

## Comedy Takes Well

"Charley's Aunt," Presented at the Lyceum by the Jeanne Russell Co. —Six New Players

(Lethbridge Herald, April 13)

A full house at the Lyceum last night greeted the first presentation of "Charley's Aunt." It was a winner.

Time after time during the performance, the audience showed their appreciation of the play by laughter and applause. To say the play was funny is putting it mildly. Everyone, particularly Old Country people know "Charley's Aunt." This play had such a run in England that all trace was lost of the time it commenced, one fellow last night remarking that he saw it played at divers times for fifteen years past.

It ran so long at one time that streets were placarded "Charley's Aunt still running," illustrated by the 'Aunt' running with the cloak over his shoulders.

The production last night was noted particularly by the enthusiasm of the players, who encouraged by the numerous outbreaks of applause, bent their whole energy to the task of entertaining—and made good. The expression, 'made good' with reference to last night's performance is unqualified. The performance last night was away out of the class of former plays witnessed by the writer. The troupe would scarcely be recognized, so good was their make-up, and the additions thereto.

## Gypsies

Gypsies are supposed to be the descendants of low caste Hindoos expelled by Timour about 1399. They appeared in Germany and Italy early in the fifteenth century and at Paris in 1427. In England an act was made against their itinerancy in 1530, and in the reign of Charles I, thirteen persons were executed at one assizes for having associated with gypsies for about a month. The gypsy settlement at Norwood was broken up and they were treated as vagrants, May 1797. There were in Spain alone, previously to 1800, more than 120,000 gypsies, and many communities of the yetm exist in England. Notwithstanding their intercourse with other nations, their manners, customs, visage and appearance are almost wholly unchanged. Ester Fax was crowned queen of the gypsies at Blyth on Nov. 19, 1860. The bible has been translated into gypsy dialects. Gypsy parliaments are occasionally held. George Smith, king of the gypsies, Falcon Hall, Edinburgh, protested against the movable dwellings bill Jan. 10, 1891.

## Wheat Crops

An average crop is from twenty-five to thirty bushels of wheat and 3,000 pounds of straw from each acre. Silica and potash are especially needed by wheat, and so it grows well on stiff clays which contain much silica. Wheat has never been found growing wild in any part of the world. It was cultivated in Britain in the time of the Romans.

## It Is Tonnage That Counts

When the Opposition speak of the enormous cost of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway they forget that this railway will be the finest on the American continent on account of its moderate grades. The Grand Trunk Pacific will be the best transcontinental in America, and will be in a position to provide prompt and economic transportation. A locomotive will be able to haul 1041 tons on the heaviest grades between Edmonton and Prince Rupert.

## Wireless Telephones

The wireless telephone will be demonstrated on the grounds of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition next year. On Klondike circle near the main entrance, will be built a rustic tower 100 feet in height at the base of which will be an exhibit hall for wireless apparatus invented to the date of the exhibition.

Wireless telephones will be installed on the grounds and daily demonstrations made by the United Wireless Company. A daily newspaper, containing news received by wireless and messages from vessels at sea, will be published at the fair. The wireless equipment will be installed on the top of a fifty foot pole to stand on the tower giving the wireless station a height of 150 feet from the ground.

Near the top of this pole will be a series of tubes and as messages are being sent out from the station there will be a kaleidoscopic effect produced by the electricity passing through the varied colored globes.

At the present time the company has a station at Vancouver B. C., where the wireless telephone is being perfected. The wireless phone was used to some extent on the warships during the cruise of the Atlantic fleet to Seattle and experiments are now being made in New York.

## Germany and the United States Naval Programme

"There is one point in the tremendous acceleration of Germany's programme which deserves notice. We talk as if the sudden advancement of the German programme only concerned us, as if it were not a matter of prime interest to any other power. We forget the United States.

"It is an open secret that the great navy which the United States has built up is in no way aimed at this country. Its object, to put the matter in the shortest compass, is in the first place to enforce the Monroe Doctrine, which is as dear now as ever it was to the American people; and secure American interests in the Pacific. "The able, far seeing men who control the naval policy at Washington know perfectly well that if the American fleet is as strong as or stronger than that of Germany there is very little doubt that some day, whether in Brazil, Venezuela or the West India islands, the Monroe Doctrine will be challenged by the power whose commercial interests are dominant in many parts of Spanish America.

"For example, Brazil is, so far as the white population is concerned, almost a German country. It was in view of this fact and in all probability at a hint from the United States that Brazil ordered her three Dreadnoughts. We shall not be surprised if Germany's action is answered by corresponding activity in America. Such a result is one for deep regret, but it is no use to deny that Germany's action is bound to lead to a vast waste of human energy not merely here but across the Atlantic."

## Colonies and Courts of the World

The British Government is, it is said, contemplating a scheme whereby the great self-governing Colonies will be still further introduced into the responsibilities of Empire, and whereby their prestige in the Courts of the world will be enhanced. The proposal is that each of the three great self-governing Colonies, namely, Australia, Canada and South Africa (when she is united), shall have a representative on the staff of the British Ambassador or Minister to any Country which has close relations with the particular Colony concerned. The suggestion originated in the statesmanlike brain of General Botta, and was informally the subject of some discussion at the Imperial Conference.

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## The Need of Development in the Country

(Theodore Roosevelt)

I warn my countrymen that the great recent progress made in city life is not a full measure of our civilization; for our civilization rests at bottom on the wholesomeness, the attractiveness, and the completeness, as well as the prosperity, of life in the country. The men and women on the farms stand for what is fundamentally best and most needed in our American life. Upon the development of country life rests ultimately our ability, by methods of farming requiring the highest intelligence, to continue to feed and clothe the hungry nations; to supply the city with fresh blood clean bodies, and clear brains that can endure the terrific strain of modern life; we need the development of men in the open country, who will be in the future, as in the past, the stay and strength of the nation in time of war, and its guiding and controlling spirit in time of peace.