

THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 1924

NEWS NOTES GATHERED FROM THE WORLD OF STAGE AND SCREEN

1,200 ACTORS VOTE TO SUPPORT EQUITY IN CLOSED SHOP DEMAND

Only Two Dissenting Voices at Big Meeting Held in New York.

New York, March 12.—Twelve hundred actors and actresses, including many of the best known players in the city, upheld their leaders in their demand for Equity shop at a meeting of the Actors' Equity Association at the Forty-eighth Street Theatre. The verdict of the actors was almost unanimous, there being but two dissenting votes.

The following resolution, which had already been passed by the Council, was endorsed by the meeting:

"Resolved, that after June 1, 1924, no member of the Actors' Equity Association shall perform service for any manager in any company unless each and every member in the company in which the actor is playing is, and continues to be throughout the engagement of the actor, a member in good standing of the Actors' Equity Association."

While the action of the meeting had been fully expected, and does not in itself render an actors' strike more of a likelihood on June 1, the events at the meeting indicated that the situation is hourly becoming more serious. Chief among these were the words used by John Emerson, president of Equity, in addressing the meeting after the passage of the resolution.

"Any new offer," declared Mr. Emerson, "must come from the managers. We must not take the initiative. The dissenting group in the Producing Managers' Association has said that, rather than agree to Equity shop, they will declare a lockout, and from this position they must recede. If they want a concession and ask for it, the council will consider it and the people will pass upon it."

This resolution means that we must now prepare for battle.

"It means that if a war is forced upon us all chance of concessions, so far as the managers are concerned, is gone and gone for good, but it does not mean that we will refuse to listen to any proposal which the Producing Managers' Association, or any new association of managers, may make to us. We earnestly desire peace, but it must be a peace which guarantees to us the life, integrity and strength of our association."

A. F. of L. Support Pledged.

Another important development at yesterday's meeting was the formal pledging of the support of the American Federation of Labor by Hugh Frayne. Doubt had been expressed by some of the managers as to whether the stage hands would again support the actors by striking with them, as they did in 1919, but with this point settled the actors will have added strength in the event of a strike.

Mr. Emerson, in his speech before the actors, declared that Sam H. Harris, A. L. Erlanger, William Harris, Charles B. Dillingham and Marc Klaw had said three years ago that they would permit Equity shop to drive them out of the producing field, but said that since then they had evidently changed their minds.

"The managers know they haven't a chance to win," continued Mr. Emerson. "Mr. Brady and many others have acknowledged that. Mr. Shubert knows it. That is the difference between him and his associates and the rest of the Producing Managers' Association. Mr. Shubert has the vision to see the inevitable outcome. The others, apparently, have not."

"Mr. Shubert has asserted consistently and persistently that he will not close his theatres, and I believe he is perfectly sincere in saying this. He would prefer to see the Producing Managers' Association kept together, as we would; but if the P. M. A. refuses to propose any acceptable agreement, it is my opinion that Mr. Shubert will leave the P. M. A. with as many as will follow him, and form a new association, which will find an agreement with the Equity."

Two Dissenting Votes.

The two dissenters, it was said, were Winifred Lenthall, playing the role of "Saint Joan" at the Theatre, and Richard Bennett, who came over from Philadelphia to attend the meeting. Among the well known players who approved the council's action were Laurette Taylor, Jane Cowl, Elsie Ferguson, and Ethel Barrymore.

Miss Barrymore telegraphed as follows from Rochester:

"I am sorry I cannot be at the meeting to express my faith in the council. I consider the proposition which Equity made fair and reasonable. We must

stand together as we did on 1919, and as we always will."

Jane Cowl said: "This is no time for temporizing. We have tried to be fair. I am married to a manager, and I am part manager of my own production, but in a competition of this kind Jane Cowl, the manager, would go down before Jane Cowl, the actress."

Others telegrams of support were received from Anne Nichols, Joseph Santley, Equity members of "The Changelings" company, "The Highwayman" company, Eddie Cantor, the "Irene" company, President Emeritus Francis Wilson, "Able's Irish Rose" company, Cincinnati; George Adair, "Polly Preferred" company, Lee Kellmar and John Cope.

On the stage were John Emerson, president; Frank Gillmore, executive secretary; Harry Browne, A. G. Andrews, Eoblin Gayer, Jefferson De Angelis, Fritz Williams, Hugh Frayne, Mrs. Thomas Whiffen, Rollo Peters, Katherine Emmet, Elsie Ferguson, Grant Mitchell, Hazard Short, Gilbert Emery, Paul N. Turner, John Drew, Jane Cowl, Blanche Ring, Arthur Byrnes, Ernest Glendinning, Ralph Morgan, Frank McGlynn, Robert Elliot, Richie Ling, James K. Hackett, Helen MacKellar, Basil Rathbone, Augustus Dumas, Bertin Churchill, Laurette Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Devereaux, Harry Stubbs, Charles Winkler and others.

Peace Now More Remote.

Until word got around of the uncompromising attitude of the gathering, and particularly of the wording of John Emerson's speech, theatrical observers had been inclined to believe that peace was coming near. Meetings are being held daily by the group of managers who came out last week against Equity shop, and it had been thought out of these gatherings might come a compromise of a sort that would be acceptable to Equity.

In taking an attitude aloof from all negotiations, however, it is recognized that the Equity is making the next move a difficult one for the managers.

Shubert Predicts Compromise.

Atlantic City, N. J., March 12.—That the outlook for peace between the producing managers and the Actors' Equity Association is hopeful was the opinion expressed here by Lee Shubert, who is at the Ritz-Carlton for the week-end.

"I am very hopeful for an early settlement of the difficulty," he said. "I think probably a compromise will be effected. I don't think it will come near week. I feel certain the public will have news of a settlement in the near future."

Mr. Shubert said he was co-operating personally in the efforts being made to bring about peace. He was not sure that his interests would not suffer in the event of a strike, despite his arrangements with the actors.

He Found Them a Great Benefit

Mr. Alphonse Cote Praises Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets.

Quebec man who suffered from indigestion and stomach trouble found relief in Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets.

St. Flavien, P. Q., March 11.—(Special)—Relieved of the aches and pains of dyspepsia, Mr. Alphonse Cote, who resides here, is loud in his praises of Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets.

"I can tell you frankly, that after taking your tablets, I found a change in my health at once," Mr. Cote states. "I have taken other remedies, but they did me no good." The result was wonderful. Eating is now a pleasure to me, and I hardly ever have any pains at all."

Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets certainly add to the joy of living. They make eating a pleasure and insure against the after effects of meal or banquet. Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets have proved the most successful treatment for Dyspepsia and Indigestion yet discovered.

VENETIAN GARDENS TONIGHT DANCING

THE BROKEN WING A Film Version of the Broadway Stage Success.

"DOWN IN TEXAS" (Western) "STAY SINGLE" (Comedy)

—THURSDAY— HALF A DOLLAR BILL DIG UP (Comedy) SPEED (Serial)

Jackie's Parents and Friends Develop His Business Sense For Protection

(By Jack Jungmeyer.)

Hollywood, March 12.—The parents and studio guardians of Jackie Coogan are today almost as much concerned in developing his business sense as they are in the continued flowering of his genius.

Young Coogan, at his majority, will come into a fabulous fortune, barring catastrophe, from boyhood earnings and investments. He will be the mark for financial cajolery and plausible promises. It will require sound foundation of dollar wit to conserve the fruits of his talent. And at his present age, "going on 10," the formative years, some of this shrewdness will have to be implanted for future protection.

The problem for the elder Coogans is to do this adequately without detracting from his artistic nature. Their method is the object lesson rather than talk. Lack of youthful judgment is dramatically impressed, caution sharpened. Jackie is allowed to smart with his own minor mistakes.

\$350 a Week Plus.

In the first place, the tiny millionaire has but the vaguest realization of his fortune. Actually, for his own use, he gets but \$350 a week, plus 50 cents additional for every usable picture gag he contrives. The spending of this money is a keen joy, and he is constantly trying to swell the allowance. As a matter of fact he is entitled to \$100 a week, his salary. But Coogan the father and his studio conspirators deduct \$10 a week for having drawn Jackie's salary contract, and for cashing his check. Of course the deduction goes into the boy's bank account, but he doesn't know it. They are waiting for Jackie to discover by questioning for observation that he is entitled to the other \$90, and he now seems on the verge of that discovery.

Some days ago Jackie's uncle gave him a quickie duck. By conspiracy he was offered \$1 for the duck. He sold, and bragged of having made a good deal. Next day he was amazed to find the duck in the studio pond, and to learn that the purchaser was renting it for \$2 a day. That was a profoundly impressive business lesson.

Jackie Bunked.

The Coogan cameraman came to let him have an amusing offer to let him for a small block of stock on a "goose neck lens" which will take pictures around a corner. Jackie felt later he did considerable thinking and made the astounding discovery that cameras can't look around corners. "You ought to have thought of that before you bought," replied his father, who is heartless. It was a lesson in buying gold bricks.

This sharpening of Jackie's wit, his taking thought of himself and his to pieces, is speeding his growing-up process. It is beginning to show a little in his pictures, the trace of self-conscious acting. It was noticeable in "Long Live the King."

Forgets About Himself.

In his next, "The Boy of Flanders," made from Ouida's immortal classic, it probably will be less evident because Jackie's love for "Teddy," the dog in the play, made him forget all about himself and the camera, "goose-neck lenses" and bargains in quickie ducks.

It will be interesting for psychologists and movie audiences as well to observe how this ticklish problem is worked out—the instruction of a celebrated sensitive youngster so that both his art and his fortune may be preserved.

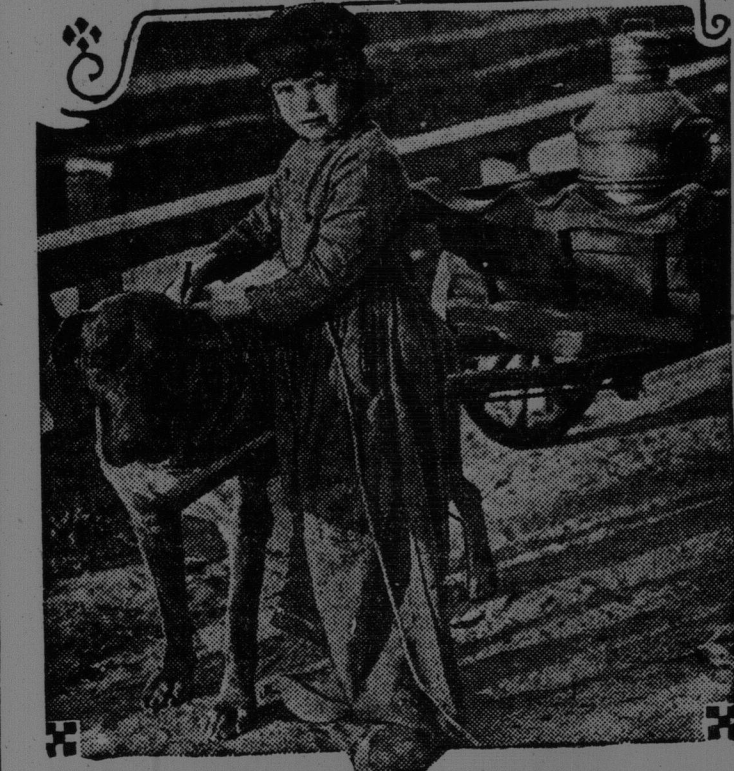
Corinne Griffith, recently married to Walter Morosco, son of Oliver Morosco, the theatrical producer, announces she is going to retire from the screen soon. After she appears in three more pictures Corinne is going to "settle down and raise a family."

UNIQUE THEATRE

The Broken Wing A Film Version of the Broadway Stage Success.

"DOWN IN TEXAS" (Western) "STAY SINGLE" (Comedy)

—THURSDAY— HALF A DOLLAR BILL DIG UP (Comedy) SPEED (Serial)



JACKIE COOGAN AND "TEDDY," THE DOG, IN "THE BOY OF FLANDERS."

NEW YORK FANDOM IS NOW RESTING

Thousands Return to Normal Living After Witnessing Big Bike Race.

Another six-day bicycle race has come and gone and with its going a considerable number of New Yorkers will be able to return to normal living and get the required quota of sleep—something they were unable to do while the 148-hour season was on, says the New York Times. It would require a master diagnostician to solve the mystery of the fascination of this unique pastime, for pastime it is rather than sport, and the findings would be interesting. For certainly there is no other pastime in the world whose followers show such sustained interest under such circumstances. It is almost impossible for one who has never witnessed this form of amusement to believe that there are even in New York some twelve thousand or more persons who will sit in a smoke-laden atmosphere and yawn away eight or ten hours while a crowd of weary-looking bicycle riders whirl their way around and around on a ten-lap track.

But these skeptics have never witnessed a "jam," the thing and the only thing which will attract them. Once a jam is seen new converts are gained. Those who see one haven't will sit expectantly for hours in the hope that one will start. There is to be found the reason why a hundred thousand or more are willing to pay cheerfully for the privilege of seeing these December and March races which have become a feature of New York's stock of amusements.

For the second time in almost two decades the event has been captured by a foreign combination of riders. Maurice Brocco, who, teamed with Marcel Buysse won the race by virtue of a lap gained in a jam that occurred in the last twenty-four hours, is a French-Italian, having been born in Fiume, Marz, of Italian parentage. Buysse is a native of Belgium. Foreign bike riders have shares in victories on various occasions within record years, but only once since 1907 has a purely foreign team succeeded in winning the race. Heretofore the foreigners' share in the spoils has been in partnership with a rider who is American either by birth or by adoption.

It may be that the words of Jack Neville, veteran trainer of riders, who said that the Americans were not taking six-day riding as seriously as they should, were prophetic. Neville stated that in order to cope with the road, the American must yet be re-written for Broadway.

Queen Square THURSDAY-FRIDAY-SATURDAY THE BIGGEST YET IN PICTURES A WONDERFUL PHOTOPLAY —that's what you'll say about this great drama of the days when America was young.

MARION DAVIES Little Old New York Adapted by Luther Reed from the stage play by Rida Johnson Young. Directed by Sidney Olcott. Settings by Joseph Urban. A Cosmopolitan Production. Distributed by Goldwyn-Cosmopolitan.

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RECEPTION WAS RATHER NOISY

Strongheart, Movie Police Dog, Objects to Attention to Mate.

Strongheart and Lady Jule, celebrated police dogs of the motion pictures, "honeymooning" in the East, have taken New York by storm. Placed on exhibition at Madison Square Garden, they were the hit of the annual dog show of the Westminster Kennel Club, holding the line of interest among 1,800 other thoroughbreds entered in the competition.

Strongheart and his mate arrived in style at the Grand Central Station Monday morning on the Twentieth Century Limited from Chicago in a special compartment provided through the courtesy of G. E. Smith, president of the New York Central railroad. From Los Angeles to Chicago the dogs also traveled in royal fashion on the Santa Fe, with a special chef supplying only such choice dishes as would not impair their digestion.

On their arrival in New York, Arthur Lee, general manager of the McAlpin and Martinique Hotels, turned over his own private suite, including parlor, bedroom and bath, to the cinema celebrities at the McAlpin, after Mr. and Mrs. Strongheart went through the ceremony of registering as "man and wife."

An elaborate reception at the dog show was planned for Strongheart, but it proved a "fiasco." The welcome was to be extended by Governor Alfred Smith's Great Dane, Jeff, but unfortunately Jeff paid too much attention to Lady Jule. In true movie style Strongheart, the noble husband, snarled and turned on the villainous Jeff, seemed to say, "Get-r-r-r! You dirty currr-r-r! Hands off that woman or you'll bite the dust!" And then the whole dog show was an inferno of growls and barks and shouts as the dignitaries were pulled apart.

Strongheart is the star of a new First National picture, "The Love Master," directed by Laurence Trimble, and in it Lady Jule appears opposite him in the leading feminine role. After their stay in New York they are going on tour to make "personal appearances" in a one-act sketch to be staged in connection with the showing of this picture at several important cities of the East.

The play called "The Woman Hunter," with Ruth Shepley heading its cast, is winding up its affairs on the road, and it may yet be re-written for Broadway.

Imperial British Entertainers Have Taken City by Storm GRAND DOUBLE SHOW AGAIN!

Refined THE LONDON 4 Ladies Artistic CONCERT 8 4 Gentlemen Change of Programme Today

1-Ensemble: "Half Glorious Canada" London Eight
2-Violin, Cello and Piano; "Hungarian Dance" Brahms
3-Tenor Solo: "Come Into The Garden Maud" Balf
4-Cello Solo: "Hungarian Rhapsody" Popper
5-Soprano Solo: "The Orchard By The Sea" Oliver
6-Violin Solo: "Gipsy Airs" Miss Alwynne.
7-Selected Monologues Miss Suetzke Tarr
8-Piano Solo: Fourth Waltz Miss Joan Duff (16 Years)
9-Comedy Duo: "A Rag Riot" Original
10-Grand Opera: "Faust" (5th Act) Gounod
Marguerite, Miss O'More, Valentine, Mr. Virgo, Mephistopheles, Mr. Alexander.

Concert at 4 p. m. Also at Night, 8.15—Between Shows

Final "WITHIN THE LAW" Final Showing Featuring NORMA TALMADGE

PRICES: Mat. 25c, 35c; Children, 15c. Eve. 35c, 50c.—Boxes, 50c.

NOTICE: Second Show of Pictures at Night (Without Concert) 25c. and 35c. as Usual.

TOMORROW! "Where The North Begins" WITH THE GREAT DOG ACTOR, "Rin-Tin-Tin"

Queen Square LAST DAY TO SEE The famous Scarlet Pimpernel Romance by Barnes Oracy

"I Will Repay" The story with millions of readers in England, America and the world over.

Prices: Aft. 2.30, 10c, 20c Night 7 and 8.45, 35c "BUSY BUDDIES" A Christie Comedy.

To Rebuild Famous Playhouse of Tokio

Tokio, Feb. 9.—(By mail.)—The Imperial Theatre in Tokio, until the earthquake and fire of September 1 the finest in the Orient, is to be rebuilt this year, according to a recent announcement.

The frame of the old structure, left standing by the quake and fire, will be used in the reconstruction, as engineers have pronounced it safe. It is hoped to reopen the theatre next October.

The Imperial Theatre, built with the assistance of the imperial household in the early days of the Meiji era, was one of the most magnificent of its kind in the world. It had a seating capacity of 1,500 and was a masterpiece of architecture.

Paul W. Gallico, amateur picture director, has produced a tragic-comedy, called "Why Golfers Leave Home" it will be screened on the wall of his home in Cos Cob. In the cast is a tiny, who impersonates Weakheart, a wild dog, and another person takes the role of a cat. Richelle E. Wheelan is the villain, and a girl with mud-colored hair is the Virginia Vail of this fifty-foot comedy drama.

Upon her return from abroad about six months from now Mary Pickford is thinking of doing a story of the London slums. She is trying to persuade Charlie Chaplin to direct it. Following that she will attempt to get Morris Gest to press agent the production. Both Doug and Mary think Mr. Gest ought to be in the picture business, and it wouldn't be surprising if the sponsor of "The Miracle" were persuaded to take a hand in producing "The Thief of Bagdad" to the public.

Brady Outlines Stand.

Brady said he did not sign the statement, and went on:

"You know my ideas. I have often stated them to Mr. Emerson and myself, and I firmly believe if the rally they would smash the P. M. A. to their own undoing. Then, he said, there would be no organized body for the actors to deal with."

He predicted that the actors by going on strike would lose public sympathy. The communication was in reply to a letter from Gillmore, in which the Equity secretary said he could not reconvene Brady's signing the managerial statement against Equity shop this week with Brady's concession of Equity shop in an interview in the Ritz Hotel.

The letter to Gillmore, written "as from one old actor to another," said Equity shop "will cause the ultimate ruin of the theatre."

Carroll Players THIS WEEK— EDNA PRESTON In The Famous RURAL COMEDY DRAMA "SIS HOPKINS" As Played by Miss Preston Over Two Hundred Times. MUSICAL SPECIALTIES BY THE COMPANY. —NEXT WEEK— FIRST TIME HERE The Mystic Melodrama "THE 13TH CHAIR" DORRIT KELTON Extra Matinee, Monday, March 17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

Imperial British Entertainers Have Taken City by Storm GRAND DOUBLE SHOW AGAIN!

Refined THE LONDON 4 Ladies Artistic CONCERT 8 4 Gentlemen Change of Programme Today

1-Ensemble: "Half Glorious Canada" London Eight
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BRADY SAYS STRIKE WILL RUIN ACTORS

Warns Them They Would Smash Theatre Managers' Association.

New York, March 11.—William A. Brady opened up a new angle to the deadlock of the Producing Managers' Association and the Actors' Equity Association. He made public a letter to Frank Gillmore, executive secretary of the Equity, in which he said that the actors' body can make the managers "sign on the dotted line" by a strike this summer, but that thereby they would smash the P. M. A. to their own undoing. Then, he said, there would be no organized body for the actors to deal with."

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Two Sides to Question.

"You have admitted to me many times that there are irresponsible actors as well as managers. There has always been and always will be right and wrong on both sides. Many incidents during the course of this season have proved what you have always admitted."

"Stop, look and listen, Frank. The public will be against you this time, and you know it. There has always been and always will be right and wrong on both sides. Many incidents during the course of this season have proved what you have always admitted."

"It is quite true, as you say in your letter, that I had an interview with you some time ago when Lee Shubert and John Emerson were present at the Ritz Hotel. We discussed the possibility of a peaceful solution of the approaching difficulty. I regret that that argument could not have taken place in the presence of your whole association. If it had I do not believe there would have been any talk of a strike now."

"I am not fool enough to say that I am going out of the business if you succeed in establishing a 'closed art shop.' I am well aware of the fact that the Equity can force all the producing managers to sign on the dotted line. What then? I hope I may be alive to see the result. You know what I mean, Frank."

Joseph Santley of the Music Box and kindred entertainers, is among the American actors to develop their playwriting ability, and to this end offers three prizes, ranging from \$500 downward, for the best of such plays. He intends to carry the matter further and perhaps produce them.

A comedy called "The Main Line" is scheduled for a series of matinees—commonly called "special matinees"—at the Klaw Theatre, New York, beginning March 25. The authors are Grace Griswold, long well known in the theatre hereabouts, and Thomas McKean, a Philadelphia who is new to playwriting.

That stalwart veteran of the screen, the man of the shirt and gun, tight breeches and broad-brimmed hat, not to say anything of the top boots—William S. Hart—is to be seen in "Singer Jim McKee." Others in the cast include Phyllis Haver, Bert Sprotte, Gordon Russell and Ruth Miller.

Every male member of the cast of "Busy Buddies" saw service in the World War. The comedy deals with the adventures of three former soldiers. Even the "best" in this comedy fought in the war.

STAR

Wednesday-Thursday OLIVER MOROSCO Presents "THE HALF BREED"

As big on the screen as it was on the stage. Thrills, romance and surprises. Wheeler Oakman, Mary Anderson, Ann May in the big cast.

BUSTER KEATON —IN— "Balloonatics" Two Reels of Joy.

WEDNESDAY PALACE THURSDAY

"Take Me Back To Blighty" "TIDDLEY-IDDLEY-IGHTY" WITH BETTY BALFOUR AND HUGH E. WRIGHT

CHEERIO! It's the story of Squibbs, the prettiest flower girl in London; Sam 'Opkins, the funniest blighter in Blighty, and P. C. Chas. Lee, the copper from Piccadilly Circus. These two blokes and a gal win the famous Calcutta Sweepstake.

PIPP-PIPP! It's the rummiest, cheeriest, funniest English comedy that ever came over from England. Surpasses "Me And My Gal," "Better Ole," and all others.

TIDDLEY-IDDLEY-IGHTY, TWO BLOKES AND A GAL FROM BLIGHTY BECAME TWO GENTS AND A LIDY—GOOD-BYE BLIGHTY. Bennett Comedy - "SKYLARKING" Friday - "THE MIDNIGHT ALARM"

GAIETY

Wednesday-Thursday "POTASH AND PERLMUTTER" With BARNEY BERNARD, ALEX CARR, VERA GORDON

The greatest characters of stage or fiction on the screen at last. Thrill getting, laugh provoking, tear chasing entertainment that has made the nation laugh, and now will make it roar.

"The Leather Pushers"