

## 1908 Jun 6

**1908 Jun 6** - "BUCKEYE TRIO FOR TALLY WAG SHOW. The Marion Boys Secured for Next Wednesday Evening.

Among the features of the Tally Wag vaudeville show will be the Buckeye trio, made up, as is generally known, of Marion boys - Ray Bieber, Charles Berringer and Louis Schmidt. It happens that the trio had an off night for Wednesday of next week, and the Wags, learning this, secured the trio. Today they are congratulating themselves on their good fortune.

The trio has been making a hit wherever it has shown. Of it work the Birmingham, Alabama Leader of March 19 says: "The Buckeye trio at the Majestic theater this week have a distinct novelty in funny acrobatics. They call their novelty "The Tramps Dream," and it proves to be one of the best all round exhibitions of the season. All their stunts are difficult and they are fast workers. Three characters are shown, the tramp, the kid, and the rube, and they certainly make merry. The act opens with a dinner scene in their trick house and after an acrobatic song and dance, which is something new, the trio close their lips and go through the rest of the entertainment in panto-mimic form. They go through the some startling gyrations of the body in bounding from one part of the structure to the other, up and down ladders, in and out of windows, and other things too numerous to mention.' "

## 1908 Jun 10

**1908 Jun 10** - "VAUDEVILLE AT THE GRAND THIS EVENING. Everything Ready for the Tally Wag Performance. ED. F. SHARPLESS FEATURE OF BILL. Former Marion Boy Will Give Some of the Work That Has Made Him Famous Throughout the World, "Happy Jack" Gardner Another Artist on the Bill.

A galaxy of vaudeville artists will feature the big show under the auspices of the Tally Wag club at the Grand opera-house, tonight and Thursday night. Twenty-one people will take part in the program, which, without disputation, will mark the best exhibition of vaudeville ever seen in this city. This is not the statement of a press agent of the Ananias ilk, nor is it the effusion of a home talent zealot.

Of course, all Marion is proud of her stars in the Thespian firmament, some of whom will take part in the Tally Wag production. The bill to be presented is as good as may be seen on any vaudeville circuit in the country. Practically its every act is a headliner, although the leading feature is the act of the great Raynard, Marion's own Edward F. Sharpless, who has gained a worldwide reputation as a ventriloquist, and who has traveled all the way from Montreal, Canada, with his wife, to appear for the first time in his home city, with his remarkable act, which has received so much praise from the critics on both sides of the deep. His act alone may

be well said to be worth the price of admission. Then there is "Happy Jack" Gardner, of Toledo. He is not a Marion boy, to be sure, but he is a monologue artist with few, if any, peers. He consented to come here, because he is a close friend of Mr. Sharpless, and it so happened that he would be at his home in Toledo during the present week.

Jacques Brothers, the two Marion boys, who created a sensation at the Marion Family theater last winter in their mysterious trunk act, will also be a feature of the bill, while little Miss Proutt, of Columbus, will not fail to please. She is called the Columbus favorite. She will sing a number of character songs, and is said to be the equal of Elsie Janis in her work.

The Buckeye Trio, the personnel of which is composed of Marion boys - Ray Bieber, Charles Barringer and Louis Scheidt - will present a pantomimic novelty act entitled "A Tramp's Dream." It is an acrobatic stunt that has created much favorable comment.

Miss Mary Dennison Galley needs no introduction to a Marion audience. As is well known, Marion is her home. She has appeared before local audiences a great number of times, and has bade a splendid reputation as a violiniste throughout the country. Miss Galley will contribute very largely to the pleasure of the evening's performance.

A quartet, composed of Frederick Berringer, Ernest C. Carl, R. Wright and Howard Wetmore, will render several selections.

The performance will close with a series of moving pictures. Following the show a reception and dance will be given at the Tally Wag hall in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Sharpless and all those taking part in the entertainment. The same program will be reproduced in its entirety Thursday night. The ticket sale for tonight's show is very large, practically every seat in the shouse being engaged."

## 1908 Jun 11

**1908 Jun 11** - "GREAT VAUDEVILLE SHOW IS PRESENTED. Tally Wag Entertainment Attracts Big Audience. EVERY NUMBER PROVES A BIG HIT. Edward F. Sharpless, "Happy Jack" Gardner, Mary Dennison Galley, Jacques Brothers, Little Miss Prout, the Buckeye Trio - All Are Artistic - Second Performance.

It was an immensely pleased audience that witnessed the first vaudeville performance ever given by the Tally Wag club at the Grand operahouse, Wednesday night. And it was an immensely large audience, too. From the beginning to the end of the show there was not a dull moment. The audience was generous with its applause, and, as predicted, every act was a hit.

"The best vaudeville show and by far the greatest home-talent production ever given in Marion." That was the unanimous verdict, and the members of the Tally Wag organization may well feel proud of their efforts. That it was a success which met the most sanguine expectations of the

show committee is evidenced by the large seat sale for tonight's performance. Many did not attend, Wednesday evening, because of their desire to hear United States Senator LaFoilette at the Epworth M. E. church. The program, which, to use a little stage slang, was "one great big scream," will be reproduced in its entirety again this evening.

That scene in the remarkable act of Edwards F. Sharpless, the great Reynard, the former Marion boy, who has won renown as a ventriloquist, is something not easily to be forgotten. Imagine, if you can, the man in New York City who was born and raised on a farm, whose parents are now dead and the old scenes are gone forever, who for years and years has been too busily absorbed in business affairs in the great city to get away from it all, back to nature. What a tumult of emotions would a scene like that in Reynard's act arouse in his bosom. The birth of a new day - twilight, the sun rising over the faraway hill - the song of the birds, the clatter of the chickens in the barnyard, the grunting of the pigs - all of the signs of awakening life on the arm [sic] at break of day were there. If you have never been down on the farm and watched the sunrise and studied the must of nature and portrait of life in the spristine and bucolic splendor of it all, then you could not have deeply appreciated the scene as it was presented in the act of Reynard. Of course, the most dense ubranite could not help but appreciate its beauty; even a thickskull or a numbskull would be appreciative of this. But only one who has been born on a farm could feel the thrill of joy and have the fond recollections that the scene produced. Then there was the twilight of evening in the closing scene and the moon shining on the river, looked just exactly as if it were flowing gently along, and the clouds drifted in the sky. No one would care to behold more charming bits of scenery. And the central figure of the whole was Reynard, whose act is surely without comparison. Looking fine and dandy, he makes his appearance in riding suit. You can hear the horse's hoofs beating the earth, then see its head along the side of the building as Reynard alights.

When the former Marion boy "rode" in on the stage, Wednesday night, he was given an ovation. With his mechanical men, women and children, through the powers of ventriloquism, he kept his audience in laughter for ten or fifteen minutes. He was compelled to respond to several curtain calls. It was the first time Sharpless has ever appeared before a Marion audience since he has achieved renown, and he felt grateful for the enthusiastic reception accorded him.

The bill opened with several selections by the Tally Wag quartet, composed of Frederick Berryman, Ernest C. Carl, Howard Wetmore and R.R. Wright, whose singing brought down the house. With a volume and harmony that carried all the pleasing qualities of tone, these four young men sang their way into instant favor.

Then Miss Mary Dennison Galley was given an ovation. First came the "Gypsy Airs," then "To a Wild Rose," "Graziso" and "Waltz Caprice." Miss Galley put her soul into the first of her companion selections. In the last of them the caprice of the waltz as well as all the rhythm of its grace and motion leaped from her voilin at touch of the bow. Her interpretation and technique belong only to those who are masters of the bow. Miss Galley has not improved since her last public appearance in her home city. Those who heard her, Wednesday night, say she is now at the very height of her power as a violiniste. Mrs. D.T. Hamilton accompanied Miss Galley on the piano.

The third number on the program was the sensational trunk act by Jacques brothers, one of whom is a Marion boy. This is a mystifying turn. It was put on last winter at the Marion Family theater and caused much comment. Tonight a store goods box made especially for the purpose will be used in which to perform the trick that must be seen to be appreciated.

Little Miss Eva Pront, of Columbus, a child artist of the Elsie Janis type, in her impersonations and character songs, made a profound hit. This child is a stage prodigy. Her voice, though not strong, is clear and well-rounded, and her character work is truly remarkable. The little girl was loudly applauded.

The Buckeye Trio, composed of three Marion boys, made a hit in an aerobatic absurdity called "The Tramp's Dream." It is a part of the original old cabin act, and it is extremely funny. The trio is composed of Ray Bieber, Charles Barringer and Louis Scheidt.

"Happy Jack" Gardner, the popular comedian and monologist, had to respond to repeated encores. As a [unreadable] funmaker, Gardner has all the cakes, in the parlance of the gallery critic. He is an entertainer who dispels [sic] the blues. He sprung one pretty old chestnut - that about the chickens and the hen-pecked husband - but even that was received. He had the audience with him, because there was something about his comedy that appealed to a refined sense of humor.

Following Gardner came the headliner of the bill - Edward F. Sharpless.

Just before the animated pictures at the close of the show, Harry J. Nichols made his appearance and thanked the audience. He announced that the show would be repeated tonight. He declared that the idea of the Tally Wag club giving a vaudeville show originated with Mr. Sharpless, who volunteered his services. In the past the Tally Wags have been contented with a minstrel performance.

The show will go down as the biggest home-talent hit ever given in Marion. The committee, which had charge of all of the arrangements for the event, is composed of H.R. Stoll, D.C. Dee, George V. Schweinfurth, G.H. Foster, Frank Knapp, Harry Mealey, Marshal DeWolfe and Frank Longshore."