

Parsifal

1950

Sunday, October 29, 1950 1:00 PM

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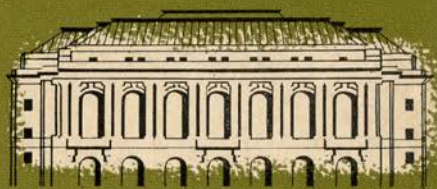
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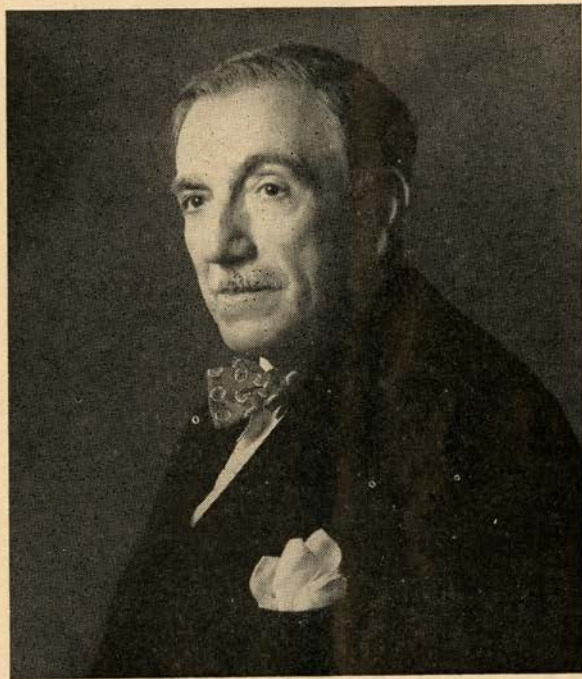
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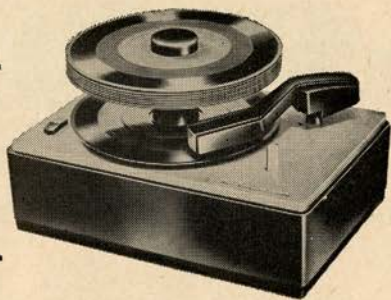
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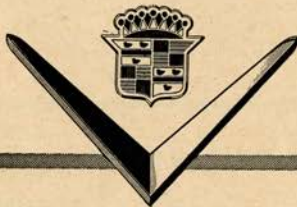
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- THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO** (*Mozart*) *Friday Night, September 29, at 8:00*
 With Mmes. Sayao, Quartararo, Glaz, Turner, Chauveau, Lanyon, Brubaker; Messrs. Tajo, Brownlee, Baccaloni, De Paolis, Cehanovsky, Norville
 PERLEA, Conductor
- TRISTAN UND ISOLDE** (*Wagner*) *Tuesday Night, October 3, at 7:45*
 With Mmes. Flagstad, Glaz; Messrs. Vinay, Sigurd Bjoerling, Ernster, Cehanovsky, Norville, Ford, Schwabacher.
 PERLEA, Conductor
- ANDREA CHENIER** (*Giordano*) *Friday Night, October 6, at 8:00*
 With Mmes. Albanese, Ostrowsky, Turner, Walker, Brubaker; Messrs. Del Monaco, Weede, De Paolis, Herbert, Norville, Ligeti, Sze, Ford, Cehanovsky, Lorenzini
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- OTELLO** (*Verdi*) *Tuesday Night, October 10, at 8:00*
 With Mmes. Tebaldi, Ostrowsky; Messrs. Vinay, Valdengo, Ligeti, De Paolis, Schwabacher, Cehanovsky, R. Nelson
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- THE MAGIC FLUTE** (*Mozart*) in English *Friday Night, October 13, at 8:00*
 With Mmes. Wareskjold, Barabas, Turner, Chauveau, Williams, Lauppe, O'Connell, Sanderson, Baldwin; Messrs. Ernster, Kullman, Brownlee, Sze, Norville, Ligeti, Curzi, Schwabacher, Ford, Harvey, Bond, Louw
 BREISACH, Conductor
- BARBER OF SEVILLE** (*Rossini*) *Wednesday Night, October 18, at 8:00*
 With Mmes. Pons, Turner; Messrs. Conley, Mascherini, Baccaloni, Tajo, Cehanovsky, De Paolis, Harvey
 RESCIGNO, Conductor
- SALOME** (*Richard Strauss*) *Friday Night, October 20, at 8:00*
 With Mmes. Lewis, Turner, Glaz, Baldwin; Messrs. Jagel, Sigurd Bjoerling, Fredericks, Sze, Norville, De Paolis, Schwabacher, Cehanovsky, Ligeti, Ford, Curzi, R. Nelson, Peters, Louw
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- SUOR ANGELICA** (*Puccini*)
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- MANON LESCAUT** (*Puccini*) *Tuesday Night, October 24, at 8:00*
 With Mmes. Kirsten, Glaz; Messrs. Del Monaco, Valdengo, Herbert, De Paolis, Curzi, McVey, Norville, Ford, Harvey
 CLEVA, Conductor
- PARSIFAL** (*Wagner*) *Friday Afternoon, October 27, at 5:00*
 With Mmes. Flagstad, Graf, Glaz, Chauveau, Ostrowsky, Walker, O'Connell, Stephens; Messrs. Kullman, Sigurd Bjoerling, Ernster, Herbert, Ligeti, Ford, Norville, Schwabacher, Curzi
 PERLEA, Conductor
- The opera will begin at 5:00 p.m. with a dinner intermission at about 6:45. The performance will resume at 8:30.

SUNDAY MATINEE SUBSCRIPTION

- AIDA** (*Verdi*) *Sunday Afternoon, October 1, at 2:00*
 With Mmes. Tebaldi, Nikolaidi, Graf; Messrs. Del Monaco, Weede, Tajo, Sze, Curzi
 CLEVA, Conductor
- LA BOHEME** (*Puccini*) *Sunday Afternoon, October 8, at 2:00*
 With Mmes. Sayao, Graf; Messrs. De Stefano, Mascherini, Cehanovsky, Tajo, Baccaloni, Harvey, Lorenzini, Curzi, Kersnar
 KRITZ, Conductor
- ANDREA CHENIER** (*Giordano*) *Sunday Afternoon, October 15, at 2:00*
 With Mmes. Albanese, Ostrowsky, Turner, Walker, Brubaker; Messrs. Del Monaco, Weede, De Paolis, Herbert, Norville, Ligeti, Sze, Ford, Cehanovsky, Lorenzini
 CLEVA, Conductor
- BARBER OF SEVILLE** (*Rossini*) *Sunday Afternoon, October 22, at 2:00*
 With Mmes. Pons, Turner; Messrs. Conley, Mascherini, Baccaloni, Tajo, Cehanovsky, De Paolis, Harvey
 RESCIGNO, Conductor
- PARSIFAL** (*Wagner*) *Sunday Afternoon, October 29, at 1:00*
 With Mmes. Flagstad, Graf, Glaz, Chauveau, Ostrowsky, Walker, O'Connell, Stephens; Messrs. Kullman, Sigurd Bjoerling, Ernster, Herbert, Ligeti, Ford, Norville, Schwabacher, Curzi
 PERLEA, Conductor

MIDWEEK EVENING SUBSCRIPTION

- LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR** (*Donizetti*) *Thursday Night, September 28, at 8:00*
 With Mmes. Pons, Chauveau; Messrs. Di Stefano, Mascherini, Ligeti, Norville, Curzi
 BREISACH, Conductor
- THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO** (*Mozart*) *Wednesday Night, October 4, at 8:00*
 With Mmes. Sayao, Quartararo, Wareskjold, Turner, Chauveau, Lanyon, Brubaker; Messrs. Tajo, Brownlee, Baccaloni, De Paolis, Cehanovsky, Norville
 PERLEA, Conductor
- TRISTAN UND ISOLDE** (*Wagner*) *Thursday Night, October 12, at 7:45*
 With Mmes. Flagstad, Glaz; Messrs. Vinay, Sigurd Bjoerling, Ligeti, Cehanovsky, Norville, Ford, Schwabacher
 PERLEA, Conductor
- OTELLO** (*Verdi*) *Thursday Night, October 19, at 8:00*
 With Mmes. Tebaldi, Ostrowsky; Messrs. Vinay, Valdengo, Ligeti, De Paolis, Schwabacher, Cehanovsky, R. Nelson
 CLEVA, Conductor

(Continued on Tenth Page Over)

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SATURDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 28, at 8:00

LA BOHEME

Opera in four acts. Music by Giacomo Puccini.

Text by Giacosa and Illica.

THE CAST

Mimi, an embroideress.....	BIDU SAYAO	
Musetta, a grisette.....	UTA GRAF	
Rudolph, a poet.....	} The Four Bohemians {GIUSEPPE DI STEFANO
Marcel, painter.....	FRANCESCO VALENTINO
Schaunard, musician.....	GEORGE CEHANOVSKY
Colline, philosopher.....	ITALO TAJO
Benoit, an importunate landlord Alcindoro, state councilor and admirer of Musetta	}SALVATORE BACCALONI
Customhouse Sergeant.....	MAX LORENZINI
Customhouse Guard.....COLIN HARVEY	
Parpignol.....CAESAR CURZI	
A Boy.....MICHAEL KERSNAR	

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Boys selected from San Francisco Boys Chorus.*



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ARMANDO AGNINI

CONDUCTOR
KARL KRITZ

CHORUS DIRECTOR
KURT HERBERT ADLER



TIME AND PLACE: About 1830; Paris
Act I: Garret of the Bohemians
Act II: Terrace of the Cafe Momus
Act III: A City Gate of Paris
Act IV: Same as Act I

Because of copyright the story of the opera cannot be printed.

Encores not permitted—Bell rings three minutes before curtain rises

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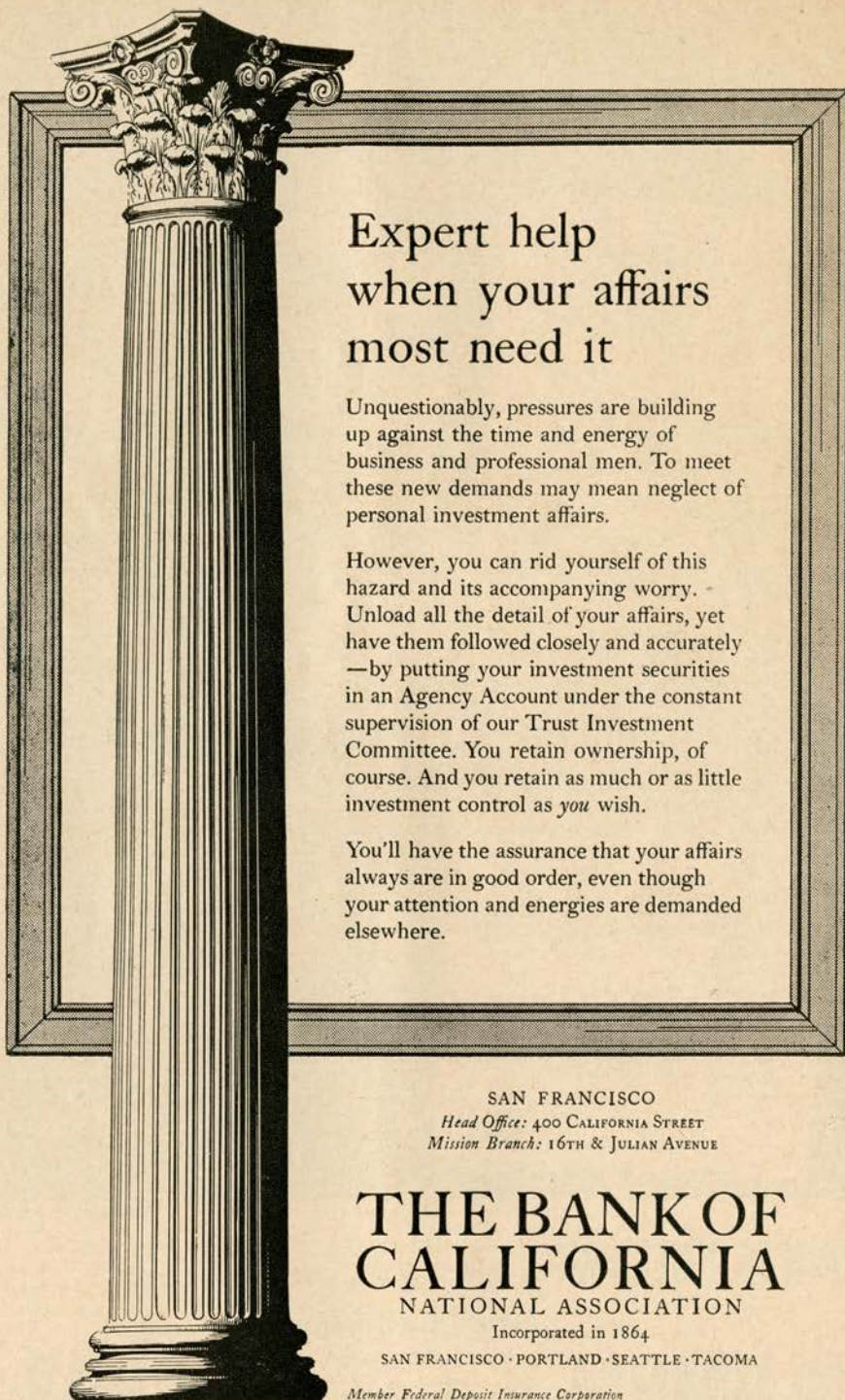
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SUNDAY MATINEE, OCTOBER 29, at 1:00

PARSIFAL

Sacred Festival Music-drama in three acts.

Music and Text by Richard Wagner; based on the legend of the Holy Grail.

THE CAST

Titirel, a Holy Knight.....DESIRE LIGETI
Amfortas, his Son, Keeper of the Holy Grail.....SIGURD BJOERLING
Gurnemanz, a Veteran Knight of the Grail.....DEZSO ERNSTER
Parsifal, a "Guileless Fool".....CHARLES KULLMAN
Klingsor, an Evil Magician.....RALPH HERBERT
Kundry, an Enchantress.....KIRSTEN FLAGSTAD
A Voice.....DONNA WALKER
First and Second Knights.....CAESAR CURZI, JOHN FORD
Four Esquires.....UTA GRAF, HERTA GLAZ,
HUBERT NORVILLE, JAMES SCHWABACHER
Six of Klingsor's Flower Maidens.....UTA GRAF,
YVONNE CHAUVEAU, HERTA GLAZ, JO'ANN O'CONNELL,
JOYCE STEPHENS, ALICE OSTROWSKY.

*Knights of the Grail, Klingsor's Flower Maidens, Youths and Boys.
Boys Selected from San Francisco Boys Chorus*



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ARMANDO AGNINI

CONDUCTOR

JONEL PERLEA

CHORUS DIRECTOR

KURT HERBERT ADLER



TIME AND PLACE: Middle Ages; Monsalvat, Spain

Act I: Scene 1, A Forest near Monsalvat
Scene 2, Hall in Temple of the Holy Grail

Act II: Scene 1, Court of Klingsor's Castle
Scene 2, Enchanted Garden of Klingsor's Castle

Act III: Scene 1, Grounds of Monsalvat
Scene 2, Same as Act I, Scene 2

Settings designed by Armando Agnini and Eugene B. Dunkel.

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San Francisco Opera Association.

The San Francisco Opera Association is ever mindful of the great assistance the San Francisco Opera Guild has rendered during its thirteen years. Not only have they made it possible for many thousands of students to hear opera at their low prices, but have taken on the further responsibility of assisting the Opera Association in paying for new productions whenever possible. Their gift to the Association this year of the "Parsifal" production by funds they have raised from their myriad activities is indeed deeply appreciated.

Encores not permitted — Bell rings three minutes before curtain rises

The Story of "Parsifal"

PREFACE—"Parsifal" is the legend of the Holy Grail, the cup that caught the blood from the side of Christ on the cross and He blessed. The cup and the sacred spear that pierced the side of Christ came into the custody of Titurel and the Knights of the Holy Grail who have guarded them in their Temple of Montsalvat atop the Pyrenees. Becoming old, Titurel had appointed his son, Amfortas, keeper of the Grail. Angry at not having been made a knight of the Grail, Klingsor, a sorcerer, had built a magic castle and garden near the castle of the Grail. Under his spell he had brought Kundry, who in a previous incarnation had mocked at Christ on the cross, and surrounded her with maidens of ravishing beauty to lure the Knights to their downfall. In ordinary existence Kundry is an uncouth and penitent creature bent only on service to the Grail but under the spell of Klingsor is transformed into a defiant and beautiful woman whose blandishments none can resist. Amfortas, in an attempt to vanquish the sorcerer had himself fallen to her wiles and while in her arms had been robbed of the sacred spear by Klingsor and with it wounded in the side. He had returned to the castle heavy with remorse and stabbed by pain. But he cannot die nor can his wound be healed until it is touched by the sacred spear in the hands of a "guileless fool" to be brought to Montsalvat by heavenly messengers.

ACT I—SCENE 1—Gurnemanz and the esquires awaken and kneel to offer up their morning prayers. Kundry, penitent now, comes with a balsam from India to heal Amfortas' wound. Amfortas is borne by in a litter. He accepts the balsam but does not hope for a cure until the "guileless one" comes. Gurnemanz here relates the story of the Grail and the wounding of Amfortas. Suddenly a wounded swan falls among them and Parsifal appears. Gurnemanz rebukes him for killing the swan, for all birds and animals are sacred near the Grail. He confesses to having shot the swan but says that he sees no wrong in it. Gurnemanz is impressed by his innocence. Kundry startles Parsifal by telling him that his mother had died since he left home. Astounded he seizes Kundry and attempts to strangle her but Gurnemanz prevents him from doing her harm. Again Parsifal sees no wrong in his act. Gurnemanz is still more impressed and thinking he may be the Promised One invites the youth to go with him to the temple of the Grail.

SCENE 2—The knights are about to celebrate the feast of communion. Amfortas is brought in. The aged Titurel commands him to unveil the Grail which gives spiritual strength to all who look upon it. Amfortas feels that he is unworthy and begs to be spared both the spiritual and physical pain but finally obeys. The Knights drink from their goblets and eat bread. Parsifal does not join in the communion. The Grail is covered again and all withdraw except Gurnemanz and Parsifal. The former, now believing that the youth is nothing but a stupid fool warns him against further shooting of swans and ejects him from the temple.

ACT II—SCENE 1—Klingsor knowing that his power is threatened by the "guileless fool" awakens Kundry from her sleep. He mocks the obedient, half-rebellious woman because of her remorse and orders her to exert all her wiles to lure Parsifal. Darkness falls and the castle sinks. In its place appear the enchanted gardens.

SCENE 2—The lovely maidens who people the gardens bewail the slaughter of their lovers. Parsifal scales the wall. Arraying themselves in flowers, the maidens attempt to beguile him. But he does not succumb to temptation. Kundry, now bewitchingly beautiful, lies in wait for him. She tells him of his father and mother and he sinks down at her feet. Her arms around him she presses her kiss upon his lips. For the first time the youth knows passion and feels what he thinks is the wound of Amfortas in his own breast. Now knowing how Amfortas was lured to sin in love's gardens he comes to his feet, his eyes opened at last, and denounces Kundry. She suffers intense grief but Parsifal tells her that if he sinned with her he too would be damned. Klingsor appears and hurls his spear at Parsifal. But a miracle happens. It hangs in mid-air. Parsifal seizing the spear makes with it the sign of the cross and Klingsor is annihilated together with his castle and his gardens. Kundry falls insensible. Parsifal disappears.

ACT III—SCENE 1—Years have passed. Parsifal, wandering, ever holds to the sacred spear. The aged Gurnemanz finds Kundry in a thicket almost lifeless. He revives her. She has repented and has consecrated herself wholly to the service of the Grail. Parsifal comes with the spear. Gurnemanz recognizes him as the "guileless one" and is overjoyed. Kundry humbly washes his feet and dries them with her hair. Gurnemanz anoints him. Parsifal baptizes Kundry exhorting her to trust in God. He sings of the country's beauty. It is Good Friday and the bells call the Knights to prayer. Parsifal is arrayed in a robe of the Grail Knights.

SCENE 2—Titurel is dead and his body is brought in with the Grail. Once more the cup is to be unveiled. Amfortas again shrinks in agony from looking upon the Grail. He pleads with the Knights to slay him and release him from his terrible pain. But now Parsifal enters and touches the wound of Amfortas with the spear. Instantly it heals. Titurel, coming back to life for a moment, sees Parsifal kneeling before the Grail. Kundry dies forgiven. A dove descends and hovers over the head of Parsifal—the new keeper of the Grail.

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 ADLER, Conductor

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 Messrs. Ernster, Kullman, Brownlee, Sze, Norville, Ligeti, Curzi, Schwabacher, Ford,
 Harvey, Bond, Louw
 BREISACH, Conductor

CONCERT DIVISION PERFORMANCE

LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR (*Donizetti*) *Monday Night, October 2, at 8:00*
 With Mmes. Pons, Chauveau; Messrs. Conley, Valentino, Ligeti, Norville, Curzi
 BREISACH, Conductor

EXTRA PERFORMANCE

LA BOHEME (*Puccini*) *Saturday Night, October 28, at 8:00*
 With Mmes. Sayao, Graf; Messrs. Di Stefano, Valentino, Cehanovsky, Tajo, Baccaloni, Harvey,
 Lorenzini, Curzi, Kersnar
 MEROLA, Conductor

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MADAMA BUTTERFLY (*Puccini*) *Thursday Matinee, October 19 and 26, at 1:00*
 With Mmes. Kirsten, *Glaz, Chauveau; Messrs. Conley, Valentino, De Paolis, Sze, Cehanovsky,
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 RESCIGNO, Conductor
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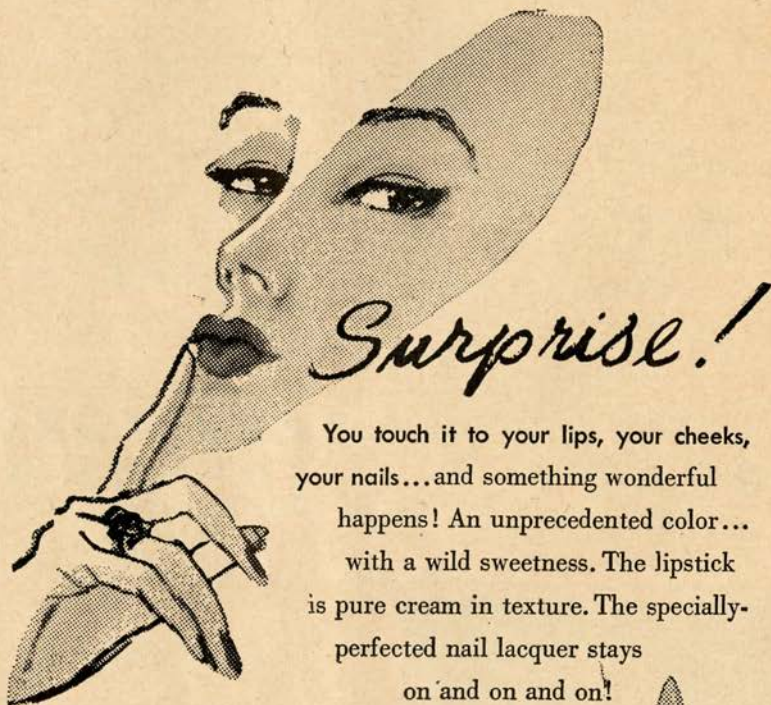
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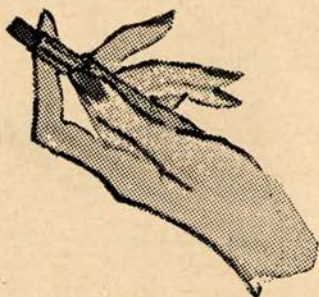
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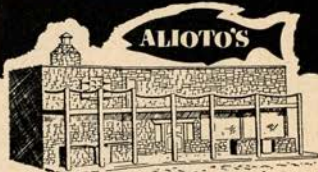
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