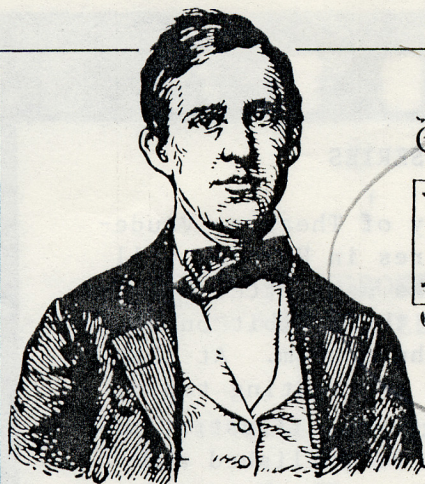




Stephen Foster.

The Hoboken Historical Museum Newsletter



Perry Robinson

Published monthly

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Vol. 1, No. 3

MUSEUM DISPLAY DURING APRIL

For the month of April the Museum will have a display of Hoboken music related items at the Lackawanna train station. The window display space, courtesy of New Jersey Transit, is located in the area just outside the waiting room facing the tracks.

On exhibit there will be various Hoboken music related photographs, posters, flyers, etc., mostly from the last twenty years, and several earlier, such as an account of America's most celebrated composer Stephen Foster, who lived in Hoboken at 601 Bloomfield Street. It was while he lived here in 1854 that his famous "Jeanie With The Light Brown Hair" was published.

This show will appear in connection with our Musical Event and Benefit at Maxwell's in May, which will feature our own Perry Robinson, nationally known jazz musician, who recently returned from a successful European tour.

Anyone with Hoboken music related material they wish to put on display, either now, at the railroad terminal, or later in May at Maxwell's, please contact Jim Hans at 653-7392, as soon as possible.

COMPOSED IN HOBOKEN

Just the other day the Museum recieved a cassette of a musical piece as a donation from Richard E. Cahn of Brooklyn, N.Y. Some of our readers may recall Richard, who lived for awhile in Hoboken and now visits often. He is a fine musician and stated in a letter that this piece of music he wrote, called Overture Fantasy to "The Little Prince" is scored for piano, oboe, and small string orchestra and was "composed at 208 Newark Street in Hoboken, in

the 2nd floor apartment above Apicella's Fish Store garage . . . in 1972 and 1973."

If any member wishes to hear this taped version, scored for piano, flute, and string quartet, they may borrow the cassette on their membership card. It is of a live performance of the world premiere of the work in New York City in June, 1985.

MUSEUM'S INVENTORY

The Museum receives a few items each month donated by various generous individuals; some are mentioned in the newsletter, depending on the space and timing. Some are brought in to our monthly meetings and displayed. All items are eventually put onto the museum's inventory list, which is updated and presented to the members periodically. The Museum now has over one hundred items in its official inventory.

Membership Campaign

Our drive to aquire a hundred new members is underway. Applications are starting to trickle in, at a snail's pace. However, we have one member, Jeanne Valentine, who has turned in seven! That pushes the total number of paid members up to 79.

We want, as soon as possible, to get our mailing list to 200, so we will qualify for lower post office rates. We would just about reach that number if everyone who receives this newsletter would use our new membership application form (enclosed) to sign-up a friend or neighbor. Tell them all about the Museum, show them your membership card and the newsletter, which they will receive if they join.

SIGN UP THAT APPLICANT TODAY!

Now is the time to take advantage of our low \$10. membership fee. Good luck.



CONTINUING SERIES

Articles on the history of Theatre, Vaudeville and Motion Pictures in Hoboken will be presented here in the newsletter between now and the opening of the exhibit on that theme in November at the Museum. At that time a booklet on that interesting topic, with additional photographs, illustrations and updated text, will be published and presented to the public. The Museum is looking for old Hoboken items and stories on that topic.

Part One

Introduction

A number of filmmakers in recent years have taken advantage of Hoboken's atmosphere and charm, the Hoboken mystique, if you will, and filmed on location here. But often over the years in films which had nothing to do with Hoboken, the city's name would pop up in the most unlikely places!

One has to be extremely alert to catch these fleeting references. I recently had an uncanny experience listening to Al Jolson singing "Hallelujah I'm a Bum." Even before Jolson sang the lyric where he refers to the "Hobo King", which pronounced quickly sounds like "Hoboken". Something about his tone suggested that Jolson was talking directly to Hoboken, pleading with the city like a jilted lover, asking why it had been "out of the picture." Another time my wife and I accompanied a friend, a census-taker, on his rounds, and no sooner had we arrived at the first apartment in Manhattan than we were reminded of the city we had left only a few minutes earlier - a character in an old movie on afternoon TV announced that he was a bra salesman from Hoboken. I have yet to see that one again - it's not included in our list here. These are just two of many examples I have experienced personally, not counting all the stories friends have told me about similar references they've heard in the media when they've least expected them.

The following is surely a partial list, since new discoveries present themselves all the time. However, this is probably the most complete list of its kind compiled to date.

Romance in Hoboken!
The Glamorous Gay 90's from
a New Jersey Beer Garden to
the White Lights of Broadway!

Irene
DUNNE
"SWEET
ADELINE"

HEAR THESE GREAT SONGS:
"Don't Ever Leave Me" "Why
Was I Born" "Lonely Feet"
"Here Am I" "Twins Not So Long
Ago" "We Were So Young"

By Jerome Kern and
Oscar Hammerstein II.

12 Star! 100's of Girls! Laughs! Thrills!
Glamorous Spectacles! and a Star-
Studded Cast! Including
DONALD WOODS • HUGH HERBERT
NED SPARKS • JOSEPH CAWTHORN
LOUIS CALHERN • PHIL REGAN
MERYVN LE ROY'S
Greatest Production!

**2 GRAND
HITS**
RICHARD DIX
As You Liked Him
in "CIMARRON"
in ZANE GREY'S
"WEST OF THE PECOS"

FILMS SHOT IN HOBOKEN OR FILMS IN WHICH
HOBOKEN IS MENTIONED 1934 - 1984

Written and compiled by Hoboken Historian
Jim Hans

Part One

Footnote:

Credit should be given the TV Guide, to which much of my research is indebted. I found their mini-reviews and other editorial matter extremely helpful in compiling this list.

"Sweet Adeline" (1934, Release Date) Mervyn LeRoy's big Hollywood production starring Irene Dunne about a "Romance in Hoboken!" said the newspaper blurbs at the time, "The glamorous gay '90's from a New Jersey beer garden to the white lights of Broadway!" In the film are songs by Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein.

A Sweet "Addie" Adeline review from Variety, January 3, 1935: "Except for the fact that the girl leaves her father's Hoboken beer garden to go on the stage against parental objections, Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein II who wrote the 1929 stage original, wouldn't know Addie any more . . . Miss Dunne in fine voice, is comely as Adeline, and effective . . . (though) not suited to torch songs."

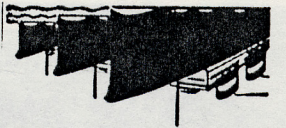
"Edison The Man" (1940) In New York City a friend talking to Edison, played brilliantly by Spencer Tracy, says "Here's a ticket as far as Hoboken." Mentioned early in the film.

"Dance, Girl, Dance" (1940) As the story goes, Lucille Ball goes to Hoboken to become a burlesque Queen. Playwrite Robert Heide once mentioned about Hoboken: "The town is often associated in the movies with that place you had to work a one-night vaudeville stand when your Broadway stint at the Palace was cancelled. If you bombed in Hoboken, nobody in New York would find out."

"Christmas in July" (1940) Heartwarming story about a young office worker (Dick Powell) who lives in Manhattan and works in Hoboken at the "Maxford House Coffee" company, who plays Santa Claus to his neighborhood when he thinks he's won an ad contest by the coffee company which we all know to be the newly opened (1939) Maxwell House Coffee plant in Hoboken! The large neon sign with its "Good to the Last Drop" slogan, large cup and drop is seen from a New York City rooftop where early in the movie veteran actor Raymond Walburn says to Dick Powell . . . "I'll see you in Hoboken before I'll pay you anything," which substitutes the word "Hoboken" for "hell". "I'll see you in hell before I . . ." was an expression of the day. Early in the film (it's easy to miss) he says something like: " . . . stay here until Hoboken freezes over." The connection with hell was the still popular World War I phrase: "Heaven, Hell or Hoboken." Also in the movie is Ellen Drew, who plays Dick Powell's girlfriend. Written and directed by Preston Sturges, one of Paramount's best script writers.

(To be continued in next issue)

Hoboken, NJ 07030
 City Hall
 Mayor Thomas Vezeth
 His Honor



Hoboken Historical Museum
 P.O. Box M-1220
 Hoboken NJ 07030



THE HOBOKEN HISTORICAL MUSEUM

NEWSLETTER

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Editor Jim Hans
 Assistant Editor . . . Mary Manhardt
 Office 206 3rd St., Hoboken
 653-7392
 Newsletter Mailing Address . . .
 605 Jefferson St. Hoboken

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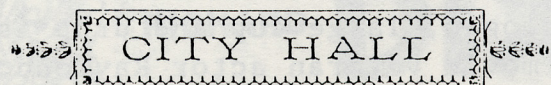
Free to Museum Members

Mail all Newsletter correspondence to:
 Mary Manhardt, 605 Jefferson St.,
 Hoboken, NJ 07030

PLEASE NOTE

Our next meeting is Wednesday, April 1,
 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. All members are invited
 and potential new members are always welcome
 to sit in without obligation. The date on
 the masthead of this newsletter will cor-
 respond with our monthly meetings, which
 are held, for the time being, on the first
 Wednesday of the month at the Clam Broth
 House. The date on the masthead will
 always be that of the upcoming meeting.

HOBOKEN HISTORICAL MUSEUM



MUSEUM HOURS

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 weekdays
 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
 Wednesday Evenings