

# The Billboard

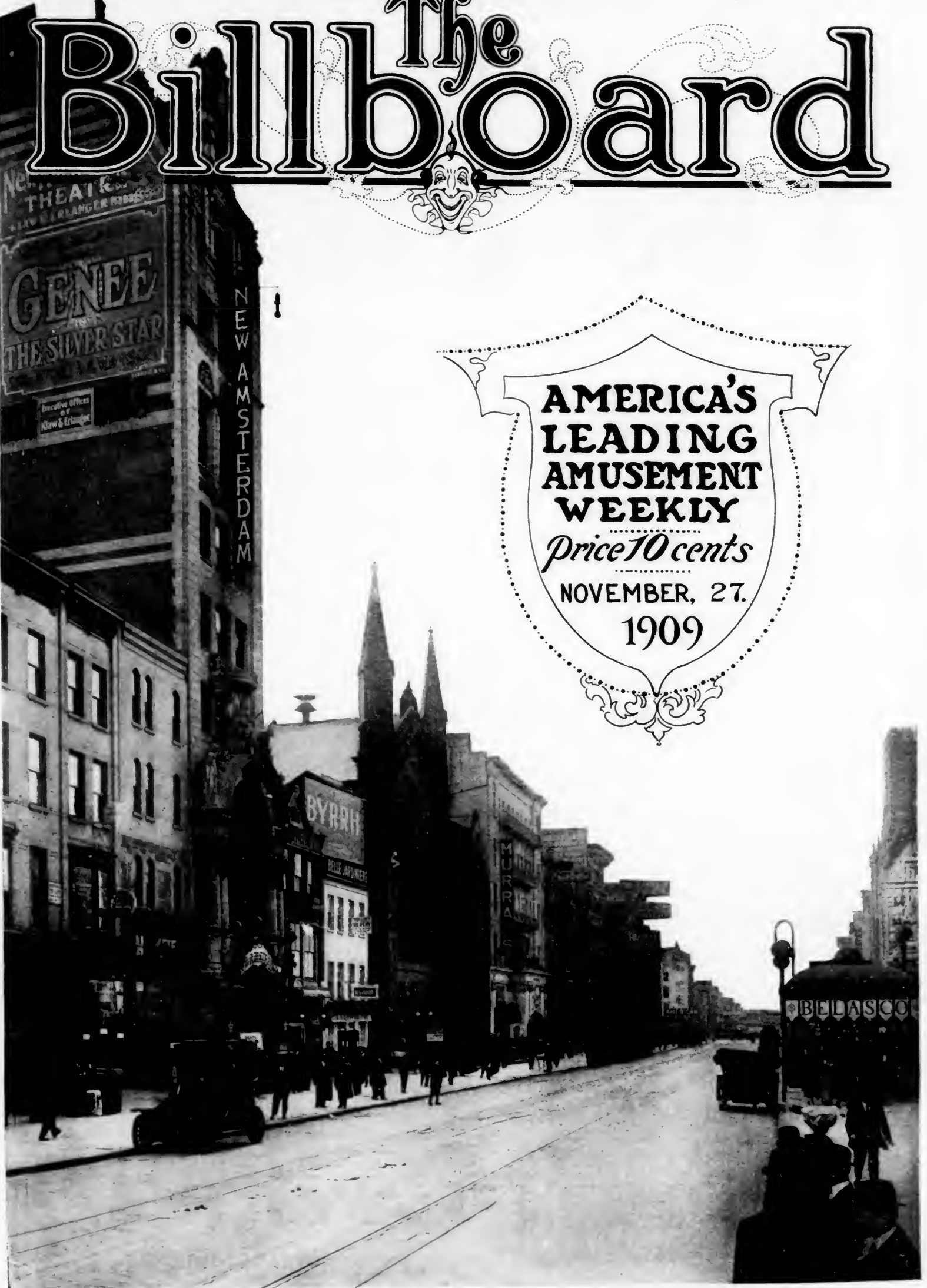


AMERICA'S  
LEADING  
AMUSEMENT  
WEEKLY

*Price 10 cents*

NOVEMBER, 27.

1909



THEATRES ON FORTY-SECOND STREET, NEW YORK, LOOKING WEST FROM BROADWAY

# On December 11, 1909

WILL BE ISSUED

# The Player

(The Official Organ of the White Rats of America)

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## THE PLAYER

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# The Billboard

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November 27, 1909.

## OBSERVATIONS OF THE STROLLER

### On Amusement Life and Environment

## STORIES & ANECDOTES

Charles Dohl, a burlesque comedian, purchased two automatic revolvers and laid in two hundred rounds of ammunition. Later in the day he practiced faithfully at a shooting gallery, and when night came down found himself quite proficient with his weapons.



Mr. Dohl says that he is out for revenge upon one Frank Finney, likewise well known in the burlesque field, and that with Mr. Finney shall be slain three other alleged jesters—that is, if they do it again.

"I can stand a lot," said Mr. Dohl, ferociously, "but I want to know if any jury will convict me if I get hunk for what those hyenas did to me. The show was just closing on Saturday night and the transfer man was gathering up the trunks. When he came to mine he gave it a jerk and it never moved. Jerked it again. Once more it refused to budge.

"Say-ay," growled the transfer man, "is this trunk full of iron?"

"Naw," said I. "It doesn't weigh two hundred pounds. What's the matter with you—suddenly grown weak?"

"Gwan," said he. "Whatcher got this trunk stuffed wit? I can't move it."

"Well," says I. "I'll help you." So I laid hold and we both hauled, and still it never moved. Time was flying. He got his helper, and we all three tugged and yanked. And the trunk never stirred.

"Just then I noticed Finney sitting on his own trunk and snickering. I suspected something and unlocked the trunk, expecting to find it stuffed with lead. Nothing in the tray but what belonged there. I took out the tray. Still nothing that didn't belong. I emptied the trunk and then I knew. Those brutes had nailed it to the floor and it took an hour's deadly work to pry up the railroad spikes they had driven through the bottom.

"Honest, do you think a jury will convict me if I kill them?"

Archie League, of League and Held, sends the following to The Stroller: "We were playing in a small town in Ohio where the house stage hand of a motion-picture theatre wore a No. 5 hat and No. 12 shoes, and had an exalted opinion of his own importance. Occasionally there was a matinee at the motion-picture house if there happened to be none at the opera house, both places of amusement being under the same management.



"We had tried all week to cajole the aforementioned stage-hand into procuring water to enable us to wash up after the performance, but so far our efforts were unavailing and it was Friday. So we decided to bring it to an issue that night. Lawrence, Edwards and Russell, a dramatic trio, were closing the show, and when the stage-hand attempted to ring up the curtain on their act, Mr. Russell placed his foot on the roll and refused to allow it to go up. When the stage-hand inquired the cause of this action he was informed there would be no more show until we had water to wash up.

"Well, of all the durned stuck up actors I ever se'ed, you air the wust," he said. "Can't ye rub off that dad-fetched paint with a rag?"

"The acting manager came back and brought the water, and the curtain went up. Before the show was over, I asked the stage-hand if there would be a matinee the next day.

"Wall, I don't know," he said. "If that St. Elmo, over at the opery, is any good, I'm goin' over there to the matinee, and there won't be none here. If I don't go to the opery, there'll be a matinee here. Come around to-morrow, an' I'll let ye know."

"Les" Miller, known to the theatrical world as "That Black-face Man," has, for the past two seasons, conducted amateur shows at the Gaiety Theatre, Indianapolis. His experiences with those desirous of breaking into the profession are as numerous as they are amusing.



One night, last season, an amateur jailbreaker was on the Friday night bill, and, on making his entrance, he proceeded to hand the audience a line of talk to the effect that he had a large packing box which he defied anyone to nail him up in so that he could not get out. Desiring to have a little fun at his expense, Mr. Miller

"called him" before the audience, stating that it would be an easy matter to nail him up so he couldn't get out, and, to make the thing strong, took him before the foots and said:

"Now, I know, young man, that you are only stalling. I will just bet you ten dollars to ten cents that I can fix you in that box so tight you can not get out without assistance."

Scratching his head a moment, the embryo performer looked up and, hesitatingly, said: "By golly, if I had another nickel, I'd go you."

"Angels in disguise," remarked Wilton Lackaye, "have the actor folk done to a frazzle in the art of 'make-up.' I discovered that at a friend's house the other night, when little five-year-old Helen was afraid of the dark, and all her mother's persuasive eloquence was required to induce the child to leave the brightly-lighted dining-room for her own dark bedroom. A whispered colloquy between mother and child finally resulted in the little one's departure to her room without further protest. When the mother returned to the dining-room she explained:



"It's so easy to handle children if you just know how. I told her there was no reason to be afraid; that the dark was filled with angels, all watching over her. Now she is quite content to be left alone and—"

"Mamma! Mamma!" piped a small, faraway voice, at this point. "Please come quick. The angels are biting me."

"Amateurs afflicted with stage fright often distort their lines in an amusing manner, even in instances where they have only a few words to say. Once tangled in the net of stage fright, they have great difficulty in extricating themselves, and if they attempt to repeat their lines they generally seal their fate so much tighter," said DeWolf Hopper, recently. "Speaking on this subject, reminds me of an incident of this nature which occurred in Pittsburg, not so very long ago.

"A well-known local club used to give amateur theatrical performances that were distinguished for the prominence of the actors. Once, a society celebrity, with a gorgeous costume, as one of the lords in waiting, had only four words to say: 'The queen has swooned.' As he stepped forward, his friends applauded vociferously. Bowing his thanks, he faced the king, and said, in a very high-pitched voice:

"The swoon has queened."

"There was a roar of laughter, but the actor (?) waited, patiently, and made another attempt:

"The swoon has cooned."

"Again the walls trembled, and the stage manager said, in a voice which could be heard all over the house:

"Come off, you stupid fool!"

"But the ambitious actor refused to surrender, and, in a rasping falsetto, as he was assisted off the stage, screamed:

"The coon has swooned!"

Jack Dickey, southern representative of the Western Vaudeville Association, at Dallas, Texas, sends The Stroller the following letter, remarking that if this Flower of the Wichita Valley is not plucked soon by some enterprising manager it will perish.

The letter mentioned is given herewith:

Wichita Falls, 11-8-09.

Mr. Jack Dickey,  
602 Scollard street, Dallas, Texas:

Dear Sir—As it is my desire to become a stage actor, I write you to find out whether you can start me out or not. I am a boy nineteen years of age and have went with shows before. I also have a friend who would like to learn stage work.

Please write me full particulars and let me know if you can use us by return mail.

Respectfully,

R. A. FLOWERS.

Really funny, isn't it?

We have all, in our travels, met people who "knew all the old-time actors," but to Fred Warren, of the team of Warren and Blanchard, is reserved the right to relate the following:

Baggage-master at Providence railroad depot to Warren: "Isn't it funny the people in our profession get old the same as in yours?"

Warren: "Yes, the longer we live the older we get."

B. M.: "I know all the old-time actors. There's Nat Goodwin, he's alive; William Crane, he's alive, and Joe Murphy, he's alive."

Warren: "Yes, and Oliver Doud Byron, he's alive."

B. M.: "I knew East Lynne, too but she's dead."

Warren: "Put Frank Furt, of Toledo, dug her up again."

B. M. (crossing himself): "He oughtn't to have done that, for she was a good woman."



# VALESKA SURATT'S ACT IS ORDERED CUT OUT

Lines and Situations in The Belle of the Boulevard, Presented at Hammerstein's Victoria, Were Regarded by a Police Inspector as Being Rather Broad, and the Playlet Was Withdrawn

## ACTRESS DISCHARGED THE COMPANY

Valeska Suratt's playlet, The Belle of the Boulevard, was withdrawn from the stage of Hammerstein's Victoria, New York, after a few performances. The lines and situations were regarded as being somewhat broad and Police Inspector Walsh told Manager Hammerstein that certain features would have to be cut out or the act withdrawn.

Miss Suratt absolutely declined to make any changes in either the lines or situations and immediately cancelled her engagement.

She even refused to go on the stage for the performance then beginning and calling the members of her company together, she settled with them and left the theatre.

Loney Haskell, known in vaudeville as "That Bascil" happened to be in the theatre when Miss Suratt left and was immediately pressed into service. Haskell first conferred with Miss Suratt before going on and finding that she had no objections he appeared and gave his usual monologue.

Miss Suratt will probably appear at one of the theatres outside the district of which Inspector Walsh has charge. Her act is expensive and was produced for the first time two weeks ago at Atlantic City, after which it was brought to New York.

### CRANE'S FAREWELL TOUR.

Eminent Comedian will Produce no new Play Before Leaving Stage.

William H. Crane tells a St. Louis correspondent that he has made his plans for a farewell tour. But the date for the tour is not yet fixed. "It depends on Mrs. Crane," said this excellent actor and high-grade gentleman. "My wife always travels with me, and when she says she is tired of it and cannot continue, then I shall give my farewell tour."

Mr. Crane announces that he will not produce any more plays. "Mr. Ade's Father and the Boys will do me for the rest of my time on the stage," he said. "and it will last for several seasons."

For his farewell tour Mr. Crane will give Father and the Boys, The Henrietta, David Harum and The Senator. Mr. Crane said: "I also would like to give The Merry Wives of Windsor, but the scenery and costumes of this Shakespearean play cost a very large sum, and it may be out of the question. I wish to retire," continued Mr. Crane, "while I am at my best, and leave a pleasant memory behind me. I feel like a man of forty now, and I wish to feel that way when I say farewell to the stage. I cannot leave the idea of lingering along until my powers fail."

### WHERE IS ALVIS FAY?

The Young Lady Has a Bunch of Money Coming to Her.

If actresses will use fictitious names they must abide by the inconveniences that arise therefrom. There is a young opera singer, christened Alvis Fay, who, if she were traveling under her correct name, would have no difficulty in collecting a fortune, but on account of the fact that she is using an assumed one the bare possibility of her reading this article is about the only claim she has.

Her mother, Mrs. Mizzie Fay Hanson, formerly Mrs. Mizzie Fay, has died in Oklahoma City, leaving her a large fortune, and the executors of the will are unable to locate the heir.

In some way they have learned, or believe they have learned, that the young lady is touring with an Australian opera company in Canada. Accordingly they wrote to Mr. Jos. Glinson, of Toronto, and requested that he make some endeavor to locate her. Mr. Glinson is connected with the theatrical business in that city, and resides at 50 Gloucester street.

Miss Fay will doubtless take the trouble to communicate with Mr. Glinson if she sees this article.

### DEATH OF HERBERT CARR.

Herbert Carr, a well-known character actor who has appeared prominently in a number of Broadway productions, is dead. Mr. Carr, who had been seriously ill for more than a year, died in the hospital of the George Washington University, Washington, D. C., where he had been confined ever since The Girl From Rector's Company, of which he was a member, left the city.

Carr was an exceptionally large man, and for the past year or two suffered from dropsy. Throughout the long run of The Girl From Rector's at Weber's Theatre he acted his role night after night in the greatest distress, and on several occasions fainted after leaving the stage.

### CAN'T SELL STANDING ROOM.

The Managers Raise Price for Gallery Seats and get Even.

Up go the theatre prices! As a direct result of the action of the police in ordering Toronto theatres to sell no more standing room several of the local managers have already raised their gallery prices. This applies only to Saturday nights or special occasions, holidays, etc. At Herbert's the gallery price has been fifteen cents in all houses except the Princess and the

Royal Alexandra. A burlesque house and a vaudeville theatre have now jumped to the twenty-five cent rate on Saturday nights. They advertised that every person buying a ticket for the "gala" is entitled to a seat, and the dwellers on high should see that they get the seats, too.

The change has already proved to be a financial success. One manager reports that his

The new play is in three acts and Mr. Gaites has provided it with a very elaborate scenic setting and has introduced a number of elaborate and novel mechanical and electrical effects. The new play is produced with all that elaborateness and close attention to detail that made Three Twins such a stupendous success. The cast will be headed by Cecil Lewis and Florence Holbrook and will contain a number of well-known players. The huge chorus is one of the best singing choruses ever sent on the road and every chorus girl, it is promised, is a real beauty in her own right.

### PITTSBURG LICENSES.

An Increase is Made all Along the Line in Smokeville.

All licenses were increased at the last meeting of the Council in Pittsburgh. The Pittsburgh Baseball Club was paying \$150 a year and now it will have to pay \$200 a month. The other licenses set by the city fathers are as follows:

Nikekeleens pay \$5 a month, theatres or permanent places of amusement, to which the maximum price of admission is \$3 a head, \$150 a month, those to which the charge of \$2 a head is the maximum price of admission, \$125 a month, and so on down to those which charge 10 cents as the highest price of admission, the

### CHARLOTTE WALKER.



She will shortly appear in a new play written for her by her husband, Eugene Walter.

total receipts last Saturday night were eight dollars ahead of his highest previous record for a Saturday night. This means that it pays better to fill up the seats at twenty-five cents than to cram them into standing room at fifteen cents.

### CHORUS GIRL BETTER.

Mrs. Short, Shot by Husband, Able to Leave Hospital.

Mrs. Evelyn Short, known to the stage world as Evelyn Howard, the chorus girl who was shot by her husband three weeks ago and later removed to the Casualty Hospital, Washington, D. C., for treatment, left that institution last week for her mother's temporary home at 223 Eighth street, northeast.

Mrs. H. A. Lewis, the mother, had been advised by the physicians at the hospital to take Mrs. Short home and it is expected she will be taken to New York shortly.

### BRIGHT EYES.

Will be the Successor to Three Twins, Says Joe Gaites.

J. S. M. Gaites announces the immediate production of a new comedy designed as a logical successor to Three Twins. The new production, which is called Bright Eyes, is a musicalization of the successful farce, Misses Will Hampton, and is by Charles Hickson, Otto Harterbach and Karl Hoschna, who wrote respectively, the book, lyrics and music of Three Twins.

last-named variety of show paying \$10 a month. For slot machines in groceries and places of amusement \$1 a month is charged for each machine. Roller and ice skating rinks are assessed \$200 a month; travelling opera companies must pay \$50 a performance; circuses the same fee. Circus menagerie must pay \$50 for each 24 hours and for every other day of 24 hours \$40 for every 10 cents charged for admission to seats of the highest price.

### LULU GLASER'S NEW PLAY.

Lulu Glaser has sufficiently recovered from her recent illness to allow her to make frequent visits to New York in the interests of her tour, which, under the direction of the Shuberts, is to be resumed before the holidays. When she does reappear, Miss Glaser will be seen in a new musical play, the book of which is being written by a well-known American playwright, who hitherto has not dabbled in musical pieces. The name of the writer, doubtless, when given, will occasion no end of surprise. Miss Glaser has already read the scenario and likes it so well that she wants to begin rehearsals at once.

### ENGAGED FOR JACQUELINE.

For the cast of Jacqueline, in which Grace Elliston is to be starred, Henry H. Harris has engaged Emmett Corrigan and Arthur Lewis. Jacqueline will succeed Kyrle Hollow in The Builder of Bridges at the Hudson Theatre on December 6.

Mr. Harris has contracted for still another play. This one is entitled A Man's a Man and is by Anna Stebb Richardson and Henry Louis Erdenberg. Mrs. Richardson is a well-known newspaper woman and magazine contributor.

# CHANGED TO VAUDEVILLE

The Bush Temple and Marlowe Theatres are No Longer Given Over to Stock Companies

## WM. MORRIS IS BOOKING

The announcements are being spread broadcast from both the Bush Temple and Marlowe theatres, that beginning with this week stock will be discontinued at these houses, and in its stead vaudeville will be the attraction for its many patrons. Some time ago the Bush Temple instituted vaudeville between acts; this seemed to take well with the people, with the result that the present arrangement was arrived at. The booking of this house for the present is being done by Wm. Morris, but rumor is rife that the Western Vaudeville Association will include this house in its circuit after the first week.

The current bill is characteristic of the Morris bookings, and one that speaks well for permanent vaudeville at this house. Grace Hazard is seen in her famous Five Feet of Comed Opera; Allen Show, in coin manipulations; Mellon Brothers, comedy bicyclists; The Musical LeMones, in a comedy musical act; Whelen and Seaford, comedy players; Toki, a Japanese equilibrist; Thompson and Gibbs, in a comedy sketch. The price of admission will range from ten to thirty cents.

William Morris will also book the Marlowe, Marvin's South Side house. Ten and twenty cents will be the admission price, with two performances an evening, seven thirty and nine o'clock, with matinees on Saturday and Sunday, at two o'clock. The opening bill includes Rivoli, a European change artist, Geo. A. Heane and Co., in a condensed version of Chas. A. Hoyt's The Milk White Flag; Zena Keefe, a comic singer; The Great Ketter, in a wit act; W. J. Dermott, comedian and monologist.

### EUGENE WALTER WINS.

Cohan and Harris will not have First Call on His Plays.

Judge Bischoff, in the Supreme Court, handed down an opinion denying the application of Cohan & Harris for an injunction to restrain Eugene Walter, the playwright, from leaving his dramatic productions to any persons other than the plaintiffs, and further to enjoin David Halsey from producing the same. Cohan & Harris contended that under the terms of a contract made with Mr. Walter that firm had the refusal of plays written by Mr. Walter for a period of five years, citing that a sum of money had been paid on the alleged contract.

### NEW \$100,000 COMPANY.

Capitalized at \$100,000 the Allen Theatre and Realty Company, Providence, R. I., was chartered in the office of the Secretary of State. The corporation announces its purpose to purchase, acquire and sell real estate and maintain houses for public theatrical and music and literary entertainments.

The incorporators are: Charles Allen, Chas. Allen, Jr., George M. Andrews and Susan L. Allen. Members of the corporation already own a controlling interest in a moving picture house and vaudeville theatre in that city and the company proposes, it is understood, to venture further in this field.

### NEW LITTLE ROCK THEATRE.

Joe Kempner, a merchant of Hot Springs, Ark., and Little Rock, will erect a theatre in Little Rock to be known as the Kempner Theatre. The new house will play Klav and Erlanger attractions for the next ten years. The Capital Theatre has been playing Klav and Erlanger bookings, but the building of a new theatre will no doubt close that house.

### NOW, GET BUSY, GIRLS.

F. Ziegfeld, Jr., is making selections for his new Mid-winter revue, which opens in New York December 15. This organization will never leave New York. If a show falls a new one will be substituted. It is to be strictly a permanent New York organization. No leaving your busy homes.

### NAUGHTY RAH! RAH! BOY.

During the performance of Peck's Bad Boy at the Grand Opera House, Kingston, Canada, a college student was shoved over the foot lights onto the stage by his companions while one of the actresses was singing. The young man kissed the singer and the audience cheered the act.

### ANOTHER SHUBERT PLAY.

The Shuberts have acquired the American rights to a one act play, entitled Shades of Night. It is by Capt. Marshall, author of His Excellency the Governor, and will be used as a curtain raiser in conjunction with the three act farce Billy, which is now on tour. These are but four parts in the sketch.

### FORM THEATRE COMPANY.

S. Strauss and H. E. Frowine have formed a company, with a capital of \$25,000, and expect to operate a string of theatres. Portsmouth, N. H., will be the headquarters with theatres at Huntington, Charleston, W. Va., Ashland and Covington, Ky.

# MORT SINGER RETAINS HOLD

### Chicago Manager Will Continue to Conduct La Salle Theatre After Giving a Bond

## FLIRTING PRINCESS A HIT

Mort H. Singer will have charge of the La Salle Theatre, Chicago, for some time to come. Mr. Singer has given a bond to cover two seasons' rent at \$18,000 a year, together with such damages as Harry Askin may sustain. The Singers are enabled to retain possession until the case is heard on appeal.

Had The Flirting Princess failed, doubtless he would be packing up preparatory to departure. On the contrary the show has made another La Salle Theatre hit, and consequently, he can afford to run the risk of the increased rental. Askin presumably is willing to let him. Alvin Rowland has won fresh fame in The Flirting Princess. There is reason to believe that once The Flirting Princess has had its innings, Miss Rowland will be promoted by Singer to a stellar role in a new production.

### NEW PLAY FOR COLLIER.

#### Comedian will be Seen in a Play Entitled A Lucky Star.

Charles Frohman has secured the London and American rights of a new comedy for William Collier called A Lucky Star. The piece is in three acts, was written by Mrs. Anne Crawford Flexner, and presents Mr. Collier as a young American for the time being living in Holland. All the scenes of A Lucky Star take place near Amsterdam and the Dutch canals. The play will be dressed in a blend of American and Dutch costumes. Most of the action takes place on a houseboat that travels from one canal to another, and Mr. Frohman has given instructions that this houseboat be modeled after William Gillette's Aunt Polly, which has always been thought to be Dutch in its antecedents, its best sea record for a trip between New York and New Haven being two months.

Mr. Collier and the new company that has been organized for his support in A Lucky Star will give the comedy its first performance at Atlantic City December 6, and after a week's engagement come to New York.

### BIG SUMMER RESORT.

#### West End, near New Orleans will be Rebuilt at Big Expense.

West End, New Orleans, La., the lake shore resort, situated out on Lake Pontchartrain, will be converted into a first class summer resort and park. Arrangements have been made to spend \$175,000 in rebuilding and beautifying. The Old Spanish Fort resort, once famous for its operas and its beautiful grounds, will be rebuilt, as this place has recently been purchased by the New Orleans Railway and Light Company and it is their intention to join the two resorts in one and build a sea wall from West End to Spanish Fort, which are over a mile apart. Large concessions will be built between the two resorts and a boardwalk over the lake and an automobile drive and an electric railway will be built from one resort to the other, this giving New Orleans one of the finest summer parks and resorts in the country.

### NEW KANSAS CITY HOUSE?

The Sullivan & Considine people are entering Kansas City. The advent of the Pantages and their popular priced vaudeville, it is believed, is what finally induced this circuit to plan an entrance to Kansas City. It is reported that a deal has gone through for the property on McGee street between 11th and 12th streets. Sullivan & Considine people, it is understood, will commence the erection of a new \$125,000 vaudeville home. The theatre will be fireproof and will be ready in about six months.

Fred Lincoln, the Chicago representative of the Sullivan Considine Circuit was in Kansas City last week, and while the McGee street site has not definitely been selected, although chosen, if the rental price can be adjusted, then another would be, for the Sullivan Considine Circuit had decided to come to Kansas City and show Kansas City just what a big popular priced vaudeville house could be.

### ATTACKED BY A LION.

Just as she had finished singing and was tripping off the stage of a Springfield (O.) theatre, Miss Bertha Alligower, of Columbus, O., was attacked by a lion which she had been putting through a number of tricks. The animal leaped upon her and bore her down. One of its huge paws struck her leg, the claws cutting three deep gashes, about four inches long and nearly an inch deep. With tail swelling and roaring with rage, the beast stood over the woman's helpless form. Alfred Cannon, one of the actors, seized a prising iron and drove the lion into his cage.

### MRS. HAMMERSTEIN BANKRUPT.

Judge Holt, of the United States District Court, has granted a motion to confirm the report of Nathaniel A. Prentiss, referee in bankruptcy of No. 120 Broadway, New York, recommending that a discharge from bankrupt be denied to Malvina Hammerstein wife of Oscar Hammerstein, the theatrical manager. The application to confirm the report, which was filed on January 19, 1909, was made by the 12th Ward Bank. Mrs. Hammerstein, who has also obtained the dissolving of a stay obtained against the bank on October 25, 1901. The bank was a creditor for \$15,355 on two judgments. The

findings of the referee are based on the transfer by her of household furniture, bric-a-brac and vehicles by bill of sale of December 2, 1901, to Samuel Raphael, and the transfer to Amanda Bissner by bill of sale December 2, 1901, of fixtures and apparatus valued at \$64,000, then in the Olympia Theatre, at 44th street and Broadway, for about \$3,000. Creditors claimed in substance that both of these transfers were sham and colorable, with intent to keep the property from creditors, and that some interest in the property or the proceeds was a part of her estate. She filed a petition in bankruptcy on October 25, 1901, with liabilities \$33,772, and no available assets.

### STUDENTS STORM THEATRE.

Over-jubilant students of the state university of Iowa, celebrating a great football victory, stormed the Cobden Theatre at Iowa City, Ia., the night after the game, and tried to force their way into the theatre to witness Jesse James, without the formality of buying tickets. When the doors were closed in their faces, they secured ancient eggs, potatoes, bricks, etc., and smashed the plate glass and other windows in the opera house. The police were called, but the "rah-rah" boys defied them, and one of the policemen was struck in the head with a beer bottle. Then the fire department was called to the scene, and, after the collegians vainly tried to cut the hose, the students were

# DEARTH OF GOOD PLAYS SAYS MAXINE ELLIOTT

### The Actress Says She is Unable to Secure the Proper Material from the Playwrights—Managers are Preparing to Try Out New Efforts of Practically Unknown Writers for the Stage

## STERLING SUCCESSES OF THIS SEASON

Maxine Elliott, who is her own "manageress," has come to the conclusion that there is a lamentable dearth of good plays. Furthermore, Miss Elliott submits this puzzling query: "Who can tell a good play when he reads one?" After which she timely remarks: "Certainly not the critic, for they know as little about it as anybody else—they merely tell the public what they themselves like, which very often is

with offices on the second. The third and fourth floor will be turned into a theatre. The new house is the realization of the hopes of the amusement-loving people of Cartersville, for this city has suffered patiently for four years, since the old opera house was condemned and torn down. The house will be managed by J. E. Winkle and A. B. Harrison.

### FEMALE TICKET SPECULATOR.

#### Marion Alexander Thinks She has a Better Chance than Men.

Marion Alexander, the first woman ticket speculator on earth, is preparing to go into the business in dead earnest, and already is skirting that she ought to be a winner from the start. "I look at it this way," says Miss Alexander. "In nine cases out of ten, when a man buys tickets from a speculator he does it to oblige his girl or his wife, simply because she has her heart set on seeing that particular show, and he cannot bear to disappoint her. Such being the case, here is how it will work out."

Mr. Mar is about to buy the tickets. Just as he is bargaining with the nearest speculator, the woman with him will see the girl speculator. In almost every case she will insist at once that George or Henry give preference to the girl and buy the seats from her. Woman will help woman that way and do it all the time. "I can't figure on that basis. I can't see where I can lose, and I am going into the game with the certainty of complete success."

### TO REDUCE RAILROAD FARES.

#### Frohman Preparing two Companies to Play The Dollar Princess.

Charles Frohman has the preliminary arrangements for a new plan for sending large theatrical organizations on tour without at the same time incurring the usual big railroad expense. Mr. Frohman's plan includes the organization of a Boston and the East company for The Dollar Princess, which will open shortly in Boston, remain until Christmas, and play the remainder of the season around Boston, incurring only minimum railroad trips.

The West will be covered by a Chicago and Western company, which will play The Dollar Princess in Chicago, continue in Chicago through the points around Chicago for the balance of the season.

It has been found that money can be saved by organizing two companies and making two separate productions, each playing a restricted territory, instead of sending one production on a long, and, in railroad fares, expensive tour over the country.

### ST. AUGUSTINE'S FINE THEATRE.

Among the finest equipped playhouses in the South is the Jefferson Theatre at St. Augustine, Fla., managed by A. M. Taylor. It is equipped throughout with electricity and is steam heated and has a seating capacity of 1,000. The stage is 35 feet deep and 60 feet wide.

### GETS WEST BADEN THEATRE.

R. H. Harris has added West Baden, Ind., to his list of houses and opened November 14 with Folly of the Circus. He will hereafter play Sunday night dates at this house. This is the new house just built by Col. St. Clair, owner of the West Baden Springs Hotel.

### COMING SHUBERT OPENINGS.

Early Shubert openings will be: The Watcher, by Cora Maynard; The Head of the Firm, from the Danish; The King of Cadonia, an English musical play; The City, Andrew Mack in a musical play; Marie Dressler in Tillie's Nightmare, and a new farce from the German.

### TO PRODUCE PANTOMIME.

The Shuberts have begun the engaging of the players for the forthcoming production of the English pantomime, Dick Whittington. This piece will be one of the largest brought out by the Shuberts during the coming season. It will be ready, it is expected, the latter part of December.

### A NORDICA SCHOLARSHIP.

Mme. Lilian Nordica, the famous diva, with the Boston Opera Company, has given a \$1,500 scholarship to the Boston Opera School for the student selected by the directors for proficiency in dramatics and singing.

### NAT WILLIS TO WED.

Nat M. Willis is soon to become a bridegroom. The comedian is to marry La Belle Titcomb, well known to everyone in theatricdom. Mr. Willis says that no date has yet been set for the wedding.

### NORTON RECOVERING.

Will D. Norton, business manager of McFadden's Flats Company, is recovering from a very severe operation which was performed in the past week ago. He expects to rejoin his company shortly.

DORIS KEANE.



Playing one of the leading roles in Charles Frohman's production of Arsene Lupin, one of the real successes of this season.

drowned out, and fled. Two of the attacking party were later arrested and fined \$100 and \$25, respectively, and warrants for several other students are in the hands of the police, now.

### BOOSTING THE FOURTH ESTATE.

The paper supposed to be printed in The Fourth Estate, at Wallack's Theatre, New York, is now distributed to the audience as it leaves the theatre. The last thing the audience sees before the fall of the curtain is the front page of The Advance being rolled over to the steam table. As the audience files out of the theatre, newboys stationed at the doors hand each person a copy of the New York Advance, with the story of Parteinny's shame plastered all over the front page, with a four-column cut of the judge seeking to bribe the editor to suppress the story, and with all the headlines and different colored inks which make for sensation.

### THEATRE CHANGES HANDS.

The Bridgeport Theatre Company has leased the Lyric property for a term of ten years, with an option of renewal for ten years more, to the following theatrical managers: Messrs. W. J. Conahan, owner of the Plainfield, N. J., Opera House and Majestic Theatre, Perth Amboy, N. J., and J. M. Welsh, representing Messrs. Colan & Harris, of New York. The playhouse will be extensively altered and renamed the Bijou. It is in Bridgeport, Conn.

what the public doesn't like," Miss Elliott is kind enough to admit that managers and a great many actors who can select their own plays pick out the very ones which fit some particular personality. This revelation, however, cannot be regarded as very extraordinary in the light of Miss Elliott's requirements, for it is patent that she requires a play with a star part for a woman of charm, beauty, lively clothes and all that sort of thing. After divulging these few secrets of her managerial duties, Miss Elliott does not object to letting playwrights know that her permanent address is Maxine Elliott's Theatre, New York.

Miss Elliott is not the only one who has complained of the dearth of good plays. The season has introduced considerable mediocre material from playwrights and several startling successes. Several of the Frohman productions have made good and a bunch of important productions are yet to come from his office.

Practicing managers are trying out plays from practically unknown authors, in the hopes of landing a winner, and plays from the pens of writers who are little known to the play-going public are in course of preparation.

### NEW THEATRE AT LAST.

A new theatre is being built in Cartersville, Ga., by J. R. Smith, of Atlanta. It will be four stories high and will cost \$30,000, with an enormous price paid for inside decorations and scenery. The building is located on the corner of Wall and Market streets, in the very heart of the business section of the city. The first floor will be occupied by a new local drug firm.



THE WEEK IN CHICAGO

WITH changes taking place this week at the Olympic, Powers' and Illinois theatres...

DeWolf Hopper at the Olympic---The Wishing Ring Remains at the Great Northern---Billie Burke is Welcomed at Powers'---Miss Fannie Ward Comes in at the Illinois---Other Notes of Interest.

PRODUCED THE KISSING GIRL.



This group of men, instrumental in the success of The Kissing Girl is composed of the following, reading from left to right: Archie Selwyn, H. H. Frazee, John Cort, Ivan Weaver, Harry Von Tilzer, Vincent Bryan, Charles Jones, Stanislaus Stange.

The Earth has finished an engagement at the Olympic, curtailing its Chicago time because the patrons of that theatre would not appreciate a really good show.

THE COMMANDING OFFICER.—By Theodore Hart Sayre.

CAST OF CHARACTERS. Col. Richard Archer, of the Seventh Cavalry, commanding Fort Butler, Nevada...

SCENE—Fort Butler, Nevada, near the mining town of Roosevelt City.

TIME—Autumn, 1908.

The action of the play covers about twenty-four hours' time.

SYNOPSIS:

ACT I.—The Quarters of Colonel Archer. Afternoon. ACT II.—Scene 1.—The Colonel's den. Three o'clock next morning.

The second week of The Commanding Officer is under way at the Studenbaker, and while it may not consistently be termed a success, it is said to be entertaining and to unfold a story intricate and interesting as to plot.

Van Allen's Wife is the title of the play in which Miss Fannie Ward is appearing at the Illinois Theatre this week.

Billie Burke and success are at Powers' Theatre, where that delightful little star is receiving homage from her host of friends and admirers.

McINTYRE AND HEATH IN HAYTI. Gerolamo Jobbs... James McIntyre... Jasper Johnson... Thomas Heath...

John H. Pratt... Otto Johnson... The entire cast of active players. The Yankee Girl is really one of the most delightful entertainments of its sort that have been seen in Chicago for a long time.

In Hayti, with McIntyre and Heath and Julian Rose, are now in the last week of their fortnight's engagement at the Colonial Theatre.

The Metropolitan production of The Air King is to be given a Chicago premiere at the Colonial on Sunday night, November 28.

James T. Powers is heading in for the Garrick with his song show, Havana, in which is sung the big musical hit, Hello, People.

Cole and Johnson are so popular at the Globe Theatre that they will be held over for a while yet. It is said that they will be followed in by a version of Three Weeks.

The Crown Theatre has as its current attraction, David Higgins.

Henry A. Guthrie, formerly with Martin & Emery, is now in the East in the offices of Cohen & Harris, the New Amsterdam Theatre Building, New York.

M. H. Lytle, who is now superintendent at the Cort Theatre, recently came on from his home in the East to fill the vacancy of that

position made by the resignation of Mr. Haag who takes a similar place with the Olympic Theatre...

E. W. McConnell, producer of the Monitor and Merrimac and many other similar famous productions, has returned to this city after a tour of the West.

Clarie Chartreau, of the Flirting Princess, now in its third successful week at the La Salle Theatre, has been taken out of the chorus to understudy a more prominent part in the production.

Klaw & Erlanger's executive staff for McIntyre & Heath's vehicle, in Hayti, now current at the Colonial, is Geo. W. Sammis, mgr.; E. A. Bachelder, bus. mgr.; A. M. Langstaff, musical director; Wm. Torpey, stage mgr.; Chas. Baron, asst. stage mgr.; Wm. Franz, master mechanic; Tony Forte, electrician; David Brady, master of properties; Lottie Campbell, wardrobe mistress.

Dottie Wang, of the Flirting Princess, is one of the few ladies who can claim the La Salle Theatre as home. Miss Wang has been lightening the hearts of her audiences ever since the days of the Time, Place and the Girl success.

The Air King, which soon will be seen at the Colonial Theatre, will contain Anna Tasker, John Slavin, Josephine Hall, Frank Belcher, 'Scamp' Montgomery, Thomas Melghan, Carl Hoffman, Ed Fitzhugh, James Leahy, Richard Ridgeley, W. L. Romaine, Ruby Harris, Earle Deane and Lillian Smalley.

Joseph Howard, well known in music circles, and composer of the music for the Slinger production, will present the Goddess of Liberty in New York.

The executive staff for Lobbler & Co's, The Dawn of a Tomorrow, which is now playing at the Grand Opera House, with Miss Eleanor Robson in the leading role is George C. Tyler, managing director; Walton Bradford, acting manager; and Ernest C. Joy, stage manager.

William Anthony McGuire, a young Chicago writer and author of The Servant, and the Man and Whisky, a new sketch which it is said will soon be offered, has gone to assist Frank Keenan in preparing The Heights for an early production.

It is said that The Fires of Fate will move into the Illinois Theatre, Dec. 6. Besides Lionel Barrymore, the cast will contain Hamilton Revels, Wm. Hawtrey, Edwin Brandt, Percy Warren, Helen Freeman, Ina Hammett and Grace Carlyle.

The Triangle Amusement Company has organized with a capital of \$5,000 to conduct sandville theatres and other amusement enterprises.

A new stock company for Marion, Ia., has been formed and will be under the management of W. B. Morris and H. M. Blackellan.

A new amusement company for the purpose of conducting amusement enterprises, has just been formed, under the name of the Crown Amusement Co. Members of this company are John F. McGrall, F. H. Vercoe and E. M. Liesmann.

The Ada Mead Co., recently closed in Des Moines, Ia. The players all returned to Chicago. Among them were Carl Willersted, Jack Henderson, Arthur Pell, musical director; Harry Mitchell and Nella Shayne, prima donna.

Doc O'Neil writes from Burlington, Iowa, that he is sailing along nicely, but that he has had the misfortune of being sick, regardless of the fact that he once had an "M. D." thing attached to his name.

E. L. James, president of the American Independent Film Mfg. Co., was in Chicago, recently to organize a permanent stock company for the exclusive purpose of posing for the films of that company.

The Winning Miss, which was last seen here at the Garden Theatre, now the American Music Hall, commenced rehearsals here last Sunday, under the management of Boyle Wolf folk.

# The VAUDEVILLE PROFESSION

## NEW YORK VAUDEVILLE NOTES.

The bills at the local houses this week (No vember 20) are:

**Fifth Avenue Theatre.**—Yvette Guilbert, the gifted lady from France, is back on Broadway this week, being her last appearance in this country, which it is interesting to note is being made upon the same stage upon which she made her first appearance. Little Amy Butler brings her new act to Broadway for the first time. She has four singing and dancing boys in her support. McKay and Centwell still offer The Great White Way. The Gordon-Pickens Company present What Would You Do. Al. Carlton is billed as "The Skinny Fellow with the Fat Monologue." Binns, Binns and Binns offer their comedy musical act, and, of course, Althea Capitane is on the same bill with her trapeze act. Liane de Lyle presents her act, in a Billiard Room, in which she juggles cues and balls.

**Colonial Theatre.**—Percy G. Williams has provided a splendid bill for the present week at this theatre, containing many attractive headline features. Prominent among these is the first appearance in New York of Chas. Lovenberg's Operatic Festival, with twenty-five players, in a vocal and instrumental act. Beatrice Ingram and Co., is seen in the skit, The Duchess, and Annette Kellermann, "The Diving Venus," remains another week in her diving and swimming exhibition. Stuart, the "Male Fiddler," who has just returned from a successful European tour, is on hand, and an amusing little sketch, entitled Props, is presented by Billy B. Van and the Beaumont Sisters. The balance of the bill is made up of Frank Morrill, the California boy; Hastings and Wilson, as The Two Lunatics, and others.

**Bronx.**—A number of big features this week, chief of which is the orchestra composed of twenty-five clever young women musicians, and known as The Boston Fiddettes. Miss Caroline B. Nichols is the conductor. Frank Fogarty, "The Dublin Minstrel," supplies some of the comedy on the program. Black in Woodington serves to introduce the favorite comedians, Howard and North, to Bronx residents, and another comedy sketch, entitled The School Teacher, is presented by The Avon Comedy Four. The balance of the bill includes Lillian Tyce, "The Irish Girl"; La Vine-Ginnar on Trio, comedy acrobats; The Motogirl, an inexplicable riddle of automata, and Bill, Cherry and Hill, comedy cyclists.

**Alhambra.**—Irene Franklin, Queen of Vaudeville, tops the bill at the Alhambra this week. Jesse Lasky's latest production, The Twentieth Century, a musical comedy with twenty players and elaborate scenery, is also on the program, and Frank Stafford and Co., present their offering, Hunter's Game. Mike S. Whalen, "The Man from Ireland," makes his Harlem debut here in a number of amusing anecdotes and songs, and The Olivetti Troubadours entertain with their musical selections. The balance of the bill includes Collins and Brown, German comedians; Malla and Bart, comedy baggage smushers; The Dunedin Troupe of cyclists, and others.

**American Music Hall.**—Harry Lauder returned to New York this week with his season's repertoire of songs, several new ones and a number of the old favorites. The Seven Perezoffs, the novelty jugglers, easily captured second honors, in fact, running close to the headliner in popularity. Juliet, the little mimic, should change her act and present some new characters. Staley and Birbeck, the Musical Blacksmiths, hold over for their second week. The Kohler Trio please with their operatic selections. Midgely and Carlisle offer A Session After School, and Hassan and Jenney, acrobats, complete the bill.

**Plaza Music Hall.**—Willa Holt Wakefield, pianologist, holds over a second week. Willie Hoppe, the billiard champion, does likewise. Byron and Langdon offer their remarkably funny skit, The Bude Detective. Nicholson and Norton present their funny light housekeeping act; Ella's All Right. Rinaldo the violinist; Austin Brothers, comedy acrobats; Genora and Bailey, Blake's Circus and a Song Writer's Contest, with the writers singing their own compositions, complete the bill.

**Manhattan Theatre.**—Three Lavadoc, acrobats; Harry Cole, singing and dancing comedian; Roland, the Brainstorm Juggler; Willing Sisters, Singers and dancers; Lavelle's Hoops, and Hayes, Jewett and Lind, singers and dancers.

**Circle Theatre.**—Yarick and Llando, female impersonators; Jetter and Rogers, comedy skaters; Tagnarally Huo, violinists; Four Bander Brothers, Helen Drew, character comedienne, and Pelham, hypnotist.

Willie Hoppe, the billiard champion, with his novel act, demonstrating shots in this game, appears to have struck the popular chord among Plaza Music Hall patrons, where he was playing last week. His reception has resulted in the act being kept over this week.

The Countess Leontine, who was soloist at Deal Beach Casino, Deal Beach, New Jersey, has just presented a musical and singing act in vaudeville that has been well received. She is assisted by Stefano and Romaine, harpist and violinist.

Richard Pitrot has sailed for Europe, this being a regular annual event, to pick up novelties for this side and place some of his acts on the other side.

Mabel Hite and Mike Donlin are Adding More Friends to Their List in Chicago—Harry Lauder is Welcomed Back to New York. Yvette Guilbert is Back on Broadway—Several Bright New Acts Have Been Introduced During the Past Week.

WALTER HOFF SEELEY.



Vice-president and General Manager for William Morris in the West, including San Francisco, Los Angeles, Salt Lake City, Denver, Kansas City, Omaha, Portland, Seattle, Tacoma and Spokane.

That Awful Kid, a comedy sketch written by the late Kenneth Lee, will soon be offered in vaudeville by Clara Cubitt and a supporting company.

Lester Whitlock, formerly with the United Booking Offices, is now booking the Quigley houses in the office of the Independent Booking Agency.

William Morris has an attractive new pictorial three-sheet of Clarie Vance, that will be used this season for the popular Southern singer.

William Myers is now stage manager at the Keith and Proctor Fifth Avenue Theatre. William Punkitt has gone with Ziegfeld.

An annual entertainment and hall of the Vaudeville Artists' Association is announced for Tanamony Hall, December 16.

Jules Delmar, the Beat Brunard of the United Booking offices, is now booking the houses of Wilmer and Vincent.

Vaudeville with pictures is being presented at the old Sans Souci Music Hall, Third avenue and 13th street.

Clara Thropp has successfully tried out her new single act, and is now getting bookings.

Ted Marka has discontinued his Sunday night vaudeville shows at the Broadway Theatre.

Beatrice Moreland is presenting a new sketch with a supporting company. Jeannette Lowrie is presenting a new act, The Girl on the Herald.

## CHICAGO VAUDEVILLE NOTES.

The Majestic headliners for the week are Mabel Hite and her husband, Mike Donlin. These two appear in a skit called A Base Run. Mr. Donlin stands for much jollying in this from his little wife, with the result that it is one high laugh. Walter C. Kelly, who hails from a successful trip in England, is offering The Vir-

gina Judge, an act full of Southern dialect and Southern humor. The bill contains Lottie Williams in On Steamy Ground; Thorne and Carlton, American jesters; Harry Richards and Co., in Love a la Mode; Sam Watson and his barnyard Circus, and others.

The bill at the Julian this week includes Goo, Yeoman and Delray and Rich, as well as Kuris, Rooters and Miss Ingelborg Sandberg. This will be Miss Ingelborg Sandberg's first performance in Chicago in her try-out for Morris time. Miss Sandberg hailed from Stockholm on October 28, and on the other side she is a singer of some note. Others to shortly appear at this house are the Carlson Brothers, week of 29, and Anderson Brothers and Mule, direct from Ringling Bros.' Circus, during week of Dec. 6.

Dope, by Medill Peterson, is being booked by Herman Lieb with the Morris time, and a week was seen at the American Music Hall, and in this week at Indianapolis, with Cincinnati and New York to follow. Among the players in this sketch are Jane Evans, Charles Gill, Ned Barron and Peter Fellmann.

Coney Holmes, of the Casino Vaudeville Booking Agency, announces that beginning with December 1, he will be located at 167 Dearborn street, in the offices of Jake Stenard, he having secured space from this gentleman.

Murray Bennett, who has been playing some successful time on the Orpheum Circuit, is in Chicago pending future engagements. He tells us that he is in conference with Jake Stenard.

It is rumored that Will V. Newkirk, manager of the Haymarket, will have a chair in the Western Vaudeville Managers' Association. Mr. Newkirk's successor as yet has not been announced.

Sol Stone, who has been appearing in vaudeville for many years as the Lightning Calculator, died last week of heart failure in this city. Mr. Stone in former years was a circus performer.

Geo. A. Beane, formerly starring in A Trip to Chinatown, has completed his vaudeville tour and is resting at his home at Plano, Ill.

The American Music Hall this week has its headliners Arthur Prince and Montgomery and Moore, as well as Divin Myrna.

Duke Darrow, president of the local chapter of the Actors' Union, has resigned.

## BOSTON VAUDEVILLE NOTES.

A bill of strong merit was the November 15 offering at Keith's Albert Chevalier, who was billed for headliner, was obliged to defer his Boston visit for one week, and the top of the bill was shared by Sam Mahoney in his Frozen North sketch, and Billy B. Van and The Beaumont Sisters, in their comedy sketch. Props. Others on the bill were Amella Sumnerville, in a clever monologue and singing sketch; W. C. Fields, the peer of jugglers, returned after a successful tour of the Continent; Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie Barry, in their "aura" sketch; The Hall Brothers, in strength tests; Ryan and White, shoe-stoppers; The Exposition Four, an instrumental quartet, and Al. Haynes' trained bulldogs, wind up a good bill, playing to excellent business.

American Music Hall.—An all-headline bill was given week of Nov. 13. The Johnson-Ketchell pictures held over for such as failed to observe them last week. Judging by last week's houses at the American, there can't be many left who have not seen the film. George Fuller Gibson, in a monologue of clever originality; Rinaldo, wandering violinist; Gardner and Stoddard, a skit; Marco Twins, in a bump act; The Seven Perezoffs held over; The Three Madcaps, a dancing acrobatic act, and Whittie in a manikin monologue.

## PACIFIC COAST VAUDEVILLE NOTES.

The Klein Family, German Comedy Cyclists; Donald Bowles & Co. in playlet "Gully"; Perry and White, comedians; Harry Fox and Millership Sisters, singing and dancing trio; Eva Williams and Jack Tucker in Skinney's Fish; The Great Calceolo, king of the wire; and Carl Nobel, Scandinavian Ventriologist, opened at the Orpheum, Seattle, November 14.

Three Australian acts are on the Los Angeles Theatre bill this week. They were George S. Lauder, the ventriologist; The Four Stargroves, the pantomime troupe; Ernest Brinkman, the character singer. Lauder went direct to Denver to play the Majestic; Brinkman and the Stargroves went to play the Queen at San Diego, Cal.

The Luiga Picaro Troupe jumped from Fort Lauderdale direct to Fresno to play the Pantagosa Theatre, thence go direct to Salt Lake to play the Rungallo Theatre and follow to Denver for the Pantagosa Theatre in that city. This is some jumping, but as they are all clever acrobats these long jumps do not jar them at all.

The Wise-Milton Musical Comedy Company are due in San Francisco the first week in December. They come from a most successful engagement in the Hawaiian Islands, where they played the Orpheum for eight weeks, after which they played Hilo, Kahwea and other island cities.

The new Chutes Theatre is fast nearing completion and from the looks of things will open by the first of the year. Pantagosa's acts will be booked at this house.

Ingalis, Duffield and Ingalls, a clever trio of singers and dancers, are playing the Independent houses on the Coast and meeting with big success.

Carlberry and Nelson, in their rural sketch, The Country Home, are playing the Independent houses throughout California.

## VAUDEVILLE NOTES.

A special performance of the frigid aquatic act of Sam Mahoney, at Keith's Boston, was given November 11, to an audience of over 500 of the physicalists of Greater Boston. Mr. Mahoney's swimming act among huge cakes of ice is attracting more attention than any other offering in that city. In his statement at each performance, Mr. Mahoney tells briefly of his physical condition ten years ago, and how the cold water baths have brought him from a hopeless physical wreck to his present perfect condition.

Manager Jeff Cullan, of Music Hall, Lewiston, Maine, entertained the Lewiston League of Elks at his theatre Tuesday evening, November 16, in honor of John Fields of the team of Fields and Hanson, who is a veteran Elk.

Billy Hayter, of Hayter and Janet, underwent a serious operation at St. Mary's Hospital, Kansas City, November 16. All friends can address him, 410 Elmwood avenue Kansas City.

P. C. Armstrong, connected with Savannah's Ladies' Band, sailed for England on the Oceanic, November 24. Mr. Armstrong will produce his electric ballet in pantomime at the Princess Theatre, Bristol, England.

The Spellman Comedy Four—Percy and Mayme Spellman, Nat (Chicken) Haines and Donald Mann, have been booked for ten weeks by Manager W. B. Brady, of the Crescent Theatre, Nashville, Tenn.

(Continued on page 41.)









London

London Bureau of The Billboard, 179 Temple Chambers, E. C.

The Revulsion in English Theatrical Taste—Censorships: Theatrical and Newspaper—Two Latest Plays.

WINTER SEASON has arrived and the winning process is on. I have to report the early demise of several plays that at the opening, gave promise of long runs.

We have come to a complete revulsion of taste on the part of the British public. They are bored, tired, wearied to death with the problem and neurotic plays.

Managers have noticed the change in taste and are arranging accordingly. Trilly takes the place of False Gods.

The first two plays to be produced here have been The Merry Wives, at the Waldorf, and The American Success, The Servant in the House, at the Adelphi.

The Servant in the House has met with a mixed reception. On the whole it has been well received, and unstinted praise is forthcoming for the acting of Wynne Mattis and Henry Miller.

YVONNE DE BRAY.



Popular Parisian actress.

of the management. It had been said that certain parts of the piece were offensive to teachers of religion.

Two varieties of censorship have been interesting us lately. The first is of course the censorship of plays, upon which a Government Commission has been taking evidence.

The second variety of censorship has been an attempted one over dramatic critics.

Paris Week By Week

Paris Bureau The Billboard, 121 Rue Montmartre

Nick Carter, Famous American Sleuth, Appears on the Scene at the Ambigu—Some Novel Effects to Be Had at Luna Park Next Summer—Enterprising Motion Picture Folk and Some of the Things They are Doing—Lysistrata Presented—Other Notes.

THREE new plays came into being the latter part of this week, and at the Chatou, a bit earlier, a new musical-dramatic spectacle-comedy (forgive the combination name, please) started going.

Le Circuit is the name of one of the new pieces, and the name means about what it says. The Circuit. It was produced at the Varieties following the closing of the famous five-act right comedy of which I have had occasion to speak before.

The critics have not been unanimous in its praise, however, and in spite of my natural version to prognostications, I can't help making this one: Le Circuit won't run as long as Le Roi did.

NICK CARTER.

I can not say just how long ago it was, but it must be in the close neighborhood of eighteen years, I read my first Nick Carter. I thought it was a corker as a story, and I bought others as fast as they came out week after week.

To-night, as I write this, the first night for the public to see this lot of heroes and stage characters, is on. Nick Carter is the name of the play, and his friends are all characters in it. And the story of the making of this play—and the causes of it—isn't at all uninteresting.

Gillaume Livet, a Parisian, has a little boy. The boy got the Nick Carter habit, and one day, seeing the lad so absorbed in a book with a flimsy back, picked up one of the many that were lying around and read it. When he had finished, he picked up another and read that through.

same time the most impartial and scrupulously exact papers that this world ever saw, happened to speak disparagingly of the libretto of the piece while enthusiastically praising everything else connected with the production.

The marriage of May Kinder, the pretty young actress, who at Daly's Theatre was playing the part of Dulcine Du Cros, in The Dollar Princess, adds another to the long list of marriages which have taken place between actresses and stage stars during the last ten years.

We are promised an early revival of Cyrano de Bergerac, by Lewis Waller. The former production was by Sir Charles Wyndham, in 1900.

Despite the fact that Don, at the Haymarket, is developing into the biggest success of the season.

(Continued on page 45.)

Berlin

New Play at Thalia Theatre Promises to be a Big Success. It is Staged Extravagantly, and Introduces a Fine Cast.

JEAN FREN'S musical comedy, Die ewige Lampe, made a great hit at Thalia Theatre, Berlin. The charming songs of Alfred Schonfeld and the melodies of Max Schmidt, the clever orchestra leader of the Thalia Theatre, caught on and promise to become very popular.

He is very proud of his son, who is a student at Berlin, and who will return soon with his doctor's diploma. But the son is no student at all, he is a good cook and has a fine position in a fashionable restaurant.

About a year ago a number of prominent men of Berlin organized a society for the erection of a Richard Wagner Theatre. The society certainly had ideal views, for they planned that the new playhouse should be devoted not only to Richard Wagner's works, but also to other good operas.

The premiere of the three-act opera, Sonnwendlicht, by Schilling Ziemssen, at the Munich Court Theatre met with friendly reception and the composer was called, after the second and third acts.

Konrad Dresher, a popular member of the Munich Court Theatre and founder of the Schiller Theatre, celebrated his fiftieth birthday.

Dr. Carl Much, the famous conductor of the Berlin Royal Opera House, celebrated his fiftieth birthday. In order to escape all honors he had left town.

Richard Strauss announces that his new comic opera, Stella and the Star, will not be finished before 1912.

MILLION MARKS FOR NEW PLAYHOUSE. A company of capitalists of Mannheim just closed negotiations in Ludgishafen on the Rhine for the erection of a playhouse with a seating

(Continued on page 45.)

BLANCHE TOUTAIN.



Of the Gymnase, Paris.

I am told that a company is forming here—names are not furnished me as this is a big secret I'm giving free to The Billboard folks—for the manufacture of one of the dandiest pagers that ever went down the pike. It's a scheme not unlike that spoken of in the above paragraph—the Battle of the Clouds stunt—but goes it one better. In that it is adaptable to the owners of much smaller purses. Here's the lynch:

Friends of Billyboy are all perfectly familiar with the "Railway Tours" idea, and the imitation passenger coach with motion picture views shown at the front end. The illusion is very fine. What the parties I've referred to are said to be about to do, is to inaugurate a similar stunt for aeroplanes, and dirigible airships.

Now this scheme over here has not progressed very far, and for a time nothing may come of it. But sooner or later it is bound to come to the front, and progressive Americans might as well get in on the ground floor.

AT THE CHATELAIN. La Petite Caporale has opened at the Chatelet, and has made a big impression on the public. It is in three acts and twenty scenes.

(Continued on page 46.)



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Saturday, November 27, 1909.

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## EDITORIAL

### For All of Which Give Thanks

During this week, when the spirit of thankfulness abides in the breasts of all Americans, it is cheering to know that the amusement profession is not tardy in acknowledging the many blessings of the past year, and optimistically, as is its wont, presses on to larger achievements and a greater measure of success.

Principal among the many causes for devout thankfulness is the improved status of the individual actor and actress. The past twelve months have marked a step in advance for a people obliged to work in a field in a measure ostracized by the ultra-religious and hypocritical. The change in sentiment on the part of possibly well meaning though narrow, so-called moral reformers, has been very marked, and the reflex has been felt by players and managers who are earnestly endeavoring to justify by acts and deeds the changed conditions.

In a material sense there is also cause for a thankful spirit in the improved financial status of the business. Fewer failures are to be recorded than in the year just preceding. The fiery crucible in which have been tried out many experiments has yielded, together with its valuable product, a no less important result than an experience which will temper future business ventures with conservatism and consequent gain. Year by year the amusement business has been working up to a standard where it might be reckoned with as an exact commercial proposition.

There are so many signs pointing to the improvement of the profession in general that we are embarrassed by the array, but upon the sentimental side of the ledger should be placed one cause of thankfulness, outweighing all others the privilege of exercising the functions of missionaries to a world hungry for a glimpse of the lighter side of life, for the things which veil for a little length of time the somber shades and bring forgetfulness of sorrows. The church may be sending its millions into darkest Africa to enlighten the benighted but, by the grace of God, some are permitted to minister to and comfort the weary and befogged right here at home.

Warm hearted and proverbially generous, the player people of all branches can not but be thankful for the privileges which are theirs, far and beyond those of others. The turkey may not have been served you in the place called home, nevertheless, thankfulness fills the heart and hope rises as the future looms up.

### Revived Interest In Skating

There is a real revival of interest in professional and amateur roller and ice skating. The royal sport which, in past years drew so much attention, for a long time seemed to have spent its force, and only a few devotees remained to hold up the game. But this season sees a renewal of activity in roller and ice-skating circles, making plainly evident the fact that this form of amusement and healthful entertainment has inherent staying qualities.

While roller skating is showing marked activity, it is a matter of even greater encouragement to witness the building in various centers of ice rinks, involving the outlay of large sums, and of proportions to accommodate thousands of people. Surely, promoters and capitalists are not going into the investment blindly, being men of large experience and brains, who would not sow where they were not sure of reaping. To further interest the public, it is planned to organize a hockey league to play the ice rinks of the country, thus arousing an interest akin to the baseball craze, which is sure to aid in drawing crowds. Added features are to be offered at these places, such as exhibition skating, carnival entertainments and other forms of attractive doings, calculated to keep interest at the fever heat.

Why roller skating should have declined in the last few years is a mystery. It is charged that the amusement has been badly managed. At any rate, it does not seem to have been conducted with any idea of order or system, and, lacking proper direction and unity of action on the part of rink owners, necessarily fell off. In Europe and on the continent, the furore of the craze has had no equal, and the interest there seems to have awakened devotees on this side of the water. Millions of American money have been spent in promoting foreign skating interests. Let it be hoped that the same people will see the wisdom of using some of their surplus funds in aiding the game in their own country.

### Straight Farce Is Welcomed by the Public

An epidemic of farce comedies may now be expected, following the phenomenal success of *Seven Days*, produced by Wagenhals and Kemper, and which is crowding every bit of seating space in the Savoy Theatre, New York, at every performance. It is the big hit of the season and is the best argument that the majority of people regard the theatre merely as a place where they are to be amused rather than educated. *Seven Days* is not even a straight comedy, but is farce all the way through, introducing practically impossible, but none the less, humorous, situations, and a hearty laugh with every line.

Undoubtedly, this has been a rather peculiar season thus far, from a financial point of view. Managers have been kept guessing, and with some of the most expensive and pretentious productions quickly shelved, producers have been in doubt as to just what to present to tickle the jaded appetite of the public. They believe now that farce comedy is the one best guess, after the way in which *Seven Days* has caught on, and authors are already getting busy, turning out that sort of material. In the meantime, both Charles Frohman and Frank Curzon have put in bids for the English rights to *Seven Days*, as the season on the other side of the big water has also been somewhat speculative and the managers believe that farce may also be what the English playgoers are waiting for. Following the success of *Charley's Aunt*, years ago, and later, of Mr. Hopkinson, many farce comedies were presented, but the majority of them were so hastily and badly constructed that they were short-lived. It is to be hoped that the same conditions will not prevail and that the entire country will not be flooded with makeshift productions to take advantage of what may, after all, be but a passing fancy.

### Playwright Maugham to Look Us Over

Somerset Maugham, the English author of *Jack Straw*, *The Noble Spaniard*, *Lady Frederick* and other successes, and who is in a fair way to become in England what Clyde Fitch was in America, announces that he is shortly to make us a visit to look us over. We sincerely hope he will approve of us. It is encouraging to know that he is going to study us with all due English seriousness. He says, in an interview, that he expects to be impressed with our "liveness" and "initiative," which he believes to be somewhat different from the English. In other words, he probably expects to find us somewhat wild and untamed—not far removed from the Indian.

The playwright seems to think he will get the best view of us through the smoke of Pittsburg. "I want to see Pittsburg and Boston more than any two cities in the world," he says. "I have heard that both are ugly cities, but I don't believe it. I know I shall find Pittsburg as beautiful as Florence." If he does, Mr. Maugham will have to draw more heavily upon his imagination than he has ever done in writing his plays. Strange he does not mention New York at all, not even indicating that he has ever heard of "The Great White Way." That is certainly an awful slur, which the New Yorker will be slow to forgive. But then, Mr. Maugham insists that he is coming to study the real American and, perhaps he has heard that the tribe is growing extinct in the metropolis.

Speaking of the censor, the playwright says: "We love the censor; he is so much better than the police." Which remark shows that he has the saving sense of humor, at least. So, after all, we may not fare so badly under his critical scrutiny.

### Big Demand for Vaudeville Performers

Complaints may come from some quarters of the legitimate field of the drama, but there is no doubt but that vaudeville is enjoying the biggest boom in its history. The war wages merrily between the guiding heads of the different circuits, but the performers are more numerous than ever before, and the agents have more business than they can attend to. Small theatres are springing up all over the country, in large cities and small, and they all must be furnished with acts. The result is that the performers are reaping a steady harvest. If they are not prominent enough to appear on the more important circuits, time is found for them in the smaller theatres. They are unable to secure large salaries on these smaller circuits, but they are kept busy—and that is the main point. They find it more profitable to be booked solid, at a medium price, than to have much open time at a higher salary.

High-priced novelties are more in demand now than they have ever been before. The public is ever curious, feverishly demands something new, and it is up to the vaudeville manager to provide it, regardless of price. Unfortunately, it is difficult to find such acts, even with the most competent men in the business searching the theatres and music halls of Europe, and offering all sorts of fancy prices. The best writers for the stage are devoting their time to writing sketches for players, prominent in the legitimate ranks, who are tempted to enter vaudeville by the large salaries being offered and the less effort required. While high-class vaudeville is expensive for the manager, it is none the less true that the vaudeville houses seldom complain about bad business and even with the field crowded with them all appear to be doing well, with the outlook good for continuous prosperity.

### To Protect Carnival Companies

The formation of an association for mutual protection of both the men engaged in the carnival business and of those who are instrumental in bringing the carnivals to the different towns, has, as its basic idea, good, common sense. It is not too much to say that both sides—both the traveling manager and the local manager—need protection from those who are too much inclined to look for a shade the best of it.

While it is true that there are carnival companies that fail to live up to their agreements, it is also true that first-class companies, bringing to a town all, and more than they promise, are often the victims of bad treatment and worse management by local promoters. Once in the town, with a big show in which many concessionaires are interested, the owner of the show is to a certain extent at the mercy of local managers. Too often the local people, realizing this, take all sorts of unfair advantage, and the show manager must simply grin and bear it, promising himself that he will never enter that town again and will endeavor to prevent any of his friends from going there. It may have so happened that some carnival company had appeared before in this town and failed to live up to its contracts. But that is no reason why the local promoters should vent their spleen on the next company that comes, which is not to blame for what some dishonest competitor has done.

So it is to promote fair dealing and better understanding all along the line that the new organization has been formed, and with proper support from the best men in the business it should be a success.



















beat, it will be necessary to skate a two-mile pursuit race to settle the match.

AT EDGEWATER RINK.

Manager F. E. Benson gave one of his Graceful Skating Contests on Thursday evening, Nov. 18, for gentlemen, and the following contestants competed: Fred Rolles, F. Brown, Charles Kapp, Frank Kapp and William D. Fox. After fifteen minutes of very graceful skating, the judges, officials of the W. S. A., awarded the first prize to William D. Fox, by a very large vote; Fred Rolles was given second prize, and the third prize was awarded to Frank Young. The awarding of first prize was well received by the spectators.

JESSE CAREY, OF WYOMING, PA.

Jesse Carey, one of the professional speed skaters, who hails from Wyoming, Pa., has been skating at Scranton, Pa., for the past four weeks, meeting all comers, and has not been defeated in any of his races. Mr. Carey has, in the past few years, made quite a record in the East and has now issued a challenge to skate any skater in the world, and is anxious to meet Fred Tyrrell or any other skater in the West, and will come west to skate if he can be matched with some of the speedy western skaters. Mr. Carey races with Blackburn at the Metropolitan Rink in New York this week, after which he may journey west to try his luck with the western skaters.

RICHARD ANDERSON CHALLENGES.

Richard Anderson, one of the old-time skaters, was in attendance at the match race between Hamilton and Tyrrell last week and stated that he was willing to skate the winner of the Hamilton-Tyrrell race, provided the race was skated three weeks after the last race between these two, and was willing to put up a side bet that he would be declared the winner. Anderson has a good record in the past, but has not been skating any this season.

MILWAUKEE SKATERS JOURNEY TO CHICAGO.

Joseph W. Munch, manager of the River-view Skating Palace of Milwaukee, headed a delegation of skaters from the Cream City to witness the match race between Hamilton and Tyrrell. As Freddie is quite a favorite in Milwaukee, the party made a strong bid for a prize at the rooting game, and returned to Milwaukee, saying, "Well, Fred will get him the next race."

THANKSGIVING AT THE HIPPODROME.

Manager Al. Flath, of the Hippodrome Rink, Milwaukee, Wis., has made great preparations for another of his popular and original carnivals, to be held Thanksgiving Eve, at the Hippodrome Rink. Mr. Flath is certainly original in the attractions he prepares for the patrons of his rink in the way of solid fun and spares no expense. Several prizes and favors will be given to all who attend on that night and a big show, that will last until the morning of Turkey Day will keep everybody on the jump.

STILL HAS THE SKATING FEVER.

Mr. Lee Richardson, of the Richardson Ball-bearing Skate Company, was out to Edgewater Rink last week, doing a few fancy stunts, just to keep in action. It will be remembered that Lee was one of the best exhibition skaters in the country up to his retirement a few seasons ago. It was remarked several times during the evening: "I wonder who that nice skater is."

WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM MIDGE SHERMAN.

As the Milwaukee, Wis., deal did not materialize, Fred Tyrrell and several other skaters in and around Chicago, would like to hear from "Midge" Sherman, and are willing to go to Kansas City, Mo., if arrangements can be made.

EARLE REYNOLD'S LETTER.

Skating is booming in all the states throughout the country today. During the last two weeks letters have been coming in by the dozens daily from rink managers and skaters from all parts of the world. In fact, it has been so heavy that I have not had time to answer the major part of them. Also the communications from abroad have been extremely heavy, and many letters in different languages which I have had to have interpreted, have consumed a great deal of time, and if there has been any letter up to this date that I have not answered, or have overlooked, if the writers will kindly drop me a postal card, I will be pleased to answer their communications.

Carpenter and Rielly, scientific and artistic fancy and trick roller skaters, from Providence, R. I., have been playing the New England rinks the past few months with great success.

Prof. Frank Neher, of LaPorte, Ind., has gotten out some very convincing papers and is looking dates in the rinks throughout the Middle West.

C. W. Voigt, a popular and experienced rink manager, of Pennsylvania, is now located

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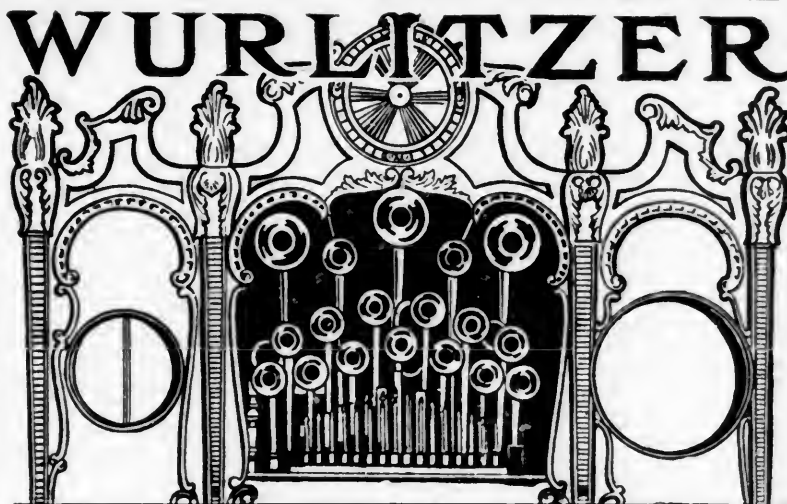
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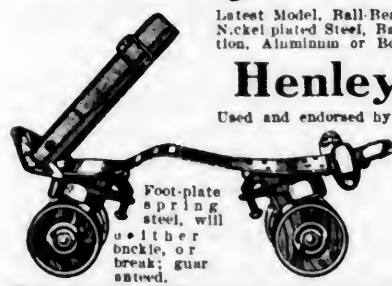
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BARNES COMPANY CLOSES.

The J. J. Barnes Amusement Co. went into winter quarters at Cairo, Ill., November 13, after 16 months' steady "grinding."

E. W. PARKER DEAD.

E. W. Parker died at Caldwell, Kan., Sunday morning, November 7, and was buried at Abilene, his home, Tuesday afternoon, November 10.

ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED.

The engagement of E. D. Morris, manager of the Greater Southern Carnival Company, to Miss Alma Rentfrow, of Columbus, Ga., has just been announced.

CARNIVAL NOTES.

Gertie May Davis, the fat woman, closed her season at the Dreamland Theatre, Sistersville, W. Va., November 13, having been out twenty-four weeks, under the management of S. J. Dulaney.

Louis J. Berger, formerly treasurer of the Col. Francis Ferreri Shows, is now acting as secretary of the K. G. Barkort Carnival Co.

R. S. Kerr and J. C. Cross will conduct a carnival and food fair in New Jersey towns for ten weeks commencing the first week in December.

Corrado's Royal Italian Band of 30 pieces opened at the Florida Ostrich Farm and Zoo, Jacksonville, Fla., Nov. 21.

FAIR NOTES.

The fourth annual County Citrus Fair at Dinuba, Cal., will be held November 20-30 and December 1-4.

ST. LOUIS, MO.

Interesting Attractions are Bringing Crowds to the Theatres.

The theatrical end of St. Louis is doing a good business, and every attraction is leaving here on the right side of the ledger.

At Fort Leavenworth is the title of the new one act sketch, accepted by Frederic Walton and Co. for vaudeville.

Charles Van Studdiford, who last week signed a contract with Mrs. Leslie Carter, as special representative, began his duties with the St. Louis engagement this week.

Madame Schuman Heink, with Yolanda Mero at the piano, will be the feature of the Amphion Club Concert, at the Oleon, this week.

The first popular concert of the St. Louis Symphony Society, last Sunday afternoon, drew a packed house, and promises to be as big a feature in St. Louis amusements as ever.

The New Colonial Theatre, which is being finished on Delmar and Euclid avenues, will open the season about December 25, with The

Gally Stock Co., playing the most successful of dramatic productions. Mr. Gally has appeared in the original plays, and they will be put on with the complete scenery and costumes of the late Richard Mansfield.

From the close of the performance of These Are My People, at the Garrick Theatre, Tuesday night, until way into the next morning, a brief stop, and then all Wednesday afternoon, rehearsals were constantly going on for the first production of A Little Brother of the Rich.

Arthur Fishell will be treasurer of the Princess Theatre, and the many friends gained by him during his stay at the Garrick, will mean much to him at the Princess.

LOS ANGELES, CAL.

A Busy and Successful Week in Amusement Circles.

The Land of Nod was well received at the Majestic the past week.

Charley's Aunt was played with much success at the Burbank.

At the Belasco the company was seen to advantage in The Little Grey Lady.

The Ferris-Hartman Singing Company were very popular at the Grand this week in The Mayor of Tokio.

The following numbers of merit made up the past week's Orpheum bill: Valerie Bergere and Co., in The Sultan's Favorite; Tuscany Troubadours; Six Gilsmerettes; Viennese acrobats; Carlin and Clark, German comedians; James Young and Co., in Wanted—A Sister; Mary Norman; Ed. F. Heynard, ventriloquist; Phil, mind reading dog, and motion pictures.

Sullivan & Conditine's offering at the Los Angeles Theatre included the following popular numbers: Butler and Bassett, champion ice skaters; The Four Stagpiles in The Crazy Caddies; George Lauder, ventriloquist; Marlon and Rial, The Witch's Power; Selbini and Grovini, comedy acrobats; Ernest Brinkman, Australian character singer, and motion pictures.

The Unique offered a very attractive bill, including Norris' Trained Baboons; Leo St. Elmo, musical comedian; The Unique Musical Comedy Co. in The Irish Alderman; Illustrated songs and motion pictures.

At Fischer's, the Kelly Lyric Comedy Co. were well received in Oh, You Kid!

Among the popular numbers at the Cinesograph were Edith Forrest, imitator of baby dolls; Renea, serio-comique; Irene Earle, contralto; Le Sing, Chinese unisician; Illustrated songs and motion pictures.

At the Walker, Christie Deane, in her original snake dance; Regina Reed and her pickaninies; Albert Leonard, novelty dancer; Godfrey and Nichols, acrobats; Belle Barron, comedienne; Illustrated songs and motion pictures, made up their attractive program.

Included in the Exposition's program were Billy Edwards and Co., in The Picture Man; Leonard and Vernon, singers and dancers; Chas. S. Wheeler, black face comedian; S. S. Simpson, Impersonator; Florence Kingland, soprano; Illustrated songs and motion pictures.

W. H. Slack, for the past two seasons of Poll's managerial staff at Meriden, Conn., has been transferred to Bridgeport, Conn., assuming duties in the same capacity, replacing J. W. Sanderson, who recently assumed management of Poll's Meriden Theatre.

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Films Reviewed

(Continued from page 21)

place, but Montague jumps from the settee and knocks the officer unconscious. He strips him of his uniform and hides the senseless form. When the soldiers return, Montague roughly orders them to camp. Montague is then clasped to his sweetheart. After the declaration of peace, Montague returned to Betty's home, and having received the blessing of her father, their future happiness is decided.

VITAGRAPH.

JEAN VALJEAN.—The fourth and last of the series derived from incidents in Victor Hugo's Les Miserables. It tells the story as followed from the love of Marius and Cosette to the death of Jean, which ends the volume.

Meanwhile Thénardier, once the keeper of the inn of the Soldiers of Waterloo at Montfermeil, but now reduced to dire straits in Paris, recognizes in a benevolent old man the visitor to the inn who removed his child, Cosette, and who must be the escaped convict, Jean Valjean. Playing upon his sympathy, Thénardier induces Jean to visit his apartments, and Marius, who occupies the next room, because a quarrel with his grandfather has reduced him to want, overhears part of the plot and rescues Jean by warning the police. Jean makes his escape and next encounters Marius at the barricade, where he releases Javert, the human bloodhound, who, through the score of years, has remorselessly hunted Jean. Gavroche, the enfant, is there, enjoying the battle until his brave sacrifice. The cartouches boxes of the dead soldiers brings to an end his gay life and finds for him a place beside his dead sister, Eponine, whose love for Marius has led her to assume a boy's dress and follow him to the barricade. Jean learns of Marius' relations with Cosette, and when the regulars carry the barricade he makes his escape into the sewer with the unconscious man upon his back. In the sewer he encounters Thénardier, who permits him to escape from the locked gate by means of a false key, at the same time cutting from Marius' trousers a portion of one leg as a means of identification. Later Thénardier's attempt to blackmail Marius clears away the cloud of suspicion that has hovered over Jean in Marius' mind and he and Cosette hurry to Jean, whom they find dying of starvation and heart-break, but happy at the sight of Cosette once more.

THE BRIDEGROOM'S JOKE.—An expectant bridegroom sends his bride a box of flowers, but is seen by four of his chums, who replace the flowers with a plain yellow "muntz." He sends a note with "The enclosed is not more sweet than thyself," and when he comes to claim the kiss he finds a tidy little teapot brewing. Of course, explanations follow, and the skies clear, but the effect plans the undoing of the plotters. To his best, he sends a confidential note to the effect that he will be unable to leave town after the ceremony, and will spend the night at a fashionable hotel. To carry on the deception he engages a room at the hostelry and the quartet of mischief-makers promptly hire the adjoining apartment. With the aid of their keys they enter the bridal chamber and remove the groom's suitcase, the chairs, the bedding and all portables. That night, after the ceremony, they hurry to their room to enjoy the discomfiture of the pair, but there is no sound from the adjoining room, and at last they open the door to find the bride and groom lying in dust-girt, the bride sobbing, and the groom sobbing. Meanwhile the newlyweds are crossing the ferry to the railroad station, and wondering what is happening to the plotters.

ESSANAY.

BABY SWALLOWED A NICKEL.—Every morning before young Daddy Brown leaves home he gives his three-year-old baby her daily allowance of five cents for her savings bank. Sister Nellie, of six, is jealous, and she decides to steal it. The opportunity arrives. Baby is sobbing because the nickel is gone, but can't tell where it is. The frightened mother immediately surmises baby has swallowed it. Everybody is pressed into service to call a doctor, and the mother telephones Daddy Brown. Six doctors arrive and hold a consultation but the affair is solved when Sister Nellie calmly enters with a bag of candy. The doctors leave in disgust; Nellie gets up, spouting, and is made to epure the air of wedding the baby sister eat the candy.

TWO SIDES OF A STORY.—Mr. Billiken is a widower with a brood of seven children. He meets Mrs. Mary Moore, a winsome young widow, with whom he immediately becomes violently in love. Not thinking of the seven young Billikens, he proposes and is accepted. Mrs. Moore is the mother of six small children, but it did not occur to her to tell Billiken. The marriage takes place. Billiken goes home to make ready to welcome his bride to her new home. Both become conscience-stricken and decide to make known to each other their secret. Each, followed by their offspring, start to each other's home. They meet half way. Explanations follow. The youngsters see the joke and forming a ring, encircle the newlyweds in their frolicsome game of ring-around-the-rosy. Deciding to make the best of it, Mr. and Mrs. Billiken, accompanied by the thirteen, make for the Billiken home, wondering despairingly how they will care for the throng of young folk.

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MESSAGE TO NAPOLEON.—After the united powers of Europe had been successful in defeating Napoleon's vast armies, the great Emperor himself was taken prisoner. His royal friends in France made efforts to liberate the Emperor from his prison. The first part of this film depicts a meeting of a few of these friends and supporters, who formulate a plan. A letter is written to Napoleon. A young officer is elected to take the dangerous journey to Elba. But these friends did not count on the enemies which every great man has, and did not observe that one of them attended their essential meeting. The traitor informs the police and together

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 1-Magic Cartoons ..... 840  
 1-Mozart's Last Requiem ..... 842  
 7-The Mason's Paradise ..... 414  
 8-The Stolen Gem ..... 464  
 8-Glimpses of Paris ..... 417  
 14-The Trick Dummies ..... 370  
 14-Her Busy Day ..... 250  
 21-The Fiddle and the Fan ..... 324  
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 26-Abundance of Villains ..... 197  
 26-The Song of the Cradle ..... 647  
 26-A Barrow Race ..... 357

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 9-Telltale Reflections ..... 284  
 9-The Pigmy World ..... 272  
 9-A Peace Agitator ..... 430  
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27-He Learns the Trick of Mesmerism ..... 433  
 27-Sailors' Competition ..... 618  
 28-Pierrot, the Fiddler ..... 618  
 29-Jane la Unwilling to Work ..... 525

**October-**

1-A Game of Chess ..... 558  
 1-An Eventful Trip ..... 390  
 2-The Garbage of Paris ..... 407  
 2-Vendetta ..... 541

**November-**

8-Culture of Tea in Java ..... 492  
 8-Misadventures of a Pair of Trousers ..... 469  
 10-The Flight of Monsieur Valette ..... 878  
 12-The Man with the Dolls ..... 525  
 12-Running in Hard Luck ..... 448  
 13-Good Lesson in Charity ..... 508  
 13-Sam's Artistic Beard ..... 410

**SELIG POLYSCOPE COMPANY.**

**September-**

27-Across the Divide ..... 980  
 80-The Drunkard's Fate ..... 930

**October-**

4-A Trip to the Yosemite ..... 650  
 7-Wheels of Justice ..... 1000  
 11-Pet of the Big Horn Ranch ..... 1000  
 14-Lost in Siberia ..... 785  
 18-No Man's Land ..... 990  
 21-The Cowboy Millionaire .....  
 28-Briton and Boer ..... 1000  
 28-The Senorita ..... 1000

**November-**

1-Witches' Cavern ..... Feet  
 1-The Gibson Goddess ..... 576  
 1-What's Your Hurry ..... 408  
 4-Nursing a Viper ..... 920  
 4-Sealed Instructions ..... 760  
 4-Villainess Still Pursued Her ..... 225  
 6-The Stage Driver ..... 1000  
 11-Across the Isthmus ..... 909  
 15-The Fisherman's Bride ..... 1000  
 18-Up San Juan Hill .....  
 18-On the Border .....  
 18-In Wrong Simms .....  
 25-On the Little Big Horn, or Custer's Last Stand .....  
 26-Brought to Terms ..... 615  
 26-Making It Pleasant for Him ..... 380

**December-**

2-An Indian Wife's Devotion ..... Feet  
 2-A Million Dollar Mix-up ..... 520

**URBAN ECLIPSE.**  
 (George Kleine.)

**October**

6-Yachting Off Cooves ..... Feet  
 6-Gambling Passion ..... 530  
 27-Volcanoes of Java ..... 417  
 27-A Deened Memories ..... 544

**November**

10-The Robber Duke ..... 668  
 10-A Heavy Gale at Biarritz ..... 258  
 17-Workhouse to Mansion ..... 610  
 17-Fighting Suffragettes ..... 380  
 23-Bell of the Harvest ..... 511  
 23-Marriage of Love ..... 452

**VITAGRAPH COMPANY.**

**September-**

26-Onawanda ..... Feet  
 26-The Romance of an Umbrella ..... 450

**October-**

2-The Scales of Justice ..... 983  
 6-Betty's Choice ..... 642  
 5-Never Eat Green Apples ..... 290  
 9-For Her Sake ..... 995  
 12-Red Wing's Gratitude ..... 562  
 12-Too Many on the Job ..... 410  
 16-The Diver's Remorse ..... 900  
 18-The Mexican's Revenge ..... 680  
 19-A Dull Knife ..... 275  
 23-Cosette ..... 907  
 26-The Two Mr. Whites ..... 543  
 26-He Fell in Love With His Wife ..... 435  
 30-Entombed Alive ..... 994

**November-**

2-Miss Annette Kellermann ..... 539  
 2-Adele's Washday ..... 432  
 6-From Cabin Boy to King ..... 958  
 8-In the Shadow ..... 642  
 9-A Sticky Proposition ..... 323  
 13-Lancelot and Elaine ..... 1000  
 16-Benedict Arnold ..... 685  
 16-Indian Basket Making ..... 245  
 20-Sins of the Fathers ..... 985  
 23-Why They Married ..... 905  
 27-Jean Valjean ..... 990  
 30-The Bride Groom's Joke ..... 690

**MELIJE.**

**October-**

27-Cinderella Up to Date ..... Feet  
 November-  
 3-For Sale-A Baby ..... 600  
 3-Hypnotist's Revenge ..... 350

**INDEPENDENT FILMS.**  
**INDEPENDENT MOVING PICTURE COMPANY**  
**OF AMERICA.**  
 (Carl Laemmle)

**October-**

25-Ilwatha ..... Feet  
**November-**  
 1-Love's Stratagem ..... 954  
 8-Destiny ..... 850  
 15-The Forest Ranger's Daughter ..... 750  
 15-The Brave Policeman ..... 250  
 22-Levitsky Sees the Parade ..... 700  
 22-Out With the Rogue ..... 296

**PHOENIX.**

**September-**

30-The Man and the Law ..... Feet  
**October-**  
 7-The North Pole Craze ..... 500  
 7-A Child's Plea ..... 500  
 14-The Telephone Call ..... 1000  
 28-Dope Head Clancy ..... 600  
 28-The Love Hunter ..... 400  
 28-A Broken Melody ..... 1000

**November-**

4-Actress and Child ..... Feet  
 11-Hello Bill ..... 900  
 11-The Kissing Germ ..... 350  
 18-A Millionaire Bootblack ..... 1000

**FILM IMPORT AND TRADING CO.**

**November-**

8-The Farmer's Son (Italia) ..... Feet  
 8-Bertha's Birthday (Raleigh & Robert) ..... 535  
 8-Good For Evil (Italia) ..... 729  
 8-Lines of the Hand (Raleigh & Robert) ..... 450  
 8-Bandits of the Atlas Gorges (Eclair) ..... 550  
 8-Logging in the Italian Alps (Ambrosio) ..... 652  
 8-The Necklace of the Holy Virgin (Eclair) ..... 360  
 15-Goddess of the Sea (Le Lion) ..... 560  
 15-Love of Little Flora (Italia) ..... 790  
 15-Julius Caesar (Italia) ..... 450  
 15-A Mother's Heart (Ambrosio) ..... 798  
 15-The Mysterious Luggage (Eclair) ..... 675  
 15-The Cursed Cage (Aquila) ..... 940

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**PAUL BLUM A FAVORITE.**

He is Doing Some Fine Boosting for Madame Marantette.

Paul Blum is blazing the way through the South for Madame Marantette, the "Queen of Riders," of the well-known agent and manager one of the Pensacola papers begins a long story by saying:

"He idled into town one evening this week, and from then until the next evening when the ten o'clock train pulled out, he owned the town—big, rattling, jovial, whole-souled Paul Blum, known all over the United States, wherever show people are known. Blum knows everybody worth knowing in the theatrical world, and can beat a St. Louis drummer telling a yarn."

Madame Marantette is spoken of as follows: "Yesterday she appeared for the second day before a Pensacola audience, winning their admiration and enthusiastic applause before she had been in the saddle five minutes. She not only demonstrated her superiority as a menage or high school rider, but gave an even more wonderful performance with her Irish jumping horse, St. Patrick, who holds the world's record of 7 feet, 10 1/2 inches."

"Madame Marantette is the personification of grace when seated in the saddle, and presents a regal appearance, displaying the same comeliness and indomitable will that have the heroines of past ages. She has not only received the highest salary ever paid an equestrienne, but has been the recipient of many trophies in this country, England and the Continent. It is nothing less than a treat to watch her put her imported Arabian stallion, Chief, through his paces, or ride St. Patrick over the high jumps. Mr. D. H. Harris, an accomplished horseman and one of the most noted horse trainers in the world, rides the superb Arabian mare Snowflake in an entirely different display of haute école training, the horse being obedient to the slightest touch of rein or spur. Fliemaker, Jr., a noted Kentucky thoroughbred, steeple-chaser, and the little pony, Kruger, also, gave splendid exhibitions over the high jumps."

**LATE NEW YORK STATE INCORPORATIONS.**

The Zanelg Theatre Company, New York; capital, \$1,000. To own, lease and conduct a general theatrical business and to exhibit plays, sketches and amusements of every kind. Directors, Agnes and Julius Zanelg, 353 W. 145th street, and Herbert H. Taylor, 493 W. 145th street.

Celtic Amusement Company, New York; capital, \$5,000. To promote and produce theatrical plays and sketches. Directors, Al. M. Leau, 314 W. 48th street, New York City; Theodore Burt Sayre, Empire Theatre, Broadway, New York City; Edward J. Denice, 116 Clymer street, Brooklyn.

Hudson Film Company, New York; capital, \$10,000. To manufacture and deal in moving picture machine films, theatrical and operatic business, and to provide theatrical performances. Directors, Robert A. Maeder, Jessie L. Snyder and David F. Price, all of 1 Liberty street, New York City.

Thespian Amusement Company, New York; capital, \$15,000. To build, operate and manage theatres and other places of amusement; to present theatrical productions and to conduct booking agencies. Directors, Frederick C. Smith, 43 Cedar street; Richard McNair, 4 Wall street, and Bernard W. Naftal, 290 Broadway, New York City.

Great Northern Hotel Company, New York; capital, \$50,000. In connection with hotel business, to deal in theatre tickets. Directors, George Makopos, Montgomery D. Coleman, J. Milton Ferry, 120 Broadway, New York City.

Bayard Amusement Company, New York; has certified that the amount of capital is \$10,000 and that the entire amount has been paid in. President, Wm. H. Markgraf; secretary, J. Stuart Blackton.

Malassonima Aeroplane Company, New York; capital, \$25,000. To manufacture airplanes, aeroplanes and flying machines and to maintain and operate amusement enterprises of all kinds. Directors, Albert Malassonima, 39 Washington Square; Louis and George H. Jantzen, 990 8th avenue, all of New York City.

**WILLIAM J. GANE MANAGER.**

William J. Gane, manager of the Manhattan and Circle theatres, has taken charge of the offices of the Motion Picture Company of America, in the Broadway Theatre Building, New York. Mr. Gane has been made the general manager of the organization.

Though he will have managers in charge of both of the New York theatres he has been directing, Mr. Gane will continue to give each house his personal attention. The company has nothing to do with the manufacture of film or of picture machines, as the name might imply.

The company has taken over the control of eight theatres in Philadelphia, two in Baltimore, and one each in Cincinnati, Norfolk and Reading, in addition to the Circle and Manhattan in New York.

Other houses will be added to this circuit of fifteen, and already sites have been selected for new theatres in Manhattan, one at 125th street, and the other at 147th. Plans already prepared will be filed with the Building Department this week.

**EVERYBODY HAS DAY OFF.**

Percy G. Williams has appointed a relief staff, which is to go from one house to another, standing a day in each house on the circuit to relieve the permanent men, and giving a day off every week to each member of the staff. David Robinson, of the Colonial, has chosen Thursday as his day.

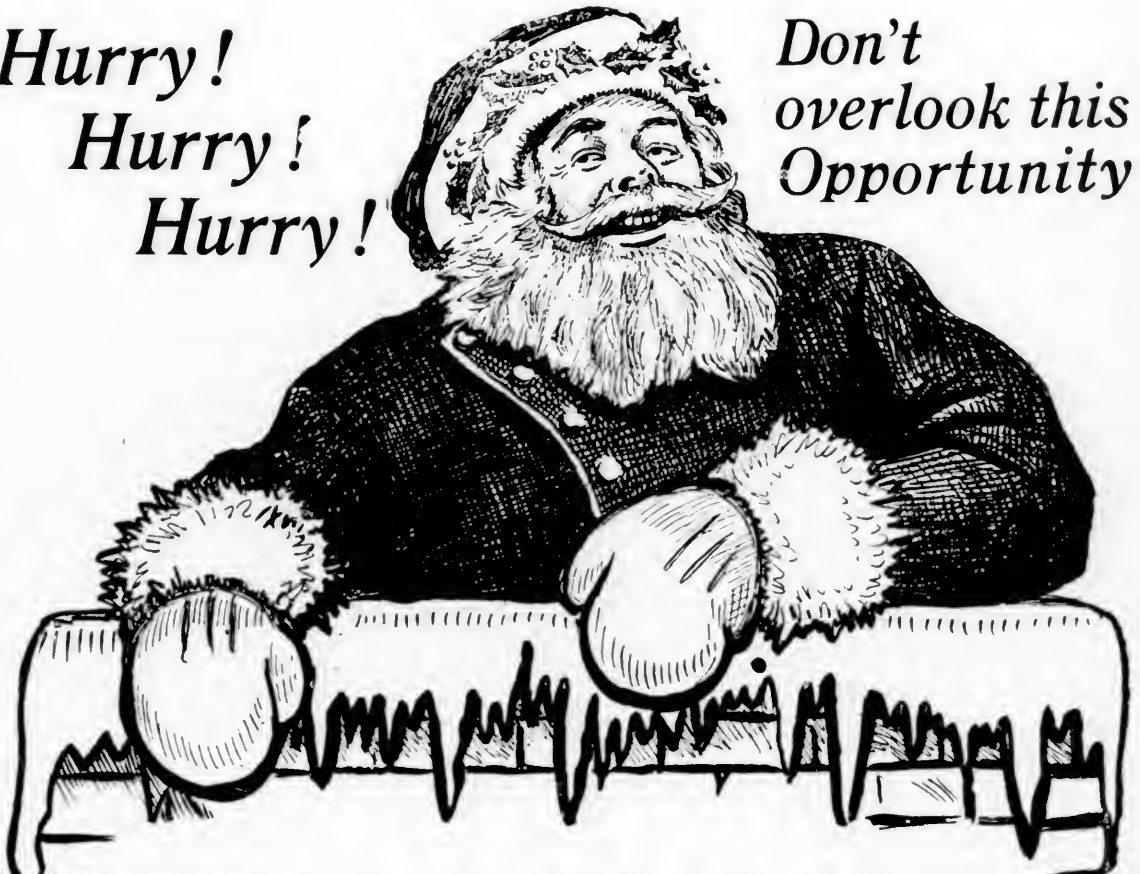
**MANAGEMENT CHANGED.**

This week Towle's Opera House, at Hammond, Ind., gets a new manager in the person of George Manderbeck, formerly manager with The Elms, byonists. Roy Emery, the present manager at Towle's, has resigned and will go on the road in a similar capacity with one of Hoyt H. Singer's companies.

The Wm. O'Brien Troupe and Na-oma, the Human Cannon Ball, sailed for Havana, Cuba, November 12, for eight weeks, under the direction of Richard Pittot.

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Hurry!  
Hurry!

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Last forms close Saturday, December 4th, at midnight; but to secure position your advertisement should reach publication office much earlier—at once if possible. The issue will appear December 7th and bear date of Saturday, December 11th.

**THE BILLBOARD**

America's Leading Amusement Weekly

Publication Office 416 Elm Street, CINCINNATI, OHIO

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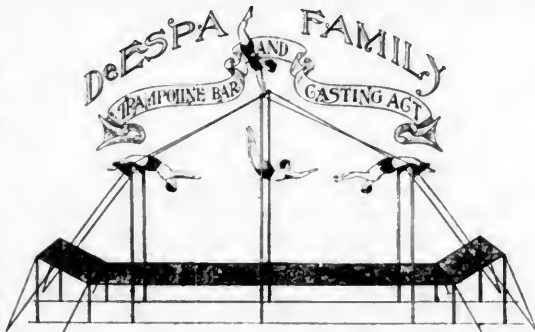
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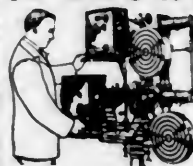
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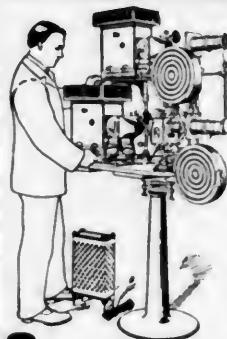
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