



9.0 VARIETY CAVALCADE

Produced by Harry Alan Towers for the *News of the World*
A celebration of one hundred years of the British Music-Hall by The Grand Order of Water Rats and

The Grand Order of Lady Ratlings

Those taking part include:
Gracie Fields, Bud Flanagan
Donald Peers, Charlie Kunz
Vera Lynn, Albert Whelan
Talbot O'Farrell, G. H. Elliot
Arthur English

and many other outstanding personalities of Variety

Master of Ceremonies,
King Rat: Ted Ray

Orchestra under the direction
of Sidney Torch

From the London Palladium

ALL is set for the Royal Variety Performance tomorrow night when Their Majesties will go to the London Palladium for the 21st of this great series. Since Jack Benny and Dinah Shore flew in from America to join our own stars, Val Parnell has had the £1,000,000 company rehearsing like newcomers. There was no time off even to-day, save for those who wanted to go to early service.

STAGE
By
OLD TROUPER

Nothing is more difficult for a producer than to weld a company of top-liners into one show. In fact, only a man of judgment, experience, tact and strength of character can do it.

Not all performers are as accommodating as our Tommy Trinder, who cheerfully told me that he will start the ball rolling. Opening cold, as they call it, on a notoriously "correct" audience like this, is difficult enough even for a Trinder, but Tommy has no nerves. "Anyway," he cracked, "I'm off to Africa to play in pantomime immediately afterwards. They'll have to run to catch me."

Bud Flanagan tried to look blasé about it all, but hardly succeeded. Counting shows at Windsor, this will be his 19th appearance before Royalty. "And I'm still as excited as a kid inside," he said. It was good to see his old partner, Chesney Allen, with him again. Everybody hopes they will oblige with the old favourite, "Underneath the Arches."

Gracie Fields tells me she feels fine, and recovered from slight tiredness after her own Palladium triumph. Our greatest star looked radiant as she helped to cut a 21st birthday cake with Harry Marlow.



AT NINE O'CLOCK TO-NIGHT

By **OLD TROUPER**

GATHER round your radio sets at nine o'clock to-night for the greatest broadcast of variety ever to go over the air.

You will be one of over 20,000,000 listening-in to the stars in "Variety Cavalcade," a programme sponsored by the "News of the World," to celebrate 100 years of the British Music Hall.

It will last for an hour on the Light Programme, and the stars taking part will include:

Gracie Fields, Bud Flanagan, Donald Peers, Ted Ray, Vera Lynn, Jewel and Warriss, Albert Whelan, Talbot O'Farrell, G. H. Elliott and Arthur English.

Harry Alan Towers is the producer.

This remarkable broadcast has been made possible by the co-operation of many of the great figures of show business.

The Rats Revels Society, the benevolent organisation of the stage, have put the show on in conjunction with this newspaper, and the artists have given their services to help their own charity.

Their fees from the B.B.C. will also help to swell the funds, as will the tickets, which have been sold out.

Altogether 300 will take part in the show (which comes on the air at the start of the second half) from the stage of the London Palladium, where Mr. Val Parnell and his staff, who recently put on the Royal Variety Performance, are responsible for the arrangements.

Bud Flanagan will bring from the Victoria Palace the great chorus which sang with him before the King and Queen in his number "Hey, Neighbour." There will be other surprises given by a fabulous company.

"Wee" Georgie Wood has edited a special souvenir programme.

From all over the country messages, including many from hospitals, have arrived, thanking the stars and the organisers for the opportunity to hear the programme. Listening circles have been formed by friends who want to be together for the Big Show, and to avoid disappointing those who haven't a wireless set.