

In the World of Amusement



General Gossip

Playgoers of nine or ten years ago will remember the great sensation the actress. Hope Booth, who appeared at the Savoy two years ago, caused in social and police circles by appearing at the Academy, Montreal, in an extremely negliges contume in her play, "The Pawn Shop."

hop."

A girl of wonderful beauty and reat personal magnetism, she has had n interesting career so far. Many re the men whom she has ruined by a irresistible beauty and many the omes she broke up.

Running away at 16 to go on the stage, married at 17 to a millionaire who died soon after, then running through the immense fortune he left her in a year or so, and lest marrying Rennold Wolff, the New York dramatic critic, her present husband, are a few striking incidents of her career.

For the last five months she has been travelling around in Europe and in spite of the efforts of her husband and her

to lapse. Mr. Wolff, any way, has acted like a gentleman. When his wife left the country he gave her \$1,000. This \$\frac{1}{2}\text{Mer}\$ cannot be gave her \$1,000. This \$\frac{1}{2}\text{Mer}\$ cannot have been deluged with requests for money. In twenty weeks Mrs. Wolff has gone through \$\frac{1}{2}\text{Mer}\$. She has stopped at all the best hotels and travelled in the best style, and how the report ever started that she was destitute in Europe I can't see. We have made repeated efforts to get her to return home. Mr. Wolff has offered to send her sister over to bring her home, but Miss Booth will not hear of it.

'On three different occasions has Mr. Wolff cabled sums of money to pay her passage home, and she has spent them otherwise. She cannot be destitute or in want. She has been stopping at the Hotel Metropole, Hamburg; the Elysee Palace, Paris, and is now at the Grand Hotel de Mediterrane in Genoa. She couldn't stay there long if she had no money. In my opinion, Miss Booth is suffering from some nervous affliction which takes away responsibility for her actions."

Pollock relates a story concerning



GEORGE ARLISS, In his latest success "Septimus," which comes to the Grand next Wednes-day night.

relatives she cannot be induced to return home.

Harry Luckstone, whose name is known to many a real estate dealer along the five of the atricular fad being the acquisition of the past word along the line, are always on the watch for his arrival at various to recover from her severe nervous at feetion. There she has been ever since. A report has been ever since. A report has been eventioning in New York dramatic circles that the lady has re-opened the divorce proceedings which were allowed to hope on account of the condition of her health, on the grounds of mon-suppers.

This Maurice Meyer, Miss Booth's attorney for the last twelve years, denies, "What would by the boomer to be a great one, inastending for the Contental part of the proved to be a great one, inastending for the condition of the hast twelve years, denies, "What would by the boomer to be a great one, inastending for the last twelve years, denies, "What would by the boomer to be a great one, inastending for the content of the provedty with the depot of the content of the content of the provedty was an exceptional view was thereiny afforded.

"Bot one condition build a house on Fritz Kreisler, Hugo Heermann, Busoni," Fritz Kreisler, Hugo Heermann, Busoni,

that strip—it's set up almost edge-wise.' objected Luckstone, "and if you did, you'd have to reach it by airship. However, if you can possibly mention a single practical advantage that the lot possesses. I'll buy it."

Luckstone thought he had given the dagent a poser, but the mma quickly responded to the challenge.

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"Average of a red wig will influence the color of his hair," said George Arliss the other might to an anxious inquirer as to whether the playing of villains was beginning to affect his morals, and whether "Septimus." his new comedy, did not come as a necessary moral tonic to his soul. "I did not ask to be a villain. I drifted into villainy. Mr. Belasco is, perhaps, mainly responsible for my depraved condition, because he started me on the downward path when he placed me hand in hand with 'The Darling of the Gods.' My experience is that an actor never chooses his line of business. Some men are very obviously suited for straight juvenile parts and nothing else; others are equally marked down by nature for the kind of character popularly known as the 'silly ass.' These actors are likely to settle down into their line of business early in their careers, but the character actor becomes a villain by force of circumstances. He may remain a villain for years, then suddenly he will blossom forth into a perfectly sweet old gentleman with white hair, and a granddaughter of whom he is equally proud. For years the character will play all kinds of parts and sooner or later, assuming that he is a good actor, he will be intrusted with a good part. By chance the part is a sudenly he will be the part is a good actor, he will be intrusted with a good part. By chance the part is a and sooner or later, assuming that he is a good actor, he will be intrusted with a good part. By chance the part is a villain. By the time the character actor has attained a position that enables him to more or less choose his parts he, as to more or less choose his parts he, as a rule, is a fairly good judge of the kind of thing he can do best. Then he seldom chooses villains, because they are villains, but because they give him a better scope for acting than any other part. The villain, after all, is often the most interesting person in the play. He is always bent on getting something that every right-minded individual thinks he has no business to have, and it is interesting to see how near he comes to getting it: and it's getting more interesting as time goes on, because you can never tell with authors nowadays—he may actually get it after all."

The programme to be given, in Knox Church school-room on Tuesday next at 8,15 by Harry J. Allen and F. H. J. Moore, baritone, will consist of six vocal numbers, including "The Vulcan Song," Gounod: "She Alone Charmeth My Sadness," Gounod; and 'I Am a Roamer," Mendelssohn; and six piano numbers, including "Polka de la Keine," Raff; "Polka de Concert," Bartlett; and "Gems of Scotland." Rive King, Mr. Owen A. Smiley, elocutionist, who will assist, will give a number of selections entirely new to Hamilton audiences.

In these days, when colleges are turning out platform artists of divers kinds and descriptions, it is refreshing to a church concert audience to hear once in a long time an elocutionist who breathes originality. Especially is this so in repertoire. Miss Laura A. Webb has all these qualities, with the addition of modestly-tinted expression, that is making her just now one of the favorite readers on southwestern Ontario concert platforms. At two entertainments during the past week, one at Ingersoll and the other in Toronto, her selections were heard by delighted gatherings. Miss Webb's future is undoubtedly assured in this particular field. In these days, when colleges are turn



REAL SONS OF THE DESERT WHO WILL BE SEEN AT BENNETT'S NEXT WEEK.



A GROUP OF CHARACTERS IN EUGENE WALTER'S FASCINATING STORY OF THE CANADIAN NORTHWEST, "THE WOLF," AT THE GRAND NEXT FRIDAY AND SATURDAY.

At the Grand

Patrons of the theatre in Hamilton Patrons of the theatre in Hamilton have seen a good many plays of great merit, but it is doubtful that any dramatic production gripped an audience and held it so consistently and persistently to the end as did "The Barrier" at the Grand last evening. It is a four-act dramatization by the experienced Eugene W. Presbrey of Rex Beach's powerful story, and its all-round qualities



MISS LAURA A. WEBB, Talented Canadian elocutionist who is achieving many successes.

and appointments there could be nothing but success to chronicle. "The Barrier' tells the story of Alaskan mining district life, tells it in a homely, yet most powerful and thrilling way, with real men and women, so that the audience follows with increasing interest the unfolding of the events that entangle the fortunes of the rueryd old trader and the world. John Gale, the Flambeau trader, loves a' woman who is taken from bim and married by Dan Stark, gambler and bad man. The woman is shot dead, and suspicion is fastened by the husband of Gale, who takes her young daughter and bides himself under another name in Alaska. Stark, hunting for gold, comes across Gale, and the battle between them is on. The daughter, grown up, passes as the child of Gale, and the Indian woman with whom he lives, and is loved by Cantain Burrell, in charge of a post at Flambeau. He, however, faces what he thinks the barrier, his love being a half-breed, and many are the tribulations of the lovers before the end is reached. A big-hearted French-Canadian, a rough and ready prospector, and a shady companion of Stark's figure in the story. There is gun play, many heart wrenchings and exciting situations, but all's well at last, when Stark, show to his death by the man he wronged, confesses that it was he who killed his wife, and the soldier has the happiness of knowing his sweetheart is not a half-breed.

Theodore Roberts appears as John Gale, and he carries the character of the sorrow-laden trader through with

Gale, and he carries the character of the sorrow-laden trader through with Gale, and he carries the character of the sorrow-laden trader through with ever-increasing power. Quiet, in the opening scenes, he portrays the workings of Gale's mind and his desire to rid himself of the incubus of his life with thrilling intensity and rises to a great height in the last act when he tells the captain of the black spot in his life and afterwards battles with Stark—to end or mend things. It was a splendid character study and the audience gave Mr. Roberts many curtain calls. The character of Necia, the daughter, was taken by Miss Florence Rockwell, a charaing and accomplished actress, who has in it a part that must appeal most strongly to any audience. Miss Rockwell has a delightful personality, and infused into the part a buoyancy of spirits and charm of manner that vivified the role and brought repeated applause. In the opening scene she was the free-hearted, tantalising, guileless girl to the life,

Teresa Carreno, and several others still to be selected.

At the Grand

Teresa Carreno, and several others still and later, as she began to realize how she would be ostracized as a supposed half-breed, and her determination to beat down all opposition, Miss Rockwell showed much dramatic force and shar-

The Backers to the production is a long and such the control of a long and such the control of successes.

LOCATION AND A CORNEL OF A CORN prominently identified with many of the management of the Grand announce the engagement of Miss May dress in kilts. Donald is a comedian of has the faculty of making a character Robson in "The Rejuvenation of Aunt (Continued on Page 15.)

and later, as she began to realise how she would be catracized as a supposed half-breed, and her determination to beat down all opposition, Miss Rockwell showed much dramatic force and shared the honors with Mr. Roberts.

The other characters were strongly presented. W. S. Hart, was a decidedly cool and villainous Dan Stark; Guite Scola, a cunning No Creek Lee; James Durkin was a manly captain; Alphone Ethier was a loveable Poleon Doret, and the other parts were admirably filled.

"The Barrier" will be repeated this evening, and as one of the strongest plays ever given here, should have a large audience to enjoy it.

The musical comedy, "The Cash Girl," with Mny Ward, the comedium, will be the attraction at the Grand next Thursday evening. This new musical comedy is said to be something of an innovation in the anuscement world, on bracing, as it does, a musical comedy with a real plot, musical numbers of ciginal composition, and an anuscal element that amuses. Naturally, a lagued with a real plot, musical numbers of ciginal composition, and have engaged a thoroughly talented company of players, and in conjunction a bey of spirited and pretty girls, who give color to the ensembles and tuncing music and ratchy song. "The Cash Girl' is decidedly new, it offers a thoroughly good and interesting plays, with original musics and ratchy song. "The Cash Girl' is decidedly new, it offers a thoroughly calented musical numbers of company of players, and in conjunction a bey of spirited and pretty girls, who give color to the ensembles and tuncing and understood and interesting plays, with original music and cardely song. "The Cash Girl' is decidedly new, it offers a thoroughly good and interesting play, with original music and cardely song. "The Cash Girl' is decidedly new, it offers a thoroughly condense of the great pines among which his friends have marked the property of the drama, being introduced the success, and the management carry a scona of cardense with a decided with the play and the property of the drama, bein

music which is of sound operatic construction. It is a work on the order of "Robin Hood." Miss Van Studdiford is the possessor of one of the sweetest and most sympathetic voices on the American stage.



THE BATHING GIRLS, With Henry Woodruff, in "The Prince of To-night," coming to the Grand.