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HOLLYWOOD'S SECOND PLAYHOUSE TO OPEN TOMORROW NIGHT

LIVELY REVUE FIRST FOR DE HAVEN'S MUSIC BOX

Brilliant Opening Scheduled for Premiere Attraction; New House is 'Intimate'

BY HERBERT MOULTON

Nineteen twenty-six will probably go down in Hollywood's history as the year when the glow of the footlights began to compete with the flashing whiteness of the silversheet, when Hollywood Boulevard began to assume the aspect of a Broadway, when pleasure-seekers began to use their ears, as well as their eyes, in the theater.

The film capital now has one playhouse, the El Capitan. Tomorrow night it will have another, the Music Box. Within a few months two more will open their doors to the public.

Bringing a bit of Times Square to Hollywood was Carter De Haven's avowed purpose in building the Music Box. He is striving to get a Ziegfeld flavor into our entertainment. Girls, girls, girls—and more girls. All of them pretty—100 per centers. Songs and dances, humorous skits, a cycle of merriment.

His first production, which is billed as Carter De Haven's Fancies, is modeled somewhat after its famous predecessors in the East—the Follies, Scandals, Varieties, Passing Shows, et al. As the case with his others, the matter of feminine pulchritude will be stressed, even, Mr. strongly stressed than heretofore, if that is possible.

The Music Box is thoroughly a Hollywood enterprise. De Haven has had the idea in his mind for many years, but it was not until the early part of this year that he was able to interest others in the project.

The house is a small one, as theaters go these days. Its cost approximates \$500,000 the bulk of which was raised through subscription. Many prominent film people are financially interested.

SPANISH MOTIF

The house is of the Spanish type of architecture, both inside and out. Considering the character of presentations De Haven plans, the decorative motif is quite subdued—which may or may not be a carefully planned scheme to enhance the color and brilliance of the stage numbers.

With a seating capacity of less than a thousand, there is a not remote possibility that S.R.O. signs will sometimes make their appearance. The girly-girly shows have a habit of doing that, in spite of the fact that abbreviated costumes don't mean all they formerly did.

De Haven has been putting his troupe through their tasks for weeks. He has assembled 90 players, 30 of whom will be featured in specialties. Of the remainder, forty will be highlighted as a beauty chorus—and judging from advance glimpses of them they will be one of the outstanding attractions of the show.

SPICY

If variety is the spice of life, De Haven will see to it that his initial offering is decidedly spicy.

"Fancies" will be comprised of 42 scenes, divided into two acts. There will be no correlation between the various numbers; each will stand, so to speak, on its own legs.

Included in the list of principals are such names as Eddie Lambert, Thomas J. Dugan, Doris Eaton, Morton Downey, Alpha and Delta Crane, Robbie Higgins, Betty Byrd, Bull Montana, Wheeler Oakman, John Maxwell, Irene Martin, Duley Sisters, Billy Ritchie, Florence Hedges, Monty and Carmo, Marie Ingle, Billy Stout, Arthur Miner, Ken Browne and The Rounders.

The music numbers are the work of Nacl Herb Brown and Carlton Coveney, while the lyrics were written by Grant Clark. Larry Ceballos, known in New York for his staging of the dances in the Greenwich Village Follies, is in charge of the solo and ensemble numbers. The orchestra will be headed by Arthur Kay.

DeHaven plans to furnish up a roof garden on top of the theater. For the time being this space will be used as a promenade, but ultimately, he says, it will be the scene of midnight shows patterned after the night-club idea.

SONG, DANCE, BEAUTY, FEATURED IN MUSIC BOX SHOW

Melody and pulchritude will predominate in Carter De Haven's Music Box, according to the producer. Below are glimpses of the new theater, the second stage house to be opened in Hollywood, as seen by Staff Artist Charles Owens.

