

The Theatre

GRAND HOTEL

About two months ago, Randolph Street went psychopathic with *Girl Crazy* and *Crazy Quilt* opening in adjacent theatres; now Clark Street has been aggrandised by the opening of a grand show named *Grand Hotel* at the Grand Opera House. This Herman Shumlin production, with a fifty-six week smash-hit reputation on Broadway, fully lived up to that reputation when it was presented to an enthusiastic first-night audience December 8th. At that time, Chicagoans were shouting "Get Rich With Ritchie" in honor of Maryland's governor; it seems the near-bankrupt Shuberts are figuring on something of that sort during the Chicago run of *Grand Hotel*, as rows of seats now cover the erstwhile orchestra pit, and tickets for the opening were reported selling at a high premium.

The play itself is a German importation, adapted by Vicki Baum from her book of the same name. It represents a study of the half-dozen principal characters, guests at the exclusive Grand Hotel in Berlin, during a period of thirty-six hours. These characters are; Grusinskaia, a temperamental dancer of the Pavlova type, tired of life and work 'til re-inspired by the love of a partially-reformed racketeering nobleman; she is marvelously portrayed by Eugenie Leontovitch; Baron von Gaigerri, "black sheep of a white family", gambler and crook, but a gentleman at heart, is well played by Alber Van Dekker; Siegfried Rumann takes the part of Preysing, pompous, hard-hearted Prussian industrial leader who bluffs his way through a crooked merger; Flaemmchen (Hortense Alden) is the stenographer, "too pretty", by her own admission, "to work in an office"; then there is Kringlein, sympathetically interpreted by Sam Jaffe as a downtrodden slave of Preysing, who, when given only a short time to live by a doctor, takes his lifetime savings and goes to the Grand Hotel, to see "life" before death catches up with him; finally, there is cynical, one-eyed Dr. Ottersschlag, who engages his room by the day, being asked each morning if he wishes to remain.

One of the principal contributing factors to the phenomenal success of *Grand Hotel* is the backstage mechanism (not a revolving stage) by which the action changes from one part of the hotel to another with cinema-like rapidity. Blackouts, made famous by Messrs. Ziegfeld, White, Carroll, and Gordon, are used in the scene changes. It is this swift movement from the lobby, to the modernistic bar, to Grusinskaia's room, etc., that forms the greatest contrast between Vicki Baum's kaleidoscopic drama and Elmer Rice's *Street Scene*, all of which took place in front of an east side tenement. They are alike, however, in their photographic reality. Most critics talk of it as melodrama with an exciting "plot". To me, it was a somewhat impersonal, but intensely interesting, panorama representing

Large Group Present
At A. I. E. E. Smoker

Over fifty electricals attended the A. I. E. E. smoker held last Wednesday, Dec. 9 at the Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity house. The smoker was scheduled to start at 8:00 P. M., but men drifted in from 7:30 on and were soon occupied with bridge, five hundred, hearts or whatever card game appealed to them.

Professor Moreton, the only faculty member present, did not indulge in cards but went from table to table, a keen observer of the play.

Entertainment was offered by a six piece orchestra composed of Armour men, with the exception of the pianist, Jim Perry. Perry, conductor of "Perry's Commanders" gave several piano selections. Charles Kaiser, '33, sang a request number, "I Don't Know Why."

The refreshments were all anyone could desire. Enough sandwiches, coffee, cake and ice cream made their appearance to feed an army and the electricals did full justice to the repast. Thanks for the preparation of food as well as the entertainment is due William Stocklin, head of the social committee.

The orange-colored fruits known as bittersweet are properly called false bittersweet, since the name really belongs to a purple flowering plant of the nightshade family.

certain episodes in the lives of the principal characters.

I'll say no more as to the plot, but let you find out for yourselves, as you must be sure to do. Of course, Hollywood is going to make a film version, but I'll bet it will be a different *Grand Hotel* than the one current in Chicago: masterpieces are not to be trusted in the movies after the way some have been mutilated. Dreiser took the "plot changing" methods of the movies to court (in regard to his *American Tragedy*) shortly before his toothpick-balancing expedition into the "Bible Belt". *Street Scene* was well filmed, but so many Broadway successes return from the coast, in their celluloid disguise, changed in every way except the name, that we can only hope for the best and expect nothing. You had better see it in the flesh.

Meanwhile, Miss Leontovitch's versatile husband, Gregory Ratoff, has replaced Benny Rubin in Ratoff's own

show, *Girl Crazy*, which to my mind amounts to a recital of good Gershwin music and not much else; but that's sufficient for this Gershwinité. Frances Upton is now the only principal remaining from the original cast.

There will be plenty of good shows to see over the holidays, with both *Grand Hotel* and *Green Pastures* still here, and, among the musical shows, *Three's a Crowd* and Al Jolson's *Wonderbar* opening. *Marching by*, at the Great Northern, is said to be a worthy successor to the great operettas that have played that house during the past decade. In connection with this holiday talk, it might be added that a certain producer recently stated that the three worst weeks in the show business were the week before Christmas, Easter week, and Milwaukee. Which clears Memphis of Variety's charge of being America's worst show-town.

By Robert B. Tague.

Riflemen Vanquish
N. Y. Stock Exchange

Armour's rifle team chalked up another victory last week by beating the New York Stock Exchange. The high point men on each team are as follows:

ARMOUR	
Wilson	383
Patla	374
Helmick	373
Sachs	372
Hollmann	372

1874

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

MacLean	377
Ohlman	377
Kingman	372
Davidowitch	371
Arnold	370

1867

The Armour team will meet the University of Iowa gunners sometime next month. This will be an important match because Iowa has been the Big Ten champion for the last two years. Members of the team are now practicing the military standing which will be necessary for the coming meet. The team has won all of its matches this year and feels so confident in its string of victories that it intends next to issue challenges to as many universities and colleges as possible.

It is planned to have shoulder to shoulder matches with the teams of the Western Electric Company and the Austin Gun Club during the Christmas vacation.

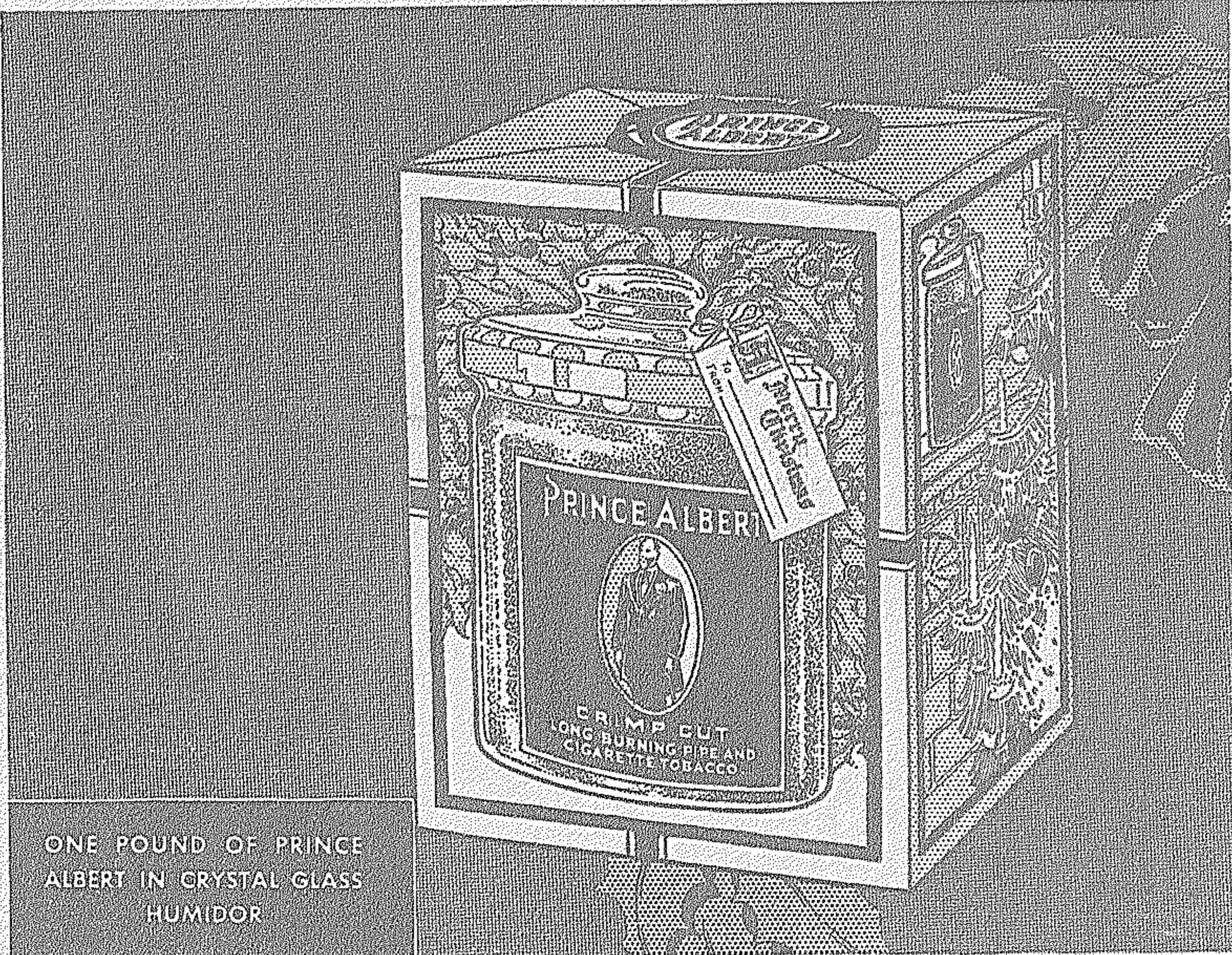
R. B. Harper Speaks
About World's Fair

According to Mr. R. B. Harper of the Peoples' Gas, Light, and Coke Company, the World's Fair of 1933 is being planned in a more thorough and efficient manner than any fair held in the past. In a talk given before the student chapter of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers last Friday at 10:30, Mr. Harper explained many phases of the work being done in preparation for the exposition.

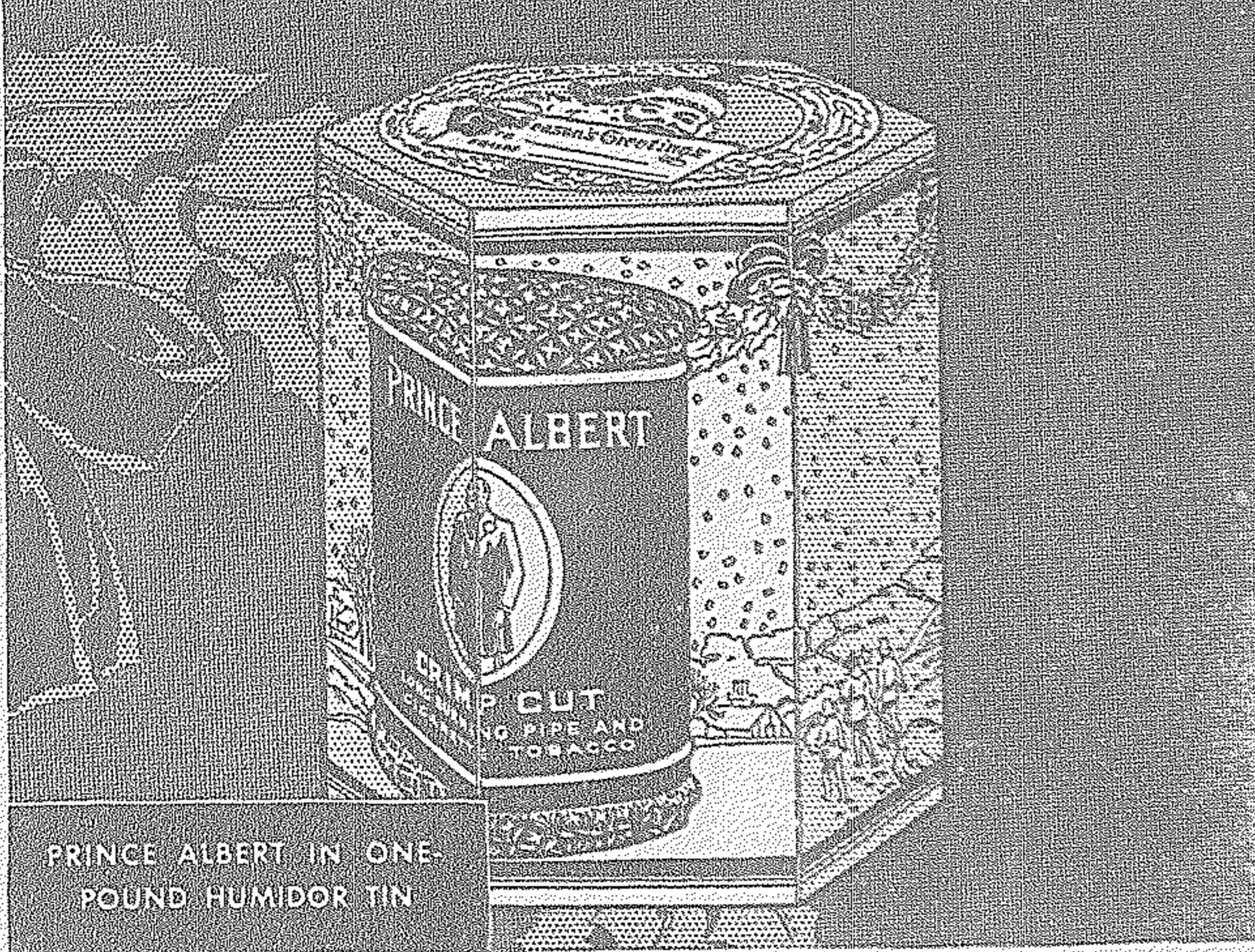
Toadstools sometimes develop fully in less than six hours.

Eat at the
BOULEVARD CAFETERIA
31st and Michigan

A friendly Christmas suggestion
from Winston-Salem



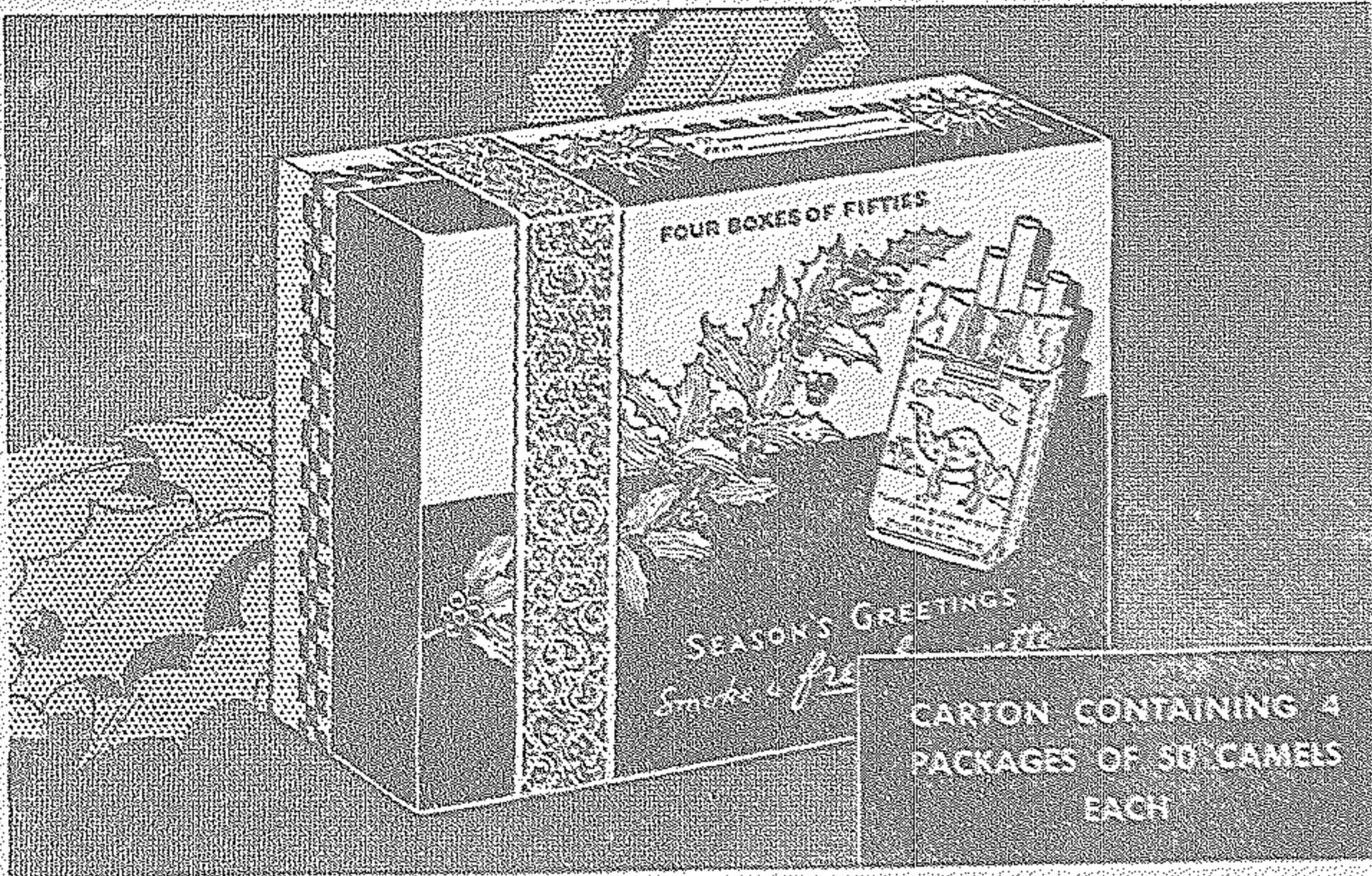
ONE POUND OF PRINCE ALBERT IN CRYSTAL GLASS HUMIDOR



PRINCE ALBERT IN ONE-POUND HUMIDOR TIN



CARTON CONTAINING 10 PACKAGES OF 20 CAMELS EACH



CARTON CONTAINING 4 PACKAGES OF 50 CAMELS EACH

IT IS NOT the cost of the gift, but the thought that lies behind the giving that warms the cockles of the heart on Christmas morning.

Then, instead of some short-lived trinket, how much nicer to give something that will bring solace and delight for many days after the Christmas tree is gone; until the New Year is on its way.

For the cigarette smoker, man or woman, of course give Camels. A blend of choice Turkish and mild, sun-ripened Domestic tobaccos, they are kept fresh and prime by the Camel Humidor Pack, with their natural moisture unimpaired by parching or toasting.

In appropriate holiday wrapping, Camels

come both in attractive Christmas cartons containing ten packages of twenty and in cartons containing four boxes of fifty each.

For the man who smokes a pipe, we suggest either a pound tin or one of those crystal glass humidors of good old PRINCE ALBERT. Here is a present that goes straight as a Christmas carol to a man's heart; P.A., the best loved pipe tobacco in the world, all dressed for the occasion in bright Christmas costume.

What gift can you think of that will be more welcome or give more genuine pleasure and satisfaction?

Don't you hope someone will think of such a friendly gift for you?

We wish you Merry Christmas!

"Are you Listenin'?"

R. J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO COMPANY'S COAST-TO-COAST RADIO PROGRAMS CAMEL QUARTER HOUR, Morton Downey, Tony Wons, and Camel Orchestra, direction Jacques Renard, every night except Sunday, Columbia Broadcasting System

PRINCE ALBERT QUARTER HOUR, Alice Joy, "Old Hunch," and Prince Albert Orchestra, direction Paul Van Loan, every night except Sunday, N.B.C. Red Network

See radio page of local newspaper for time



R. J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO COMPANY, Winston-Salem, N. C.

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