

Personal

THE LIBERTY CAVALCADE

Activities of Palestine Section

If well directed energy and organising ability are any guarantee of success, the Palestine Section of Liberty Cavalcade should be able to show spectacular results by the time that the whole drive for the Governor-General's National War Fund is brought to its culmination in May. Not contented with what their efforts may bring during the week of Cavalcade itself, the enthusiastic workers have planned a dazzling programme of activities to supplement the fund and provide means for the successful running of the numerous stalls which will form part of the Palestine Section scheme.

ONE of the major functions that are to be held in support of the Palestine Section, is "Cavalcade's Midsummernight," a romantic cabaret and *diner dansant* which is to take place in the City Hall on Wednesday, 11th February. Convened by Mrs. D. Brasch and organised by the Functions Committee of which she is the chairman, this event should prove one of the social successes of the season. In an elaborate scheme of decoration, which will capture the atmosphere of a summer garden, cocktails will be served at 7 p.m. This will be followed by a *recherche* dinner, dancing to the music of an excellent band, and a floor show in which will appear such popular turns as "Black Blossom" and a troupe of "La Conga" dancers from Miss Marjorie Ward's studio. Added attractions are being devised to make this an evening of outstanding entertainment.

Among other functions which are to take place in support of Liberty Cavalcade are:

January 25: A concert, organised by Mrs. Beatrice Alexander, to be held in the home of Mrs. S. Gavronsky, 13 Eton Road, Parktown, under the auspices of the Cigarette

and Sweets stall of the Palestine Section.

January 30: A Golf Day at the Houghton Golf Course, under the auspices of the Fish Pond stall, and organised by Mrs. R. Green (Transvaal Golf Champion), Mrs. G. B. Epstein, Mrs. E. Gering and Mrs. B. Teron.

January 31: A Card Evening, also under the auspices of the Fish Pond stall.

MRS. LILY TOBIAS TO BROADCAST

A Talk on "The Yemenites"

Mrs. Lily Tobias, the well-known novelist who resides in Palestine, but who is at present staying in South Africa, is to give a broadcast talk on Sunday next, 25th January, at 5 p.m., over the Durban and Pietermaritzburg programmes, on the Yemenite songs in Hebrew, with the characteristic Arabic intonation.

Mrs. Tobias recently contributed a short story to "Christmas Pie"—the magazine issued in Durban by the Governor-General's War Fund. The contribution was of Palestinian interest.

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Around the Cinemas

"VOLGA VOLGA" AT EMPIRE

A New Soviet Musical Comedy

Acclaimed by overseas critics as rivalling any Hollywood production, a new Soviet musical comedy, starring Luba Orlova and Igor Ilinsky, will open at the Empire Theatre on Monday next. The film, which derives its humour and music from the competition of two amateur groups for the honour of representing their village in a national musical festival, was written and directed by Gregory Alexandrov, Soviet devotee of Charlie Chaplin and Rene Clair. This rivalry turns into a ludicrous amateur boat race down the Volga River as each group commandeers an ancient vessel in an effort to enter the festival before the other.

Musical comedy is a familiar medium to Alexandrov, one of his earlier productions, "Jazz Comedy," having won honours at the International Cinema Exposition in Venice in 1935. Isaac O. Dunayevsky who wrote the music for "Volga Volga" is one of the Soviets' favourite composers. Newspaper reviewers in New York, Boston, Los Angeles and San Francisco have commented, not only on the smoothness of "Volga Volga's" comedy and the charm of its music, but on the keen satire it directs at certain undesirable types of Soviet officials.

Although the film is in Russian dialogue, there are excellent English titles, which enable the audience to follow the entertaining story with ease and real enjoyment.

"The Chocolate Soldier" at Metro

The great musical comedy "The Chocolate Soldier," continues to attract large audiences at the Metro. Nelson Eddy gives a magnificent performance as actor and singer. For the first time he appears with his new leading lady, Risé Stevens, who, before coming to the screen, built up a great reputation as an operatic singer. She is the possessor of a wonderful voice, to which is added an histrionic ability as a great actress. There is no doubt that there is a great future for her on the films. She is indeed well described as the new singing star.

"The Chocolate Soldier" affords both Nelson Eddy and Risé Stevens opportunity for the singing of a wide variety of songs, and the parts are ideally suited to them. The supporting programme at the Metro this week is of the usual excellence.

"Million Dollar Baby" at Plaza

"Million Dollar Baby" starring Priscilla Lane, Jeffrey Lynn and Ronald Reagan, is the attraction at the Plaza Theatre. This is a delightful romantic comedy dealing with the adventures of a young and beautiful shop-girl who inherits a million dollars. Pretty Priscilla Lane, star of "Four Daughters" series, is, of course, the Million Dollar Baby, and Jeffrey Lynn, her "Four Daughters" sweetheart, is the young lawyer who brings her the news of her inheritance, then stays to sue for her hand. Ronald Reagan, popular young star of "Brother Rat," is cast as a young cynical composer, who is in love with Priscilla too, but prejudiced against her money. It is altogether a sparkling story, full of bright incidents and irresistible human situations.

"The Bride Came C.O.D." at Colosseum

Bette Davis and James Cagney are co-starred for the first time in the film "The Bride Came C.O.D."—the present attraction at the Colosseum Theatre. It is a long time since Bette Davis, known as "the first lady of the screen," has appeared in a comedy. In this new role, she shows the same superb artistry as in her serious films, and it has been recognised in America that she has scored another great success.

Some excellent acting, too, is given by that fine artist, James Cagney. The plot is an interesting one, and the story is full of thrills. Others in the cast include Eugene Pallette, Jack Carson, Harry Davenport, George Tobias, Stuart Erwin, William Frawley, Edward Brophy and Herbert Anderson.

Standard Theatre Attractions

On Monday the Standard Theatre will feature an appearance of the concert party the "Troopadours" in their new show, "Speeding Along." This concert party is once again under the direction of Lt. Frank Rogaly, who has already produced so many outstanding successes since his first production of "Springbok Frolics."

On Tuesday and Wednesday, the Standard will feature that exciting comedy, "Ghost Breakers" in which we see Bob Hope and Paulette Goddard stranded in a haunted castle in Cuba.

On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, the Standard will show the Boris Karloff film, "The Man They Could Not Hang." Karloff's role, that of a humanitarian scientist, is said to be all the more horrible because of its Jekyll-Hyde quality.

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