

LAST CALL! LAST CALL!!

To Lesser's Annual January Clearance Sale

Saturday is the last day. We want you, one and all, to be heré. The prices have been slashed again to a lower level. It will pay you to come here.

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Store Open Monday, Friday and Saturday Evenings. WE ADVISE MORNING SHOPPING-AVOID THE RUSH Opp. Opera House

YOUNG ARTISTE ON WHISTLING

They Bill Her as the California Mockingbird, but She Takes Her Musical Gift and Its Cultivation Most Seriously.

(Marjorie C. Marks in New York Evening Post.)

Whistlers are born, not made. So declares Miss Margaret McKee, who last year in the Hippodrome, suspended in a glided cage forty feet above stage level, whistled the justification of her art.

Years ago—about ten of them—when Miss McKee was all of ten, she began to study whistling as an art. But even before that, she had shown a natural aptitude, which she thinks essential to the making of a successful whistler.

"One needs," she says, "lips and vocal apparatus of the proper shape, and proper breath control, as well as an ear for music. I was fortunate enough to have them all."

Miss McKee's alma mater is the California School of Artistic Whistling, said to be the only school of this kind in the world. Situated in the heart of a beautiful country where birds abound, it offers those gifted in the whistling line every natural advantage.

Birds, she holds, are the only real models for a prospective whistler to study. When she was a little girl she would spend hours at a time in the woods, first listening, then imitating the

birds, until she grew expert at it. She was not much beyond the age of ten when she began to perform in public, at the church auditorium of the Rev. J. Whitcomb Brougher in Hollywood. The congregation were at first a little agast at the novelty of having whistling in a church, but after hearing Miss McKee whistle classical music to the accompaniment of the organ they requested that such concerts become a regular thing.

It is a custom in parts of California to hold sunrise Easter services on mountain peaks. Miss McKee has whistled at over the world, persons of all kinds; Sarah Bernhardt called her "a veritable jewel" and "the queen of whistlers."

Miss McKee studied for two years at the University of California, where she was a member of the Kappa Alpha Kappa in the service atop Mount Roubidoux. This she considers the most impressive item of her experience—to have whistled at dawn in the open while thousands of people were bowed in prayer.

She has never known stage fright, even when performing in such great auditoriums as there were at the Panama Pacific Exposition. Her whistling has won her the approbation of persons all Theta Society. Her gift was in constant demand for college entertainments. During the war she was godmother to 150 soldiers and entertained regularly at a number of camps. Upon her graduation from the whistling school she became a

teacher on her own account, and she values her pedagogic experience highly. Children, she discovered, are naturally imitative and much easier to instruct than grown-ups. Children are willing

to concentrate on imitating a natural model, and do not suffer from the devastating self-consciousness which afflicts many other people.

When Miss McKee left the university to devote her time exclusively to professional whistling her gifts were recognized immediately. After a tour in the west she came east and was one of the headliners in the "Good Times" show at the Hippodrome. At the same time she took courses at Columbia. Last summer she crossed the Atlantic and joined the London company of "The League of Nations" and later toured England and Scotland. At present she is in New York, giving occasional concerts, making records, and whistling regularly at performances of Lillian Owen's Marionette Show.

She has made records with several kinds of accompaniment—orchestra, jazz band, piano, and voice—also several educational bird records.

Whistling as an Art. Whistling, she maintains, is an art, not a stunt. It ranks with music made by violin, piano, or the voice, and surpasses them in possessing a four-octave range, infinitely varied shadings, and a great many different tones. Constant study and infinite patience are needed for the making of a whistler. You must prac-

ice scales and exercises before you tackle a "piece," must practice the technique of a "piece" before you can whistle it with expression.

In the west people have already accepted whistling as an art and flock to hear whistlers perform. People there take up whistling as an avocation, as they would take up piano or voice culture, and some few make it a profession. A finished whistler must be a thoroughly trained musician, well versed in the fundamentals of harmony and theory. Miss McKee in addition has studied singing and the piano. She herself arranges the music she performs, whether she is accompanied or whistles alone. Sometimes she improvises bird-calls to fit a melody.

This winter she hopes to prove to the New York public that whistling is an art worthy of their serious attention.

shoulders with motley males who now frequent the commission's depots. Wine will be the only beverage sold.

BOBBED-HAIR BRIGADE. The bobbed-haired brigade in Britain has a leader, Miss Faith Collin, an actress who did much to create the vogue of bobbed hair by her appearance a few years ago in "Dear Brutus." Miss Collin, who bobbed her golden brown hair when she went on the land during the war, wears it in wavy curls and has never regretted it.

Famous artists were enthusiastic advocates of bobbed hair, according to the Daily Express. Mr. Augustus John says: "What objection could there possibly be to bobbed hair? Personally, I think it is convenient and not at all objectionable when worn by the right person. What kind of head should the right person possess? Ah! that is impossible to define."

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MONTREAL TO OPEN WINE SHOP SOLELY FOR WOMEN PATRONS. Montreal, Jan. 19.—The Quebec Liquor Commission is planning to open a wine shop for women, managed by members of their own sex, at St. Catherine's street in the heart of the shopping district.

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