

BARREL OF LAUGHTER IN "TONS OF MONEY"

Newest Theater Guild Production Depicts Adventures of a Born Fortune-Hunter

When a fortune-hunter sets out in quest of a ton of money, tantalizingly dangled before his very eyes, he is willing to go to almost any limit of absurdity in order to win his pot of gold. If there is any limit, it is certainly not disclosed in the play, "Tons of Money," a comedy of errors to be presented by the North Shore Theater Guild as the last play for its current season.

For laughing purposes only, this story of an English Jason, recklessly pursuing the fortune offered in the eccentric will of his deceased brother, was written by England's foremost farce writers, Will Evans and Valentine. In this day of tall fortunes, when everyone has his own particular "racket," his own secret formula for garnering a goodly share of the world's wealth, it will be interesting to study the technique of a master dollar-chaser whose methods are most unusual, if not effective.

The Man Pays

Aubrey Henry Maitland Allington, the dizzy hero of "Tons of Money," is a man who could probably not live within his income if it doubled and tripled every pay day. But his resourcefulness is equal to his extravagance. His imaginative wife, Louise, is never at a loss to suggest new and daring means for Aubrey to gain his ends. Her suggestions lead to countless complications, and though it is said that "the woman always pays," it is Aubrey who invariably pays for her desperate intrigues, and believe you us, he pays dearly.

The role of the blundering Aubrey will be ably taken by Louis Ellsworth Laffin of Lake Forest, who is well known in Chicago dramatic circles, both as an amateur actor and as a playwright. He recently wrote a one-act play entitled "The Devil's Disciple," which was produced at the Goodman theater, and two new dramas from his pen are scheduled for an early showing at the same place. When at Princeton university, Laffin was a member of the Triangle club, being co-author, director, composer and actor in two of the musical productions of that well-known organization. His appearance with the Guild, in a part of unique possibilities, will be watched with interest.

Irene Wicker Has Lead

One of the Guild's new discoveries, through the tryout system, is Irene Wicker, who takes the feminine lead in "Tons of Money." She is a product of the Goodman Theater School of Dramatic Art, and has been playing elsewhere in stock companies for over a year. Previous to that, she played leads with little theater organizations in Peoria, Illinois, and Canton, Ohio, and is now taking part in stock productions in Oak Park. In "Tons of Money," she has a splendid opportunity for comedy character portrayal as the shrewd, scheming, lovable wife who generously risks her husband's life for the sake of an elusive bequest.

A strong supporting cast makes "Tons of Money" one of the most promising ventures that the guild has yet attempted. It is a fitting program to close a highly successful season on the north shore. The usual itinerary of the guild will be followed: Glencoe on April 24; Highland Park, April 25; Lake Forest, April 26; Winnetka, April 27 and 28; Wilmette, May 1, and Evanston, May 2 and 3.

Edward Codner, who attends the University of Illinois, spent the spring vacation visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Codner of Wilmette.

New Books

Philosophy Today. Compiled and edited by Prof. E. L. Schaub. Open Court Publishing Co. A book for which the leader of the Congregational noon forums is responsible, and one already going into foreign translation. Thirty scholarly essays on the main currents of new philosophy by as many recognized international authorities.

Oxford Book of American Verse. Ed. by Bliss Carman. Oxford University Press. An anthology that "skims the whole field" of American poetry, past and present, particularly the compiler's personal preferences.

Black Majesty. By John W. Vandercook. Harper & Bros. Mahlon Blaine's delightful drawings add to a distinctive story of a black man of Haiti who rose from slave to emperor and freed his land.

Essence of Architecture. By William Rogers Greeley. D. Van Nostrand Co. Purports to give a true picture of architecture as an art and awake the appreciation of its beauty. Amply illustrated.

Miss Phyllis Fox, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Fox of Warwick road, Kenilworth, left Kenilworth last week for Smith college where she is a freshman.



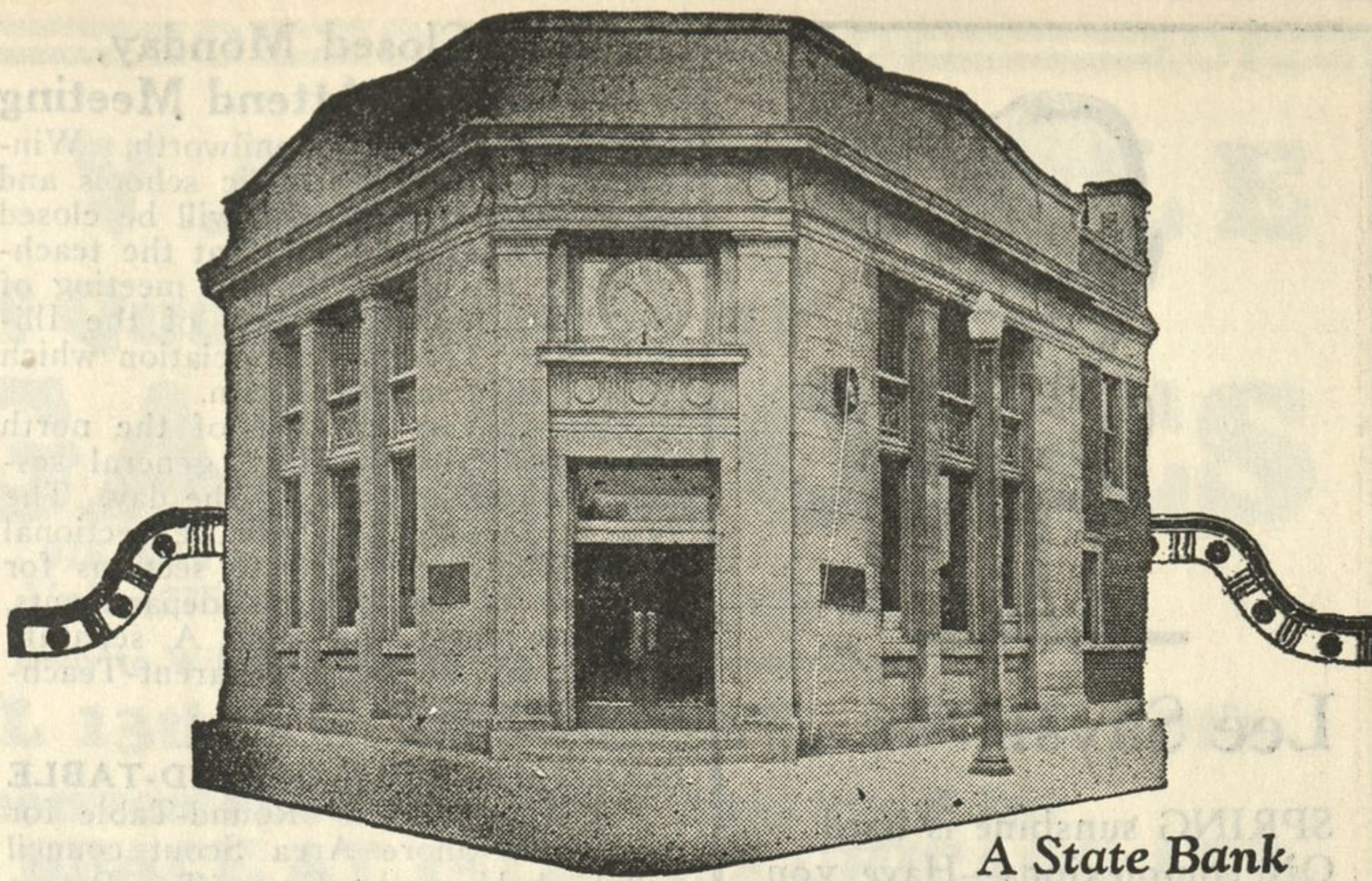
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