Vaudeville in the Sticks

By W. E. Hill

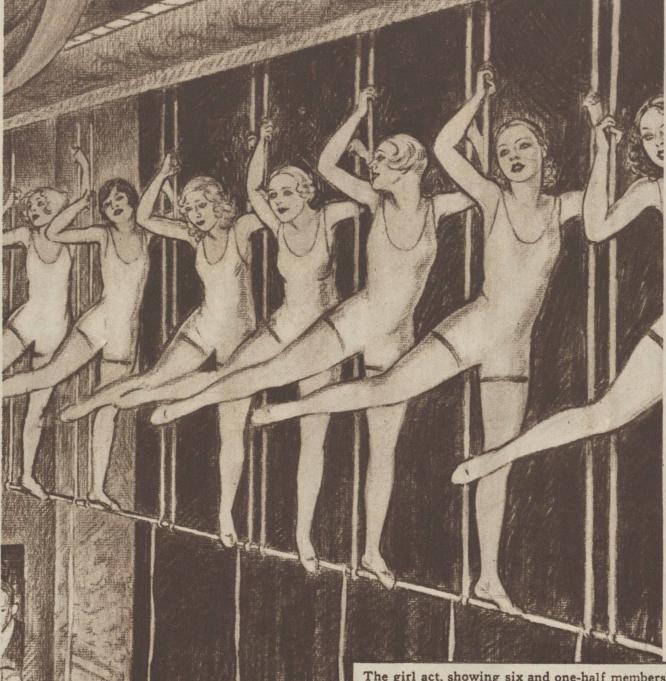
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One of Helen Kane's thousand and one followers has just gone "foofh, foofh" right square in her male partner's face, and he's pretending to remove the attendant mois-





The girl act, showing six and one-half members of a dancing unit doing art poses on the trapeze while the house orchestra renders "A Kiss in the Dark." After the last show the girls will go home to the hotel room and finish their laundry work. This act is just like a great big family—one-half the unit not being on speaking terms with the other half.



O'Hare and Prang, "The Society Girl and the College Boy," breakfasting at 7:30 a.m. (which is the middle of the night for us vaudeville actresses) on account of an early train to the next stand. Mabel, the waitress, has no illusions about vaudeville actors at 7:30 in the morning.



Gertie and Billy are the names of these two lovely town girls. They are pausing in the lobby to put two traveling salesmen in their place. The salesmen have been too fresh for words. Gertie and Billy are just crazy to make what is known in the small towns as "wuppie" this evening, and, besides, they hate the idea of walking that long three blocks home. Maybe the traveling men have a car with them!



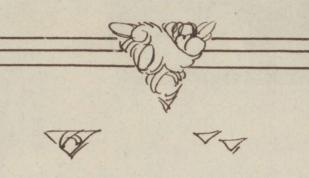
"Pretty good bill this week, ain't

it, Martin?" Mr. Gutenborg,

friends in the lobby.

the house manager, greeting

The Three Co-Eds close harmonizing on "Have a Little Faith in Me." Though not really truly sisters, the girls get on just beautiful together. Reba, Dottie ("Cuddles"), and Iona are their names. Iona (right end) is the cut-up of the trio. While Reba and Dottie are singing "Cupid Has Stolen My Heart," Iona will yell right out before everybody, and right in the middle of Reba's and Dottie's most delicate strains, "Take back your heart; I ordered bol-og-na!" Iona practically manages the act, the other girls depending on her for everything. They are dreamers and not the least bit practical, so if a booking agent has to be beaten up, or a hotel clerk's eye blacked, why, it's always Iona who has to do it.





Meet the Dibble family—grandma, Bonnie Lou, grandpa, and mamma—who go every week to the vaudeville. They arrive in time for the supper show and stay right through till 11:30, when the theater is locked for the night. The Dibbles like to come early, get good seats, and hang on to them.



The Delfords, Joe and Coralie, have a somewhat different balancing routine. Joe combines feats of skill on the ladder with refined clowning, while Coralie, atop Joe's shoulders, gives an impression of how Miss Marilyn Miller would sing "Tiptoe Through the Tulips," if she ever did sing it. To see Coralie right now, you'd never think she had a care in the world. And yet at the moment Coralie is having to decide whether or no it's worth while to tip anyone back stage on Saturday night, seeing as how she and Joe may never play this hick town again.



Just three young bloods of the town highly appreciative of the comic girl in the sister act, who is making believe pull a spike from her anatomy after a comic stage fall.