

# **Center city**®

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AUGUST 7, 1975

For the first time since its move to 1947 Poplar, Circuit Playhouse will stage a major production outside of its Midtown location. The production will be an environmentalist staging of Lanford Wilson's "Hot'l Baltimore." It will be performed in the lobby of the King Cotton Hotel on Jefferson from February 27 to March 15.

The play itself is set in a hotel lobby and will utilize the existing lobby, reception desk, entrance ways and staircases of the King Cotton. (Permission for the production was secured from the owners through Jerry Hanover.) It needs but some temporary electrical work to make it ideally suited for the atmosphere of the show. The audience will be seated in the lobby and on the mezzanine surrounding and looking down into the lobby. The seating capacity for each performance is expected to be about 200.

The performance will be directed by Gene Wilkins, who recently directed the Circuit Playhouse production of "Veronica's Room." Not many months back, Mr. Wilkins appeared as Teddy in Circuit's production of "When You Comin' Back Red Ryder."

The opening performance will be by invitation only. And one of the

## LIVE THEATRE RETURNS



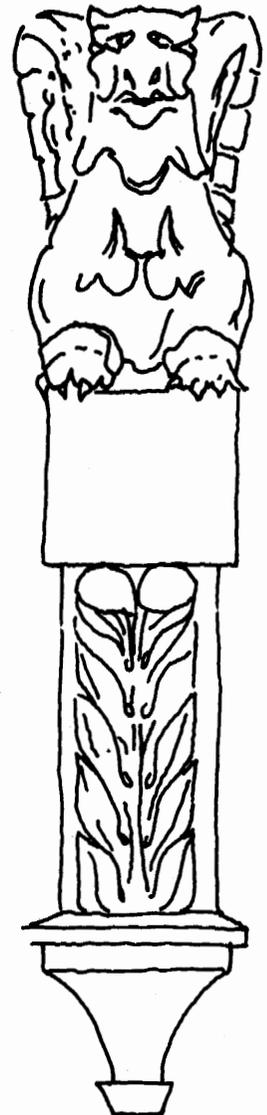
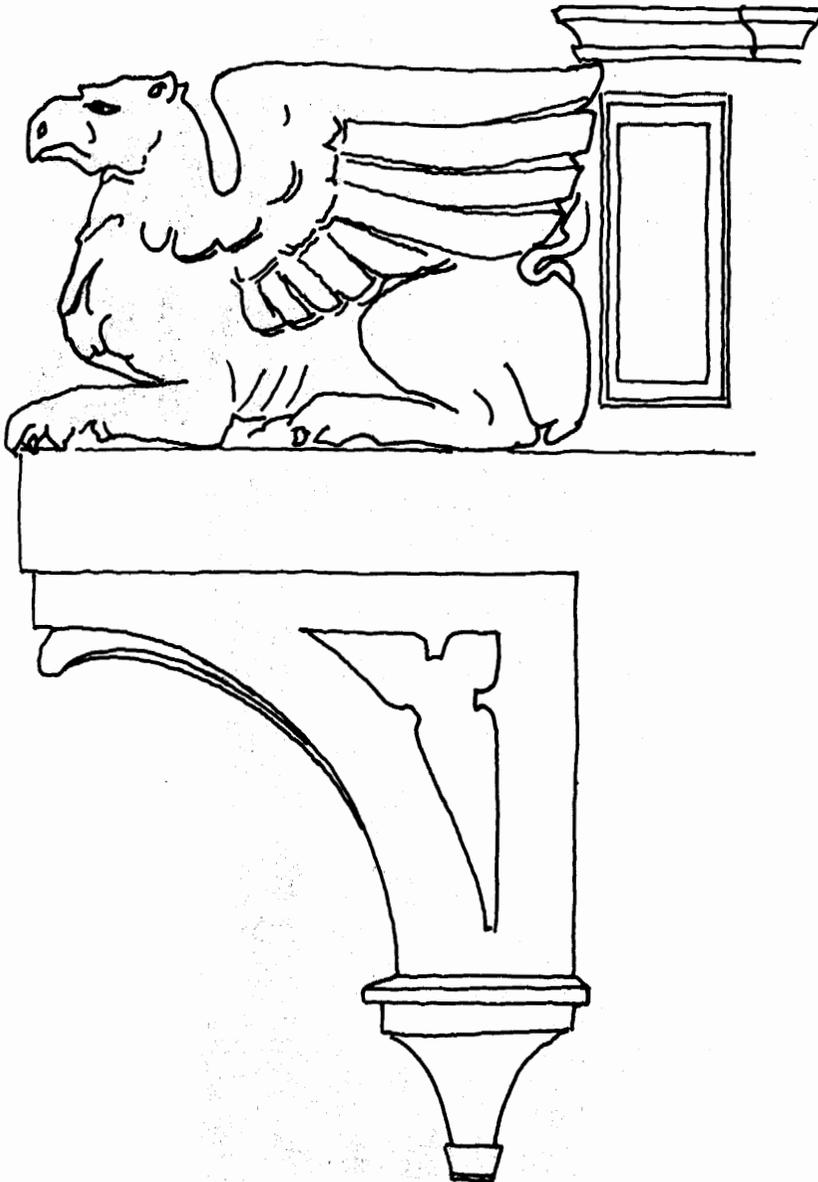
remaining seven performances will be presented exclusively for members of the Southeastern Theatre Conference, which will be held during the running of the show.

The setting in the King Cotton will provide many memories to theatre-goers and local history buffs alike. The original Front Street Theatre performed in the basement of the King Cotton. The ten story hotel was built in 1927 by the Order

of the Elks but has been defunct since 1973.

Regional and national publicity is being sought for this special Downtown production. Funding is required from local and/or State sources to hire a company of actors for the project. The assistance and support of the Downtown Council, the City of Memphis, and major Downtown businesses is also being requested.

This performance of "Hot'l Baltimore" should coincide with the opening of the Downtown Mall. Circuit Playhouse feels like it is doing a great deal to make this theatrical event possible. It hopes that the Downtown community will reciprocate with the assistance necessary to bring live theatre back Downtown.



# The Irish Riot

*From the MEMPHIS DAILY APPEAL,  
August 30, 1854.*

The riot among the Irish, referred to in our yesterday morning's issue, is one among the many singular belligerent manifestations of Ireland's sectional feuds, between the Connaught and Corkonian factions.

It appears that Mr. G. W. Morris, the contractor on the Memphis and Ohio railroad, brought about eighty Connaught men from Louisville about a week ago, all of whom were immediately conducted out about 3 miles on the Raleigh road, where they entered upon their labor of leveeing, having engaged board with a Mr. Coulter. Thus things stood up to last Friday, when Mr. Morris engaged about 25 Irish in this city, who have since proved to be Corkonians. On arriving out there, last Friday night, the spirit of the old Irish feud, which so far as we know extends to a former period time out of mind, became manifest, which resulted in a series of broken shins and bloody noses, the row becoming gradual, and continuing every hour or so during the night. On Saturday morning, the belligerent spirit manifested during the preceding night, settled down into a comparative quietus. — At noon however, the Corkonians took seats at the first table. The Connaught men protested against being thus ruled out by these late comers. Mr. Coulter thereupon requested them to rise from the table, stating that the Connaught men were certainly entitled to the first table. This request and decision of the landlord, was the match that set off the magazine of a most disgraceful and contemptible feud. The riot became general, the Connaught men being largely in the majority, vanquished for a time the Corkonians, and probably went too far in the summary pomeling they inflicted upon such stray Corkonians as were found in their midst. — The Corkonians returned to the city, armed themselves, recruited their numbers and returned to the scene of action, whereupon the Connaught men being unarmed, took to the woods, which was the probable reason of saving much bloodshed, two persons only being slightly wounded by fire arms as already stated in our Tuesday morning's issue. Thus Saturday night, Sunday and Sunday night passed. About 3 o'clock on Monday, an armed company of Corkonians formed in South Memphis, and went out to the place of action, but the Connaught men getting wind of the arrangements, and still being unarmed, fled again to the woods, save a few, who took refuge at the residence of Mr. Curlin. The

Corkonians demanded the refugees, but Mr. Curlin and a friend appeared at the door, armed and avowed their determination to shoot the first man that entered which had a palliating tendency.

The news of the affair having reached the city, the sheriff and posse repaired to the spot. Before arriving, however, the Connaught men had fled, and most of the Corkonians returned to the city.

## CITIZEN COMMENTS

### AN OPEN LETTER TO NED COOK, MERCHANT PRINCE

After our State Legislature recognized your well-gotten gains with certain attendant privileges, you announced that you would "remain in Memphis forever."

Such a statement, expressed in a moment of relief and triumph, is understandable, though it overlooks one fact: personal mortality.

Given your world-wide travels plus your constant knowledge of and participation in cultural values, may I suggest how you can, indeed, "remain in Memphis forever"?

Emulate the great merchant princes of Tuscan Italy, the Medici of Florence, who endowed that city with permanent tourist attractions by subsidizing gifted painters and sculptors of the area.

The Cook Convention Center, with its recessed exterior wall spaces, cries out to be filled by al fresco murals and sculptures depicting the history of Memphis. We have the artists, you have the money and the know-how. What will it take to get it all together?

MARGARET VALIANT,  
CAPITANA DEL POPOLO

# earthy delights

words  
swords

## DOWNTOWN EXHIBITS

### First National Bank (Lobby)

August—Paintings by Valerie Morgan Berlin\*

### National Bank of Commerce (Lobby)

August—"The Magnificent West: An American Heritage"—Smithsonian Institute Traveling Exhibit\*

## FILM

### Center Film Society

August 15—"Last Year at Marienbad"—UT Student Alumni Auditorium—7:30 p.m.

### Lyceum Film Theatre

August 12—"Queen Christina"—First National Bank Auditorium—7:30 p.m.

### Peabody Library

August 14—"Kiel Olympiad" & "Olympics: The Eternal Torch"—7:15 p.m.\*

## THEATRE

### Circuit Playhouse

Through August 17—"Moon On A Rainbow Shawl"—Friday through Saturday—8:30 p.m.

### Circuit Playhouse Theatre II

Through August 12—"The Imaginary Invalid"—Friday and Saturday—8:30 p.m.

## DOWNTOWN ACTIVITIES

### Confederate Park

August 8—"Prince Gabe and the Millionaires"—Noon concert\*

August 15—"Magpie"—Noon concert\*

\*Free

## *A New Wrinkle On An Old Twinkle*

*Twinkle, twinkle little star,  
Now I wonder who you are;  
Of the Hierarchy on High,  
Or just a CIA-type spy?*

*Margaret Valiant*

## CIVIC CENTER COMMUNITY CULINARY CLUB

*Serving from 11:30 to 1:00*

*First Presbyterian Church, 166 Poplar Avenue*

*PRICE: \$1.50 per serving, including drink*

**MENU FOR AUGUST 7 - AUGUST 18**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 7**

*Fried Chicken, Rice & Gravy, Squash or Green Beans, Rolls*

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 8**

*Ham, Potato Salad, Sliced Tomatoes, Rolls*

**MONDAY, AUGUST 11**

*Chopped steak, Whipped potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls*

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 12**

*Pork Chops, Potatoes Au gratin, English Peas, Rolls*

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13**

*Spaghetti, Cole Slaw, French Bread*

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 14**

*Barbecued Chicken, Lima Beans, Apple Sauce, Rolls*

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 15**

*Ham, Macaroni-cheese, Turnip Greens, Corn Bread*

**MONDAY, AUGUST 18**

*Steak w/onion gravy, Green Beans, Buttered carrots, Rolls*



166 Poplar  
Memphis, Tenn. 38103

*Second-class  
postage paid at  
Memphis, Tennessee*