

No Wonder FP&L Is Getting Skittish!

WE ONLY know what a United Press dispatch from Tallahassee tells us.

"Warren has not yet indicated officially what sources he thinks can be tapped for new taxes," says the dispatch, printed in the Herald the other day, "but he apparently is considering new or higher levies on public utilities, banks, railroads, intangibles and a severance tax on lumber and minerals."

You'll note that PUBLIC UTILITIES came FIRST!

Gov. Warren obviously sees how ridiculous it

would be for Florida to go broke while a bunch of Wall St. privateers owning the Florida Power & Light Co. are taking millions a month out of the state in profits that COULD be channeled into the state treasury!

Miami is already financially distressed. It cannot make needed repairs, let alone buy and build and improve where necessary for expansion.

Forward-thinking leaders of Miami should

start NOW acquiring the Florida Power & Light Co.'s facilities for the municipality, whether by condemnation or by direct purchase.

That course will lead us eventually into prosperity. If, instead of turning it over to this greedy Wall St. outfit for another 30 years when the franchise expires six years hence, the city takes it over, we'll possess what'll eventually become a BILLION-DOLLAR ASSET!



Browning King Is Cheating Customers, Employes Say

IN FRONT of the three-sided mirror at the men's clothing store of Browning King Co., Inc. (Penna.), 227 E. Flagler st., the little light is broken. It has been out for at least two years.

Bright illumination is not wanted when men try on new coats and suits. Light might reveal the blemishes in the suits, the holes in a coat, the discoloration in the collar, the shoddy material. That would interfere with sales . . . (Wait until the

suckers have paid for the stuff and gone home! Then it's too late to kick . . . Just try and get your money back!)

This well-known downtown shop, we are told, has been gypping the public, selling second-rate suits, pants and other masculine apparel at first-rate prices. Oh, yes!—the original tags are on the garments—\$35 to \$60 for a suit. And it's labeled "Browning King." That

means something. (Or did!) But actually the suits, if examined, will reveal their cheapness and damaged condition. It's stuff that ought to be selling in second-hand stores for \$5, more or less.

The managers who have been defrauding the public in turn charge, that the owner, the big boss, Benjamin Wilkes of Philadelphia, has been gypping them.

It is a fantastic and amazing story of double dealing.

Appeals to the Better Business Bureau and Miami Chamber of Commerce have brought no action.

Complaints by customers have been given the run-around by the store.

The managers say they have been taken for a financial ride themselves.

Here is the startling exposure they make of the complicated crookedness.

Sol Brooks (Steinbock) of 1056 Euclid, Miami Beach, was a victim manager and he is turning the light on the operations of this and similar shops operating under the Browning King name in Miami, Hollywood, and Fort Lauderdale. He makes the charges and offers the proof. He is preparing to file suit through his attorney, Martin Lemlich.

Browning King was an old New York clothing store with a well-established reputation. Some years ago Wilkes purchased the right to use the Browning King name in certain other states, opened stores in Philadelphia and Pennsylvania cities, and more recently in Florida. It is the shops in South Florida with which this exposure

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'TORTURE DOCTOR' IS LINKED WITH PAINTER'S DEATH

THE SORDID background of Miami's "Torture Doctor," T. Earl Moore, becomes spotlighted this week as the fact emerges that the victim of Miami's most recent ghoulish death of the year was a patient of Dr. Moore. Authorities haven't determined whether Earl D. Kuhl, painter, found in his car, was murdered or whether he tortured himself to death.

If a suicide, he joins the long list of Moore patients who ended their existence in a similar manner in recent years.

There was the wife of a well-known Miami newspaperman who was found hanged in her house. She was under Dr. Moore's spell . . . The same was true of a young girl who, after visiting a depressing movie—where she'd gone upon Dr. Moore's advice—committed suicide outside his office and was discovered by the doctor, who called it a "sorry mess."

Then there was the 19-year-old boy who was found shot in a cabin owned by Dr. Moore. The boy refused to tell how he came to be wounded. His parents, however, refused to let Dr. Moore see him, after they were called here. (He is now a successful newspaperman in Denver, Col., recovering after he got outside Dr. Moore's "influence.")

These were just a FEW of Dr. Moore's patients who could take it no longer.

Among them, we clearly remember the University of Miami girl student who was so under his spell that she publicly declared she despised her own mother. A court action by her parents caused Circuit Judge Barns (now supreme court justice) to order her to

return to her northern home and get away from Dr. Moore. She, too, returned to normal after a short stay there.

Then, too, there was the case of a Miami school teacher who, shortly after she took a Dr. Moore "treatment," likewise renounced her mother, who was very aged—and became so fascinated by Dr. Moore that she professed she couldn't go to sleep at night without some memento of his in her hand.

MIAMI LIFE has written before of patients of Dr. Moore who were tied to beds with bedsheets and cruelly punished, mercilessly "third-degreed," by Dr. Moore, and mishandled in such a manner that they became physical and mental wrecks within a few days' time.

Dr. Moore, we must point out, is not permitted to practice in any hospital or respectable sanitarium. Most doctors know his methods only too well (some openly call him "madman," "murderer," etc.) but they are so bound by ethics that they haven't yet taken action against him or informed the public of the danger of dealing with him . . . nor have they disciplined doctors who collaborate with Dr. Moore by sending patients to him.

If the Kuhl case should develop into a murder, it would seem to have been the deed of a madman or a vert

Now Dr. Moore has as a patient, a patient, one Howard R. ("Red") Hartman, who resides at the 1000 apartments, S. W. 17th avenue and 8th street—who is a painter (authorities investigating the mysterious death say it may have been an argument over a

(Continued on Page 8)

Dog Tracks Court Doom

WE HAVE just this to say to those who seem so sure they have Dade county summer dog-racing in the bag: It is almost certain to kill dog-racing altogether, and perhaps horse-racing along with it!

Even the racing authorities themselves admit privately there's too much racing in Metropolitan Miami. It has become a seven-months' drain upon our economy, instead of (as originally sold to us) an efficient trap for loose tourist dollars. And it's breaking the natives, instead of our visitors.

Do you think our merchants, already suffering from its effects, will stand idly by and see it quickly bleed the community to death?

Certainly not!

If this mad scheme to introduce summer racing goes through, the immediate result will most likely be a court test for the entire pari-mutuel gambling set-up.

Lotteries are constitutionally forbidden in Florida.

Undoubtedly, pari-mutuel betting comes under the head of a lottery.

THERE IS also talk of going to court to define the rights of our citizenry to revoke or outlaw any or all racetracks.

In brief, to make it just as easy to close them as open them!

Back in 1931 the state legislature passed the first racing bill permitting elections to be held

in any county where a small percentage of voters petitioned for them.

And after one or more racetracks had thus been voted into operation, it took only 15 per cent of the voters signing a petition to obtain an election for repeal of any one of them, or all of them.

To discourage any attempts to repeal racing, the Dade tracks for some time maintained a \$50,000 charity fund that was dispensed as local institutions specified.

Then, while no one was looking, an amendment was slipped into the racing bill that made it virtually impossible for Dade citizens to get rid of racing! . . . Under that amendment, an election cannot be called unless 25 per cent of the voters of Dade county go IN PERSON TO THE COURT HOUSE AND SIGN A PETITION! Obviously it is illegal.

UP TO this season racetrack antagonism hadn't yet got to the point where our citizens have felt like supporting a court battle to restore their rights.

But if summer racing is crammed down their throats—and what little this area's workers can eke out this summer is going to be hogged by the tracks—YOU'LL SEE HELL POPPING!

In fact, that fight would have been started already, if it hadn't been so obvious that Broward county would thus have been handed a racetrack monopoly.

Dade countians aren't that mad—YET!

GOP FALSE FACE

CONTRARY to general opinion, Republicans have not given up the ghost. House GOP Leader Joseph P. Martin, Jr., says that the Republicans are going to launch the biggest public relations and vote-getting drive in history.

Their biggest job, he declares, will be to let the people know what the Republicans are doing here in congress.

"I don't think," he said, "that for the last three or four years we've been selling our case. The record we made has been distorted and unfairly represented. It's time we took matters in our own hands and let the people know where we stand."

Yes, Mr. Martin, the people might not know where you stand now, after your sweeping loss at the polls last November (although 90 per cent of the American press tried to clinch it for you)—and they might not know where you stood two years ago when you so fortunately won control of the House and the Senate—

But by your actions from two years ago up until last November, they learned, in no uncertain manner, that YOUR welfare and that of the people were NOT PARALLEL!

They learned in time. So a Republican president was NOT permitted to enter the White House to aid and abet the Powers of Greed that unquestionably have controlled the Republican Party up until this session of Congress.

If you think that the people will be misguided by this sudden pose of liberality on your part—now that you're in the minority and have no chance of putting across any legislation that might be harmful to the liberal forces that restored a liberal Democratic administration to power—you are sadly mistaken.

The record of the Anti-People 80th Congress is indelibly written in the consciousness of the American people.

The fact that you say you're not worried where your money is coming from to conduct your future campaign, indicates only too well where your paid propaganda is coming from.

HEAR

Miami Life
Speaks!

6:45 P. M. Daily
(Except Tuesday)

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It's What You Put In Life

NEW STATE SCHOOL HEAD ASKS SUPPORT OF LIFE

State of Florida
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Tallahassee

January 31, 1949

Editor
Miami Life
Miami, Florida

The newspapers of Florida have always played a major role in the development of programs for state betterment and improvement and in bringing to the attention of our citizenry the needs of our people. This is especially true in education.

Without the help of the newspapers of our state—without your

help—it is doubtful if the great educational program of 1947 would have come to pass. For your excellent assistance in this instance, and for your fine cooperation in all matters of education, both county and state, the school people of Florida are deeply grateful.

As State Superintendent of Public Instruction, I have before me the task of solidifying the gains made in past years, keeping our schools abreast of educational changes and trends, and of providing for our children the very best in educational facilities and opportunities. I shall exert all my efforts in this direction.

From past experience, the people of Florida know that they can rely upon the press of our state for fair and unbiased treatment of controversial issues and full support of measures which will assure better educational opportunities for our youth. I want you to know that, in all matters of educational policy and information, you can count on my assistance and the concerted efforts of the staff of the State Department of Education in working with you in bringing to the attention of the public the program and problems of Florida's educational system. Please call on me if I can ever be of any assistance to you.

THOS. D. BAILEY,
Superintendent.

MASON at MIDNIGHT

(Mason at Midnight is heard every night from 11 P. M. to 3 A. M. thru WINZ, 940 on your dial, coming direct from Studios of WINZ, 300 Lincoln Road, Miami Beach.)

By LEE MASON

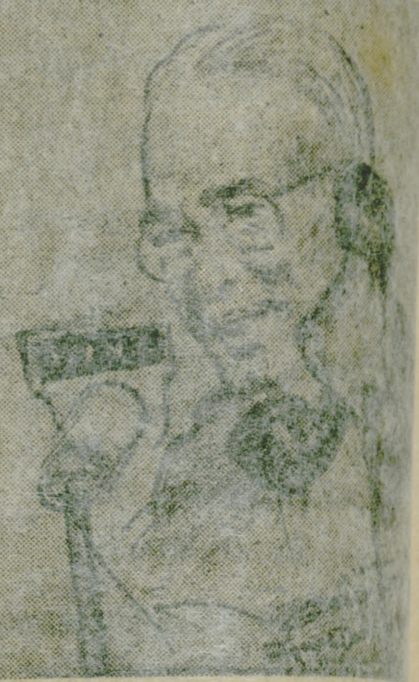
Tuesday night the Stevers brought the regular theatre back to the beach with Edward Everett Horton and Glenda Farrell in "Springtime for Henry." The show is a couple of hours of Horton at his best and he rambles through the part doing what you have seen him do in a long string of motion pictures and perhaps in the theatre many times before. He gets a lot of laughs probably because most of us recognize the character he portrays and I don't believe that anywhere there are as many characters of that type as on Miami Beach. Miss Farrell did very well as the wife with big-time ambitions and the husband whose carburetor factory needed only Dewlip's contract to put him on the road to fortune. Joan Morgan as Miss Smith was satisfactory, and inasmuch as we left at the end of the second act, I never did find out what Lynn Bailey did. The opening show had an over-capacity audience and it was most interesting to note that they were not the regular first-nighters but obviously people who were interested in watching a stage play. At the same time it would seem that somebody should have warned the Stevers what they were getting into with that big barn of a room if it is insufficiently ventilated and if an adequate PA system is not provided. A gentleman stepped between the curtains after the first act and made an apology to the audience advising them that the management felt very sorry about the ventilation and the inability of the people in the back rows to hear—but he said it would all be attended to and he felt sure that if they came back again they would be far more comfortable. One thing they did forget to mention—that the green-painted seats in the second section left souvenirs on the clothing of the people who sat in them and one of the most interesting sidelights of the show was to see the gang work with the turpentine can and a piece of cloth scrubbing the paint from the ladies' dresses and the gentlemen's coats. There's a rear-end gag in the show and it sort of looked as though this might have been a peculiar publicity stunt with the number of green rear ends that were coming out to be scrubbed off. There may be something symbolic in that after all because in traffic signals universally green means "go." There's no doubt that the people are show-conscious and show-hungry and with the outstanding performers and shows that the Stevers plan to bring down I for one sincerely hope that they get everything satisfactorily ironed out so that the public can enjoy what is going on. The big wish, of course, would be for a decent theatre to play it in, but that's not the Stevers' fault. To sum up—I think an evening at their Oceanside Theatre, while far from being a hundred per cent Broadway—is well worth while.

said in effect, "The thing shouldn't be because all those wealthy people sat there, took in the show with all these stars and then gave no money." I was told the following day that several thousand dollars had been raised for the March of Dimes, but as I write this I haven't had an opportunity to speak to any of those who sponsored the affair, so I don't know which story is correct. I do know that Mr. Neil Hayes, who with Jess Yarborough, chairman for Dade County for the March of Dimes, told me that next year they would try to run one monster affair at Dinner Key and avoid all of this bickering that has been going on this year. Personally I think they will be far better off, because with one monster show like that and everybody cooperating to sell the 10,000 seats, there's a great possibility that they can take in from 25 to 50 per cent of the quota on one night's show.

Looking over the list of acts in town we think that the National Board of AGVA was here in session. Latest arrival, Henry Dunn, national treasurer, who with his partner, Allan Cross, opened for Sam Barken at the Five o'Clock Club. Sam Barken's illness has prevented his being at the club as usual, and Barbara has been quite as busy answering calls about Sam as she has been taking care of the children. Perennial favorites like Cross and Dunn are insurance for any night club, and there's no doubt in anyone's mind that the boys will hold up their end on the Miami Beach scene.

Miami Life's prediction in relation to the current season has unfortunately proven only too true. Riding Collins ave., and as a matter of fact every section of the beach, there are flocks of vacancy signs, although in the last week the Beach front hotels have reported far better business. Many people from the north say that friends of theirs have hesitated to come down because of the wild gangster stories they have read about Miami Beach in the northern newspapers—and coupled with them, the stories of the complete shut-down on gambling here. Many of them have gone to other parts of Florida, but far too many have looked at the dollar time, gone out and bought a sun lamp and remained in their northern homes.

Gertrude Niesen at the Brook Club, lovelier than ever, and singing better songs. Wonder if she remembers back to the days at the Royal Palm for Children when a local columnist tore her hide off and I tried my best to save the wound... Penny Art's managerial stint guaranteed to be satisfactory to Louie Brooks of the Rainbow... and maybe Maxie Capp can explain why she is carried in the Red Barn ads. Danny and Doc at the Jewel Box on Venetian Causeway report very fine business and with no big stars to pay. Frankie Caslar, who took over Al Mercur's Latin Room in the Pan American Hotel, seems to have given the spot the needed shot in the arm. Bill Jordan with Dave Elliott at the twin pianos happily because of the return of Beth Challis... one girl who seems to have the room wrapped up. Maxie and Willie at the Paddock marking time with the current show until the 10th, when Stepin Fetchit will or won't open. Timiest of the big-name comics, Alan Gale, still presenting one of the biggest shows at his Celebrity Club. Phil Regan, who has always been a great favorite in the area, supported by a fine show doing just average business at the Mayfair and aver-



age business is the story of the spots. Dinner show very big and after that really nothing. Buddy Gracie Barrie and Cab Calloway at the Clover Club have packed them for every show except the two forty-five heard last night that business that show was picking up. Beachcomber show with Jackie Miles and the Vagabonds remains in my mind the buy of the season and how can do it all for five dollars, mystery to me. It is a good and a half or more of laughs you can't blame the people not wanting to leave. Eddie Chang in the review at the Doll doing all right, but I want a real laugh ask Joe Rogers, the nudging what new name is in Chinese. Zwill and the Zwillians at the Mardi Gras on Collins Avenue, and here's hoping he will be able to bring back Vanderbilt Square spot. Paul Gump and Martin at the Club—best rough show in any. Jennie Goldstein, one of the loves of the Yiddish Theatre opened Thursday at the Plant the Beach. Phil's Barber carrying so many rumors you can settle any question your own satisfaction by stand still in the middle of the street for a minute. It is still the Patrol of the area. What's the story about the big contribution (in reverse) that Bob Hope gave to the March of Dimes which was here—and could he spare The Barton Brothers at the manian repeating their war comedy success here. Phil Bouche at his Latin Quarter. Venice now doing his regular stunt in addition to the undraped in the show. Silver Dollar Jake Schreiber, if the phicians permit, will reproduce Silver Dollar Fund Show for European tour of Camps and Hospitals, and if successful continue across the Pacific. At last all the folks who host them and the bars who have the are going to be able to show vision pictures—maybe—perhaps.

And that's about it until next week. For the first time in many seasons after midnight in February on the streets is much less after midnight in September.

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Tobacco Cancer Menace

WE'RE sure all MIAMI LIFE readers were struck by the significant conclusion reached by Richard E. Berger, B.S., in his article, "Why Have Cancer." We'll repeat it: "It is very costly for all of us that over 100 millions of dollars is being spent in the United States for tobacco advertising every year. This expenditure prevents the gruesome facts regarding tobacco smoking as a cause of cancer from reaching the public through newspapers, magazines and radio."

But it's more far-reaching than that. For these same newspapers that mold public opinion influence politicians to an even greater degree.

And thus these newspapers maintain an absolute control over the educational system.

So now you have the real reason our children aren't told in school how harmful tobacco is to health and longevity . . . the real reason why tobacco usage has increased a 100 fold in recent years instead of disappearing with enlightenment.

If our young were given the benefit of the tobacco research that able scientists have carried on, always in the face of stern disapproval from the Biggies whose fortunes are bolstered by the almost universal tobacco addiction, why within a generation or two there would be few smokers left in the United States!

These facts cited by Expert Bergeren can be proved. They cannot be successfully denied.

But— They can be SUPPRESSED!

That's the influence a hundred million dollars, shrewdly distributed amongst our "Free Press," has in this year of 1949!

On the evidence already submitted by unabashed scientists, tobacco smoking could be outlawed—and should be!

Browning King Is Cheating

is concerned. The case of Brooks illustrates what happened to several others. Brooks had been associated with Wilkes in Pennsylvania as a paid employee and publicity man. He believed everything was on the up and up.

One day Wilkes offered him what he thought was a fine opportunity. Deposit \$2,000 with Wilkes as security, and he would be sent to Miami to take over the management of the Flagler st. store.

He could have 50 per cent of the profits—which ought to mount into thousands.

Brooks accepted, scratched around to find the money. He took over management of the store April 21, 1947, and remained until May 21, 1948. That was all he could stand.

Brooks charges that he did not even get his original investment of \$2,000 back, and apparently there were seldom any profits, despite the fact that he did \$117,000 worth of business, a good share of which should have been profit. All receipts were

to be deposited in the First National Bank, from which Wilkes drew the money.

Brooks informed MIAMI LIFE that he was not expected to hold out any money. And yet that was the only way he could live, the only way by which he could feed his family and pay his own rent, or pay the help and the various expenses at the store. As a manager, he says, he did not receive a salary.

Holding out money by not recording certain sales was the method that Brooks admits managers follow from time to time in order to exist. Thus the managers could be charged with thievery or embezzlement if Wilkes so wished. It was a lever to hold over them.

The shoddy material was shipped to him, declared Brooks, and he was charged with it on the basis of the high retail prices, although a \$12 pair of pants may not have cost Wilkes a dollar.

One time, asserted Brooks, 74 suits that had been soaked in water were sent to Miami from the Fort Lauderdale store, and he was

WILL \$30,000 JACKPOT DWINDLE

A Miami Beach winter resident who won \$30,000 on the Miami Herald-WQAM American Broadcasting Co. give-away program has learned that it's not so easy to collect the prizes as winning them.

Joseph Dube, a newspaperman, walked off with the "jackpot" on the "Go for the House" program heard Sundays at 7 p. m. One of the prizes was a two-weeks vacation at the Caribbean hotel, Miami Beach.

But when Dube called the hotel long distance at his own expense he was told he couldn't collect the prize until summer. That's when the winter rates are over.

His two weeks at the hotel figured at winter rates would come to \$230. That was figured in the \$30,000 of prizes. But at a \$6 a day summer rate it would come to \$84! If this one prize is any indication his \$30,000 "jackpot" will dwindle considerably.

TORTURE DOCTOR

(Continued from Page 1)

painting contract that caused Kuhl's death). Now this man Hartman today has five charges pending against him—all "crimes against nature"—and is at liberty now in the custody of DR. MOORE'S PERSONAL ATTORNEYS!

Hartman is currently taking care of another patient of Dr. Moore—a wealthy Miami business man who, according to reports reaching us, is ENTIRELY AT THE MERCY OF DR. MOORE! AND IN DANGER OF LOSING HIS BUSINESS TO DR. MOORE!

To top all this off, Dr. Moore, in the company of Dr. E. E. Chambers who has referred many patients to Dr. Moore, PERFORMED A POSTMORTEM ON KUHL'S BODY AT MID-NIGHT LAST SATURDAY! AFTER KUHL HAD ALREADY BEEN COMMITTED TO BURIAL!

Why was Dr. Moore so interested? We'd like like that question answered!

We'd also like to know IF painter Kuhl WAS A VICTIM OF DR. MOORE'S HYPNOTIC SUGGESTIONS!

The \$64 Question

ACCORDING to statistics, the long-distance call for Metropolitan Miami number 12 per cent more than last year at this time. So, make no mistake about it, the People are here!

What's in their pocketbook? Ah, that's different!

The ones who spurge—who go to wild resorts to PAY HARD—are staying away.

Last season there was no liberal policy in Dade county or the surrounding counties.

Miami no longer entices them. We'd better look to our laurels!

The increased cost of Miami living, too, has resulted in competition.

Steamship companies are cutting their rates by some 23 per cent to European resorts—where ALL types of entertainment—all conceivable "liberality"—are heralded.

What do we want from here on out—a liberal resort policy, or a conservative INDUSTRIAL policy? . . . There is no compromise between the two that can be successful, economically!

THE SHOW OF A LIFE TIME

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