's decree: "Glory to God in the highest, peace on earth to men of goodwill." There is no other way. We have tried every other and have only produced a world belching forth with feigned peace and quaking with disunity. Something has to be done. If any people on earth can do it, we Americans can. We can do anything and everything we undertake. With the grace of God to back our efforts we shall be victorious. Then, a 'White Christmas' will be more than a song. It will be a Christmas filled with peace and joy, cheer and love for you and for me, for our land and every land throughout the world.

Merry Christmas to each of you from your Chaplains in the Wildcat Division.

Auctioner for use
 Asst. Div. Chaplain

318th FA Five Downs Co. L, 321st, Quintet

The 318th FA basketball squad maintained its undefeated record by blasting Co. L, 321st Inf., into the dog-house 52-41.

Although the losers remained close to the "Redlegs" for three periods, the 318th's powerful last stanza assault struck with overwhelming force, sinking the Co. L five.

Fortenberry and Shively, playing their final game for the Artillery, sparked the victors' assault and Fortenberry took individual scoring honors, racking up 22 tallies. Barton, 318th center, was second with 14 points and Shively was right behind with 12 markers.



A heroic rescue of a wounded and badly burned Infantryman among Peleliu's treacherous, Jap-infested coral peaks won the Bronze Star for Lieutenant Ray C. Draeger of Co. C, 321st Inf.

Lieutenant (then T/Sgt.) Draeger, while participating



in an assault on an enemy-held ridge, saw one of his comrades fall under Nap machine-gun fire and observed the bullets ignite a phosphorous grenade carried by the wounded soldier.

In an attempt to extinguish the fire, the stricken soldier lost his balance and toppled over a cliff.

Unhesitatingly, Lieutenant Draeger climbed down the cliff and, although exposed to Jap fire, administered first-aid treatment to the casualty and assisted in his evacuation.

Lieutenant Draeger, a native of Chelsea, Okla., joined the Wildcats in June 1942 at Camp Rucker, Ala.

Picture Academy Plans International 'Oscar'

HOLLYWOOD - (AP) - An international "Oscar" is being planned by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. President Jean Hersholt has announced.

"This award," Hersholt said, "will be given for the film that contributes most toward international friendship and good will." The award will not be based on photographic skill, so nations whose motion pictures are not highly advanced technically have an equal opportunity to compete.



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