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PROFESSION OF ENTERTAINMENT

SHOW WORLD

WARREN A. PATRICK

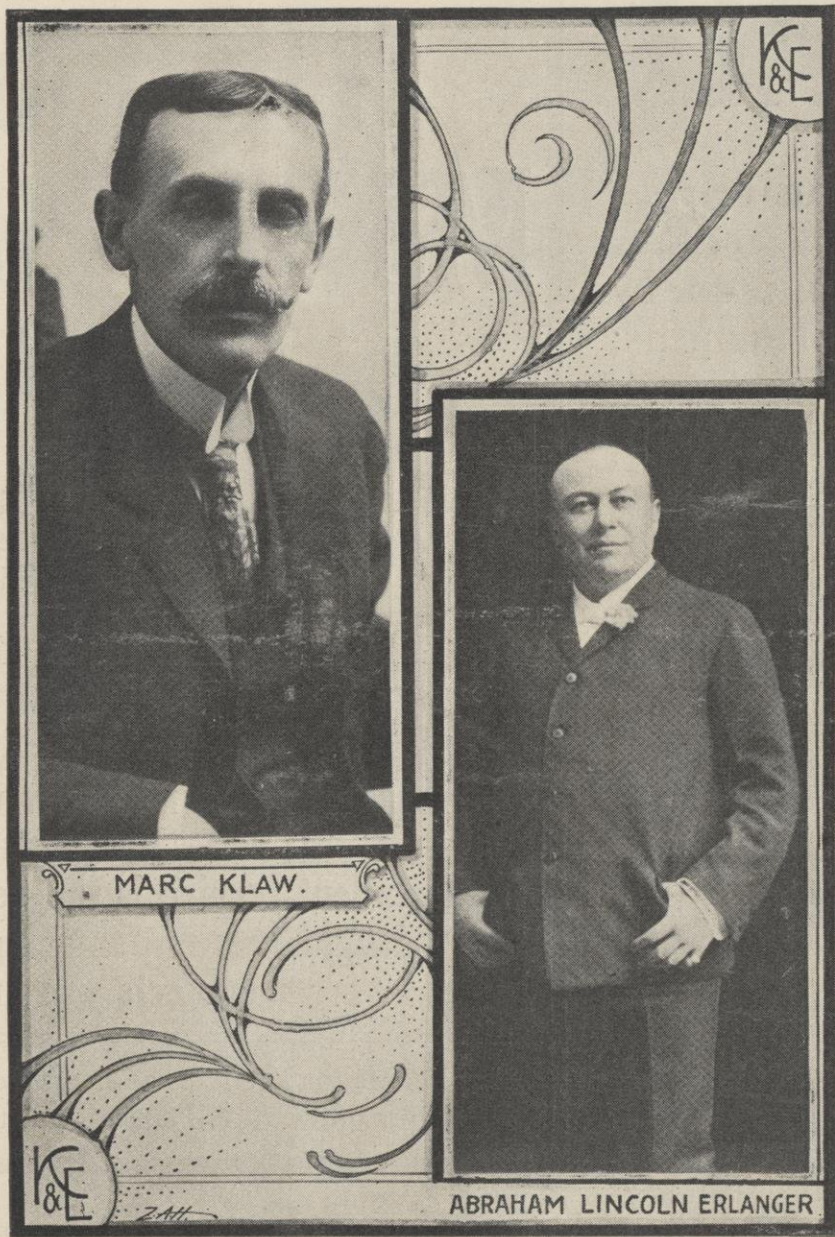
GENERAL DIRECTOR.

THIS WEEK'S NEWS THIS WEEK

Vol. IV No. 10

CHICAGO

February 27, 1909



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THE SHOW WORLD

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY AMUSEMENT WEEKLY

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Volume IV—No. 10

CHICAGO

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SHUBERTS MAY GET IMPORTANT CIRCUITS

Negotiating Now for the Chamberlain-Harrington and Claim to Have Secured Cort and Greenwall Circuits.

Negotiations are under way today between representatives of the Chamberlain-Harrington circuit and the Shuberts and it is possible that the result will be that the Shuberts will in the future control the booking of these important one-night stand theaters in Illinois, Indiana and Iowa.

The Shuberts are unusually active just at this time and it is rumored that arrangements have been effected by which John Cort will throw his chain of theaters open to them. Representatives of the Shuberts claim that the Greenwall circuit in Texas has also changed its affiliation. The Shuberts are said to be openly claiming the Cort houses.

The opportunity of securing the Chamberlain-Harrington houses grew out of the enforced settlement of the estate of Frank Chamberlain, formerly of Burlington, Iowa. The widow is at the Annex when this is written and is in conference with J. J. Shubert, Charles Kindt and others.

Stair Deal Falls Through.

The Shuberts have been negotiating with E. D. Stair for some time with the idea of swinging that circuit over to their column. When melo-dramatic attractions got scarce Stair & Havlin entertained these overtures and things went so far that contracts were drawn up and given to Stair for signature. When Mr. Stair was in New York recently he brought an end to these negotiations by returning the package of contracts submitted to him without his signature, and this served to make the Shuberts the more desirous of securing some important one-night stand circuits. As told at length on another page the Shuberts still have in mind the organization of a powerful dollar circuit and will play many of the attractions in one-night stand cities, or failing to secure a season's booking will play all of the attractions a certain number of weeks on the smaller cities.

The Shubert agreement with Klaw & Erlanger precludes them from operating so-called first-class theaters outside of New York, Chicago, Pittsburg, St. Louis, Cincinnati and Philadelphia.

Klaw & Erlanger's Strength.

Klaw & Erlanger have never had the real hold on the theaters of America that the newspapermen have given them. The story was allowed to circulate because nobody felt inclined to deny it. Klaw & Erlanger are really in absolute control of less than forty first-class houses. They book for other theaters and have agreements with other circuits which gives them much power but they are not the absolute dictators that they are reported to be.

THE SHUBERTS WIN OUT.

The Shuberts obtained control of 56 theaters for \$275,000, Thursday afternoon.

STOCK COMPANY FOR COLUMBUS THEATER.

Quo Vadis Will Be Presented There Next Sunday night by Company Headed by Joseph Sullivan.

The Columbus will become a stock house next Sunday night when Quo Vadis will be presented by an organization headed by Joseph Sullivan, as leading man, and Jessaline Rogers as leading woman.

Others engaged for the organization are: Charles B. Hawkins, formerly of the Dearborn stock for characters, Sam Morris, a favorite years ago at Hopkins for comedy, Helen Davenport, Maud Potter, David Davies, Jessie Mosely and Charles Terriss.

Joe Tinker, in A Home Run, is at the Columbus this week. He has not proved a wonderful drawing card so far in Chicago, and it is reported that the management of the company tried some time ago to cancel the route after playing the

Criterion next week. The company was to have gone from the Criterion to St. Louis and then to Cincinnati, but the management concluded that if Tinker would not draw better than he did at the Academy he would not draw on the road.

Weber Leases Theaters.

Logansport, Ind., Feb. 24.
Harry Weber, of Chicago, has closed a lease for the management of the Huntington, Wabash and Peru theaters beginning March 1, and will offer vaudeville.—WARD.

MAYOR'S ORDER STANDS; THEATERS ARE CLOSED

Judge Dana at Boston Decided Wednesday That the Matter is out of the Jurisdiction of the Court.

Fall River, Mass., Feb. 25

Six moving picture houses and vaudeville theaters will be closed until further notice by the order of Mayor Coughlin, owing to alleged infringements of the law forbidding the admission of unattended children under the age of fourteen. The Academy, which is on Julius Cahn's circuit, is the only theater which remains open.

The order took effect last Monday and was made at the instance of Father Cassidy of St. Mary's Cathedral. At a hearing the testimony of 25 boys was offered all of them under 14.

Yesterday a hearing of the case before Judge Dana at Boston held out hope for the theater managers but the judge decided that the matter was out of the court's jurisdiction.

The dark houses are the Savoy, Puritan, Premier, Bijou, Nickelodeon and Scenic theaters. The Savoy is the most important.—SANFORD.

DANGEROUS MEASURES HAVE BEEN PROPOSED.

Bills Affecting Theatrical Interests Now Awaiting Consideration of Committees in New York Legislature.

Albany, N. Y., Feb. 24.

Legislation affecting theatrical interests in New York state has been presented to both the senate and the assembly and is at present awaiting the consideration of committees. Already bills have been introduced aimed at proprietors of moving picture exhibitions, restricting children of a certain age from attending them; at ticket scalpers and now there is forthcoming a still more drastic bill which may result in a board of theatrical censors to pass upon what the public should or should not see at the theaters.

The prospective measure will prohibit the display of immoral or sensational posters or the performance of plays of a suggestive character. Canon Chase of Brooklyn, representing a number of religious and civic organizations, is the mainspring of this reform and he has already paved the way for the reception of the bill.

Assemblyman Stern of New York has come forward with a measure which amends section three hundred and eighty-three of the penal code and makes it a misdemeanor for a person to establish branches or agencies whereat theater tickets are sold at a higher rate than is charged at a box office. The punishment is fixed at a fine of not less than \$250 nor more than \$500, or imprisonment for not less than six months nor for more than one year, for each offense.—CARDOZE.

FIGHT FOR CONTROL OF LA SALLE THEATER

It is barely possible that Mort Singer will lose the La Salle theater after establishing it as one of the favorite amusement places of Chicago.

A stock company, of which Charles W. Murphy, president of the Chicago National League baseball team, is a member, has been formed to take over the theater May 1. Other members of the new company are W. F. O'Connor, part owner of the Studebaker theater; J. M. Allison, a producer, and Charles Schmalstig, representing Mrs. Charles P. Taft, owner of the property.

Mr. Murphy is reported as saying that the Singers will have to move out on or before May 1.

The Singers claim that they have a written offer from Mrs. Taft proffering a five-year extension of the lease. The present lease is held under an annual rental of \$12,000.

The new company, it is said, is to pay \$50,000 a year rental for the building which the theater occupies for a ten-year term.

WM. MORRIS SECURES TWO SOUTHERN HOUSES

J. C. Matthews, Chicago representative of William Morris, has secured the bookings for a new vaudeville theater at Atlanta, Ga., which will open next season. The contracts have just been signed. A Mobile vaudeville house will also be booked through the Chicago office of William Morris.

It has come to a pretty pass when Mrs. Fiske is with a band show.

EUROPE LEADS IN PICTURES

By HENRY LEE



I am particularly interested in the independent moving picture movement from every view point, having had a very broad experience in public life and I have learned to my bitter cost that syndicated control

is destructive to growth and development, and means destruction to all but the component parts of the syndicate. It has shown itself in the commercial world; it has shown itself in all matters of art; in business and in the theater. Competition is vital to growth and development in everything in life. I pride myself on breadth. I have been before the public for all the period of my active life, as an actor, as a manager of theaters not only in America but in England and Australia, where I conducted my own legitimate playhouse and have written plays and produced them, so I have figured on both sides of the question. I have been a keen observer, student, and traveler.

The moving picture development is one of keenest interest to me in that while the development of the picture world has been phenomenal, it is obvious that it is still in its absolute infancy and that the accomplishments of the next decade will show phenomenal results.

The majority of the people connected with the exhibition of moving pictures have grown rich, not through, but in spite of themselves and have only given the public what they have been forced to by conditions.

Americans Practical.

We are a practical business country. We have the faults only of youth, and so we find nothing of the old European leadership in creation and production of material. This applies not only to music, to the drama, but in the broadest sense to the creation and manufacture of what we call moving pictures. Italy and France lead and England has a wealth of material of which we in this country have but the faintest idea. We move rapidly in America and with the object lesson of the business of motographic development

before us I make no doubt that it will not be long before we will be in line with the wonderful product today of the old world.

I saw an exhibition at the Sherman House last night that was so startling even to me who rather pride myself on having seen the best in moving pictures that I was frankly carried away with enthusiasm. Immediately prior to this experience I had been talking with Mr. Swanson, an American producer and argued with him about the certainty of the success of the higher class material. He cited instances of the lack of appreciation of his clients of the superior material, and when the energetic Mr. Streikmans asked me if I would see some of the latest improvements. Mr. Swanson asked if he might be one of the party, and was cordially invited to join us. I needed no further argument when I left the room in which these pictures were exhibited and Mr. Swanson frankly admitted that any public must receive with enthusiasm the kind of material which we saw, and we think undoubtedly represented the acme of perfection.

Success Assured.

I don't know how the president of the Independent company with his great skill as an amusement director will fit into his new position, but it is certain that with such men as he has about him as aids and advisors it would be hard not to command the superlative success that the great material he is to exploit must bring. I have on a former occasion voiced my opinion as to the relative value of the foreign picture product and I can only repeat that in my opinion the best work in this field today produced by American talent in conception and artistic execution compares in relation to the foreign product as the faded postage stamp does to the bourgeoisie.

Unless serious errors are made I predict for the Independent people the broadest margin of success and congratulate them and American people to whom they are about to appeal.

In conclusion I must pay my compliments to your General Director whose zeal and interest from an artistic as well as from every practical point of view in the picture world entitles him to the recognition and to the gratitude not only of the manufacturers but of the people of America. I look forward hopefully to the day when men of creative power and of executive skill will be attracted to the new field and when our country will produce such truly wonderful pictures as are about to be placed upon the market.

STORMS AND SMALLPOX IN ONE NIGHT STANDS

Several Companies Tied up in Arkansas Owing to Dreaded Disease While Storms are Reported East and West.

Storms and smallpox have served to make business in the one night stands even worse than it was in January or in dull December.

Snow storms in the west and northwest caused many companies to lose dates during the month and lately companies in Michigan suffered. W. F. Mann's The Fighting Parson is said to have lost several stands.

The smallpox has broken out down in Arkansas and Harry Shannon's The Banker's Child and Jack Mahara's Minstrels were among the companies which were tied up. Jack Mahara went on to his show and it is more than likely that the organization is making another route by this time.

McVenn & Vedder's Dan Cupid was in the section where the dreaded disease was raging and it is reported that two members were taken down with it. This necessitated the closing of the company.

To add to the trials of one-night stand troupes Lent is now on which greatly effects business in some sections of the country.

LATIMORE & LEIGH IN CLUTCHES OF LAW.

Presented a Parish Priest on Sunday Night at Houston, Mich., and were Arrested Monday Morning.

Houghton, Mich., Feb. 24.

When Latimore & Leigh presented A Parish Priest here on Sunday night recently the sheriff witnessed the production and early Wednesday morning called on Ernest Latimore with a warrant charging him with violating the state law. Eight other members of the company were arrested. Later in the week the actors were released after giving bond.

There was to have been a performance here a few weeks previously but at the last moment the manager of the company decided not to play that Sabbath night, seeing there was trouble in store for him, consequently the lid was placed on the theater for that evening. The Latimore play was more of a test than anything else.

BIG REPERTOIRE RECEIPTS.

Quincy, Ill., Feb. 20.

The Winner Brothers played last week to probably the greatest receipts ever taken in at the box office of the Empire theater for a ten-twenty-thirty attraction in this city. They gave thirteen performances in seven days, and the gross was a trifle over \$2,400. Monday evening Grace Hayward opened a two weeks' engagement here, and Tuesday afternoon and evening the theatre was crowded. George Gatts, her husband, departed for New York, to make arrangements for a new line of plays for next season, Monday evening.

Prof. Meehan and his dogs, featured last week at the Bijou, are resting. Next week they go to St. Louis, and follow at the Majestic in Chicago.—SCHOENEMAN.

False Report About Theater.

Fort Madison, Ia., Feb. 18.

It was reported in these columns recently that the Ebinger Grand of this city had been condemned; that many attractions have been cancelled and that the seating capacity of the house is not sufficiently large to accommodate the better class shows. These are not the facts. While it is true that the fire marshal recently inspected the house and made several suggestions to the management, the improvements were of a minor nature and were quickly made. There have been no important cancellations of time. Among other "better class" attractions booked may be noted The Three Twins, Graustark, Girl at the Helm, Great Divide, Hortense Neilson in Magda, Top of the World, Paid in Full, The Thief and the First Violin. The house is sufficiently large and sufficiently popular to please the most fastidious managements.—CHAPMAN.

Manager Waylaid.

Buffalo, N. Y., Feb. 22.

A report from Ithaca, N. Y., says: Joseph Fowles, the proprietor of the Manhattan theater of this city, was waylaid on one of the principal residence streets by three masked men and robbed of a diamond ring valued at \$500. Money and a gold watch were left on his person. Fowles could not identify his assailants who left him suffering from injuries. The district attorney's office is investigating the case but no arrests have been made.—M'GUIRE.

South Bend Notes.

South Bend, Ind., Feb. 22.

Another moving picture show has secured a good location at Michigan and Wayne streets and will open soon. Warren Bell, a South Bend boy who has not been here for 16 years, came in last week ahead of Harry Askin's The Time, The Place and The Girl. Wallace Monroe has

been doing effective work ahead of his star, Louis James, who was here, Feb. 20. Popular Eddie Welsh, manager of the big houses here, has followed President elect Taft's example and joined the Masons. Victor Morley and Manager Welsh were companions during the days of a Grand Rapids stock company a dozen years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Welsh entertained Morley and Miss Clifford at a six o'clock dinner at their beautiful home the day of the engagement here. Mr. Morley recalled the fact that Helen Ware, who is now the talk of Broadway, was also a member of the stock company and came near being discharged for incompetency.—DUNKLE.

ONE NIGHT STANDS

Norman Hackett will be seen in Beau Brummel next season.

George Salisbury is playing the title role in Old Arkansas.

Henry W. Savage closed the Edwin Stevens company in The Devil Feb. 22.

Jules Murry is trying to get The Call of the North for Paul Gilmore next season.

Harry Green in Eli and Jane is touring the west and had fair business at Fairbury, Neb., Feb. 18.

Alfred E. Aarons production of Money closed after a short time out in the one-nights.

John R. Stirling, manager of Rose Melville, has bought a hotel in Detroit. He will continue to manage Sis Hopkins.

Dorothy Turner, who is touring the west in Jane Eyre, was formerly with the Frawley stock company in Minneapolis.

G. W. Montross, recently of the Star in Portland, Ore., is now managing the Grand at Sacramento, Cal.

It is rumored that Lou Hall and Hilda Thomas will be under the management of W. F. Mann next season.

The Hickman-Bessey company broke all records at Powers at Decatur, Ill., last week.

Henry E. Smith, who was second man for Murray and Mack at the opening of the season, is now doing the advance work.

The Fra Diavolo opera company stranded at Fort Wayne, Ind., and it is said there are several members of the company without funds.

John Larkin's A Trip to Africa, which has been touring the coast, has disbanded. Sam Langford, the colored pug, was featured.

Jack Mahara was in Chicago last week, coming from his Devil company, and leaving for Arkansas to rearrange the route of his minstrel company, which was tied up by small pox.

The Lyman Twins are on their way north after a very successful southern tour. O. J. Dietz, the agent, says this is the best season of the eight that he has been connected with those comedians.

W. W. Russell is managing The Show Girl which opened recently. He wishes it known that the piece is not the same as presented by E. E. Rice under that title.

Al G. Fields continues to do business. He never has such a wonderful minstrel show but he has a hold on the public, which counts more than the performance given.

GAMES OF CRAFT.

THE SHOW WORLD invites All Members of the Profession of Entertainment to Contribute to This Column—An Accepted Article Entitles the Writer to a Six Months' Subscription to THE SHOW WORLD and Permanent Membership in

THE SOCIETY OF THE STUNG.

GAME NUMBER TWENTY-TWO.

One of the most successful parasites who prey on the theatrical profession and managers attributes his rapid rise in grafting circles to an early start.

"When nine years old," he asserted, "I lived in a 'tank' town and there were no billposters nor distributors there. When Uncle Tom's Cabin or East Lynne came down the pike, I was usually selected to push out the heralds. Sometimes I got paid in real money for this operation and again I was honored with passes for the proposition. I was not an overly energetic boy and therefore I did not fancy hoofing it through the entire town from door to door, handing out the pink or yellow sheets proclaiming the advent of the drammer. I early learned that a nearby culvert was large enough to hold as many heralds as were given me, and thus was afforded ample time to devote to more strenuous sport. This early grasp of the graft situation led me on to greater achievements and put many managers in position to attain membership in this society."—F. R. M.

THE SALOME DANCE AS SEEN IN KALAMAZOO

Local Critic Says La Manolita Gave the Wiggles and Grimaces and Appeared in Paucity of Costume.

Kalamazoo, Mich., Feb. 24.

A local critic thus reviews La Manolita's Salome dance, seen here the other night:

The real noise of the performance was La Manolita, a Spanish dancer, who "interpreted" for the first time in Kalamazoo the real, unadulterated "Salome" dance—wiggles, grimaces, paucity of costume, head of John the Baptist and all.

It was at the end of the first act that Miss Fewclothes came out in the limelight, attended by a pirouetting squad of about a dozen young ladies from the female seminary. They were attired in close-fitting pajamas and carried cheese-cloth curtains, which they waved above their heads, meanwhile kow-towing to

Salome, who was taking a nap on an unsanitary couch at the rear of the rostrum.

The orchestra played languorous, pulsating music and finally, when it struck high G with a bang, Miss "Salome" hopped off her roost and for a brief moment stood exposed before the gaze of the audience in the limelight. She was costumed in a Ypsilanti union suit, gauzy and pink, two strings of beads and part of a fancy paper napkin, to say nothing of a cuckoo feather in her hair and a faint smile.

She came as near being the naked truth as anything that has been seen upon the local stage since Anna Held was here in Papa's Wife. Every time she had a whirling spell she looked like Psyche at the bath shaking off the gnats.

After she had loped gracefully around the ring several times she began to get fidgety and in order to quiet her one of the kitchen help brought in what was supposed to be the head of John the Baptist in a soup plate.

From the back of the house it looked like a coconut adorned with spinach.

Salome grabbed the head, juggled it for a minute, made a face or two at it and then put it on the floor. Dropping on her "tummy" she wriggled up to the "phony" coco and let on that she was going to bite it, but changed her mind, kicked up her heels and fainted away, whereupon her lady friends came from the seminary, jumped in the air, dropped to their knees, salaamed and snuffled a bit, whether from grief or the cold we cannot say.

La Manolita did a very neat and nerky "Salome" dance, as terpsichorean spasms of that sort go, and made a distinct impression on her beholders—especially those down in the front rows. She is graceful and shapely—so shapely, in fact, that it is doubted very much whether she could ever effect a successful entrance into a tube gown.

While the dance was mildly startling it failed to shock anyone to the point of falling out of their seat. If there is any fault to find with it it is that La Manolita wears one string of beads too many.

To Play Sundays.

Grand Island, Neb., Feb. 22.

Manager Bartenbach has decided to all Sunday nights and it is almost certain that the innovation will commence shortly.—KELSO.

SEVEN PICTURE SHOWS FOR ONE STINGY NICKEL.

War at Evansville, Ind., in Which Theatricals are Determined to Run Out the Theaters.

Evansville, Ind., Feb. 22.

It was thought that an hour's entertainment in a moving picture house was cheap at a nickel, but the Evansville theatergoer can now visit seven shows on one nickel ticket and arrange the hours of his visits to suit his convenience.

In other words, the seven theatrolums on Main street have combined with a ticket which takes a person into them all, and the ticket sells for a nickel.

The plan is to run out the Orpheum under the management of Charles Sweet and the Grand under the management of Fred Wastier.

The Grand and Orpheum charge the regular price and up to this time have done business in spite of the remarkably liberal offer of the opposition.—S. O.

Crawford Gets S. & C. Acts.

Topeka, Kan., Feb. 24.

Roy Crawford has closed a ten-year contract with Sullivan & Considine by which they will book the Majestic in this city. The new bookings are now being offered and three shows given daily. Dan F. McCoy, who manages a house at Denver, is a native of this city and he has promised to personally see to it that the Majestic is well looked after.

Mozart Theater Successful.

Elmira, N. Y., Feb. 22.

The new Mozart theater, of which the White Rates are proportionate owners besides being one of the prettiest theaters in the country, is also proving a profitable investment. George W. Middleton, the old time showman, is the manager representing Mr. Mozart and the White Rates.

Lasts But Four Days.

La Crosse, Wis., Feb. 23.

The opera house started out last week to put the Bijou out of business. The Bijou secures its acts through Paul Goudron, of Sullivan and Considine, and the opera house obtained a bill from an agent named Goodwin at Minneapolis. The new policy only lasted four days.

GEO. KLIMT'S PLAYERS OPEN AT THE BIJOU

Liberal Attendance Marks First Performance of New West Side Stock Company and Approves It.

At the Sunday matinee and night performances of Out of the Fold at the Bijou theater, Chicago, a liberal portion of the West Side voted its approval of the change of policy of that house from travelling melodramas to permanent stock. Perhaps no better vehicle could have been chosen for the introduction than Langdon McCormick's successful rural play, permitting as it did, full scope to the emotional talents of the players and affording the audience frequent transition from laughter to tears.

The company which George Klimt has gathered together is a notable one in many respects. He has carefully considered his clientele in choosing his actors and without an exception they appear to made to order for the audience. This is not to say that players are typically melodramatic, but that they, themselves, no matter what their past experience may have been, or their hope for the future is, have thrown themselves willingly into the work of entertaining a Bijou audience.

From a scenic standpoint, the production compares most favorably with that seen at the Great Northern several seasons ago, when it had a long summer run at that house.

Of the players, the work of John Lane Connor was most effective. He is an actor of much repose and gave a highly intellectual interpretation of his part. Hugh Gibson, aside from a pardonable, first performance, uncertainty of his lines, was happily placed in the part of Big Jim and readily won his audience. Lew O. Hart gave evidence of long experience in character work in his study of Daddy Pinchbeck, a characterization which won him much applause and laughter. The Tobey Tompkins of George Fox was infused with that humor which could not fail to please the West Siders, and the stage was his own from entrance to exit. Arthur Ritchie as Judge Harlan, was dignified and repressed, making an excellent foil for the more energetic parts. Sully Guard played the heavy, John Lathrop, in good melodramatic style, a style which cannot fail to find favor with the patrons of the house. His voice is deep and rich and well modulated. He established his identity as the villain without even so much as smoking a cigarette. The "bits" were well taken care of by Ezra C. Walck and others.

There appeared to be a weakness in the work of the women, either due to faulty play construction or because that of the men far overshadowed them. Lorna Elliot and Anne Bronough seemed the only two who were certain of their lines. The work of both of these women stood out prominently. Miss Elliot should find no difficulty in establishing herself as a prime favorite. Ger-

trude Phelps played a lovable Aunt Jane, while Nettie Holland gave a careful interpretation of Mrs. Cobbs, the village gossip. The other parts were well placed.

All things considered, Messrs. Klimt and Gazzolo deserve the reward of great success to their new venture which has so auspiciously begun. They seem to have spared no expense either in securing their company or in staging their play.—W. M.

STOCK PLAYERS

Lyric Is Sold.—The Lyric theater in Fort Wayne, Ind., has been sold to what is described as "western interests."

New Stage Director.—George Lask is now managing the stage with the Woodward stock in Kansas City.

To Play Preacher's Play.—The Gates of Eden, by Rev. William Danforth, will be produced shortly by the Woodward stock company at Kansas City.

Willette Kershaw Engaged.—Will A. Page has engaged Willette Kershaw for his stock company which is to go into the Auditorium at Baltimore, Md.

Changed Opening Date.—The Lyric stock company at Minneapolis now opens with a new bill on Sunday instead of Monday.

Welfitt Is Treasurer.—Walter M. Welfitt, late of the Alisky theater, has been engaged as treasurer of the Grand in Sacramento, Cal.

Secures Belasco Plays.—It is said that the Del S. Lawrence company, which is in stock in Sacramento, Cal., has secured all of the Belasco plays for early production.

Girl in Waiting Produced.—The Girl in Waiting was produced this week at the New Baker theater in Rochester, N. Y., by a stock company headed by Jessie Bonstelle.

Summer Theater Planned.—Jake Garfinkle says that he will manage a large first-class summer theater in Waco, Tex., the coming season. He states that a company has been organized to build the house.

Eugenie Blair in Stock.—Eugenie Blair gave up her idea of vaudeville when offered a ten week's stock engagement at the Girard in Philadelphia. The company opened this week in The Strength of the Weak.

Actor Collapses.—John Kaiser, leading man of the Manhattan theater company, at Findlay, Ohio, collapsed after the per-

CURRIER COPYRIGHT BILL MAY BE A LAW

Patents Committee of Congress Reports Favorably On Measure to Put Pirates Out of Business.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 18. The House Committee on Patents today reported favorably the Currier copyright bill.

In this brief statement rests what is probably the most important action achieved by the National Association of Theatrical Producing Managers since its formation about a year ago.

It says in substance that Congress will

no doubt pass a new copyright law in favor of honest authors, honest producers and other honest originators, and that these will be in position to obtain a just compensation for their works. It will probably include all sorts of producers, dramatic and musical as well, and will definitely settle, once for all, the wrangle which has occupied a decade of legislative notice. The bill was created by Currier of New Hampshire.

This bill, when passed by Congress, as it likely will be, will put an end to all manner of piracy. Play pirates must now go out of business or be amenable to federal law; phonograph and gramophone companies must pay not only the singer but the author—the latter to receive, by this law, two cents a copy on each record—and, moreover, Chicago manuscript bureaus will have to take in their sign and go out of business.

FERRIS IS PROHIBITED FROM USING FATAL CARD.

Charles Frohman Secures Perpetual Injunction, Which is Important in Its Relation to Other Cases.

Minneapolis, Feb. 22. Local friends of Dick Ferris, who operates a stock company at the Metropolitan during the summer season, are interested in the news from Springfield, Ill., that the Supreme Court of that state has issued a perpetual injunction prohibiting him from producing The Fatal Card and ordering an accounting of the receipts of the play under his management to Charles Frohman, who instituted the proceedings. The latter had bought the play in England, but had not copyrighted it in this country, so that the court decision is in effect that the English law, which provides that an author loses his rights unless copyright is issued, does not apply to the common law protecting a man in the use of his property in this country. The decision is important in the matter of pirating of plays.—BARNES.

Judgment Against Film Company.

New York, Feb. 22. Eberhard Schneider, of this city, claims to have obtained judgment against the American Fotofone Company, of Philadelphia, of which Charles Perry is said to be the general manager, and Judge S. P. McConnell, of this city, the treasurer. According to Mr. Schneider, Perry ordered some cinematograph film from him, to be sent to the Philadelphia address C. O. D. The film was sent. But before the C. O. D. was effective, Perry came in and presented a check for \$170 to cover and the C. O. D. was released. The check is said to have been N. G.

BIJOU IN ATLANTA TO LEAVE COLUMBIA.

Will Offer Vaudeville Soon and It Is Thought that Wheel Will Be Via Louisville and Birmingham.

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 22. The Bijou theater has cancelled all contracts with the Columbia Amusement Company, and burlesque shows at this popular play house will soon be a thing of the past. The policy of the theater will be changed at once to vaudeville.

This will undoubtedly mean that the "wheel" will be via Louisville to Birmingham from Cincinnati, instead of via Atlanta.—CLARENCE E. RUNEY.

TRIXIE, TRAINED HORSE KILLED IN COLLISION.

Crash of Locomotive and Train Wipes Out Lives of Seven Men and Valuable Exhibition Animal.

Wilmington, Del., Feb. 22. Princess Trixie, considered one of the best educated horses in the world, was killed in a railroad wreck, a head on collision, between an express train and two locomotives on the Delaware division of the Pennsylvania Railroad at Delmar, about 100 miles south of this city. Princess Trixie was burned to death. She was twenty years old and had been shown all over the world, at parks, fairs and in vaudeville by her owner, W. Harrison Barnes. She appeared three times before King Edward.

Films of the Arriving Fleet.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 24. The Oklahoma Natural Mutoscene Company, with headquarters in this city, have taken a film of about one thousand feet, showing the arrival of the American battleship fleet at Hampton Roads. It shows every ship in the fleet, gives scenes upon the decks of several of the ships, it shows the reception on the Mayflower, showing the President receiving and congratulating the officers. The film is sold outright without restrictions and will be released March 1.

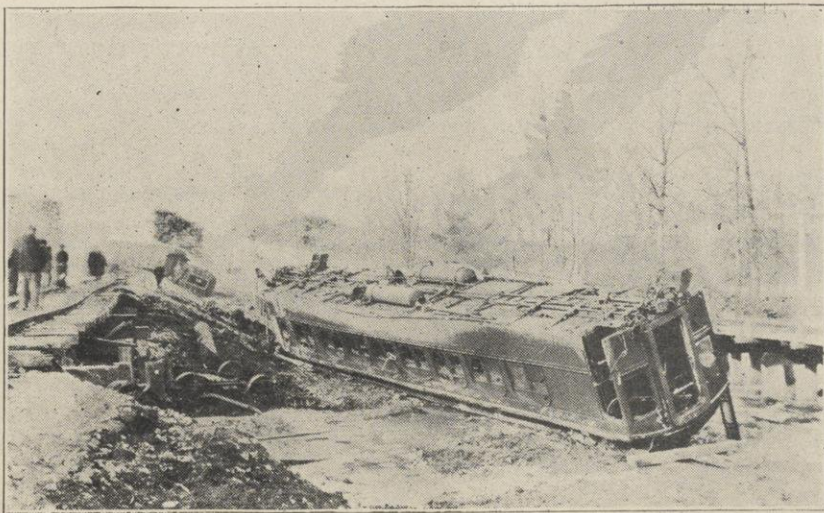
BOSTON BELLES ESCAPE INJURY IN BAD WRECK

Several Lives Lost But Luck is With the Performers Who Marvelously Escape With Their Lives.

Marion, Ill., Feb. 23. The Boston Belles were in the wreck on the Illinois Central twenty miles north of here last Tuesday night and while sev-

eral lives were lost none of the show company sustained serious injury.

The women were in the chair car which is shown in the foreground of the pic-



ture and the men were in the smoker seen in the distance.

Those members of the company who were injured to any extent were taken to the hospital at Carbondale and the work

of reorganization was commenced at once.

The company was to have appeared here Feb. 16 but the date was cancelled. The manager states that he expects to be able to reopen next week.—JENKINS.

THE GIRL IN BLUE IS BREAKING RECORDS.

Ministers Protested at Minneapolis But as Usual Her Manager Squared Things.

Minneapolis, Feb. 22. Frank B. Carr's thoroughbreds with The Girl in Blue at the Dewey did the largest business at this house last week, since State Fair week last fall. The Civic Federation and local ministers protested to the police authorities in regard to the featured dance which was modified somewhat after the first night and then O. K'd by Chief Corriston.

Manager Archie Miller announces that plans are being rapidly completed for the new Dewey which will be opened next season.—BARNES.

The following letter explains itself. Millie Deleon, the Girl in Blue, who packed the Dewey theater, Minneapolis, Minn., to suffocation, returns there again in April for two weeks. She is without a doubt the greatest drawing card in this country. Miss Deleon had only five days open between her St. Paul and New Orleans engagement, so Manager Archie Miller engaged her at once for those five nights on the percentage basis. She left at 9:30 for New Orleans to make her Sunday opening at the Greenwald theater, eb. 21. I have played many imitations of Millie Deleon, the Girl in Blue, but none her equal. The Girl in Blue broke the fair week record by \$2,029.50.

Frank Burnes, Manager Frank Carr's Thoroughbreds.

Walter Myers' Posters.

Walter Myers of Billy Watson's show has one of the finest collections of theatrical posters in existence. The collection not only includes the latest results of lithographic art, but many rare prints of which there are few, if any, duplicates. The poster most highly prized is one of the first Howard Atheneum show, the original touring vaudeville combination. On it are shown Billy Watson, Weber and Fields, Gus Hill, John W. Kelly, "Young Hoss" Hoey and several other artists who achieved stardom.

LIBERAL APPLAUSE FOR OLYMPIC ACTS.

Eugene and Willie Howard get the Bulk of it and The Hamlins Fared Well in Alice Lloyd's Place.

If the applause of the audience is the criterion by which to judge a vaudeville act, Eugene and Willie Howard may be classed as presenting one of the best acts seen at the Olympic for some time.

They are being recalled time and time again, and Willie Howard finds it hard to get away from the stage after singing half a dozen parodies. It has been a long time since a similar act received anything like the same amount of applause at a Chicago playhouse, and Louis Bentz, the stage manager, says the act went just as strong last year and during the week as it did on Tuesday night.

The bill opens with Hall McAllister and company in *The Girl of the Times* (fair amount of applause). The Three Westons followed with a dainty musical offering (fair amount of applause). Third came the Lule Beeson Trio in a Night in El Paso, seen earlier in the season at the Majestic, which was a pleasing offering to the critic. The moving picture cloud effect when the curtain went up was striking and Miss Beeson danced well and has two exceptionally clever dancers in her support; (scant applause.)

Eugene and Willie Howard came next. (Ten times as much applause as any act could desire). Emelia Rose followed with an acrobatic act which is a real novelty. Placed where it was it had a better opportunity to receive careful attention and the act deserved the position. (Liberal applause.)

Alice Lloyd was next on the bill, but on this particular night she was indisposed and The Hamlins, an act entirely unknown to Chicago, was pressed into service and their dancing was so good that managers should have no hesitancy in giving them a good place on any bill. They are appearing at the Majestic this week and the way they were received at the Olympic proves that they are worthy of the position of a headline act. (Liberal applause.)

The McNaughtons follow with their English comedy which is rather amusing at times. (Liberal applause.) The Millman Trio closed the show but such a remarkable performance on the wire as offered by Bird Millman is not seen often. She dances, runs, jumps, hops, and seems to be as much at home on the wire as on the floor. (Loudly applauded.)

Harry C. Stanley Dead.

Spokane, Wash., Feb. 20.

Harry C. Stanley, who was playing *The German Professor* in a sketch with Sarah L. Cogswell at the Washington theater this week, was taken ill Sunday evening, Feb. 14, at the theater. He was taken to St. Joseph's hospital, where he died Feb. 18 of Bright's disease. The Marco Twins, who play at the Washington next week arrived in Spokane this morning. The Marcos, who are White Rats, have taken charge of the body and will ship it east to his wife, Miss Cogswell, his niece, will do a single turn.—SMITH.

Wm. T. Freas Dead.

William T. Freas, who for many years was stage manager for the Columbia and Blinn theaters at Frankfort, Ind., died at his home in that city Tuesday, Feb. 23, after a week's illness of pneumonia, at the age of 38. The deceased was one of the best known stage managers in the country, having many friends among the profession who will be grieved to learn of his untimely death. Deceased was a member of the K. of P. Lodge and Bill-posters and Distributing Association.

Answered Last Call.

Philadelphia, Feb. 24.

While standing in the wings of a theater at Camden, Monday night waiting for the curtain to rise on the second performance of a new musical play called *June*, William F. Carroll dropped dead. Carroll was a Philadelphian and for many years was known on the stage as Philadelphia Irish Billy. His real name was William Muldoon. He was one of the old men of the stage, having played Irish characters for a great many years.

Chief McDonnell Likes Films.

The exhibitions given by the International Projecting and Producing Companies at the Sherman House this week were attended by the most enthusiastic and representative Chicagoans. Among those present were Department Inspector Jno. C. McDonnell and Attorney Frank Hogan of the Chicago Department. After witnessing the first exhibition these gentlemen expressed themselves as surprised at the beauty and novelty of the various subjects shown. Chief McDonnell, in commenting upon the display, complimented them that they would be as successful in maintaining as high a standard of excellence in the operation of their places of mented the promoters and expressed the amusement, in safeguarding their patrons as they would in catering to their taste in the matter of entertainment.

Orpheum Is Dark.

Montgomery, Ala., Feb. 23.

The Orpheum theater has been dark for the last two weeks. Manager Hilliard was interviewed by the representative of the SHOW WORLD. He stated that the theater had been leased to parties in Birmingham and it would be re-opened March 1. The theater will run refined vaudeville. Names of lessees are not made public at present.—LONG.

OLD GIRL IS GRAFTER ACCORDING TO REPORT

Lady Manager of The Hall Room Boys Required the Officials to Put up a Cash Bond Before They Were Engaged.

Wabash, Ind., Feb. 24.

The unusual spectacle of several Wabash business men selling tickets about town for a comic opera company was experienced in Wabash Saturday, says the Plaindealer, the men coming to the rescue of the Hall Room Boys, which stranded here.

As a result of their efforts a very good sized crowd attended the fourth consecutive performance in this city Saturday night, and the Eagles' theater was well patronized.

As stated by the Plain Dealer, the Hall Room Boys struck Wabash stranded. The first night's performance did not net any profit nor did the second night's. Friday night paid expenses and Saturday night

others decided to remain and enter vaudeville, playing first at Huntington, then at Peru. The others were aided in other ways, one being helped home by a local lodge.

The manager concluded to leave and says that in two weeks she will have another show organized and will redeem her baggage and costumes, now held under attachment at Wabash.

Rounds Lands the Plum.

Cleveland, O., Feb. 23.

William Rounds, the concertmeister of the Hippodrome orchestra, has been appointed conductor of the Cleveland theater orchestra, owing to the death of Richard Peters.—YOUNG.



ERNEST J. MAGERSTADT.

Ernest J. Magerstadt, whose likeness is printed herewith, is Collector for the City of Chicago, and is one of the prominent Republicans of the state of Illinois. He held the office of Sheriff of Cook County after he had served a term as Clerk of the Criminal Court. He is a member of the General Republican Committee of which organization he was formerly secretary. He has been a delegate to nearly all state and national conventions for the past twenty years. He is President of the Louis Hutt Lumber & Box Company, and together with Congressman Lorimer, controlled the photographing concessions at the St. Louis World's Fair. Mr. Magerstadt is one of the directors of the International Projecting and Producing Companies. He is married and lives at 4930 Greenwood avenue.

enough money was realized to get seventeen of the troupe to Chicago.

The actresses told a story of high finance on the part of the lady manager which invoked the sympathy of local business men, who helped sell tickets.

As the lady appeared to be quite wealthy, she easily secured thirty-two first-class actors and actresses, at high salaries. Then, they say, she advertised for treasurer, secretary, and other officials. When they appeared she required a cash bond.

This cash bond was the money on which she financed the company, as the actresses claim. There was just enough of this cash bond money to finance the company properly. They started out in their own private car and with glittering costumes.

They struck poor towns and arrived in Wabash with but five dollars in the hands of the manager. Her nerve never failed, according to this story, but her funds were gone. As a result seventeen were aided back to Chicago Sunday. Eight

Tired of Play Acting.

Cleveland, O., Feb. 23.

George Bush, a former pugilist, claims that after the expiration of his present contract he does not want any more play-acting. The boxing game is not so strenuous as the demands of the stage. He is one of the participants in the \$5,000 purse at the Empire.—YOUNG.

Richard Carle Made Hit.

Montgomery, Ala., Feb. 22.

A very large and enthusiastic audience witnessed the presentation of Richard Carle's three-act musical comedy *Mary's Lamb*, at the Grand theater Feb. 19. It was different from most shows of its kind. There were plenty catchy new songs, pretty costumes, and a large, pretty and well trained chorus. Among the most pleasing musical numbers were, *If No. 1 Met No. 2*, *Betsy's the Belle of the Bathers*, *I Idolize Ida*, and several others. Carle played the part of the henpecked husband, and so did Harry Montgomery in the part of Sylvester Q. Nightingale, a servant. The show was enjoyed by all.—

HOWARD THURSTON IS REALLY, TRULY, GREAT.

Astonishes Chicago by His Marvelous Performance and is Voted the Greatest Magician in the World.

Chicago had seen Howard Thurston perform with other magicians and had heard that he had introduced many innovations in the world of magic since given a clear stage, but it was not prepared for the remarkable exhibition he is giving at the Great Northern this week. Chicago has no hesitancy in permitting him to bill himself as The Great Thurston and would suggest that such a title is too modest for him, that he is entitled to be known as the greatest magician in the world.

Thurston's methods are simpler than those of Kellar, with whom he was associated last year, and are much more effective. He carries a large amount of paraphernalia, probably more than carried by any other attraction now in Chicago, and is prepared to offer a variety of feats which must be seen before the nature of the performance can be realized. The more you see, the more astonished and mystified you are, for Thurston is skillful in execution and his "tricks" baffle the closest observer.

He has improved on Kellar's "levitation" offering and provides wonder by having a young lady bound in a chest and apparently transferred to the dome of the theater by the discharge of a blank cartridge.

Thurston is assisted by Belar Hussan, an Indian fakir, and by Paul Kliest, well known in vaudeville.

J. D. TIPPETT JOINS INDEPENDENT RANKS.

Accepts an Executive Position with the International Projecting and Producing Company.

John D. Tippet, general manager of the Park and Realty Company of St. Louis, has joined the independent ranks and will have an executive position with the International Projecting and Producing Company. This was the announcement made Wednesday when Mr. Tippet paid his weekly visit to Chicago.

The Park Circuit and Realty Company will control the output of the Independent company at St. Louis and Louisville and likely at other southern cities.

Mr. Tippet has just returned from New York and states that the eastern people have come to realize what he has known for some time, that the business has in reality just commenced and that within a few years it will largely take the place of the drama and comedy at the large theaters.

New Essanay Film.

"Shanghaied" a new Essanay film, is thus described by the manufacturers:

"This intensely thrilling, dramatic subject is filled with heart interest from the opening to the final scene, and tells its story of love, hate, and attempted revenge, without the need of a shot being fired, or a knife used. The story teems with excitement, and has been produced with the aid of the best talent that can be secured in this country.

"The diversity of scenery adds greatly to the charm of the film; portions of the story being surrounded by the beautiful California scenery, notably that of Catalina Islands, Pasadena, California, and the famous docks of San Pedro.

"We honestly believe, without egotism, that no stronger film of a like character has ever been produced by any American manufacturer. The photography is absolutely perfect, and together with the scenery and the excellent action of the characters, this film, we believe, will stand pre-eminently alone."

NEW LUBIN FILMS.

A Dime Novel Detective. Lubin. 820 ft.—A villain falls in love with a young heiress. His offer of marriage is refused. He swears revenge and were it not for the great detective, Mr. Hawkshaw, he surely would have succeeded in kidnapping the heiress. As it is, Mr. Hawkshaw is always at the spot when he is least expected. A most amusing subject, full of surprises.

The Last Call. Lubin. 485 ft.—The first call is the call into the world. The second call, the call to school. The third call, the call to work. The fourth call, the call of the wedding bells. The fifth call, the country's call. The last call is the call from above.

I Will Only Marry a Sport. Lubin. 395 ft.—A young lady makes it conditional before accepting the hand of her suitor that he will ride three thousand miles on a bicycle. It is most amusing to see how he succeeded in this difficult task.

Aunt Abby is a Classic.

Cleveland, O., Feb. 23.

To date Neil Burgess has played the character of Aunt Abby, in County Fair for the 2,063 time. His condensed version of this classic was the most prominent and most appreciated act of the exceptionally good bill at Keith's Hippodrome last week. His interpretation of Aunt Abby compares very favorably with Joe Jefferson's Rip Van Winkle and Denman Thompson's Joshua Whitcomb.—YOUNG.

C. L. Young, formerly manager of Koll & Dill, is in the city for a brief stay.

AMERICANS ENTHUSE OVER FOREIGN FILMS

By WILL G. BARKER



of the Warwick Trading Company of London, England, favored a representative of THE SHOW WORLD with the following interview:

When asked, "What do you think of the progress being made by the Independents in America?" Mr. Barker said:

"I never saw such enthusiasm evinced by exhibitors of moving picture films before in my life. One naturally expects all moving picture exhibitors to be more or less biased when it comes to the viewing of moving pictures. If I could only transplant my fellow European manufacturers right here in this country to see a spectacle which they very rarely if ever see, namely exhibitors of moving pictures seated in a crowded hall applauding their efforts. I can compare it with nothing that I have ever seen before. As a rule a moving picture man takes pictures like medicine. He has got to have them. In a meeting I have just left at the Sherman House they got up and shouted and asked for more."

In response to a query as to what he thought of the prospects of getting varied subjects for American projection, Mr. Barker replied:

"I intend as far as it lies in my power to make the name of the International Projecting and Producing Company not only merely a trading name but really international in character. I have been asked by several exhibitors what this company intends to do about American subjects. I can only reply that both my fellow manufacturer, Mr. Charles Raleigh from Paris and myself are undertaking to see that American comedy and American drama and American scenery is placed at the disposal of the International Projecting and Producing Company to enable them to supply the demands of every exhibitor no matter where he may be located and so suit local conditions all over America."

"Why are you so confident that the European subjects will suit and be accepted by the American public?" was asked.

"That is the simplest question which you have yet put to me. I have only to point to such well known and successful men as Henry Lee, Lyman B. Howe, Burton Holmes, R. G. Knowles, Fred Niblo and others of world-wide celebrity who practically use nothing but European productions. I have been asked why I have gone into this fight. It is because we European manufacturers consider that the best interests of the moving picture industry should be a fair field and let the best film win. Why we want a perfectly fair field and allow the exhibitor to pick and choose his subject is because if there were no competition in the production of subjects the manufacturers from whom the exhibitor is compelled to get his goods would sooner or later just sit down and turn out whatever they choose without consulting the wishes of the exhibitor."

Competition Has Helped.

"This leads us right on to the whole question of how much competition has strengthened the entire amusement world. Today there is the keenest competition in every form of amusement with the result that managers secure the very best talent that they can possibly lay their fingers on. It does not matter what that amusement may be, whether it be White Cities or Skating Rinks, Circuses or Vaudeville or what you will. It is simply the survival of the fittest all the time. The public not only demand the best that the amusement world can give them in every sphere and will surely see that they get it, and if they find that there is any difficulty in procuring the best they will simply throw that form of amusement down and so ends that particular industry. I venture to say that if we Europeans had just sat down and taken our gruel like good boys and been shut entirely out of the American market that the moving picture industry here in America would have died of dry rot within a very short period. As an evidence of the spirit in which we European makers look upon this great industry, here am I, a manufacturer, spending my good money and time in asking the moving picture men of this country to handle the goods of my bitterest competitors. We are fully convinced, either rightly or wrongly as it may be determined, that the community of interests

to make a sound and stable industry is to be endless variety and that only the best of that endless variety should be exhibited to the public. It brings me back once more to my earlier words, namely that the public insist upon the best and will have it and if we don't give it the public will spend its money somewhere else.

"Independent!" Say Europeans.

"I have been asked whether the International Projecting and Producing Company will remain independent or whether when they shall have firmly established themselves and have rallied a great majority of American exhibitors to their standard which they are bound to do, will they join hands with the 'Trust' and leave all those good friends who are standing with them today and whom they hope will stand with them tomorrow, in the lurch?"

"In return, permit me to ask what inducements could the trust offer the independents to come into its fold? Would they not be hampered and be placed in the same predicament that the unfortunate trust exchanges are in today, not being able to offer any inducements to secure new trade? We will illustrate: For instance, Mr. Brown, the trust exchange man, and Mr. White, the independent exchange man, are going out to seek new trade. They find three exhibitors in one block. Each one of these exhibitors is now receiving service from a separate trust exchange, but each one of these exchanges has the same source of supply as all trust exchanges have, and therefore can only offer the same class of goods. Mr. Brown, of the trust exchange, having no special inducement to offer, what difference does it make to the exhibitor which one of the trust exchanges furnishes him the goods? If he buys a dozen eggs from one exchange and the majority of them turn out rotten, must he not expect to find the same condition in any one of the other exchanges? But on the other hand, Mr. White, who represents the independents can go on to one of these exhibitors and say to him: 'I have exclusive service to offer you; the finest material the world's greatest producers can offer; a service that neither the exhibitor on the right nor left of you can secure.' Does it not stand to reason, therefore, that the International Projecting and Producing Companies are bound to get one-third or more of the trade throughout the country by their agents being able to offer this inducement, which the trust exchanges are deprived of?"

"Go over to the Trust? Piffle!"

"The whole of the combined manufacturers who have sworn allegiance to the International Projecting and Producing Company were independents twelve months ago, aye, two years ago, they still remain independents, and will, to the best of my knowledge remain independents to the crack of doom. Do you think this reply will be satisfactory to all those who have this query uppermost in their minds? I think it should be quite satisfactory to them. There is nothing like pointing to a man's past record. It is pretty safe to judge future operations by past performances and not only that, we are taking up the battle cry that merit and merit alone should win out. If we enter any combination which attempts to restrict in any way either manufacturer, exchange man or exhibitor, it immediately stifles all artistic aspirations. Hence poor Merit dies. While it is true that we are in business to make money and as much of it as we honestly can, we are not going to let commercialism kill true artistic instincts. To repeat myself once more, the public must have the best. Nothing can be too good for them."

"Can you guarantee to supply sufficient subjects to meet the ever-growing demand of the American exhibitors?" was asked.

Can Double "Trust" Output.

"In the first place we are twenty-seven manufacturers strong and can supply two subjects for every one the 'Trust' can put on the market. Further I have an answer to your question which is irrefutable. In Europe we have a population of at least three hundred millions. Surely, if we Europeans can supply the needs and demands of such a vast population, we can supply the needs and demands of a population of about ninety millions in America."

"You also ask me what guarantee I could give the exhibitor that the good photographic quality will be kept up to such a fine standard of excellence. This is indeed a difficult question for me to answer. I can only point once more to our past records. We do not proceed in Europe by sliding backwards. We are trying all the time to go one better. Our staging, our actors, our coloring, in fact everything connected with the business is being steadily improved every day. It is not for me to say why the European products are the finest in the world. It would be a very ungraceful thing for me to say. I leave the verdict as to excellence of production entirely in the hands of the keenest critics in the world, namely the great American public."

FILM, MONEY AND BRAINS

By CHARLES RALEIGH



This is my first trip to America. Were I to analyze my impressions of this great country and the possibilities of the moving picture industry it would require much more time than I can spare you and more space than THE SHOW WORLD could conveniently afford.

Representing at least eighteen recognized Continental manufacturers of motion picture films who have placed their American affairs entirely in my hands, and for whom I have negotiated contracts with J. J. Murdock, President of the International Projecting and Producing Company for the sole American output of their product, I can confidently assure American exhibitors of a supply equal to their demands.

As regards the fight we have to make I do not think that patents enter into consideration at all. There are three things necessary and three things only to win our fight. These are Films, money and brains. The films you have seen. The money I have seen, and the brains—well, you know the capabilities of our leader far better than I do. It is not the first fight he has been in and he is rightly considered the greatest organizer in the American amusement field.

As regards the future supply of films from the Continental factories, I am at this moment cabling orders to meet all your requirements and even now Continental factories are humming night and day.

As regards the suitability of our productions for the American needs I can only say that out of 75 different subjects that I brought over with me, chosen at

random, as I left France on 24 hours' notice, but three subjects were judged by competent American experts to be unsuitable.

I came to America to place the contracts for the Continental product in the hands of President J. J. Murdock of the International Projecting and Producing Company, but there was another reason for my journey across the ocean and that was to study the situation at close range and to determine exactly in my mind the character of film subjects necessary for projection in the States.

Apart from all the splendid films I have brought over with me from Europe, before I left Paris I secured by purchase the control of the world's patent rights for the most marvellous device that the trade has ever seen to produce syncronism between the talking machine and the moving picture, without any connection whatsoever between the two instruments. To sum it up in a few words, I have got the acme of simplicity combined with the limit of perfection. The apparatus is so simple that the lad of the sidewalk could work it and it is perfectly free of electrical or other mechanical power and best of all can be marketed at a price to bring it within the reach of the smallest nickel theater owner in the country. I have already demonstrated it in several places and its working has been received with the highest possible approval. Both the parties before whom I demonstrated it were keeping the keenest lookout for "the nigger in the wood-pile" and I am pleased to say that none could be found.

I have been asked, when are you to return to Paris? To answer that question definitely would be impossible at this time but I shall not leave America until I see the steady flow of films between Europe and America well along and the Independent movement firmly established. We have planted the flag of independence in America and we ask every exhibitor to stand by it.

Liberty, equality and brotherhood is the motto of the country from which I come and that will be our battle cry in America.

INDEPENDENT FILMS PLENTIFUL

By J. J. MURDOCK



The affairs of the International Projecting and Producing Companies are materializing in a satisfactory manner.

Within a fortnight there will be a sufficient supply of new European films to meet all demands. We have quite a supply now, which we at first thought would be sufficient to inaugurate our business, but the demand has proven so great that we decided to postpone the first day of release until all of our customers could be fully supplied.

Shipments are not being made weekly, as many may have presumed, but practically daily consignments of foreign film are leaving the other side and this will continue indefinitely.

I wish to correct an error which seems to have entered the minds of some exhibitors, that we or our exchanges are to supply all who may apply for service. I want it distinctly understood that the International Projecting and Producing Companies will supply only one-third of the trade and every exchange receiving a franchise from us, must sign an agreement to this effect.

I do not intend that our exhibitors shall be placed in the predicament of the trust exhibitor, who must needs project the same subjects as his neighbor. It is the exhibitor who is far sighted enough to avail himself of the independent service, who will reap the benefit and safeguard his business. This will be apparent on our first release day.

And now about the McKinney machine: It is the most perfect as well as the simplest machine ever invented. When you take into consideration that our company has only been active about three or four weeks and the working organization just completed, you must give us credit for having accomplished a great deal. Given another month to complete a sufficient number of machines and we will supply all demands.

If you will follow all of our announcements from the beginning you will readily discern that we have carried out every assertion made over our firm's signature.

I regret that I have not been able to accept the many invitations to attend the Independent meetings which are being held throughout the country. It is gratifying indeed to know, from the thousands of letters and telegrams I have received, the receipt of which I gratefully acknowledge through the columns of the SHOW WORLD, that we are to have the fullest co-operation in this movement.

What Does This Mean?

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 24.

The following Chicago corporation was licensed by the secretary of state today: Duncan Clark Amusement Company, \$2,500; operate theaters, places of amusement, hotels and restaurants; R. C. Duncan, Harry C. Levinson, Garrison Graw-ord.

Connie Ediss Misses Performance.

Youngstown, O., Feb. 23.

Connie Ediss was taken ill before reaching here with the Lew Fields show and Lottie Fremont took her part in The Girl Behind the Counter.—LEEDY.

Rice and Barton Roasted.

The New Orleans State of Feb. 15 says: "Rice and Barton's company is another burlesque organization with which merit is but a secondary consideration, and which depends largely upon the vulgar for patronage."

With the exception of one or two numbers in the olio, there is nothing in the show that has the least merit to it."

Long Distance Picture Show.

Bloomington, Ind., Feb. 24.

The Star theater introduced an innovation last week in the way of a continuous picture show for thirty consecutive hours. During that time an endurance piano player pounded away at the instrument and sang the illustrated songs without a moment's rest. The Vaudeville, the oldest picture show in the city, has added 10-cent vaudeville with three shows each night. The Lena Rivers company had a fine audience at the Harris Grand for Washington's birthday matinee.—FELTUS.

Stage Managers Change.

Lexington, Ky., Feb. 24.

Harry Browning is now stage manager at the Majestic. This will interest many vaudevillians.—CANDIOTO.

ORGANIZE AGAINST BAD ACTS IN SOUTH

Southern Advanced Vaudeville Association Formed at Atlanta With 56 Theaters Represented.

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 25. No longer will the tramp vaudeville find fine picking through the south for last week representatives of 56 vaudeville houses through the south met at the Hotel Piedmont and organized an association which is sure to put an end to the poor system by which bad acts represented themselves as being good and obtained bookings through the lack of knowledge of the house manager.

In recent years theaters have sprung up so rapidly in the southeastern states that vaudeville acts have taken a chance or getting work and have come to this section in great numbers. As a rule it is the poorer class of acts which are willing to take such a long chance and consequently poor acts have predominated in some sections and meritorious acts have been at a premium.

By the organization of the Southern Advanced Vaudeville Association, which means that the bookings will be made through a central office, the bad acts are not likely to secure even a week's time, certainly no more. By offering 56 week's work a much better class of acts will be persuaded to play the territory and it is certain to mean an improvement in conditions for all concerned.

The following officers were elected: R. B. Kelly, of Birmingham, president; Will S. Albert, of Chattanooga, vice president, and F. W. Simmons, of Charlotte, N. C., secretary and treasurer.

The association designated Sam Du Vries, manager for Sullivan & Considine, of Chicago, and The Empire Theatrical Exchange of Atlanta, as the authorized booking agents of the association.

ASK DAMAGES BECAUSE ACT WAS CANCELLED.

Morris & Wheeler Bring Suit Against Elite Theater at Moline Because Act Was Closed.

Moline, Ill., Feb. 20. Joseph Morris and Velma Wheeler, known as Morris and Wheeler on the stage commenced suit on Wednesday against I. B. Haviland proprietor and manager of the Elite Vaudeville theater, claiming that they were injured through his having cancelled their act and asking damages to the extent of \$1,000. The act opened on last Monday night and after viewing it, Haviland went back on the stage and said it wouldn't do at the same time wiring to his booking agent in Chicago to send on another act to take the cancelled one's place the next day. The other act came along and Wheeler and Morris were left out in the cold. They immediately consulted City Attorney Gust Shalberg, who said they had a good case and commenced a suit for damages. "That act put half of my audience to sleep," said Mr. Haviland in commenting upon his action. "And they will not blame me for cancelling. I want to present something lively and entertaining and will not stand for an uninteresting act."

Several cases of this nature have been tried in local courts before an attorney here are brushing up on theatrical contracts which they believe deserve a whole course of legal study in themselves. The right of a manager to cancel act has generally been frowned down upon by the judges here although there seems to be such a provision in the terms. In every case but one where performers have sued for damages they were allowed the money.—J. R.

VAUDEVILLE AGENTS MAY HAVE TO QUIT.

Henry De Veaux, president of the Actors' National Protective Union, composed of vaudeville actors, reported yesterday that as the result of conferences within the last two or three days among representatives of all the theatrical organizations of this country a combination for mutual protection had been formed representing 50,000 persons in the theatrical business. The principal object of the combination is to do away with the worst features of the present system of engaging actors through licensed agencies which have no uniform system of fees or commissions.

Belasco May Build Theater.

Sacramento, Cal., Feb. 22. David Belasco, and a party of friends, were in town recently. Rumor has it that he is to build a theater here. An option has been held on a choice location but the agents refuse to state for whom it is held.—GEE.

Song Writer's Conventlon.

New York, Feb. 25. The Song Writers' Convention will take place on the stage of the American Music Hall during the week of March 8. Ten authors and composers, the pick of all the contenders for the prize of \$100 in gold,

which William Morris, Inc., offer, will demonstrate the merits of their own compositions and permit the audience to determine their respective claims to distinction and reward, by the simple and thorough method of ballot.

Any ambitious young man or woman who never has been graduated from the amateur song writing class, or who has failed to score in previous effort, in eligible to enter this free-for-all song writers' contest.

Vaudeville at Air Domes.

Several new airdomes will open in the south within a few weeks which will play vaudeville booked by Sam DuVries, the representative of Sullivan & Considine. Among them will be:

The new airdome at Chattanooga, Tenn., managed by Albert & Catron, which will open April 1, with a seating capacity of 1,000.

The airdome at Birmingham, Ala., managed by R. B. Kelley which will open in April.

A new airdome which George A. Bucovich is building in the heart of the city of Pensacola, Fla.

A new airdome is being built by C. B. Booth at Vicksburg, Miss.

RAY RAYMOND PLAYING JUST OUT OF COLLEGE.

Minneapolis, Feb. 22. Ray Raymond, formerly star in The Candy Kid made his first local appearance in vaudeville at the Princess last week in a skit called Just Out of College. Manager Priest of the Princess announces that the bill there will consist of eight acts hereafter instead of six, which has been the policy since the house opened. Arthur Deming and The Dance of the Seven Veils are the headliners this week.—BARNES.

Benefit for Hayes.

Sacramento, Cal., Feb. 22. A midnight benefit was given John Hays, of the World's Comedy Four, who is ill at the California Hospital, on Feb. 19 at Pantages.—GEE.

MANUFACTURERS COULD STOP BREACH OF LAWS

Chicago Fire Inspector Blames Makers of Films for Inflammable condition of Theatricals.

"IT SEEMS TO ME THAT A BUSINESS WHICH REPRESENTS THE INVESTMENT OF SO MUCH CAPITAL AND HAS ASSOCIATED WITH ITS OPERATION SO MANY HAZARDS ON ACCOUNT OF THE HIGHLY INFLAMMABLE NATURE OF THE FILMS USED IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, WOULD INSPIRE THOSE MEN WHO ARE MOST INTERESTED IN ITS SUCCESS TO SOME COMPREHENSIVE ACTION. . . ."

Thus did Inspector John C. McDonnell of the Chicago Fire Department arraign the manufacturers of moving pictures, in an interview to a representative of this paper. He believes that adverse legislation could readily be prevented if the manufacturers themselves would take in hand the regulation of theatricals.

Perhaps no man in this city is better qualified to speak upon this subject than Inspector McDonnell, who, since the inception of the crusade against the local picture houses, has practically been in command of the official crusaders.

During his interview, McDonnell plainly intimated that new legislation may be looked for, which will remove all danger which may now surround the film entertainments.

When Inspector McDonnell was first asked whether the interest manifested by the several civic departments in the theatrical crusade was justified, he said:

"I am sure it is. The interest of our department seems particularly justified. The rapid growth of these places has developed a tendency on the part of the owners to disregard the elements of safety which should surround places where women and children had easy access. In many instances these shows are neighborhood institutions which, by virtue of the small price of admission and the nature of the entertainment, were particularly attractive to the residents in the immediate vicinity. Consequently the proprietors either through a lack of knowledge of the responsibility which they owe to their patrons or a desire to

SHUBERTS WORKING ON EXTENSIVE CIRCUIT

Announcement That They Have Secured Metropolis and Yorkville in New York is Looked for Any Time.

New York, Feb. 25. That the Shuberts will have a circuit of thirty or forty weeks next season is the opinion of those who are carefully watching developments in the amusement world.

It is said that the dollar high houses now controlled by the Shuberts are proving very successful and next season the plan is to make this circuit formidable to the opposition by a combination with Stair & Havlin, which will give the Shuberts absolute control of about a dozen theaters which are needed to complete the circuit.

Attractions will appear at these houses which will compare favorably with those now seen at dollar and a half houses. In other words, the idea is to offer a dollar and a half show for a dollar, play to big business, and make more money than by offering a show at \$1.50 and playing to half houses.

The Shuberts are securing houses at many points or entering into negotiation with this end in view. At any time an announcement is looked for by which the Metropolis and Yorkville theaters, in this city, pass into their hands. This announcement would have been forthcoming before this but for the death of Benjamin Hurtig, according to a man who claims to know.

They are negotiating for the International Theater in Chicago, and if they secure it, it is their intention to reconstruct the interior so that it will be more available for large productions.

While some of the Shubert houses are not doing much this season, it is pointed out that they are playing at \$1.50 prices. It is believed that the cheaper price will insure the business.

FREDERIC THOMPSON IS GIVEN A DINNER.

Buffalo, N. Y., Feb. 22. Buffalo admirers of Fred Thompson, whose wife, Mable Talliaferro, is starring in Polly of the Circus, have followed with satisfaction his rising fortunes since the old days of the Pan American Exposition

Trip to the Moon in this city. At the Hotel Iroquois, Buffalo, recently his friends have a dinner in honor of Mr. Thompson and his press agent, Glenmore Davis of New York. Messrs. Thompson and Davis were the guests of Edward W. Mills, James Starks, James B. Parke, Jr., City Clerk Harold Balliett, Paul Warren, Chas. J. Murray, Horace Lerch, H. A. Wells, James W. Reilly, T. J. Sullivan and William Ferris.—M'GUIRE.

K. & E. Forbid Salome.

New York, Feb. 22. Klaw & Erlanger announce that salacious shows cannot secure bookings through their office and that no immoral or indecent plays can be given in any theater owned or controlled by them. The booking firm vetoed Mrs. Leslie Carter's plan to give Salome at the Liberty when the matter was broached recently.—WALTER.

Frohman at Hot Springs.

Hot Springs, Va., Feb. 25. Daniel Frohman, best known just at present as the husband of Margaret Hillington, is here for a short stay.

FAIR REPRESENTATIVES MEET.

Representatives of Four States Gather at Greensboro, N. C., and Arrange Dates For Coming Season.

Greensboro, N. C., Feb. 18. Representatives of fair associations of four states, North and South Carolina and Georgia, met here and decided upon the following fair dates:

Galax, Va., Aug. 31 to Sept. 3; Radford, Va., Sept. 7-10; Tazewell, Va., Sept. 14-17; Roanoke, Va., Sept. 21-24; Lynchburg, Sept. 28-Oct. 1; Winston, Salem, N. C., Oct. 4-9; Greensboro, N. C., Oct. 11-15; Raleigh, N. C., Oct. 18-22; Charlotte, N. C., Oct. 25-29; Columbia, S. C., Nov. 2-5; Augusta, Ga., Nov. 9-12; Spartanburg, S. C., Nov. 16-19.

Charlotte, Columbia and Augusta accepted the dates assigned them subject to the approval of the directors of their associations. The Spartanburg representative declined the date assigned his fair saying it would be useless to submit it to his association.

The fairs represented and their representatives were as follows: Galax, Va., J. P. Carragher; Tazewell, Va., Dr. Copen-Bewen; Roanoke, H. N. Dyer, C. Guy-haver; Radford, Va., J. L. Vaughan, W. son, J. P. Flippo, R. A. Piget; Lynchburg, J. M. B. Lewis; Richmond, Mark Lloyd; Winston, G. E. Webb, W. N. Reynolds, J. R. Green; Greensboro, G. Daniel, J. E. Tomlinson; Raleigh, J. E. Pogue; Charlotte, C. M. Creswell; Alliance Fair Association, McBryde Holt; Stokes County Fair, W. R. Kiger; Spartanburg, E. V. Moore; Columbia, A. W. Love; Augusta, Frank E. Beame.

The committee on dates was as follows: Frank E. Beame, of Georgia; A. W. Love, of South Carolina; J. M. B. Lewis, of Virginia; Maj. S. Walton, of Virginia; Col. G. E. Webb and Col. J. E. Pogue, of North Carolina. Mr. J. L. Vaughan, of Radford, was chairman and C. M. Creswell, of Charlotte, secretary.

There were also present a number of horsemen including C. R. Bentley, editor of the Horse World, of Buffalo.

The Yadkin Valley Fair Association was not represented, being in the hands of a receiver. They asked for a date, however, but their request was not granted, the directors holding that the fair would possibly be unable to carry out its contracts.

This will probably rank as one of the strongest fair associations in the country with three state fairs to be held respectively at Richmond, Raleigh and Columbia.—GRAINGER.

Ohio Fair Men Meet.

Lima, O., Feb. 18. In the meeting of the Western Ohio Fair Association here dates for agricultural meets were assigned as follows: Xenia, Aug. 3-6; Springfield, Aug. 10-14; Celina, Aug. 16-20; Bellefontaine, Aug. 24-27; Greenville, Aug. 28-31; Kenton, Aug. 24-27; Columbus, Aug. 30 and Sept. 3; Wapakoneta, Aug. 31 and Sept. 3; Paulding, Aug. 31 and Sept. 3; Dayton, Sept. 7-10; Van Wert, Sept. 8-10; Lima, Sept. 14-17; Sidney, Sept. 14-17; Findlay, Sept. 15-18; Troy, Sept. 20-21; Ottawa, Oct. 5-8; Hamilton, Oct. 5-8; Hicksville (Defiance county fair), Sept. 22-25; Tiffin, Sept. 7-10.—LEEDY.

Pace Gets Natatorium.

John W. Pace, for six years manager of the Montana State Fair, has taken Natatorium Park, at Spokane, Washington, for the season of 1909. Natatorium Park is the resort of The Washington Water Power Company, and is beautifully situated on the bank of the Spokane river, in a natural grove of native trees. The equipment is modern. This year it is proposed to give free attractions and band concerts every afternoon and evening. Attractions passing through to the Seattle Exposition and other coast points will likely be able to secure an extra week at Spokane, either going or coming.

INDEPENDENT FILMS DRAW BIG ATTENDANCE

Five Hundred Persons, Including City Officials, See Exhibit Of Foreign Subjects At Sherman House.

The International Projecting and Producing Companies, represented by Will G. Barker of the Warwick Trading Company, London, Charles Raleigh of Raleigh and Roberts, Paris, and Secretary H. J. Streikmans entertained fully 500 moving picture enthusiasts at the Sherman House last Wednesday afternoon, with an exhibit of foreign films. In the audience could be seen many sympathizers of the "trust," local theaterium owners, city officials, headed by Jno. C. McDonnell, Inspector, and Attorney Frank Hogan of the Chicago fire department, police officials, representatives of the press, aside from a liberal number of avowed "independents."

The meeting was opened by an address delivered by Will G. Barker, in which he announced that the films to be shown were made by foreign manufacturers who had now become affiliated with the International Companies; that these films would be for sale without restriction; that each arriving mail steamer was bringing more and that the supply would be more than ample to cover the needs of independent exhibitors throughout the United States. He dwelt upon the fact that exhibitors would not have to sign any sort of agreement in order to obtain these films; that they could choose any that suited their clientele and either buy them outright or rent them from independent exchanges. His statements were greeted with prolonged applause which interrupted him for some time. When he was again able to make himself heard, he said:

Barker's Address.

"Gentlemen, I am not here merely to blow a horn. I'm going to let the goods speak for themselves. I'm not even going to try to influence you in advance by telling you just what I think of them. I feel so confident that they will make their own impression that I'm going to leave them unguarded. I would like to say, however, that these films are not picked from the top of the box there are just as good—or bad, as you will—at the bottom. These films which we have chosen are representative of the factories from which

they come. We cannot wade half way through the stack of reels we have here this afternoon, and I feel that it is wisest to show you the output of two or three European manufacturers rather than endeavor to exhibit the entire lot in a half hearted way. This hall belongs to us for the afternoon and those who care to remain long enough will be treated to samples of a majority of European makes.

"It is my intention to remain in this country until the International Companies shall have two complete plants in operation, and I can promise you that I'm due back home at an early date." (His humor was interrupted at this point by great laughter and applause.) "You know," he continued, "I'm in business for something beside the good of my health, that's why I've gone and stayed 'independent.' (More applause.) "We have in the custom house in this city from one hundred and fifty to two hundred subjects ready for release. And now, Mr. Operator, please turn the crank."

A "Royal" Film.

The first film shown was an Eclair entitled "Compassion." It is the story of a priest who befriends a tramp. The tramp later attacks, robs and kills the priest's sister. Later the tramp, in endeavoring to rob a rabbit warren is shot and mortally wounded. He seeks the priest's house, where, in the meantime, the priest's sister has been carried to die. The tramp confesses the crime. The officers seek him at the priest's house, but in compassion the priest has forgiven the crime. It is a beautiful subject, beautifully told and was well chosen to place the audience in expectancy. A humorous Lux film followed, entitled "The French Horn." It evoked generous laughter and applause. The comedy throughout is clean and highly amusing. An Eclair came next called "The Lost Helmet," also good clean comedy, which was applauded. Another Eclair followed in scenes from the life of Louis XVII. This picture was magnificently staged with careful attention to historical accuracy. It was dramatically thrilling throughout and many

scenes were shown of the time when France became a republic and set up the goddess of reason as its deity. The little Dauphin passes through many harrowing episodes until he is finally rescued by the royalist supporters and is again proclaimed King of France. The applause which greeted this film from beginning to end made the reception of the preceding pictures seem mild indeed.

Mr. Barker here interrupted the performance to announce that the film about to be exhibited had been shown before the Emperor of Germany by command; before the King of Italy by command; and that King Edward, not being satisfied with one performance on a small screen, had commanded that it be shown on a forty foot screen.

He also announced that the 320 horses in the regiment were worth approximately three and a half million dollars and that they were ridden by Italian noblemen. The picture was that of the maneuvers of the Italian Crack cavalry.

Film Is a Masterpiece.

To those who have witnessed the hairbreadth escapes of those daring chauffeurs in the famous Dieppe film and had considered it the masterpiece in dare devil work, this film will prove a most wonderful surprise. There is, at this moment, no other film known to experienced exhibitors that can in any way approach this in live interest, in excitement and genuine enthusiasm. Experienced exhibitors lost their heads as the film progressed; they arose from their seats and cheered; they applauded and shouted "Great!" until the noise of the reception must have disturbed other occupants of the hotel. During the course of the startling exhibition of horsemanship, beside which the most daring hazards of American circus riders and wild west broncho busters pale into insignificance, the audience seemed to be at the very scene of the picture, thrilled with the enthusiasm of the moment. No feat of horsemanship seemed too daring for these Italians to attempt and accomplish. The mere jumping of ten or twelve foot hedges seemed like child's play in comparison to the life-risking descents of horses and men down the sides of hills. The casualties throughout the maneuvers were many and lent a still further excitement to the scenes. This film, when once in the American market will no doubt inaugurate another series of runs such as the Passion Play enjoyed, and will doubtless rank among the film masterpieces of the age. Ambrosio made it.

This film was followed by a Lux comedy called "Tiger in Harness," showing the

amusing adventures of a dog hitched to a cart, who is started on a mad chase when a drunken man becomes his cargo. Another Lux comedy related the difficulties of a young sower of wild oats who is dunned nearly to death by creditors. As last resource he applies to a rich uncle for money. The uncle promises it upon condition that the young man marries. He marries. The uncle then defers until the young man has a family. The young man later invites his uncle to inspect the first instalment, which happens to be triplets. The film was greeted with prolonged laughter.

Scenes of Biarritz.

A Lux film showing scenes of Biarritz, the famous resort of the French coast patronized by King Edward and other notables, came next. This colored film is an example of as perfect photography as has ever been shown in this city, and the audience, tired of showing its appreciation by mere hand-clapping, cheered many of the scenes.

Before the last film was displayed, Mr. Barker introduced Mr. Friedlander, chairman of the Chicago Motion Picture Exhibitors' Protective Association, who in a brief address, thanked the International Producing Companies upon behalf of his association for the use of the Sherman House parlor which had been tendered the exhibitors' association for a meeting tomorrow afternoon. He said that it was quite possible that the city ordinance compelling the use of the automatic take up and prohibiting stoves was now in a fair way to be repealed. His announcement was loudly applauded. The association, he said, now numbers 180 members and he also stated that in Philadelphia the local association of that city had gone almost unanimously independent, that out of 180 members, 140 were independent.

The final film was Ambrosio's Pompeii, a magnificent specimen of photographic art and histrionic talent.

Other meetings are to be held in all large cities of the country.

Looks Like a Hit.

New Haven, Conn., Feb. 23.

Mary Mannering appeared here yesterday in a play by Langdon Mitchell, entitled "Step by Step." Her interpretation of the leading role of Rose Marvin further strengthened her hold on theatergoers and she was called upon to respond to a greeting of more than usual warmth.

The supporting company included Marion Ballou, Frank Sylvester, Helen MacBeth, Arthur Maitland, Austin Webb, Addison Pitt, N. W. Fills, Mark Smith, Josephine Brown, Pauline Duffield and C. F. Howard.

ABOUT PEOPLE WHO ARE NOW IN CHICAGO

Dee and Noble expect to begin a tour of the International time shortly.

Henry Horton, formerly the star of Eben Holden, likes vaudeville very much.

Henry Lee is laying off in Chicago this week. He is registered at the Sherman.

Lillian Russell has not yet given out any of her love letters for publication.

Charles Terris, who has been here since Christmas, is recovering from an illness.

George Klimt has agreed to provide a stock company at the Bijou for two seasons.

Merle E. Smith makes a good treasurer for the Bush Temple even if he isn't as old as the other Chicago treasurers.

Beverly White is once more in the city after a two week's trip to neighboring points.

Marie Cahill gave an extra matinee Monday, but insisted that the Wednesday matinee be cut out.

Ed Garvie has been engaged for The Boy and The Girl, which opens at the Whitney theater March 14.

Henri French is spending this week in the city and is preparing to open on the Inter-State time March 22.

Edwards & Linwood are taking things easy this week and resting on the laurels obtained at the Star theater last week.

Max Lewis is back at his office after a business trip to New York and Philadelphia.

Barney Ferguson is laying off here this week and renewing old friendships. He is as active as ever.

George Fox, who is a member of Klimt's Players at the Bijou, made his last appearance in Chicago in The Land of Nod.

Viola Allen seems to have a big success in The White Sister and is playing to big business at the Studebaker.

Crimmins and Gore are laying off in Chicago. They will open at the American Music Hall March 8.

George Berry, late manager of the Lyric at Fort Wayne, Ind., is recovering from a severe attack of malaria.

Laurence Williams is in town, owing to the closing of The Rocky Mountain Express last Saturday night at Detroit.

H. Guy Woodward is at the Sherman House. He is organizing a stock company for the Empire at Dallas, Texas.

Minna Gale, who is appearing with Viola Allen, had been off the stage for 17 years.

Ralph T. Ketterling is arranging to take a theater party of thirty to Aurora to see the first performance of Fatty Felix.

Victor Bissonette, of Bissonette & Newman, is laying off in Chicago this

week. Al Newman is spending the week at Joliet.

Harry Birtch, who will play the title role in Fatty Felix, is rehearsing the chorus of fifteen girls.

Harry Farnum, who was with Carter's in at The Finish earlier in the season has been in Chicago for about four weeks.

Dave Seymour will manage The Phantom Detective which reopens in Milwaukee, March 7.

Harry Watson, who is with The Follies of 1908, recently added a bull dog to his collection of nuisances.

Will Cowper will open his sketch at Schindler's next week. Those who have seen the sketch speak very highly of it.

Charles Mason, of Mason & Mason is laying off here while Rudolph and Adolph is being reorganized.

Pat Kane, who was with The Phantom Detective until the company temporarily ended its tour recently, is laying off here.

W. T. Gaskill, who managed Jane Eyre until it closed recently, is in town for a lay off. His wife, Cuba Niblo, is with him.

Pearl Golding has been in the city for several weeks. She and her husband, John R. Andrew, are stopping at the Palace.

Harry Bryan has been in Chicago since last fall with the exception of a few weeks ahead of The Revelation. Recently he has been connected with A Home Run.

Charles Hart, who is managing the stage for Joe Tinker in A Home Run, has been engaged for Fatty Felix which will open at Aurora, Ill., on Easter Sunday.

Charles B. Hawkins, who has been in the city for several months, is negotiating with Max Weber for an engagement with the Columbus stock company.

Frank Sheridan, who is with Lillian Russell, has written a musical comedy and is in negotiation with a prominent manager regarding its production.

James R. Walte, pioneer of repertoire, has been laying off here for two or three weeks. He is now in vaudeville offering a sketch.

Arthur L. Thomas, whose home is in Chicago, has been in the city all season, with the exception of an occasional trip to New York.

William Mahara who has James L. McCabe and a Mahara's Minstrels under his management, has spent the major part of the winter in the city.

Herbert Kelcey had not been in Chicago for some time till The Thief came. Neither had Effie Shannon. They must not remain away so long again.

Adelaide Keim celebrated a birthday

Feb. 15. Abraham Lincoln's was celebrated a few days earlier and George Washington's a few days later.

Frank Martineau is here ahead of Little Nemo, and can hardly wait the time that the advertising of his attraction is to begin in earnest.

John O'Hara, who is here with Peggy Machree, is a graduate of St. Ignatius college and received his early schooling in Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Wylie are at the Revere, this being their fourth week in Chicago. They are filling occasional vaudeville dates.

Richardson Cotton, Jane Hampton and Albert Fox, are in Chicago owing to the closing of the Lyric stock company at Fort Wayne, Ind.

Lee D. Ellsworth, who was the manager of The Montana Limited and who was formerly the star of A Poor Relation, arrived in the city last week for a short stay.

Ann Bronaugh, who has been in the city three weeks, since she closed with James K. Hackett, secured a place as ingenue with the George Klimt Players at the last minute.

Frank Hopkins can be found at his desk in the office of H. H. Frazee during working hours, for he is busy booking the attractions Mr. Frazee has in mind for next season.

Frederic Bernard is rehearsing with Lee Kohlmar in the vaudeville sketch which goes on at the American Music Hall next week. The rehearsals are being held at the Colonial theater.

Madge Voe of A Broken Idol will have an operation performed on her throat as soon as the company goes on the road. She is likely to rejoin the organization later.

Arthur Deagon, who is with The Follies of 1908, is quite a favorite with Chicagoans in spite of the fact that his part in the Ziegfeld play does not give him the opportunities his ability merits.

Burt Crowell and his wife, Anna Gardner, who are with In Wyoming, which is at the Acamedy this week, are Chicagoans and are being entertained by their many friends during their stay in the city.

The Bridges, Alfred and Lole, have been playing vaudeville houses around Chicago since they closed with San Antonio, and have bookings which will occupy their time until well up in March.

Louis Bowers has been in Chicago since Aug. 1. He generally takes out half a dozen shows during the season but owing to the financial depression he has not put a single company on the road this season.

Lee Kohlmar, who is rehearsing with the new show at the Whitney, will appear at the American Music Hall next week in his sketch, A Lesson in German. He will have a fine part in A Boy and a Girl and will receive \$175 a week.

H. H. Frazee returned Sunday from Peoria. He had been with James J. Corbett in Facing the Music for a few days. He reports that all of his attractions are making nice money and his many friends will be gratified at his continued success.

Richard Ross, formerly general manager of the Perce R. Benton enterprises and more recently advance representative of The Power of Truth, is spending his fourth week in the city. He is planning a visit to his old home at Enid, Okla., shortly.

Gustave Neuss, late of the Six Glinsir-etts, now of the Ortmann Trio, came in from Mexico recently and is now in the city. He states that business at the Bell Circo is bad just now, and thinks that it was killed by the new vaudeville place which opened recently.

Sam Duvries has returned from a trip through the south and is once more at his office. He pronounces the meeting of vaudeville managers at Atlanta one of the most successful he ever attended and thinks that it will do much toward improving the class of acts to be seen through the southeastern states.

Paul Gourdron spent last week entertaining house managers for whom he does booking. Among those who paid him a visit were: Albert C. Pegg, of Flint, Mich.; Kipp Elbert, of Des Moines, Iowa; R. H. Hart, of Rockford, Ill.; Frank Koppelberger, of LaCrosse, Wis., and L. O. Whittier, of Superior, Wis. All of these managers report splendid business.

Felix & Calre are back at the American Music Hall, to remain as long as they can. On Monday night they gave about the same imitations they did the first week they were in the city, and it must be admitted that they "went stronger" than at any performance given during their first visit. They took ten bows and could have taken twenty. Later in the week Felix imitated Alex Carr and hereafter he will arrange to give imitations of those who appear on the bill with him.

Thomas Swift, comedian of the People's stock company, was taken ill some time ago with appendicitis. His condition was reported very bad some time ago, and an operation was performed. Although he is still seriously ill, there is no immediate danger, and it is hoped that he will be able to join the company again within the next six weeks.

LEAN AND HOLBROOK SCORE BIG SUCCESS.

Constance Skinner Says "Just As They Are" Are the Nicest Characters They Have Yet Offered.

Cecil Lean and Florence Holbrook, who were long favorites at the La Salle theater, are appearing at the Majestic this week in a vaudeville sketch and it cannot be disputed that they get a hearty reception at every performance. The applause commenced before the preceding act was off Monday night and continued until lots of folks were disgusted.

The hold Lean and Holbrook have on the Chicago public is remarkable and unexplainable. They came to Chicago unknown and are comparatively unknown yet outside of this city. It is to be regretted that such a popular pair left the La Salle theater and it would be interesting to know the causes which impelled them to leave that house.

It is reported that Mr. Lean says that according to agreement the "parts" were to suit him and that the "parts" in the present play, The Golden Girl, were not fitted for him and Miss Holbrook. It would appear that the authors of the play knew the requirements of this team, after providing them with vehicles time and time again, and if the parts did not fit, it would seem to be a mistake made on purpose.

However that may be, Lean & Holbrook are a success in vaudeville in Chicago. Constance Skinner, in reviewing the performance says: "Cecil Lean and Florence Holbrook 'just as they are' are the nicest characters they have ever presented. And how well they play the parts, too!"

"Miss Holbrook is, if possible, prettier and daintier in this role than in any of her others. Her delicate witchery of facial play, her refined comedy and her sweetness make 'just as they are' a very delightful little drama.

"Whatever these two players do—whether it is 'just as they are' or anything else—they seem to be perfectly happy and to want every one else to be. Now, this sort of sunny good-will and buoyant harmony make the finest atmosphere to come in contact with, in a theater or elsewhere. If, as many assert, the theater is purely for rest and entertainment, then the Lean-Holbrook act fills the need; for nothing is so restful as sunshine and harmony, and nothing so entertaining as happy, clean comedy.

"The two sing half a dozen songs of their own make, with two comedy numbers for Lean."

AMY LESLIE FIGURES IN EXCITING EPISODE.

New York, Feb. 24.

Amy Leslie arrived here last Saturday from Chicago and figured in an embarrassing episode in police court Sunday. She and her husband, Frank Buck, were in an auto with Flo Ziegfeld, Jr., when he was pinched and it took him two hours to find a bondman to put up \$100 for his appearance. With this exception Miss Leslie's visit has been very pleasant. She is attending the Broadway shows at every opportunity and finds time to write reviews although she is constantly being entertained.

THINGS THEATRICAL.

Some beautiful postal cards are being sent out to attract interest to the Majestic theater at Colorado Springs, Colo.

W. J. Ferguson is a newcomer in the cast of The Girl from Rector's in New York.

Edna Aug has made a big hit in New York, her first appearance in that city since her notable success abroad.

Irene Romaine, who formerly resided in Madison, Wis., made a big hit when she appeared at the Majestic in that city recently.

Ezra Kendall will appear at the White Rats' benefit at the Grand in Chicago next Sunday.

E. R. Harris, of Dayton, has purchased the Family theater at Findlay, Ohio, from H. S. Vail.

Burdi Bartram has been engaged for the soubrette role in Fatty Felix, which takes the road shortly under the management of J. W. Williams. The play is by Ralph Kettering, general representative of the Charles B. Marvin stock theaters.

Broken Idol to go on Tour.—A Broken Idol enters its twenty-eighth week at the Whitney Opera house on March 1, and two weeks later will go on tour. The phenomenal business the attraction is being favored with at the Van Buren street playhouse would seem to justify its making a longer stay in Chicago but the management has decided to play a few of the smaller cities surrounding the western metropolis and a selected few of the week stands an opportunity of viewing the production before it goes into Boston for a summer run. The Chicago production will be taken out intact with Otis Harlan in the stellar comedy role and all the other members of the cast except Madge Voe. Two baggage cars will be required for the transportation of the effects and the company will have special Pullman cars. The indications from the box office of the Whitney are that the last two weeks are to be two of the banner weeks of the long and successful run.

CHICAGO NEWS NOTES

Plays Return Date.—The Royal Chef made such a big hit at the National that a return date has been arranged.

To Produce Shore Acres.—Charles B. Marvin will produce Shore Acres at his stock houses in the near future.

Morris Leaves Town.—William Morris left Tuesday afternoon for New York on the flyer.

Rehearsal Next Week.—Rehearsals for The Phantom Detective will begin next Monday at the Academy. The company will open March 7.

At Piney Ridge Next.—The next offering of Klimt's Players at the Bijou will be At Piney Ridge, which will be presented next Monday afternoon.

At the Academy.—On Trial for His Life will be next week's production at the Academy. This is an Al. H. Woods' production.

Spring Show at Great Northern.—The Alaskan will begin an engagement at the Great Northern on April 11 which will last four weeks and perhaps longer.

Goes to Buffalo.—Charles H. Saunders, who had been in Chicago for about a month, left last week for his home at Buffalo, N. Y.

Ezra Kendall Coming.—Ezra Kendall comes to the American Music hall next week. Stella Mayhew and Sidney Drew will be seen at that house in the near future.

Yorke & Adams to Return.—Yorke & Adams will return to Chicago shortly, appearing at the National, where musical comedies are said to be doing around \$5,000 on the week.

At the National.—When Knighthood Was in Flower comes to the National next week. Grace Merritt heads the company. Others prominent in the cast are William Clifford and Dorothy Lee.

Harry Dull Coming.—The Flower of the Ranch will be the attraction at the National week of March 21. The company is managed by Harry Dull and Frankie Drew is featured in the cast.

Rejoined Company.—Andrew Boehler returned to The Royal Chef last week. At last reports, Mrs. Boehler, who was injured at Traverse City, was on the road to recovery.

Mrs. Fiske's Route.—Mrs. Fiske goes to Milwaukee the last half of next week, to Cleveland week of March 8, and to the Adelphi in Philadelphia week of March 15.

Gone Back West.—Frank Adams and Will Hough have returned to Coronado Beach, Cal., evidently being satisfied with the way The Prince of Tonight and The Golden Girl are running.

Big Business.—It is reported that the Star had the biggest week in its history last week. People were turned away at nearly every performance. The bill was particularly strong, including Ethel May, The Mystery Girl.

Advertising Dodge.—A man on stilts proved a fine advertisement for Thurston at the Great Northern. The man in the air was watched by just as eager a crowd here as he would have been in a country village.

Getting Ready.—Ada Lewis retired from Nearly a Hero last Saturday night to prepare for her starring tour under the direction of Leibler and company. Jobyna Howard replaces Miss Lewis, who will be seen at the Grand next month.

Little Nemo Coming.—Little Nemo will only stay five nights at the Nixon in Pittsburgh in order to get to Chicago in time for the opening at the Colonial. March 7. The Saturday performances in the Pennsylvania City were cut out.

Ed Lampson Here.—Ed Lampson, who now has a nickel theater in Kansas City and two at Leavenworth, was in Chicago for a few days this week. It was the first time he had been in town for several months. His many friends will be glad to know that he is prospering.

Organizing Company.—George O. Brown is organizing the Manhattan Musical Company which will play three weeks between Chicago and Texas where it will play airdomes. Oliver Martell, who has been engaged as advance, left the city the other day.

Candy Sellers are Comedians.—The candy sellers at the Orpheum and Bijou Dream on State street are comedians. The Orpheum fellow has ready wit and his patter is laughable. The Bijou Dream boy has not been so long at the business and his work is a little crude as yet.

Chicago Favorites in the West.—Howard Hickman and Bessie Barriscale, formerly with the Bush Temple theater, are this season members of the Alcazar stock company in San Francisco. Helen Reimer, also remembered in Chicago, is a member of the Orpheum stock company in Philadelphia this season.

Company Going Out.—The Phantom Detective which closed its season temporarily a few weeks ago, will reopen again at Milwaukee, March 7. Tommy Smith and Pearl Evans will once more head the company. A brief spring tour

has been booked which will take the company as far west as Omaha and Des Moines.

The Thief a Big Hit.—The Thief was a little late in reaching Chicago, but when it arrived it scored a substantial hit. Kyrle Bellew, Herbert Kelcey and Effie Shannon are among the players. While Powers' theater has had an excellent line of attractions this season, business has not always been good and it is pleasant to relate that The Thief is doing well.

Morris House Doing Well.—William Morris is well pleased with the business the American Music Hall is doing. While the matinees have not been capacity, with the exception of Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, the total receipts have been encouraging every week. The bar contributes quite a sum each week which, added to the door receipts makes the venture a very profitable one.

Opera at Music Hall.—Joseph Sheehan, the grand opera tenor, and a company of twenty singers will give thirty-five minutes of opera twice a day at the American Music hall, beginning next Monday. Associated with Mr. Sheehan as principals are Gladys Caldwell, Veronica Condon, Louis Lavalley and W. J. Jorgenson. The third act of Martha will be given, with The Last Rose of Summer interpolated.

At Ten Cent Houses.—Among the acts appearing at the five and ten cent houses this week none are going better than Nellie La Vere, who is doing her male impersonations. Tom Finnegan is delivering the same old monologue made up from Ezra Kendall's Good Gravy and Madison's Budget of years ago, but his dancing is good. Lem A. Ward & Co. have a sketch which is fair. The Boston Trio have a splendid act for this class of houses. Corinne Sumner is making a hit with her song Naughty Eyes.

Midweek Change of Bill.—A midweek change of bill is very unusual in a Chicago theater. It will take place next week when Mrs. Fiske leaves the Grand after the Wednesday night performance and George Arliss begins an engagement which will complete that week and include the week following, nine nights in all. Mrs. Fiske is having a very successful season, at the Grand and it is thought that George Arliss' Devil will attract big crowds. Mrs. Fiske goes from Chicago to Milwaukee.

At Bush Temple.—Faust, the play made from the immortal love story by Goethe, will be offered at the Bush Temple theater, the week of March 1. This is one of the classic stories of all literature, and will be offered with the full strength of the Thanhouser company and with numerous additional players. Adelaide Keim will be seen in the role of Marguerite. The play offers many opportunities for scenic splendor and Manager Thanhouser announces that he will take advantage of every one of these.

Engaged for Sins of Society.—Joseph Brooks has completed the cast of the Sins of Society and it contains the following names: Dorothy Donnelly, Louise Closser Hale, Louise Rutter, Bijou Fernandez, W. L. Abington, Florence Edney, Lillian Collins, Elsa Payne, Leslie Kenyon, Edwin Lester, William Eville, Frank Dekum, Clares Flemming, Lucy Sibley and Vincent Clive. The last two mentioned are members of the original Drury Lane company. The company will be seen at McVickers this summer.

White Rats' Benefit.—The performance to be given at the Grand Opera house next Sunday night for the benefit of the White Rats will include Alexander Carr, William Gould and Valeka Surratt, John C. Rice and Sally Cohen, Felix and Claire, Grace Cameron, Rigo and his orchestra, the Seven Belfords, Sidney Grant, Blake's Comedy Circus, the Zanzigs, the Royal Musical Five, William J. McDermott, the Six Abdallahs, Saona, Bobby Gaylor, and Herbert Cyril and Arthur Hahn. The seat sale indicates that the affair will be a great success.

S. & C. Players at Music Hall.—There does not seem to be such a wonderful difference between the quality of the acts which appear on the various circuits. Quite a number of the Sullivan & Considine acts have appeared or will appear at the American Music hall and while they have not been headliners in all instances the acts have been well received. Last week Sidney Grant, the Wartenburg Brothers and Zav Holland appeared and this week The Royal Musical Five are seen at that house. All of these acts have recently appeared on the Stair, Sullivan & Considine circuit.

Another "Oz" Play.—Arrangements were made recently whereby Bailev and Austin will appear in the leading parts of Frank Baum's latest creation, The Ozman of Oz. The Studebaker Theater company, an incorporated organization, with C. B. Dillingham and W. F. Connor as its officers, will produce the piece at the Studebaker in the spring of 1910, for an indefinite run. This will have permitted Bailev and Austin to finish their contract with The Top of the World. The Ozman of Oz bids fair to surpass Mr. Baum's successful spectacle, The Wizard of Oz. Mr. Baum will have for his associates Manuel Klein, who will write the score, and Arthur Voellin of the Hippodrome, New York, who will design the costumes and scenic effects.

MORRIS MAKES BID FOR EVA TANGUAY.

Offers Her \$2,500 a Week for Fifty Weeks and at That She Has Not Yet Made Up Her Mind to Accept.

Eva Tanguay, who toured the one-night stands for a long time before she found the niche of the profession in which she belonged, has been offered \$2,500 a week for fifty weeks, according to a report which has not been denied.

It is William Morris who has made this offer and the total, \$125,000 is said to be the largest sum ever handled in a vaudeville deal between manager and artist.

Harry Lauder is said to have received \$3,000 week, but his contract did not cover half so many weeks.

It begins to look like Eva Tanguay is the greatest feature in vaudeville. She is now with the United and it is thought they will meet the Morris offer rather than to lose her. She is now playing the big houses in the east where costly attractions are needed to fill the theaters.

Twenty-five hundred dollars a week is a lot of money, so much that many of the less fortunate vaudevillians cannot realize how much it really is. It goes to prove, however, that there is always a chance for the right person and that instead of being on the decline the day of vaudeville has just commenced.

FIRE MARSHAL GETS BUSY.

Chicago Chief Reminds Picture Exhibitors of Ordinance Passed Last Year and Says All Must Live Up to Its Terms.

Chief of the Fire Department of Chicago, James Horan, has been active within the past week reminding moving picture exhibitors of an ordinance which was passed July 17, 1928. It is said in authoritative quarters that the first section of this ordinance referring to automatic take-ups may soon be "killed," but otherwise, the ruling is effective. The ordinance is given in full:

"Your attention is hereby called to an ordinance passed by the City Council and approved by the Mayor, July 17, 1928.

"The following is the ordinance as passed:

"Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Chicago,

"Section 1. That it shall be unlawful to operate any moving picture machine or device in the City of Chicago unless the same shall be equipped as follows:

"Said moving picture machine and devices shall be equipped with an automatic take-up with an adjustable roll and said take-up and magazine and the doors and openings thereto shall be kept closed while said machine is in operation and the same shall be equipped with an automatic fire shut-off with upper and lower fire guards.

"That the distance of the rheostat from combustible materials shall not be less than twelve (12) inches, and that said rheostat shall be placed on iron pedestals securely screwed to the floor and shall be properly encased and protected by a galvanized iron case.

"That said moving picture devices and machines shall be equipped with an automatic light shutter, such as shall be approved by the Fire Marshal.

"Section 2. That all the requirements of Section 1 herein shall be subject to the approval of the Fire Marshal and that it shall be his duty to enforce the provisions of Section 1 and to inspect said moving picture machines and apparatuses upon the installation of the several apparatuses and devices provided for in Section 1 herein, and six (6) times during each and every year thereafter.

"Section 3. Any person or corporation who violates, neglects or refuses to comply with any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be fined not less than twenty-five nor more than two hundred dollars for each offense.

"Section 4. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect within ten (10) days from and after its passage.

"The above being full information of the subject, you will be required and you are hereby ordered to comply with its provisions within twenty days.

"In addition to the foregoing the following regulations and precautions, as a matter of public safety, shall be observed at once, viz:

"All rheostats must be placed in the operator's room.

"All exit doors shall swing outward and no obstruction on either side will be permitted.

"All locks, bolts or other fastenings shall be drawn during such time as your house may be open to the public.

"Approved automatic clutch fasteners may be placed on the inside of exit doors. The use of coal, gas or oil heaters in any auditorium or in any room, booth or inclosure connected therewith is strictly prohibited.

"Admission within the doors of any theater will be limited to seating capacity.

"Violation of any of the foregoing instructions will be cause for immediate closing and prosecution.

"JAMES HORAN.

"Fire Marshal."

C. D. Peruchi has secured the Iris theater at Tampa, Fla., and will open it next Monday with stock. He now has quite a chain of theaters in the south.

Hip, Hip, Hooray was given its first performance, under the new management at Trenton, N. J., Feb. 18 and the play did not run very smoothly.

OLYMPIC

WEEK OF
FEB, 22ND
1909



AS SEEN BY CARTOONIST HENDRICK

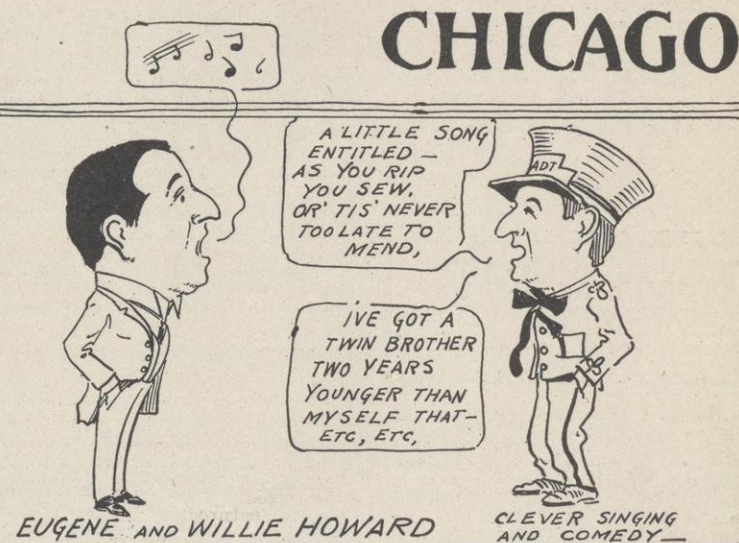
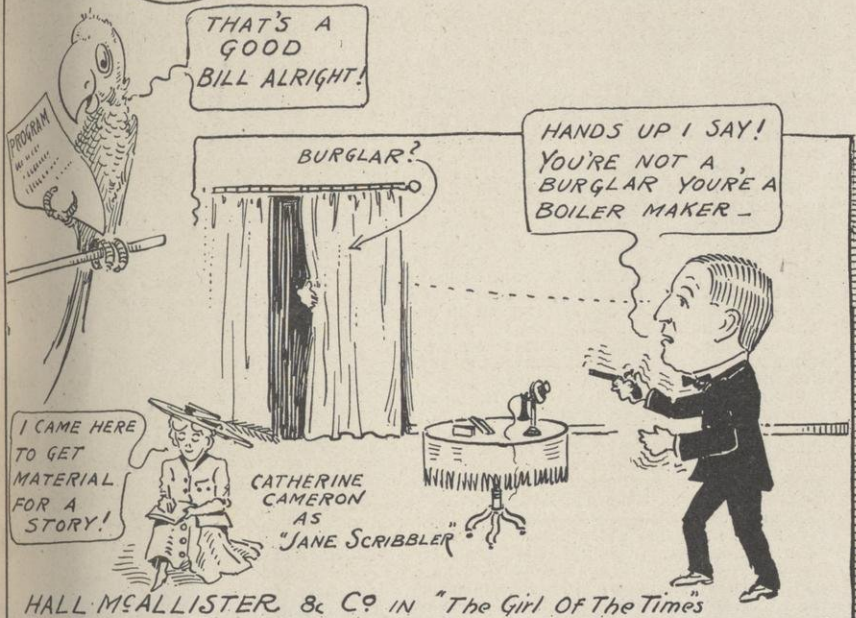
ALL STAR
VAUDEVILLE



MANAGER
J.S. MURDOCK

MUSIC HALL

CHICAGO.



Z. A. HENDRICK

Show World - Chi.

THE SHOW WORLD

ISSUED EVERY FRIDAY

(DATED SATURDAY)

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The Editor will not be responsible for the return of unsolicited manuscripts, but if stamps are enclosed they will be returned if found unavailable.

Anonymous matter will not be considered under any circumstances. Writers desiring their names be withheld from publication must so state beneath their signatures.

We do not solicit contributions from unauthorized correspondents, but in special instances we will consider contributions bearing upon a topic of vital interest to the profession of entertainment.



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1909.

EDITORIAL.

Foibles of The Circusman

If a circusman stumps his toe on a stone he at once concludes that an enemy placed the rock in his pathway in order to cause him pain. This disposition to suspect others of constantly endeavoring to place obstacles in his way appears to be an inheritance of the showman and there are few to be found in that line of endeavor who are big and broad enough to meet discouragement manfully without doing a personal or business enemy the injustice of suspecting that he is secretly working against his interests.

If the "fixer" finds the license very high in a certain town he at once concludes that a rival show has "framed" up the deal for him. If the press agent finds that the newspapers demand a larger number of tickets than they are entitled to he soothes his manager by blaming the holdup on the last show which made the city. If the "lucky boys" with a "grifting" show are not permitted to work in some town or other the suspicion at once spreads about that some "moral" show is "knocking."

If a circus agent encounters some difficulty in securing a lot he at once makes up his mind that some other show has the

owner of the ground prejudiced against his enterprise. If the billposter shows a disposition to divide up the billing in case of opposition both sides will contend that the other has used unfair means to cajole the town to give him the best of it. If a lithographer cannot get a bill under that of the show which is billed in the window he at once reasons out the manner in which the other biller is blocking his game.

If an item appears in the daily press which is not calculated to improve the chances of a certain show doing business the rumor at once is spread that a rival circus has a man traveling a few days ahead for the express purpose of annoying the show. The circus folks credit the report and are soon on the lookout for the miscreant. If a journal devoted to circus matter has a line which displeases anyone the suspicion at once gets out that an enemy is landing on so and so through so and so.

When a big circus was annoyed by litigation recently it was thought by showmen that an opposition firm was behind the proceedings simply because the man asking the injunction happened to have the same attorney as the opposition firm. Such a conclusion is ridiculous to any fair minded man, yet it was entertained by men high up in the circus world and, as far as is known, the suspicion is still entertained.

There is no doubt that circusmen resort to questionable methods in the heat of opposition. Their greatest sport is in fooling each other and frequently hundreds of dollars are spent to throw the opposition off the track. But to conclude that one circusman really wishes another ill luck simply because both have tented enterprises is foolish and has been disproven time and time again when one circus came to the relief of another in adversity.

Klaw and Erlanger Act

Klaw & Erlanger responded to public opinion, just as THE SHOW WORLD predicted that they would, and the newspapers carried a story the other day to the effect that routes would be refused the salacious shows which are just now the rage in New York.

It would, of course, be unfair to cancel the routes already booked for The Blue Mouse and The Mimic World, as there seems to be a difference of opinion in regard to these Shubert shows, as shown in another column. Klaw and Erlanger's hesitancy to act in this matter is but natural for, if the Shubert shows were closed, enemies might charge that the action was taken because the attractions were Shubert shows and not because they were salacious shows.

Salacious and Shubert are not synonyms; at least, they have not been in years gone by.

This action of Klaw and Erlanger was prompted to a great extent by letters from the people of the profession, which backed up by the press and pulpit, satisfied the booking agents that the public is not so depraved as some people seem to think.

The Anniversary Number of the Clipper is one of the best issues ever produced by the "old reliable" and reflects great credit upon Mr. Albert J. Borie and his entire staff. Aside from special articles from well known writers upon many subjects pertaining to the stage, it presents an almanac of the important happenings of the past theatrical year and a gallery of players ranging from the early times to the present. Its advertising pages are eloquent of the confidence which its patrons have in its value as an advertising medium.

On the front cover of this week's issue, we present, photographs of Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger, who have once more shown themselves in hearty sympathy with all movements tending toward the public good by way of the stage, in that the recent crusade against salacious shows aroused them to quick action, as a consequence of which they have refused to book plays of immoral tendencies, in the many houses which they control. The photographs are presented by permission and courtesy of Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

"Protection" to the Showman?

Cleveland, O., Feb. 17.

The Patents Company will protect theaters already established as far as may be possible, but it will issue licenses to only such new places of exhibition as ob-

tain the approval of the Patents Company before they are established. The Patents Company will approve only such location as in its opinion will support new houses and meet a public demand.

(From the M. P. P. Co.'s Circular.)
The above is the strongest point that has been worked upon the showman inasmuch as it appeals to his selfish instinct, or, his business instinct, which is one and the same with us all. On top of this the local exchanges advertise:

"You will be guaranteed protection against the cut-throat competition that has almost ruined you. Our advice is sign your contract at once, and get on the road to prosperity."

Now this all looks good in theory and I for one have waited patiently to see how it would work out in actual practice and without claiming any Sherlock Holmes ability I have located a couple of "practical illustrations" right in this city that will doubtless be matched all over the United States. I illustrate by using street names and numbers to prove facts submitted. The names are "phony" for obvious reasons. When the ominous Feb. 1st arrived and "the boys" were duly signed, among the bunch were Brown, 54th and Broadway, Jones, 55th and Broadway, Robinson, about 58th and Broadway this city. All these are small places, though plenty big enough for the patronage of the outskirts and the owners will swear there isn't room for any more. The two local "trust exchanges" are supplying Brown, Jones and Robinson with pictures when along comes a man with a proposition this week to "Mr. Trust Exchange" No. 1. He—I can give his name if necessary—has leased a big brand new hall, 350 seating capacity right in the midst of poor Brown, Jones and Robinson, or to be more precise at 5619 Broadway; Landlord, Mr. Palda.

The lease is signed too and the show is being installed. By whom do you suppose? Well, the partner of the man is "Mr. Trust Exchange Man" No. 1. Protection! Piffle! Now for case No. 2. Messrs. Green and Black signed up on the "Fatal 1st". Green is located at 5600 Lorain Ave., this city. Black at 4100 Lorain Ave.; 15 blocks separate these two suburban shows, but as the numbers "skip," there are only 11 blocks in fact, and Green and Black have not yet waxed fat at this distance apart. However, along comes a man after Green and Black were signed and installs another show of double the capacity of seats right between poor Green and Black, and who supplies the new guy with pictures do you suppose? Why, "Mr. Trust Exchange Man" of course and he's giving a big double show fer-a-nickel on Sunday, while his neighbor at the old stand is 'trying still to get a dime. "Protection"! Again I say "Piffle"! Now in the case of Brown, Jones and Robinson the new comer with the big new hall and a film man for a partner will naturally "eliminate"—that's a soft Rockefeller term—Brown, Jones and Robinson with their three little cosy parlors. It will simply be a case of the "survival of the fittest" and the fittest will be the new comer with the first runs at a nickel—Brown, Jones and Robinson never could stand to pay for even second run stuff so what's the answer? The answer is just this; Brown, Jones and Robinson will go down and out, sure. That is working out the theory of the Moving Picture Patents Company beautifully and "Mr. Trust Exchange Man" will have that location to himself very soon.

It is nothing to me as an exhibitor what happens to my fellow showmen as in both these cases the outcome cannot effect me—being too far away—but I simply will not, nor never would, listen to this poppycock talk of "protection" to the showmen by the "Trust" or its agents. The exchange will get all he can in rental and work one showman against the other for "First Run" and the showman will pay as little as possible which is right and natural and any showman is a chump who signs up in any deal curtailing his liberty in the getting of films in the open market.

The two cases quoted prove this and I'll have more on this shortly and I have no doubt that every city "signed up" will show the same condition of affairs.

I have given facts and locations, now let the M. P. P. Company "show me" in rebuttal where the "Protection" is coming in to my fellow members of the Cleveland Association of M. P. Showmen, Messrs. Green, Black, Brown, Jones and Robinson.

Yours truly,

Sam Bullock, Member Executive Board.

Ed. Note:—In a recent bulletin issued by the Motion Picture Patents Company they state that it has been impossible during the first weeks, "to keep up with and answer the heavy mails which have come to us from exhibitors from all over the country, but we will be shortly so organized that every communication can be promptly taken care of." It may be that the instance to which Mr. Bullock refers has not yet been called to the attention of the Patents Company, or if they have been notified by letter, the communication has not yet been reached.

OPINIONS OF PRESS
ON SHUBERT SHOWS.

Miss Hoffman is not to be censured for doing Salome. The public at large who make it possible for theatrical managements to produce such unholy, indecent and inhuman spectacles, repulsive and

shocking to even the crudest minds and intellects, is the place where the blame lies.—Dubuque Telegraph-Herald.

It is hard to imagine The Blue Mouse producing harm to any sane mind, young, middle aged or old. It is so frankly farcical. It is too good humored to be actually vulgar. Oh one might draw shocking deductions if one set oneself to do so, and if one had rather gloomily analyze instead of laugh.—Winston-Salem Journal.

Miss Hoffman's exhibition was so entirely devoid of simplicity or innocence, and so punctilious as to salacious detail, that, if we had to judge such dances alone by her performance, we would speak of slimy rather than sublime expression.—Des Moines Register and Leader.

Those who expected to be shocked, however, were disappointed, for while the musical review is spicy and "gamy" in spots, and Miss Hoffman dispenses with most of her clothing in her dances, the performance was a good ways on the higher side of the danger line of the law.—Kansas City Post.

MARRIAGES.

Maxson-Wilson.—C. J. Maxson, traveling salesman, and Helen Wilson, aged 23, member of The Thief company, were united in marriage Feb. 13 at Middletown, Ohio.

Donahue-O'Donnell.—George Donahue, manager of one of Dick P. Sutton's road companies, now touring the northwest, was married to Stella O'Donnell, who is musical director with the company, and formerly played with the Butte Lulu theater orchestra.

Koppelberger-Krause.—Frank Koppelberger, manager of the Bijou at La Crosse, Wis., and Dorothy Krause of Bay City, Mich., were united in marriage recently and spent Friday and Saturday of last week in Chicago, where they were shown the town by Paul Goudron. They left Sunday for La Crosse.

OBITUARY

Edward Gardiner, song writer, committed suicide in New York Feb. 17.

Harry C. Stanley died in Spokane, Wash., Feb. 18.

Rose Romalne Whitford, of Marie Cahill's company, died in Chicago Feb. 21.

Leon Waschner, manager of the Pabst theater at Milwaukee, died Feb. 21 in Buffalo, while en route to New York City. In his long career he obtained prominence both as an actor and manager.

Eugene Tompkins, prominent for many years as a theater manager and owner, died Feb. 22 at his home in Boston, Mass., after a long illness. Mr. Tompkins first produced "The Black Crook," on the stage of the Academy of Music in New York.

Anna Janison, once in support of Edwin Booth, died in poverty in New York, Feb. 19. She was 61 years of age and been under the care of the Actors' Fund for two years. Her husband, a member of the vaudeville team of Burgess & Wilson, was with her when she died.

Matthew Edward Nunn died at Bay City, Mich., Feb. 20 after a long illness. He was 47 years of age and was born in New Britain, Conn. He had been with Haverly's and the Primrose and West Minstrels in his early days and was connected with theater orchestras during the last few years.

Francis Sedgwick, Francis Sedgwick, better known in private life as Francis Sedgwick Wilson, son of George R. Wilson, of Alameda, California, died at the City Hospital, Atlantic City, N. J., Feb. 20. Wilson had been in several of Chas. Frohman's companies and had been estranged from his parents by reason of his marriage. He leaves a son seven years old, who is now at the parental home in Alameda. Wilson was divorced some years ago. No word was received from the parents and he will probably be buried by the Actors' Fund.

Dr. Horace W. Merkel who organized the first aerie of Eagles in Kansas City and St. Louis, and numerous other towns, died in Kansas City, Mo., at the general hospital, Feb. 12, after being there one day. Dr. Merkel went to Kansas City last October from Ellsworth, Kan., where he had charge of a theater. The financial results of same did not come up to his expectations, and he left to seek something better. He was in Kansas City only a few days when he was taken sick with a serious development of carbuncles, which proved fatal. He was born in Melserville, Pa., but spent fifteen years as a practicing physician in Seattle, Wash. Ten years ago he was made traveling organizer for the Eagles with headquarters at Seattle. Dr. Merkel was a "miker" and had great success in Kansas City in organizing the Eagles; but about five years ago he suffered financial reverses, and left Seattle. Later he joined the C. W. Parker enterprises at Abilene, Kan., where he held the capacity of Manager of the Beautiful Alps, and press agent. Three years ago he ceased to be a member of the Eagles, so the local lodge of Kansas City could not do honor to his body with lodge ceremonies. However, several older members attended his funeral which was held at the First Lutheran Church in Kansas City, Feb. 15. He leaves a wife and many friends to mourn his departure from this world.

Missouri Breeze.

A ZEPHYR FROM "SHOW ME - LAND"

Vol. 4.

CHICAGO, FEBRUARY 26, 1909

No. 9

THE MISSOURI BREEZE.

E. E. Meredith, Editor.

(Office under the editor's hat.)

(Entered as class matter in a paper which diffuses its zephyrs among a profession hungry for Breezelets.)

Speaking about John D. Carey's salary—

Anna Boyd is not the first person ever divorced from Coin.

One small idea sometimes gives an advance agent a big head.

Never believe what your press agent says about you.

There are many women on the stage who would be better placed at home raising kiddies.

Anxious Inquirer asks if Harder & Hall's burlesque show is the best attraction in the Columbia wheel. The answer is NO.

George McManus must be stuck on the show business. He is still with the troupe which bases its entertainment on his cartoons.

If any editor ever fancies anything which appears in The Breeze he knows where his scissors and pastepot are, don't he?

The Newly Weds and Their Baby, and Little Nemo will both play Pittsburgh next week and it will be a case of seeing which of the cartoon comedies has the greatest drawing powers.

Won't someone please console Gus Hill? He is so sorry that Stair & Havlin can't get attractions and so sorry that the attractions don't do anything when they do get them!

It is said that Richard Carle is hunting twelve beauties for The Boy and the Girl which are to put the Anna Held girls in the shade. He did not have to begin his search in New York.

A Cincinnati minister took as his subject: "Theaters Crowded and Churches Empty—Why?" The conclusion he reached is immaterial as his major premise is false.

Fort Smith, Ark., has always been a hoodoo town. More diamond studs have been lost there than in any other one-night stand in America. Blanche Walsh was taken ill at that town which will keep up its reputation.

Peter Myers let Harrison Grey Fiske cancel Salvation Nell for March 3, but the Milwaukee manager would not give up his dates March 4-6. The cancellation was made after the attraction was being boomed in the Janesville newspapers.

Genee's press agent said she was taken ill from drinking Chicago's "unwholesome water." The New York office gave out that her illness was due to a "late supper." Now what did cause her to miss performances in Chicago and St. Paul?

It don't get you anything to cut a big figure. If money is coming in so fast you can't keep track of it don't hesitate to buy a good dinner and open a bottle of wine but if you are not working it is well to husband your resources. It is getting harder every day to make a touch.

I am not a moralist and do not wish to

be considered one.—Frederic Thompson in "Success."

There is no disgrace in being a moralist, in living in conformity with moral rules, in being of correct deportment and dealing with fellow creatures.

Every picture displayed of Walker Whiteside seems to show him as being younger. Whiteside is a young man still but he can't be in his teens as his latest pictures indicate. Whiteside, however, can claim the title of being the Lillian Russell of actors, without danger of being disputed.

Just about the time that the town of Bloomington was recovering from the blight Billy Sunday put on the theater through a "revival" he held there, along comes Margaret Illington and queers it again. Bloomington is Miss Illington's home town and the members of her old Sunday school class are said to be inexplicably shocked.

Four San Francisco newspapers sent representatives to Sacramento to welcome David Belasco when the noted dramatist and producer of salacious plays traveled across the continent to visit his aged father. A Profit, who has the money, is

took his place in the cast and made a hit. "A star made in a night" somebody said, but somebody was wrong.

Earl Remington Hines was late in reaching the stage when she was out in the one-night stands recently. The stage manager gently reprimanded her. "I must have some time to do my sewing," said she, recalling to his mind that early jumps and other hardships which go with trouping in the burghs was strange to Hines & Remington.

Nothing is too expensive or too hard to secure if David Belasco thinks it is needed to give naturalness to his productions. He is known from one end of the country to the other for his detail. In The East-est Way he bought the furnishings of a poor girl's room and moved them to the Stuyvesant theater, and many other instances of his toilsome effort to please theatergoers are a matter of stage history. In The Warrens of Virginia he has gone still further. He has not only provided a fine company, an elaborate production, but has arranged for applause, showing that nothing escapes his eagle eye. Seated in the back row of the balcony Wednesday afternoon was a young man who took his seat without being es-

PROTESTED PLAYS.

THE EASIEST WAY, by Eugene Walter, produced by David Belasco; now at Stuyvesant theater, New York.

THE GIRL FROM RECTOR'S, adapted from the French by Paul M. Potter, produced by Al H. Woods, Martin Herman and Mortimer Fishel; now at Webers' theater in New York.

THE QUEEN OF THE MOULIN ROUGE, by Paul M. Potter, produced by Thomas W. Ryley; now at Circle theater in New York.

THE BLUE MOUSE, adapted from the German by Clyde Fitch, produced by the Shuberts; one company now at the Lyric in New York and others on tour.

SALOME, by Wilde and Strauss, produced by Oscar Hammerstein; seen at Manhattan opera house in New York.

THE SOUL KISS, produced by Flo Ziegfeld, billing matter has a line "By arrangement with Klaw & Erlanger."

THE MIMIC WORLD, by Edgar Smith, produced by the Shuberts and Lew Fields; now at Kansas City.

not without honor no matter in what line of endeavor he may happen to engage.

"Honest Abe" is to come to Chicago. "Honest Abe" does not refer to A. L. Erlanger, but to the play which Benjamin Chapin will present at McVicker's and which was formerly known as "Lincoln at the White House." Rennold Wolf says Mr. Erlanger offered William A. Brady his choice of time when he heard of the new title.

When they appoint censors for musical comedies why not have censors for vaudeville acts, to determine whether the artists are good or bad? The critics can't agree on the merits of vaudevillians, the managers can't agree, the profession can't agree so there ought to be someone whose judgment would be final.

Seeing Wallace Beery with Yorke & Adams last week recalled to mind that here was the man who rose to fame in a night and tripped down the ladder in almost as short a time. When Raymond Hitchcock got into trouble, even more serious than being broke, Wallace Beery

corted and who had no seat check. He was evidently attached to house or company. He had a book which he read when the lights were on and when the third act curtain only took one hand he worked so industriously with those parts of the forelimb below the forearm or wrist that he succeeded in interesting others in the audience and three more curtains were the result.

Charles B. Hanford's company provided a "vaudeville entertainment before the 'big show' opened at Ashland, Ore., on Lincoln's birthday. The scenery did not arrive until 10:20 and from 8:30 until 10:30 Hanford and the members of the company entertained with specialties which were seen for the first time in public. Mr. Hanford talked on Lincoln, Andrew Tombs told funny stories, Eugene Ordway recited a piece, and the ladies of the company gave the dance from The Winter's Tale. Joseph B. Glick, the manager, also offered a number but there have been no compliments passed on his turn as yet. Later in the night the regular performance was given and every single person in the audience stuck till the finish.

DO YOU REMEMBER—

When Harry Mann ran an advance car?
When Mike Welsh had a minstrel show?
When William Boyd was a general agent?

When Frank Keenan was with a medicine show?

When James R. Waite lost \$160,000 on Wall street?

When Kid Koster sang tenor with a minstrel show?

When Fred G. Conrad managed the Reinhart Family?

When Besnah and Miller worked for Fitz and Webster?

When Will F. Lindsay was manager of The Missouri Girl?

When Ed Salter sold tickets at the Detroit Opera house?

When Fred Bussy had the No. 2 car with the Sells show?

When Ted Bevis was a driver with the John Robinson show?

When Paul Roberts showed Sport Herrman how to post bills?

When Barney Ferguson was the big favorite along Broadway?

When Lillian Mortimer headed the New York Theater Company?

When Fiske O'Hara sang between acts at the People's theater?

When Capt. Montague walked back from Shepard's Minstrels?

When Dan Sherman made the one-night stands in Old Dan Tucker?

When Oscar Krause was the manager with the Pawnee Bill show?

When Grant Shurtleff managed the opera house at Falls City, Neb.?

When W. O. Yard issued a circular attacking the editor of The Breeze?

When Ed Bloom worked at the Ninth Street Opera house in Kansas City?

When Eddie Daley put Murray and Mack on the Stair and Havlin circuit?

When Jake Newman sold out his show for Fourth of July at Fairmont, W. Va.?

When George Gallagher was general agent for the McCaddon show in Europe?

When Lee Parvin got lithographs and three sheets in the city hall at St. Joe, Mo.?

When Joe Spears wore diamonds and bought suits of clothes which cost \$100 each?

When Kid St. Clair got the Forepaugh-Sells banners on the wires at Bay City, Mich.?

When Taylor Granville believed that he was destined to write the Great American Drama?

When Sidney Gibson sang in State St. saloons before the levee was moved south of Harrison?

When Eva Tanguay roasted some young fellows in a West Virginia audience who laughed at her?

When M. B. Raymond engaged all the agents and company managers to be found along Broadway?

When Yorke and Adams appeared on the Casino Roof in New York for John B. Doris at fifty joint?

When Charles B. Hawkins played Joel Gates with the original Herne company in Shore Acres at McVickers?

When Louis Wolf got a showing on North Clark St. by representing that a three year old Italian girl was his daughter?

"Speaking of stage managers, I want to say to you that Miss Edna Goodrich knows more about stage management by birth and instinct than any other stage manager does by education.—Nat Goodwin.

Speaking of winning a woman, The Breeze wants to say that Nat Goodwin knows more about it by instinct than any other man who ever attempted popularity with the fair sex.

NEW THEATERS AND NEW CORPORATIONS

La Crosse, Wis.—This city is to have a new vaudeville house, according to the plans of a deal recently consummated, by which several properties in the fifth block of Main street were obtained by Peter Newburg and Frank R. Schwalbe for \$18,000. A theater and a brick block will be combined.

Richmond, Ind.—A contract has been awarded to build a new \$45,000 Murray vaudeville theater block to seat 1,000. The same contractor, J. A. Poss of Springfield, built the new Sun theater in his home city. Murray is the partner of Gus Sun.

Saginaw, Mich.—Local capital is interested in the erection of a small theater here to occupy the site 118-120 S. Hamilton street. Details have not yet been announced.

Knoxville, Tenn.—It is said that the new Bijou, which is to be a part of the Wells-Bijou circuit, will be completed by March 1. Delay has followed delay in

the erection of this house, but it now seems assured of early opening.

Missoula, Mont.—C. A. Harnois, for several years manager of the Union theater here, has erected a new house which, without doubt, will rank among the most handsome playhouses of the state. The theater will be called the Harnois and has a seating capacity of 1,200. Everything is modern and the entire plan has been to make the house not only comfortable for patrons but for performers as well. The house is to be booked by the Northwestern Theatrical Association and the best productions playing this time will be booked here for the town has earned a reputation for giving results to first-class attractions. The plans for the house were drawn by A. J. Gibson and the house was built by E. S. Newton. The house was opened on the 25th by Brewster's Millions and seats are sold out in advance. Some of the best road attractions have been booked.

St. Louis, Mo.—Great Patterson Shows Company of Kansas City; capital, \$10,000. Incorporators, James, Charles and Oata Patterson.

Charleston, W. Va.—Gary Amusement Company, of Gary, McDowell county. The purpose is to conduct a moving picture show. The capital stock is \$3,500 with \$350 paid. The incorporators are S. N. Harris, L. E. Woods, W. H. Saunders, J. J. Stout, G. C. Sledge.

Bladensburg, O.—The Bladensburg Opera house company, Bladensburg, by S. C. Horn and others; \$2,500.

Syracuse, N. Y.—The Mullin Film Service, Syracuse, N. Y., has also been incorporated, to manufacture moving picture machines, films, song slides and all devices connected with the moving picture industry in all its branches; capital \$10,000; directors, Jay M. Mullin, Herbert K. Somborn, 125 Rosenbloom block, Syracuse, N. Y.; Joseph H. Nutting, 825 Boyd street, Watertown, N. Y.

Salt Lake City Utah.—The Luna Theater company yesterday filed its articles of incorporation. It has \$10,000 capital in \$1 shares, and will operate a theater at 41 East Third South street. Max Florence is president; W. E. Sipe, vice-president; Louis Marcus, secretary-treasurer, and these, with C. H. Wells, John Kern, Soren X. Christensen and J. M. Doull, are the directors.

Brooklyn, N. Y.—F. & N. Amusement Company, Brooklyn; moving pictures and vaudeville; capital, \$3,000. Incorporators, Samuel Fieldman, 235 Hart street; Frank Nudelman, 1565 Eastern Parkway; Nathan Stopolsky, 172 Varitt street, all of Brooklyn.

St. Louis, Mo.—Patola Amusement Company, Incorporators, W. A. Boehm, J. C. O'Brien and J. W. Cordell; 10 shares each. To manufacture, deal in and operate machines for producing singing films and records. Capital stock, fully paid, \$3,000.

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FOOL HOUSE CHORUS MIXES THINGS MUCHLY

Merry Merry Ladies Mingle Too Closely With Sad Results to Their Wardrobe.

Milwaukee, Wis., Feb. 22.

The chorus of The Fool House, played by The Four Huntings at the Alhambra theater last week is a sad one. Quite sad, in fact, and all because of the publication in a newspaper of a row between the blondes and brunettes of the company. It appears that 24 weeks ago when leaving New York, an enmity arose between the dark and the light, the might-be-peroxides and blackberry colored chorus girls. Tuesday night it was culminated when shoe buttoners, lace handkerchiefs, powder boxes and even a small trunk as well as other articles generally found useful in a woman's war, were brandished promiscuously back of the theater in the alley when the sixteen chori engaged in a free-for-all.

The real trouble arose because Marguerite and Lydia Meisner, two of the fairest damsels, resented the imputation that they had not been chori for a century. The brunettes laid for the blondes or vice versa, nobody knows (?)—but anyway one faction spied the other in ambush and they went to. And when honor was partially satisfied, sacre bleu! the Misses Meisner sought police protection. And the following day because a big trunk dropped on a buxom blonde's tiny foot, accidentally, of course (?), she sought a warrant for one brunette and the Meisner girls were on hand and right behind her to obtain a warrant also. Now the Meisner girls are brunettes, and trouble in the clerk's office rose to a hubbub when the entire sixteen entered the office, eight brunettes for warrants for eight blondes and eight blondes wanting assault and battery warrants for eight brunettes. All of which ended when Manager J. C. Sutherland, who was hotfooting after them, entered breathlessly and in a few jerky sentences explained what "tying a can" to some people meant. And after that the warrants were withdrawn and everything went along just as nice

as peanut brittle. Some say it isn't all over yet, but anyway, it proves that the average chorus girl's life isn't all the glare and glamour of the footlights as the school girl imagines.

Really, though, the chorus is a good one and good looking, too, and the quarrel, although regrettable in a way, has done the show no harm, for they've been playing to good business here—they deserve it—and their houses the last few nights don't show any falling off by any means.

The Meisner sisters left for New York without the usual notice.—YEO.

Southern Park in Doubt.

Chattanooga, Feb. 24.

With the near approach of summer and the park season, outdoor amusement lovers of this city are becoming interested as to the fate of Olympia park during the coming season. This is one of the prettiest pieces of park property in the south. It is laid out artistically, thoroughly sodded and shaded and has beside a theater seating over 2,000, a dancing pavilion, half mile race course, base ball park, merry-go-round, shooting gallery, figure eight, refreshment stands, band stand, swings, seats, skating rink and several acres of grass lawn, all of which is liberally lighted with electric lights. Here is a golden opportunity for some one or a company who is willing to spend some money with a certainty of getting all he has spent and more, too, back. The Chattanooga Railways Company, head offices, Philadelphia, Pa., is the owner of the park.

There is some talk here of establishing a summer pleasure ground and amusement hall on top of Lookout Mountain, but it has not advanced beyond the talk stage as yet. If proper transportation facilities at reasonable rates could be arranged there is no doubt but this move would crystallize and the rumor become a reality.—FRAWLEY.

¶All park men feel that the coming year is the time to save money. This association is organized for the purpose of serving park men in every capacity. With the foregoing in view, we will purchase or sell for you all classes of shows and amusement devices; book your attractions, vaudeville or outdoor, at actual cost. Write us for full particulars.

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NOTICE

A meeting of the Amusement Committees for the Minnesota and Iowa State Fairs will be held on Monday and Tuesday, March 1st and 2nd, at the Grand Pacific Hotel, Chicago, at which time they will be pleased to consider propositions for Free Attractions and Paid Shows. Nothing but clean, first-class attractions will receive consideration.

Will also consider attractions for the

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CHICAGO'S PROFESSIONAL HOUSE

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HotelTHE HEADQUARTERS FOR ALL DISCRIMINATING PLAYERS
SPECIAL WEEKLY RATESIS GEORGE WALKER
MENTALLY UNBALANCED?Or Has the Team of Williams and Walker Split up for Some Other
Reason which is Held Back?

George V. Walker, of Williams and Walker, left the company at Dayton, Ohio, last week and it was given out that he was mentally unbalanced.

It was said that a physician had informed Walker that he had throat trouble and that he must stop singing. This preyed upon his mind until he forgot his lines and evidenced signs of being insane. When this report reached Chicago last week it was not credited as those who had met him during the engagement at the Great Northern noticed no signs of anything being wrong.

According to the report sent out from Dayton, Walker frequently forgot his lines and Bert Williams, his partner, and Jack Shoemaker, manager of the company, decided it was best to place him in a sanitarium for a time.

"George has been acting in a peculiar manner for some time," his partner is quoted as saying, "and it has been neces-

sary for me to repeat his cues for him and even at times whisper his lines, as he would completely forget them. Walker appreciated the fact that he was not in condition to play and consented to go East and rest. An understudy will take his place."

The Williams and Walker company was laid off in Dayton for two days until arrangements could be made to fill Walker's place. Then the company went to Louisville Ky., where it is now playing.

At Walker's home in New York, it was said that Mrs. Walker would take up the part of her husband in Bandanna Land in addition to her own after the Louisville engagement, and that George would go to his home in Lawrence, Kan., for a rest. They denied that he was mentally unbalanced and stated that his "slight indisposition" would only keep him from the stage for a few weeks.

Whether Walker is now at his home in New York or at a sanitarium is not known. Bert Williams, Walker's family states, left with the party, and had been in New York for several days, while a correspondent at Dayton reported an interview with him in Dayton last Saturday.

VAUDEVILLE WAR SOON
AT LAFAYETTE, IND.First Clash Will Come the Latter Part of
March When the Two Houses
Are Ready.

Lafayette, Ind., Feb. 25.
A vaudeville war will soon be waged in Lafayette, Ind., and the Columbia and Victoria amusement companies are lining up their forces for the first clash which will come the latter part of next month, providing both houses are ready for their openings, as the Family theater is being remodeled and the Victoria is under course of construction. The Columbia company controls the Family and the Victoria company will run the Victoria.

The Family is an old and well established house and will be typically metropolitan when completed by the Wylie Brothers of Chicago, who have been engaged to repaint and redecorate it. Much progress has been made and a balcony to seat 500 is being built. Manager David Maurice will have five big acts and will likely have one matinee and two shows at night. His house will seat 1,000 and is located on the principal thoroughfare and where travel and traffic is the thickest.

The Victoria will be managed by two Lafayette boys, Wm. A. Florer and Felix G. Rice, the latter having been identified with the old Family theater several years ago as musical director. It is located on Fourth street, within a half-block of the public square. While the block where it is situated is not thickly congested with humanity at night, it is within easy access of everyone who has any business on the square where most of the business houses are located. The Victoria company expects to make the house draw with its newness, freshness and beauty as well as the quality of its bill which will probably include six acts with only one show at night. The Family, however, will not be lacking in attractiveness and many handsome changes are being made on the interior. The Family will book exclusively through the Western Vaudeville Association, while the Victoria will probably get its acts through various agencies. While the Columbia people are giving vaudeville at the Majestic, it intends to get bigger, more and better acts for the new Family. Meanwhile the contractors on both houses are rushing the work with the chances in favor of the Family being the first to open. Lafayette will get a taste of real vaudeville when the two houses are in full running blast. The scheme did not work well in several other Indiana cities, Fort Wayne, for instance, and the people of Lafayette are wondering how the fight here will terminate. The managers of both companies say that harmony will prevail but will it pack both houses night after night is what the patrons of vaudeville are trying to conjecture. The transient trade in Lafayette is not of sufficient volume to cause either manager to bank much on its support.—VANCE.

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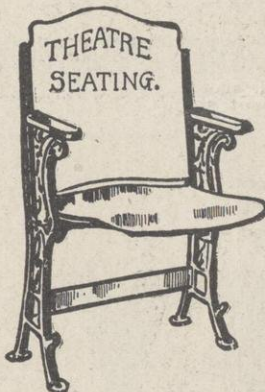
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VILLAIN'S PLANS ARE FOILED IN REAL LIFE.

Proprietor of a Moving Picture Show Objected to Having His Wife Stolen.

Webster City, Ia., Feb. 23. "Curses, we are foiled at last," muttered Will Johnson, star actor in a little elopement farce which was nipped in the bud at the Union station in Omaha by the vigilance of the aggrieved husband. As the train pulled in from Council Bluffs, an excited young man jumped off and hailed a policeman. The young man was R. E. Stoops, proprietor of a moving picture show at Humboldt, Ia., and also the owner of a road show. He wanted his wife and Johnson arrested. They were pointed out to the copper and taken in. The woman had been playing lead in From Rags to Riches and Johnson was managing the show. She became infatuated with him and induced him to elope at Council Bluffs. The husband, however, got wise and took the same train. The woman is a prepossessing blonde, a clever dancer and a fair actress.—GEO. C. TUCKER.

MRS. DICK SUTTON'S CAR RAN OVER FERRA.

Butte, Mont., Feb. 22. One of the novelty acts which Butte theatergoers witnessed last week was that of Ferra, the iron man, who allows a regulation size touring car to run over him. Mrs. Dick P. Sutton's car, weighing something over a ton and a half, was used during the week. Ferra created much excitement the day of his arrival, when this feat was performed on a prominent business corner, the iron man rising, of course, unhurt. There appears to be no trick in the act, for he certainly sustains the machine's weight as each wheel of one side passes over his hips.—BILLINGS.

Clary Rejoins Stock.

Spokane, Wash., Feb. 23. Charles P. Clary, late of Mary Manning company, and the James Neill stock, has returned to Spokane and will rejoin the Jessie Shirley stock company. He opened Feb. 21 in La Belle Marie. Mr. Clary played with the Shirleys nearly two years ago for two years, and was a great favorite. His many friends will welcome him back.—SMITH.

Miss Walsh Improving.

Kansas City, Mo., Feb. 23. Blanche Walsh's condition shows some improvement. No one is allowed to see her nor are the hundreds of letters or telegrams of sympathy given to her.

PLAYWRIGHT'S TRUST ABOUT TO BE FORMED

It Will be Known as the American Society of Dramatic Authors and Composers According to Present Plans.

A combination of playwrights, offensive and defensive, the chief purpose of which is to fix a scale of prices for dramatic works which theatrical managers will be required to respect and adhere to, is about to be formed.

It is in charge of a committee, consisting of Augustus Thomas, president, who is best known as the author of The Witching Hour; Charles Presbry, chairman; Charles Klein, who wrote The Lion and the Mouse, The Music Master and The Third Degree; George Broadhurst, author of The Man of the Hour; E. Milton Royle, author of The Squaw Man, and Joseph R. Grismer, of the theatrical firm of Grismer and Brady and a playwright of prominence.

The new organization is to be known as The American Society of Dramatic Authors and Composers.

An Authors' theater for trial performances is not at all impossible, according to the prospectus. The Authors' matinee would surely have a large following.

"Full members" will be men and women who are established writers and composers for the theater, who have written play or libretto or score, and have had production of the same under a recognized management in a recognized theater.

Associate members will be persons who may be ambitious to write plays, and lay members will be those in sympathy with the movement.

The first business of the new organization will be to select a board of trustees by the appointment of five members by the president. The trustees will hold all the funds and property of the society. They are to incorporate under the limited liability act.

THOMPSON BRINGING TWO BIG COMPANIES

Frederic Thompson will come into Chicago next Sunday morning with a big theatrical special carrying the Via Wireless and Polly at the Circus companies. The first named company follows Walker Whiteside at the Chicago Opera house and opens Feb. 28. The second named company comes to the Illinois following Lillian Russell and opens next Sunday night. Mabel Tallaferro (Mrs. Thompson) is the star of the Polly at the Circus company.

Both attractions are expected to do big business. Via Wireless has been highly praised in other cities and Polly of the Circus made such a big hit here before that it gets a return date.

Ben Hur Still At It.

Spokane, Wash., Feb. 20. The sale of tickets for Ben Hur was a record breaker according to Manager Charles Muehlman, of the Spokane theater. The house had received \$10,000 before first performance. There was a line for three days and the demand kept up until practically every seat had been sold for each of the four night performances, and the demand has been so great that an extra matinee was put on Friday, making six performances. Excursions have been run from towns in Washington and Idaho.—SMITH.

Laying Off at Grand Rapids.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Feb. 24. That B. E. Forrester has little faith in the one-night stands this season is proven by the fact that Yorke & Adams lay off here the last three days of this week. Next week the show is at Detroit.

Keeney Gets Third Avenue.

New York, Feb. 23. Frank A. Keeney has leased the Third Avenue theater of Charles E. Blaney and this week took charge, offering vaudeville, at small prices.

M. H. WELSH ENGAGED FOR DAMON CIRCUS.

Well Known Circusman Will Be General Director of the New Circus Organizing at Geneva.

Col. M. H. Welsh, formerly connected with the Welsh Brothers' show, will be director of the advance with the Howard Damon show this coming season and is now at Geneva, Ohio, engaging bill posters for the season, which will open April 17.

It is not known whether Walter L. Main is interested in the show or not. It is said that Howard Damon is a relative of the great Geneva showman and it is a coincidence that the show has established winter quarters at Geneva and uses cuts on the letter-heads which bear a line "copyrighted by Walter L. Main."

That the show will be an important factor in the amusement world is proven by the engagement of Col. Welsh as general agent. He has had wide experience in handling circuses of this size and is thoroughly familiar with the country which the Damon show is likely to visit.

SILENCE GIVES CONSENT IN THE MISHLER CASE?

It is rumored that the State Street theater will be turned into a vaudeville house and be booked by William Morris but when THE SHOW WORLD correspondent interviewed I. C. Mishler, the lessee of the house, on the subject, Mr. Mishler neither affirmed nor denied the report.

Judging from all reports, the amusement loving public are certainly in favor of the rumored project as the vaudeville shows they are getting now for fifty cents comprise but seven acts, two of which are billed as headliners, but the headliners that appear here are generally not mentioned in the larger cities.—STEVENSON.

Blackburn Wins.

Cincinnati, O., Feb. 22. Willie Blackburn of New York won the final race for the world's one-mile roller skating championship at the New Music Hall rink Saturday night before one of the largest audiences that ever gathered on the rink floor. Frank Bacon, of McKeesport, Pa., second; Pony Joe Altman finished third, time two minutes and 49 2-5 seconds.—CLARENCE E. RUNEY.

Billie Burke Recovered.

Billie Burke has recovered from an attack of blood poisoning and the company reopened here this week.

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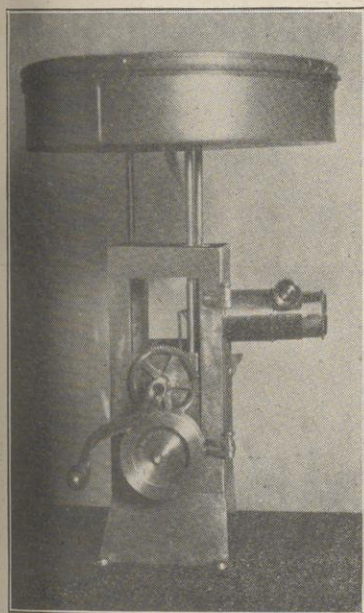
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I AM A JOBBER OF POWER'S MACHINES

LOWER CIRCUS TAX ASSURED IN TEXAS.

Bill Passed by Legislature Provides for Daily Tax of \$225 for Tented Enterprises Venturing Across Border.

Austin, Tex., Feb. 22. The state senate passed the bill, which had already passed the house, providing a reduction on the tax on circuses, placing the tax on a day basis instead of on each performance.

Senator Ward offered an amendment to increase from \$225 to \$400 the daily tax, stating the \$400 was advocated by Capt. McDonald, state revenue agent.

Senator Hume opposed the amendment, as did Senator Peeler, the latter asking if Capt. McDonald was to be permitted to legislate for Texas. He also said he would rather go to a first-class circus than be president of the United States for the time being. (Applause.) Also that the circus was a great educator and a medium of pleasure, yet Texas taxes them heavier than any other state in the Union.

Senator Ward replied with warmth, defending Capt. McDonald, and he also read figures showing that some shows paid very little in Texas because they "fooled tax collectors by misrepresentation." He also said the people had been fleeced as well as the tax collectors.

The bill was then finally passed.



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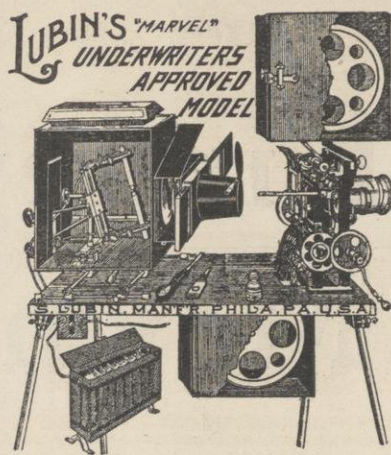
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Released March 1st A DIME NOVEL DETECTIVE

A villain falls in love with a young heiress. His offer of marriage is refused. He swears revenge and were it not for the great detective Mr. Hawkshaw he surely would have succeeded in kidnapping the heiress. As it is Mr. Hawkshaw is always at the spot when he is least expected. A most amusing subject, full of surprises.

Length, 820 feet

Released March 4th THE LAST CALL

The first call is the call into the world. The second call, the call to school. The third call, the call to work. The fourth call, the call of the wedding bells. The fifth call, the country's call. The last call, is the call from above.

Length, 485 feet

I WILL ONLY MARRY A SPORT

A young lady makes it conditional before accepting the hand of her suitor that he will ride three thousand miles on a bicycle. It is most amusing to see how he succeeded in this difficult task.

Length, 395 feet

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101 RANCH IS TO GO TO SOUTH AMERICA.

New York, Feb. 25. Roy Chandler, representing amusement men of South America, is here after attractions. He announces that he has completed arrangements for Miller Brothers' 101 Ranch to go to South America next October and remain there three or four months. This will be the first wild west in South America, and Mr. Chandler expects it to prove a great hit.

CIRCUS NOTES.

Walter Van Diem, James Lyons, Wilbur Winn, F. C. Turner, Henry Mason and Larry Sullivan are among those booked for the advance of Buffalo Bill's Wildwest and Pawnee Bill's Great Far East, combined, the coming season.

Howard Damon has leased the Walter L. Main winter quarters at Geneva, Ohio. Winston's seals are creating quite a furore at the Hippodrome in New York. Three seals ride ponies and juggle balls at one time for the finish.

The Seven Belfords head the bill at the Majestic in Grand Rapids this week but will be in Chicago Sunday night to participate in the White Rats benefit. They were recently seen at the Star & Garter in Chicago, where they were an extra attraction. The act goes with Ringling Brothers show the coming summer.

H. H. Tammen arrived in the city Thursday and will admire the handsome Armour six-horse team which is to be seen with the Sells-Floto show the coming season.

Al W. Martin, of Peru, Ind., was in the city the early part of the week.

Al Campbell, of the Campbell Brothers' Circus, has gone to Hot Springs for a rest.

Business was bad at St. Joseph, Mo., the closing stand of the Rhoda Royal show.

General Agent Moyer, of the Haag shows, will arrive at Shreveport, La., shortly with his purchases and the show will begin to get ready for the road.

Rhoda Royal is in Chicago and called at this office Wednesday.

Billposters Elect Officers.

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 21. Local No. 7, International Alliance Billposters and Billers of America, has elected the following officers for the year 1909: President, W. O. Henry; vice-president, James P. Miller; financial and corresponding secretary, Bruce Binager; recording secretary, Bert Carrall; treasurer, Joe Mahoney; business agent, Philip Kendall; sergeant at arms, Franz Huffman. Trustees: Joe Mahler, Ralph W. Wishard and E. E. Earl. The local would like to hear from the following road men: Frank O'Hara, Andy Stouch, Harry Mercler, H. B. Malone, C. F. Jones, Chas. Taylor, W. B. Menifer, George Thatcher, George Frazer, Clem Dobbs, and Albert Ball. The men mentioned here are wanted by the secretary of No. 7 so that he may send them a copy of the circus agreement which was printed some weeks ago in THE SHOW WORLD. Address Bruce Binager, 939 N. Temple avenue, Indianapolis.

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PICTURE MEN PRAISE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chicago Exhibitors' Association Approves Co-Operation of City Officials.

At the regular meeting of the Chicago Moving Picture Exhibitors' Protective Association, held at the Sherman House Wednesday afternoon, fully three hundred persons attended and showed their sympathy with President Friedlander when he stated that the police department did not intend to become an obnoxious interference in the conduct of theatricums.

Mr. Friedlander said in part: "Many of the members of this organization are laboring under the impression that the officials of the police and fire department are arrayed against them. I want to personally assure such members that since my incumbency of this office I have had occasion to come in close contact with the civic officials, not so much on my account, but in taking up the complaints of our members. In every instance I have

found the department officials more than willing to be fair and to lend their earnest co-operation. They have recently made some valuable suggestions to us. One suggestion was in answer to my question as to the advisability of having a legal representative. I put the question to a prominent official, after I had gone to one of the best known lawyers in this city and had learned from him that he would not handle our cases without a retaining fee of five hundred dollars. We are not rich. So I put the case plainly to the official. His reply should interest you. He said, "Mr. Friedlander, you may tell your association that we do not care to deal with any legal representative, but would prefer that you appoint a committee to work hand in hand with us." This committee has been appointed."

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Send for our new supplement, just off the press. It lists more films—**ALL BRAND NEW INDEPENDENT GOODS**—than we ever before listed in a supplement. This is proof that there is no scarcity in the right kind of new independent films and we can supply your demands.

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It is the greatest weapon with which to fight the combine and you will get the people coming your way if you advertise on your posters that you are independent and project a slide, lettered as follows, in your theatre:

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SALT LAKE CITY

GLOBE FILM SERVICE CO.
CHICAGO DENVER

ROYAL FILM SERVICE CO.
CHICAGO

Mr. Friedlander further stated that there was every likelihood that the ordinance compelling theatricum owners to use automatic take-ups and forbidding them to use stoves for heating purposes would probably be repealed at an early date.

He also stated that in a recent suit, the Supreme Court gave an opinion to the effect that the police department had full censorship over theatricums, and that it was therefore useless for members of the association to think of carrying any case for appeal to a higher authority than the police.

He advised members not to accept films from exchanges unless the exchange furnished a permit, given by the police department for the use of the film. These permits, he said, were very readily obtained and there was absolutely no reason why the exchanges should not have them.

A new committee was appointed to meet a committee of the Actors' Union, and several new members were admitted to the association.

An exhibition of European films was given by Will G. Barker at the conclusion of the meeting, and the films were enthusiastically received.

International Arranges Demonstrations.

The International Projecting and Producing Companies, through President J. J. Murdock, has arranged for demonstrations of foreign films in many of the larger cities of the country, and has sent Secretary H. J. Streycckmans eastward with a trunk full of samples of European films about to be placed on the American market by his company.

Mr. Streycckmans left Chicago Wednesday on the Twentieth Century Limited, and was followed on Thursday by Will G. Barker of the Warwick Trading Company, London. They will give exhibitions and address meetings in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Washington, Pittsburg, St. Louis and then visit Pacific coast points.

Exhibitions of independent films were given at the Sherman House every afternoon throughout this week, and the meetings have been largely attended.

President Murdock is highly pleased with the excellent results of the strenuous field work which has been accomplished by Messrs. Barker and Streycckmans.

Treasurer's Club Benefit.

New York, Feb. 24.

The Treasurers' Club of America, the organization of the box office men of the New York theaters, held its annual entertainment at Wallack's theater. The house was sold out and the club realized more than \$3,000. An interesting program was presented, many of the best known actors and actresses now in the city appearing.

GIVES WAY TO NEW EASTERN WHEEL HOUSE.

Windsor Hotel in Minneapolis Razed and New Gaiety Will Occupy the Site.

Minneapolis, Feb. 22.

The Windsor Hotel, well known for years past to performers playing here, will be torn down this week to make room for the new Eastern Wheel burlesque by Geo. P. Douglas who has leased the ground to the Columbia Amusement Company.

It is announced the Gaiety will equal any theater here in beauty, safety and equipment. The building will be fire proof construction of white enamel and terra cotta, 66x162 feet, and fronting on Washington avenue.

The front part of the ground floor will be occupied by stores with offices at the front of the second floor.

The plans will arrive here this week from New York so that work can begin at once, so that next season will see strong rivalry for control of the western field between the Empire circuit and the Scribner and Webber interests.

It is understood that the directors of the Empire circuit met today in Cincinnati to consider the purchase of sites for new houses in both the Twin Cities.

They desire a Nicolet avenue site in the vicinity of Third street, and local manager Archie Miller states that they will build a strictly modern house, beginning work about April 1, to compete with the new interests in the field.—BARNES.

The Shubert theater in East Des Moines may be re-opened.

OPERA CHAIRS

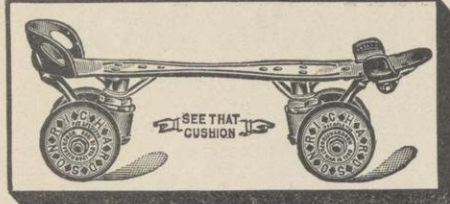
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SKATING NEWS

Delaware, O.—A masquerade skate proved a great success at the Armory rink here recently.

Altoona, Kan.—Harley Moore played here all this week to big returns. He says his season thus far has been most satisfactory.

Portsmouth, O.—A mile race held at the National rink here last Saturday resulted in a victory for Alfred Daum a local man. Carlo Lyons lost.

Shelbyville, Ind.—A colored man has purchased all the roller skates that were owned by William Ballard, manager of the Bijou and will open a rink which will be for colored skaters.

Winston, Salem, N. C.—The Hippodrome is the name under which a new skating rink is to be opened up in the Messick building on Chestnut St. The owners of this rink are Messrs. J. N. Davis, E. N. Albee and H. L. Modin.

Larned, Kans.—Jack Fotch continues to make good wherever he appears in this section. His Kansas and Missouri time has been particularly gratifying to him in the matter of earning laurels for his clever work. It is a question as to whether his trick and fancy skating or his German and Blackface work win him the greatest amount of applause, but in all three departments it is doubtful if he has any competitors worthy of the name.

Cincinnati, O.—Joseph Benson of St. Louis won the second heat in the world's one mile championship at Music Hall rink from Will Blackburn, of New York, by a distance of one foot. Pony Joe Altman, the Cincinnati champion, was third, about the same distance back. Altman led for nine laps when Benson passed him. The three skated nearly side by side on the last lap, until close to the tape. Blackburn had arrived from New York but one hour before the race.

Minneapolis, Minn.—Minneapolis Typographical Union No. 42 will hold a roller skating mask carnival at the Casino rink Tuesday evening to raise funds to defray expenses in securing the International convention of 1910 for this city. John Clark, champion fancy skater of the Northwest, will give exhibitions and Herb Hanse, champion of the N. W. Art Chapman, champion of the Twin Cities, and others, will participate in a two mile match race for a purse.—BARNES.

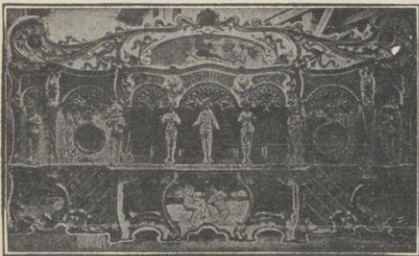
Patton, Pa.—The Boy Wonders, Johnson and Hanhauser, who have been playing a lot of small time report big success. They have now commenced the last half of their Pennsylvania time, which covers the entire eastern part of the state, and includes about fourteen weeks. Their saw on skates has won them big laurels everywhere they have shown. In Butler they packed them in. Their acrobatic work and diabolo are also strong features of their act. In Clearfield recently Johnson leaped eight chairs on skates to tremendous applause.

Butte, Mont.—Butte's big marathon roller race was pulled off Wednesday evening, James M. Reynolds winning over the regular course of 26 miles 385 yards, against Wally Bradford, Arthur Dubie, Peter Dubie, Jack Cornwall, Artie Bell.

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Office and Warehouses, 31 Bond St., New York City.

Frank Probst and W. H. Rickards. The latter, who is a former middle west champion skater, had a fall which wrenched an ankle, attributing to this accident his failure to win. He challenges any of the marathon participants to try another 25-mile contest for \$500. Reynolds' victory is the more remarkable because he has passed the half-century mark. He is a former chief of police of Butte, and during the first skating craze was one of the crack racers. Reynolds' time for the regulation marathon distance was 1:25:05 1-5.—BILLINGS.

Acts Sent Out by I. B. O. New York, Feb. 23.

The following acts have been sent out from the Independent Booking Office, during the past few days: Francelli and Tom Lewis, high class singers; Young America Quintette with Mattie Boorum; John H. W. Byrne, not a liar, but a story teller; The Terry Twins, English comiques; Roach and Hart, in a sketch called The Judge; The Four Onetti Sisters, European aerial artists; Daisy Harcourt, Australian comedienne; Von Hoff, impersonator and mimic; Viola de Costa company in The Latin Quarter; Edwin Fosbery company in The Card Party; Rivoli, European quick change artist; Mae Russell, character comedienne; Elsie Harvey and dancing boys.

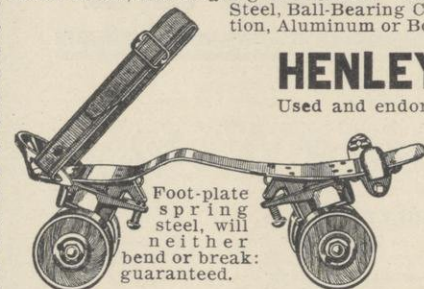
T. C. Jacobs Wanted.

St. Louis, Feb. 18, 1909. The Donaldson Theatrical Exchange, of 513 Elm street, this city, is sending out the following printed postal card:

"Notice:—A party by the name of T. C. Jacobs, claiming to be a vaudeville performer, of the following description: About

HENLEY ROLLER SKATES

Latest Model, Ball-Bearing Rink Skates. Used in majority of all Rinks. Nickel-Plated Steel, Ball-Bearing Club Skates, with Fibre, Steel Combination, Aluminum or Boxwood Rollers.



HENLEY RACING SKATES

Used and endorsed by speed skaters everywhere, and are also desirable for individual use, where the finest and most complete skate in the market is desired.

POLO GOODS and OUTFITS

Send for Skate Catalog Free. Official Polo Guide, 10c.

M.C. HENLEY, RICHMOND, INDIANA

Dustless Anti-Slip FOR ROLLER RINK FLOORS

Write for Book "A New Era in Roller Skating"

THE F. J. RYAN COMPANY

504 HODGES BUILDING

DETROIT, MICH.

23 years old, five feet nine, weighs about 160 lbs., dark complexioned and has a black wart on his nose, has been forging my name to checks all through Illinois, and I understand he is now in Chicago. Checks are stamped with a rubber stamp, W. S. Donaldson Theatrical Exchange and signed per W. S. Donaldson. Should anyone learn of the whereabouts of the above

party they will confer a favor by notifying the Chief of Police of Chicago or St. Louis, also the Pinkerton Detective Agency.

Stair and Nicolai Resting.

Jacksonville, Fla., Feb. 23. E. D. Stair and George Nicolai are at Palm Beach for two weeks' stay.

PREMIER ROLLER SKATING ATTRACTIONS

RINKS

VAUDEVILLE

PARKS

This department is not affiliated with any organizations, all professional skaters are invited to send in their press notices and reports of the condition of business in that part of the country in which they are playing, and any items of news occurring along their route. Address THE SHOW WORLD Chicago.

AMERICA'S PREMIER SKATERS AND DANCERS

E. FRANK VERNON

AND

BABY SYBYL, age 7 yrs

Add. care Winslow Skate Mfg. Co., Worcester, Mass.

The Renowned Sterlings

Ages 16 and 17. Famous Boy Trick and Fancy Roller Skaters. Starring in their original "Electric Whirl," Splits, Fancy Steps and Acrobatic Feats.

Address, The Show World, Chicago

"A SINGLE FACT OUTWEIGHS A THOUSAND CLAIMS"

ED DELMAR

AMERICA'S PREMIER SKATER. ADD. SHOW WORLD

JOHNSON & HANHAUSER BOY WONDERS

In their many novelties and feats of daring skill and balance

Ad., H. W. English, Bkg. Mgr., Brookville, Pa.

Something New—Original—Startling

Master HARLEY A. MOORE

Juvenile Skatorial Artist

The phenomenal boy wonder, doing difficult feats on his original triangular stilts. Now playing the Middle States. Address Chanute, Kansas.

ROMALO SKATES THE THRILLER, ON HIS HEAD

The feature act by Romalo while standing on his head on a skate which runs on an inclined plane, from one end of rink to the other, is pronounced by the press as a most daring, marvelous, amazing and astounding feat. Ad., W. A. LaDuque, Mgr., Kansas City Headquarters

JACK FOTCH

Wonderful all-round Skating, introducing Heine Gabooblie first time on Skates. The Laughing Hit. Artistic, Graceful Fancy Skating. Beautiful Costumes. Changes of Programme. Address

THE SHOW WORLD, CHICAGO

FOREIGN ATTRACTION HECTOR DeSILVIA

Australia's Renowned Fancy and Trick Skater. Introducing his new origination, on roller skates, Threading the Aurora Borealis, a representation of the Northern Lights and Streamers. A sight of Mystic Grandeur. First time presented to the Skating world.

C. Ray Severance

DARE DEVIL GAS PIPE SLIDE

Booked Solid. Kind regards to all friends

STRASBURGER, the Great and BABY RUTH age 9

America's Favorite Skaters and Dancers, featuring Buck and Wing Dancing, Hurdle Jumping and Backward Speed Skating Rink and Vaudeville Mgrs. write quick for open time.

H. A. SIMMONS Expert and Specialty Skater

For open time Spring and Summer, write now to 73 Broad Street, New York Booked Solid for the Winter Season. If you are looking for a cheap act, save your postage

FIELDING & CARLOS

Skaters and Dancers Par Excellence SHOW WORLD

TAYLOR TWIN SISTERS

Renowned Fancy and Trick Skatorial Artists. Featuring their Violins while skating.

The Show World, Chicago.

Charles G. Kilpatrick Famous One-Legged Trick and Balancing Skater

Including Shooting Act on Bicycle. A hit at all Parks and Fairs. Write quick for dates to 56 E. 47th St., Chicago

BERTHA DOUD MACK ORIGINAL

Anna Held Premier Dancing Girl on Rollers 17 Months with Anna Held Parisian Model Company, featuring Mme. Held's famous La Matchiche Dance, an up-to-date and original act beautifully costumed.

OLDUS & MARSH

Acrobatic, Novelty and Trick Skaters Featuring—The Coast of Death, Blindfolded. Featuring—The Great "Rube Perkins" Act. Featuring—10 Top Mount Acts. Act and costumes changed nightly. Busy all the time, but never too busy to answer letters.

THE McLALLENS PLAYING VAUDEVILLE

Open time near future. Write quick for rink dates, The Show World, Chicago

MARVELOUS McINTOSH

Featuring his Original Auto Act. A scream from start to Buck and Wing finish. Always Busy. Address care of SHOW WORLD, CHICAGO.

MANY SHOWS SIGNED CIRCUS AGREEMENT

What the Billposters of America and Canada Agree to do and
What the Circuses Promise.

LIST OF SHOWS THAT HAVE SIGNED 1909 AGREEMENT.

- January 12—Ringling Brothers; Chas. Ringling, general agent.
January 12—Barnum & Bailey; Chas. Ringling, general agent.
January 12—Miller Bros. 101 Ranch; Fred. Beckmann, contracting agent.
January 29—Cole Brothers' Wild West Show; E. C. Knupp, general agent.
January 29—Bergen Amusement Company; Frank A. Robbins, president.
January 29—Lucky Bill's Show; Lucky Bill, owner.
January 30—Buffalo Bill's Wild West and Pawnee Bill's Great Far East Combined; Louis E. Cooke, general agent.
January 30—Hagenbeck-Wallace Show; R. M. Harvey, general agent.
January 30—Gentry Bros. Show, 1 and 2; J. D. Newman, general agent.
February 1—Dawson Bros.' Wild West; James Dawson, manager.
February 1—Elstun Bros.' United Shows; F. R. Elstun, manager.
February 1—Burk's Combined R. R. Shows; C. E. Beyerle, proprietor.
February 1—H. W. Freed's New Show; H. W. Freed, manager.
February 1—Heber Bros.' Greater Show; Benj. C. Heber, advance agent.
February 1—Molly A. Bailey's Southern Shows; M. T. Everton, contracting agent.
February 1—Aunt Phebe Show; John Fraser, business manager.
February 1—J. D. Chunn's Shows; J. D. Chunn, owner.
February 1—Terry's Uncle Tom's Cabin Show; W. G. Dickey, manager.
February 3—The Godell Shows; C. M. Godell, manager.
February 3—Chas. Geyer's R. R. Shows; Chas. Geyer, owner and manager.
February 6—Sun Bros.' Shows; Peter Sun, general agent.
February 6—Dave W. Perrine's Show; Dave W. Perrine, owner.
February 9—Silver Family Circus; Bert Silver, proprietor and manager.
February 11—Howe's Great London Shows; Don McKeuzie, manager No. 1 Car.
February 11—M. L. Clark Show; H. C. Long, general agent.
February 11—Honest Bill's Show; Honest Bill, owner and manager.
February 12—John A. Dorward's Great London Shows; John A. Dorward, manager.
February 13—LaMont Bros.' Show; C. R. LaMont, manager.
February 13—Al. G. Barnes' Wild Animal Show; James A. Morrow, manager.
February 15—W. I. Swain Shows; W. I. Swain, proprietor.
February 15—Sells-Floto Show; W. E. Franklin, general agent.
February 15—J. M. Busby's Shows; J. M. Busby, owner and manager.
February 15—Blondin's Big Show; F. V. Dalton, agent.
February 17—Norris & Rowe Circus; H. S. Rowe, owner.
February 17—C. W. Parker Shows; H. S. Tyler, general manager.
February 18—Leon Washburn's Circus; Leon Washburn, owner.

The names of the tented enterprises that have signed the circus agreement of 1909 of the Associated Billposters and Distributors of the United States and Canada are given above, with the date of their signature, and the name of the agent or manager who represented the various shows.

The circus agreement and the rules governing circus posting contracts for the coming season will be sent to the various shows and copies distributed among agents and car managers.

The ticket list for 1909 is as follows: Towns of 5,000 and less, 15 tickets; from 5,001 to 10,000 get 20 tickets; from 10,001 to 50,000 get 30 tickets; from 50,001 to 100,000 get 50 tickets; from 100,001 to 300,000 get 125 tickets, and from 300,001 to 500,000 get 150 tickets.

For cities of over 500,000 special arrangements are to be made in regard to tickets. It is agreed that tickets shall be given to the association member on the day preceding the performance and the billposter agrees not to sell them.

Commercial rates govern for outside billing and two admission tickets are to be given the billposter with each 100 sheets as in the past.

The circus agrees not to use space with an opposition bill poster in any town where there is an association member. If the billposter cannot provide sufficient space he shall notify the circus agent in writing.

Other clauses which are interesting are reproduced below in full:

"Circuses shall furnish their own paste, wagons and men to post their paper, except in such cities where the local billposter does all the posting.

"No association member shall make a shut-out contract with any circus, thereby preventing his furnishing space to any other circus for a specified time.

"Posting space contracted for by a circus to be used at a specified time, must be paid for actual damage sustained, unless two weeks' notice is given prior to

date named in the contract for space to be used, any clause in circus agreement to the contrary notwithstanding.

"It is also agreed that the circuses may place and maintain banners, lithographs and lithograph boards in such quantities as they desire and shall themselves remove said banners within 24 hours after date of exhibition. If show fails to do so, billposter can charge 10c each banner for such removal, regardless of size, and he to remove all such banners immediately after date of exhibition; and in towns where an ordinance exists against banners or lithograph boards, there is neither boards or banners to be put up.

"All circuses and traveling shows, other than those represented by the committee signing this agreement, must conform and agree to its conditions prior to the opening of their season, otherwise they will be deprived of the benefit of this agreement and must be charged 25 per cent in price and tickets over the regular rates provided for by this contract.

"All circuses in billing outside towns on excursion and country routes, agree not to cover any live paper posted by association members.

"Where local ordinance or license exists requiring a payment or fee for billposting, lithographing, tacking banners or placing lithograph boards, the member is to allow the circus using his boards to work under and be protected by said license without payment of such fee or any part thereof.

"Under no circumstances shall the association member in any exhibition town be allowed to make the rental price of the circus lot any part of the consideration in his billposting contract for said town. All complaints by either members or circuses must be reported to National Secretary, who shall decide, subject to appeal, which appeal must be taken to the Board of Directors or the association at the next meeting, otherwise the decision of the Secretary shall be absolute and final."

FOR SALE OR RENT—ALL KINDS OF CIRCUS
WAGONS, CHARIOTS, CALIOPE, ETC., Ad-
dress, WALTER L. MAIN, Geneva, Ohio.

Shooting Galleries and Baseball Targets

WRITE FOR PRICE LIST

Wm. Wurfflein, 209 N. Second Street
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SOMETHING NEW UNDER A BIG CIRCUS TENT?

Can It Be Possible That a Circus Manager
Has Gotten Away From the "Same
Old Style" of Entertainment?

The public has been so insistent in its demands for "something new" in the way of circus attractions that the Sells-Floto show has come to the conclusion that it might be well to have a novelty.

Acting under this impression the Armour six-horse team, which has won blue ribbons at horse shows in England, Scotland and America, and which now stands unbeaten, has been secured and will be seen in parade, be displayed in the menagerie and the driver will put the beautiful white steeds through their exercises in the ring.

As the harness is mounted with gold, the wagon trimmed with gold, and the horses the finest in the world, this will indeed prove an attraction. The horses, wagon, driver and all were secured. Billy Wales, the driver, has been with the horses many years and is an important adjunct.

This combination of circus with horse fair ought to prove a popular innovation in towns and cities. It is certain that such fine horses will attract much attention.

Circus Cars and Equipment

ALL KINDS RIGHT PRICES
M. S. BODKINS, 340 State St., CHICAGO

M. L. CLARK SHOW TO BE GREATLY ENLARGED.

Will Go on Rail the Coming Season and
Will Have Sixteen Cars, According
to H. C. Long.

The M. L. Clark & Sons Combined shows will travel by rail the coming season and will be quite a pretentious tented enterprise. According to H. C. Long, the representative, who was in Chicago recently purchasing rolling stock, there will be 14 cars back with the show and two advance cars.

When it was decided to go on rail it was thought that ten or twelve cars would suffice, but the more the matter was considered and the further Mr. Long went with his negotiations with the railroads, the more certain he became that the proper thing to do was to make the show this size.

With two advance cars the show will be well equipped in case of opposition, and the fact that it carries more cars than other shows which are likely to make the same territory will count in its favor.

The winter quarters are at Alexandria, La., and the show will open in that vicinity some time between April 5 and 10.

CIRCUS NOTES

Dr. Merkel Dead.—Dr. Horace W. Merkel, formerly of the Parker shows, died at Kansas City. See page 12.

Many New Acts.—The Gentry Shows will have many new circus acts the coming year.

Damon Show's Paper.—The Riverside Printing Company is working on a new line of special paper for the Howard Damon circus, which will open April 17.

Office in Muncie.—Arthur Hoffman, side show manager of the Hagenbeck-Wallace circus, is maintaining an office at Muncie, Ind.

Dode Fiske on the Go.—Dode Fiske was in Minneapolis early in the week talking to Frank A. Stuart about some equipment.

Buying Supplies.—Henry Gilbertson, who will have the privileges with the Sells-Floto and Campbell Brothers' shows the coming season, is getting active now in his purchase of supplies.

Goes with Fiske.—Doc Jamieson, who has been steward with the Gollmar Brothers' show for several years, will be with Dode Fiske this season, according to present plans.

Agents Needed.—There is still a great demand for billers and agents, especially among the smaller shows. Competent men, with experience and judgment, are in great demand.

Curzons to Return.—The Curzon Sisters will sail for America March 10, but are already planning another visit to Europe. Jack Curzon says this trip was for sight seeing and pleasure combined with business.

Trimming a Sucker.—It is said that a "sucker" is being trimmed in connection with the organization of a circus this spring. Some of the "wise ones" go so far as to say there is danger of killing the goose which is laying the golden egg.

Tarkington Homesick.—W. O. Tarkington

lives at Kokomo, Ind., and at stated intervals he gets homesick for circus gossip. In order to give himself a treat he ran into Chicago last Saturday and spent the day around the Windsor-Clifton.

Stuart at Minneapolis.—Frank A. (Doc) Stuart, who was with the Gollmar Brothers last summer, is now located at Minneapolis, where he is representative of Bolte-Weyer, of Chicago. He is now in a position to provide complete equipment for shows playing under canvas.

Jerry Dailey Active.—There is always a lot of mystery about a circusman. Jerry Dailey was in and out of Chicago several times recently. One trip took him to Cincinnati. The supposition is that he went to the Queen City after his two cars and that he will be with the Norris & Rowe show the coming season.

Bullington with Gentrys.—I. N. Bullington, formerly the manager of the Pittsburgh Bill Posting Plant, has been engaged as assistant to General Representative J. D. Newman the coming season. Mr. Bullington was formerly with the Gentrys and is in every way well qualified for the position.

Lynn at Peru.—Joseph Lynn, who has the cook house contract with the Buffalo Bill and Pawnee Bill Wild West shows for the coming season, was in Peru, Ind., Feb. 19, on business at the Wallace winter quarters, where he purchased some equipment which will be remodeled and afterwards shipped to Bridgeport, Conn.

Brief Mention.—Lon Moore headed the bunch of clowns with the Shriners' circus at Saginaw, Mich.—John Kennedy will be superintendent of stock with the Cole Brothers' show.—General Agent Moyer, of the Mighty Haag shows, has been in Chicago for some time.—Lon Williams, press agent of the Rhoda Royal show this winter, arrived in the city Sunday.

United States Tent and Awning Co.

Desplaines and Madison Sts., CHICAGO

- 30X60; 10-oz. duck blue and white stripes; 8-ft wall; used two weeks; poles and stakes complete \$140.00
50-ft. round top, 30-ft middle; 10-ft walls 6½-oz. drill; used three days..... \$193.00
40X60; 8-oz. drill; 10-ft. wall; used two weeks \$104.00

Write for illustrated second-hand list. A
book of bargains.

MENTION SHOW WORLD



OPERA HOUSE BILLPOSTERS

You are foolish to waste time and money making old fashioned flour paste. **Bernard's Cold Water Paste** (dry powder) 50-lb. box costs \$3.00 f. o. b. Chicago, makes two barrels of first class paste.

BERNARD'S BRUSH CO. Rector Bldg CHICAGO

Dr. C. E. GOULDING

...DENTIST...

At 182 State Street, Chicago, Caters to the Profession. Strictly high class services. Mention THE SHOW WORLD when you call and receive 50 per cent discount.

The Finest Film Service In the World!

Moving Picture Exhibitors ^A_{ND} Independent Film Exchanges

The Slogan of the Independent Movement is

An open Market and may the Best Pictures Win

To prove the Superiority of the European product controlled in America by the
International Projecting & Producing Companies,
including the output of the following firms:

Clarendon Film Co., England
Comerio, Italy
Cricks & Martin, England
Hepworth Mfg Co., Ld, England
R. W. Paul, England
Walturdaw, Ld., England
Warwick Trading Co., Ld, Eng.

Williamson Kine Co., Ld., Eng.
Wrench Film Co., England
Ambrosia, Italy
Aquila, Italy
Continental Warwick Co.,
France
Deutsche Bioscop, Germany

Eclair, France
Germania, Germany
Itala, Italy
Lux, France
Pineschi, Italy
Stella, France

Arrangements have been made for demonstrations to be given in all of the largest cities of the United States. Eastern Exhibitors should call public mass meetings and have resolutions passed by property owners, real estate men and members of the Trades Unions protesting against the attempt to have the duty raised on moving picture films of foreign Manufacture. Local organizations of exhibitors should be formed in every town for protection.

THE TRUST WOULD NEVER HAVE DARED TO DICTATE IF THE EXHIBITORS HAD BEEN ORGANIZED

Exhibitors Organize Today

Our Mr. Alfred L. Harstn has just returned to day after placing orders with the **International Projecting and Producing Companies** for ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND FEET OF FILM of new subjects for the first week's supply to our customers in the East, now ocean bound and ready for delivery within the next few days. Release days will be announced and full description of films will appear regularly in THE SHOW WORLD.

Correspondence solicited from Eastern moving picture Exhibitors. We will take pleasure in answering your inquiries. The Independent films are the finest moving pictures in the World.

Watch the daily papers in Eastern cities where demonstrations are given.

Competition and not Opposition promotes Prosperity in any enterprise. Write, Wire or Call

HARSTN & COMPANY

BOSTON, MASS.
New England Film Exchange
611 Washington St

NEW YORK CITY,
138 E. 14th St.

SCRANTON, PA.
Keystone Film Supply Co.
303 Lackawanna Ave.

Don't Sign Any Trust Agreements

**Stand
Pat!**

**With an Open Market
The Best Films will Win**

**Stand
Pat!**

Moving Picture Exhibitors and Rental Exchanges

You have every assurance of an ample supply of new film subjects. Independent film exchanges are being established all over the country and many exchanges now licensed by the Trust will swing to the Independent side.

Monster Mass Meetings are to be held in all the larger cities, protesting against the attempts of certain parties to have the duty raised on foreign film.

Licensed exchanges, appreciating their precarious position operating under the Trust contract, welcome the Independent movement, as they fully appreciate the fact that since the formation of the Trust they are no longer masters of their own business, that they have become simply agents of the combination, and must bow to its dictations. THE LICENSED EXCHANGE IS TODAY PAYING MORE FOR ITS FILM THAN IT DID A YEAR AGO, and instead of this purchase becoming an asset to the business, it is a liability because under the new agreement, while paying the full purchase price for films, the same may be recalled by the combine upon fourteen days' notice if any clause of the license contract is violated by the film exchange. The licensed exchange does not at any time own one foot of film for which it has paid the full purchase price. IT IS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME WHEN THE TRUST WILL OPERATE ITS OWN RENTAL AGENCIES TO THE EXCLUSION OF ALL OTHER EXCHANGES. This is a serious menace and the situation confronting film renters demands earnest consideration.

THE RENTAL EXCHANGES HAVE BUILT UP THE FILM BUSINESS OF TODAY, with confidence in the future stability of the industry they have invested their hard earned dollars, devoting their time and energies in encouraging the exhibition of motion pictures, spent fortunes in advertising and in the establishment of plants and branch offices which are threatened with extinction in the event that they do not follow out the dictates of the Trust in every particular.

Now that the film rental agencies are firmly established and the moving picture exhibitor is able to secure prompt and reliable service, a condition which has been made possible by the film renter after years of constant study and application, the rental exchange man is informed by the Trust that hereafter IT WILL not only dictate how he shall operate his business but shall FIX THE RENTAL SCALE FOR HIS CUSTOMERS. If the film exchange man does not acquiesce with the Trust demands his supply of films will be discontinued, in other words he will be put out of business.

FILM EXCHANGE MEN YOU KNOW WHAT THE SCHEME IS.

It is only a matter of time when the combine will operate its own film rental agencies and all the money you have invested and energies put forth will REVERT TO THE TRUST.

In this great and glorious country of ours *Liberty* is too firmly established for you to bow down to the dictation of any combine. *Independence* should be the motto of every true American. The Independent movement offers you a release from unbearable impositions.

The Duty on Foreign Films Must Not Be Raised

To prevent such action, which we are reliably informed is being furthered by the Trust, we urgently solicit the co-operation of everyone engaged in the moving picture business. To keep up the good work which has been inaugurated by this company, meetings should be held in every large city, and in every town where more than one moving picture theater is located, and resolutions passed, in which property owners and real estate men and members of the Trades Unions should join protesting against the attempt to have the duty raised on films of foreign manufacture. Local organizations of exhibitors in every town should be formed for protection. THE TRUST WOULD NEVER HAVE DARED TO DICTATE IF THE EXHIBITORS HAD BEEN ORGANIZED. We request every exchange and exhibitor to co-operate with the public spirited men in each community, to call meetings and pass resolutions protesting to their Senators and Congressmen against an attempt to have an increased duty placed upon foreign film. IF THE ADDITIONAL DUTY IS IMPOSED IT WILL CREATE A MONOPOLY FOR THE COMBINE.

Every exchange and exhibitor can readily realize what effect this would have on his business.

BEWARE OF ANY DISORGANIZERS OR DISSENTERS WHO MAY BE SENT TO DISRUPT YOUR MEETINGS.

POWER PLACED IN PROPER HANDS IS A GOOD THING, BUT POWER PLACED IN THE HANDS OF THOSE WHO DO NOT KNOW HOW TO USE IT BECOMES A MENACE TO THE INTERESTS OF THE INDUSTRY AT WHICH THEY MAY BE AIMED.

Competition and not Opposition Promotes Prosperity in Any Enterprise
WATCH FOR OUR FIRST RELEASE DAY

Committees calling meetings of protest are respectfully asked to notify us at once so that we may get in direct communication and supply any further information desired.

INTERNATIONAL PROJECTING AND PRODUCING CO'S
Temporary Office **1006 Ashland Block, Chicago**

Important to Moving Picture Men

In view of the misleading statements being circulated by interested parties, I, Charles Raleigh, of Messrs. Raleigh & Roberts, Paris and Berlin, hold in my possession contracts for placing on the American market all films produced by the following European manufacturers:

Ambrosio, Italy
Aquila, Italy
Continental Warwick Co., France
Deutsche Bioscop, Germany
Eclair, France

Germania, Germany
Italia, Italy
Lux, France
Pineschi, Italy
Stella, France

The Sole and Exclusive Sale of the above makers' films will be in the hands of

The International Projecting & Producing Co's

15th of February, 1909

Charles Raleigh

Imperial Hotel, NEW YORK CITY

Important to Moving Picture Men

In view of the misleading statements being circulated by interested parties, I, Will G. Barker, of the Warwick Trading Co., Ltd., London, hold in my possession contracts for placing on the American market all films produced by the following European manufacturers:

Clarendon Film Co., England
Comerio, Italy
Cricks & Martin, England
Hepworth Mfg., Co., Ltd., England
R. W. Paul, England

Walturdaw, Ltd., England
Warwick Trading Co., Ltd., England
Williamson Kine Co., Ltd., England
Wrench Film Co., England

The sole and exclusive sale of the above makers' films will be in the hands of

The International Projecting & Producing Co's

15th of February, 1909

Will G. Barker

Imperial Hotel, NEW YORK CITY