The Meter Setter



Ford Introduces the Latest in Meter Testing Technology

Ford Meter Box has released the newest in meter testing technology with an AMS Test Bench software update. Featuring a new interface, additional customizations and advanced capabilities, the new software makes meter testing even easier! This technology is available on all new AMS test bench orders and can also be purchased as an upgrade for AMS benches already in service.





Intuitive User Interface







Improved Data Logging

For more information, contact your local Ford[®] distributor or The Ford Meter Box Company, Inc.



Scoops and Butterfly
Watercolor on paper by Susan Ring, 807 East 7th Street, North Manchester, Indiana 46962
www.susanringart.com

JULY 2018

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	Canada Day (Canada)		Independence Day			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
				•		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
					0	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
				New Moon First Quarter	JUNE 2018 S M T W T F S 1 2	AUGUST 2018 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4
29	30	31		Full Moon Last Quarter	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

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The Man Who Owned Broadway

George M. Cohan was likely the best song-and-dance man America ever knew, but he was far more than that. He was an actor, author, playwright, composer, lyricist, producer and patriot.

Cohan was born in a hotel that catered to the theatrical crowd in Providence, Rhode Island, to parents who were traveling entertainers. In later years he insisted that he was born on the Fourth of July, but his birth certificate states otherwise. The document reads "July 3, 1878."

As part of a family group known as The Four Cohans, George was on stage from the time he was eight. Fitting for a child who was "born in a trunk," he traveled the country with his parents and his sister.

The world of vaudeville was filled with literally hundreds of family acts, but the Cohans were exceptionally good at their game. They were in even greater demand when George, at the age of 19, began to write songs and skits for the group.

In the days before air conditioning, most theaters closed in the summer, but the Cohans always found work in the summer resorts in upstate New York. For years his family lived a truly nomadic existence. As a young man Cohan developed a knack for turning out catchy tunes with appealing lyrics. He was only 26 when he wrote "Give My Regards to Broadway," which became an instant hit. The song remains an ode to the street Cohan loved and to the friends he made along Broadway.

Some of his most successful songs had a patriotic theme. He wrote "You're a Grand Old Flag" in 1905, and he often used it as a finale for his vaudeville shows. With nearly every cast member waving an American flag in each hand, the number usually brought down the house. The song is still a staple of Fourth of July concerts across the country.

After America's entry into World War I, Cohan wrote "Over There," which quickly



On June 29, 1936, President Franklin D. Roosevelt presents the Congressional Gold Medal to George M. Cohan for his contributions to American theater.

outsold other sheet music in America. The song enjoyed a revival in the early months of World War II. It is said that Cohan wrote the song while traveling on a train and that he intended the first notes to sound like a bugle call. Years later, President Franklin D. Roosevelt presented Cohan with the Congressional Gold Medal for his contributions to American theater but particularly for the song "Over There."

At Cohan's death in 1942, the New York Times had this to say: "Mr. Cohan wrote both words and music, sang his own songs and danced to them, and wrote his own plays, directed them, starred in them and produced them... He wrote more than fifty plays and hundreds of songs of every description... At the height of his career he was unquestionably first man in the American theater."

In 1959 some ten thousand people turned out in Duffy Square at Broadway and Forty-Seventh Street for the late-night dedication of a bronze statue of Cohan. With prop cane and hat, Cohan stands there today, keeping watch over his street.

by Pete Jones