78-Year-Old Mother Tells How Her Brood of Five Arrived— Way Back in '96

By MARSHALL SMITH PADUCHA, Ky., Nov. 26.—In a white, three-room farm-house on the Olmstead Ferry Road, 17 miles north of Paducha, Ky., lives a 78-year-old, gray-haired woman who was the wonder of the 19th century the mother of the Mayfield quintu-

Spry, active and adventurously inclined, Mrs. Elizabeth Lyon looked out over the brown, terraced flanks of the fields, and turned back the years to recall her five baby boys, who lived from four to 14 days. She believes they would have lived if they had had the same medical attention and scientific aid that the Dionne bables have had.

It was nearly 40 years ago, the night of April 29, 1696, that Mrs. Lyon became the mother of the

## Natural Color Quin Pictures

DICTURES of the Dionne quintuplets in natural colors, and pictures of other famous bables in rotogravure, will be in a special section of The Herald-

Post Thursday.
The Quins, Shirley Temple,
Our Gang tots, Baby LeRoy... all these and more are coming to visit you in this elaborate picture section.

Mayfield quintuplets. This happened years before Mama Elzire and Papa Oliva Dionne were born and the event perplexed the medical profession of the 19th century. Mrs. Lyon and her husband, Oscar

Lyon, were living with their six other children on a 30-acre tobacco farm in Graves County, just out of May-Prophetic Vision

Just before the babies came Mrs. Lyon had a dream while sitting before the open fire in her little Kentucky home. She had to sleep sitting up. When Mrs. Lyon had her dream it was at a time when men worried about the effects of comets on crops, the medical celery compound were accepted and supernatural interpretations were often eyes shut. given to physical pheonmena. "I dreamed I was going to have

as she sat in a rocking chair before the coal stove of her son's modest home. 'I even dreamed their names-

Mathew, Mark, Luke, John and Paul. Th; day before they arrived I had a letter from my sister saying she and my brother also had a strange dream about me having a number of babies and asking if I was all

Mrs. Lyon brushed back the curly gray bobbed hair with her hand and

"That night, I sent Claude-he was my oldest boy-for the doctor. That was Dr. Mathews. His initials were S. J. He lived in Mayfield. Pretty soon, I heard Dr. Mathews come galloping up on his horse. He brought his saddle bags in with him.
Others Worried; She Didn't

"The doctor was worried, but I wasn't. I had sent for a neighbor, a Mrs. Richardson, a Mrs. Fanny Richardson, but she didn't get there until after the second baby was born.

Dr. Matnews was going to do with 'em. He and Mr. Lyon were scared. I just laughed at them. I said, 'Give 'em to me. They would rub each baby with olive oil and pass 'em over to me. I remember it was cold enough to have a fire going in the fireplace. "There were five boys weighing

from four to five pounds. I knew there would be five of 'em. I wasn't surprised at all." Mrs. Lyon stopped chewing gum-

Matinee Event at 3 P. M.

Night Event at 8:30 P. M.

She played hearts and fires ...

trouble even when he threw

her into jail!

10c-15c Matinee

a girl out of nowhere ... making



Time has wrinkled the brow and whitened the hair of 78-yearold widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Lyon, who on the night of April 29, 1896 gave birth to five boys. The quintuplets were born in a small frame house on a tobacco farm near Mayfield, Ky.

bought teeth for her—and laughed lips together at the next question.

"Pain?" she smiled. "No. I didn't have any trouble. The doctor left about midnight. The babies were man, as she relived those days of 39 horn between 9 and 10 o'cock. I was all right, Dr. Mathews went back to Mayfield and told 'em all about it.

day. We had to borrow enough long dresses to go around, but we put the babies in a rocking chair and pulled it up to the door for the picture. That's why they all had their

"I named them like I dreamed their names, Mathew, Mark, Luke, five or six babies," said Mrs. Lyon Jhn and Paul-but I was the only one who could tell them apart. Three had brown hair and dark eyes and two had light hair and blue eyes. A question about feeding so many

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Until

she still has her own teeth, no store- | babies made Mrs. Lyon pinch her 'My Eables Starved'

"That's one reason they didn't live," declared the 78-year-old woyears ago. "My babies starved to death. We

couldn't feed 'em. A woman came over to help me, but that wasn't "The next morning the people be- over to help me, but that wasn't gan to come in to see my babies. We enough. The people sent me all kinds had their picture made that first of milk and the druggists sent me bottles, but they wouldn't let me use them. Sobody thought much of using bottles in those days.

**ALL STAR** 

**Musical Program** 

TONIGHT AT

7:30

STATION

KTSM

Featuring

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MARSHALL

Coloratura Soprano

THE NEAPOLITAN

SINGERS

METROPOLITAN

Symphony Orchestra

John B. Kennedy

Editor, Author and

Commentator

"My babies were all fully devel- coming."

These are the Mayfield quintuplets, the five baby boys who were born to Mrs. Elizabeth Lyon between 9 and 10 o'clock the night of April 29, 1896, on a tobacco farm near Mayfield, Ky. The babics were named Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Paul. They lived from four to 14 days. This photograph was taken 38 years ago, the morning after the children were born. They were placed in a rocking chair and pulled up to a door so that the ph otographer could take this picture.

6:30 a. m., the second died, living

11 days, eight hours and 30 minutes

May 12, at 11:30 p. m., the third died, living 13 days and two hours;

May 13, at 2:30 p. m., the fourth died,

iving 13 days, 17 hours and 30 min-

utes, and May 14, at 12:30 p. m., the

fifth died, living 14 days, two hours

Mrs. Lyon was in bed only eight

One of Mrs. Lyon's unfulfilled de-

sires has been to go to Corbeil. Ont.

to see Mrs. Dionne and her five

Mrs. Lyon now has an 87-year-old

sister, four sons, a daughter, eight

grandchildren and one great grand-

TODAY IS THE DAY

Matince

and 30 minutes.

daughters.

oped, but they just starved to death ! On May 4, at 3:20 p. m., the small that and the crowds. est child died, living four days, 17 "You never saw the like. The road hours and 20 minutes; May 11, at that and the crowds.

from our house to Mayfield would be just black with people. The railroad would stop the trains, and people. would get off and come in to see my babies. They would nearly smother

"Even after the deputies came to try to keep some order, the people kept coming. Some would crawl in the windows.

"Dr. Mathews suggested to the people that they might make some kind of a donation to help out. He said anybody who wanted to see those babies ought to pay or donate. So people began giving something. They would put it in a glass jar by the head of the bed.

"I saw some of them take out rather than put in. It amounted to about \$600 before people stopped

## CRAWFORD

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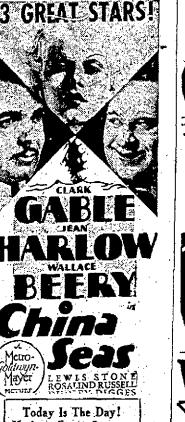
MATINEE-10c-15c

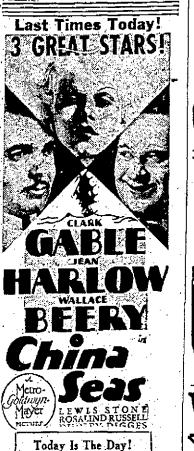
Any girl can get a man ... but it takes a smart one to hold him.... You're not smart!" Sisters fighting tooth and nail for the

COMEDY RIOT-SPORTLIGHT

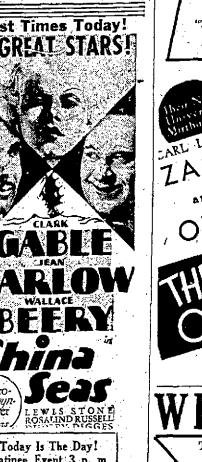
Until

## Today Is The Day! Matinee Event 3 p. m. Night Event 8:30









Tuesday, Nov. 26, 1935 wisor, rural re-settlement division. A thorough study is being made of Stillwater, Okla.

Today L. THE Day

Matince Event 3:00 Night Event 8:30 Special Note: **RADIOS** Last Two Days ROGERS

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Last Times Today JANE WITHERS "THIS IS THE LIFE" Also ... Comedy—News—Caricon

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of the project will depend on the re-

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