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AT THE THEATRES

Edgar Selwyn, an actor of reputation for many years identified with the biggest successes seen in New York, will make his debut as a star in an adaptation of Sir Gilbert Parker's story "Pierre and His People," and his play entitled "Pierre of the Plains" at the Princess Theatre on Sept. 2.

Mr. Selwyn was born and raised in Toronto, and naturally when the time came to select a city in which to open his tour he requested his manager, Henry B. Harris, to secure the fate for him in his birthplace. After a few weeks on the road Mr. Selwyn will be seen in New York at a prominent theatre, where it is hoped he will score as strong as a star as he did when identified with such productions as "Arizona," "Sunday," etc.

By reason of the subject matter of the play and its locale, "Pierre of the Plains" should be particularly interesting to Toronto players. His manager has surrounded him with a cast of unusual strength and a production that leaves nothing to be desired.

At the Alexandra.
Under new management and strengthened materially in various ways, the Imperial Opera Company will begin a long engagement at the Royal Alexandra Theatre Saturday night, Aug. 29, opening with a grand revival of "Robin Hood." The return of the Imperials also will mark the opening of this popular playhouse for the season.

Harry Girard, the baritone, is the new owner of the organization, he having purchased the interests of E. A. Well. He has spared no expense in strengthening the company and making it one of the strongest ever gathered together for stock work. Miss Agnes Cain-Brown, Miss Louise LeBaron, George Tallman, W. H. Pringle, Almee Remley, Frank Stammers, Arthur C. Bell and Miss Smith comprise some of the newcomers.

Miss Cain-Brown, the prima donna, established herself as leading soprano of the Bostonians when Henry W. Savage's Grand Opera Company. She appeared in other stage musical successes and last year was prima donna of "The Alaskan," the comic opera written by Harry Gray. This spring she was prima donna during the grand opera season at the Hippodrome in Cleveland and the musical stock season at the Euclid Garden and the Coliseum. Miss LeBaron, Mr. Tallman and Mr. Pringle were principals of the Castle-square Company in Boston last season. Miss LeBaron began her stage career with the Bostonians, singing the leading contralto roles, and was with Fritzi Schell for three seasons. Her vocal range from low F to high C is remarkable.

Mr. Tallman was with the Bostonians and sang leading tenor roles with Grace Van Studdford, Madame Schumann-Heink and Lilian Hunt. He is conceded to be one of the best tenors on the stage.

Mr. Pringle and Miss Remley have had considerable musical stock work. Mr. Stammers is one of the country's most capable stage directors. For two summers he was stage director of Delmar Garden, St. Louis, and last fall staged "The Merry Widow" for Henry W. Savage in New York, an achievement that shows his ability.

Matinees will be given Tuesdays and Saturdays. The seat sale will open Wednesday morning.

At the Grand.
The Grand Theatre will open the regular theatrical season the first week of the fall, commencing Monday, Aug. 31, and the offering will be "Dion O'Dare," the new Irish comedy with the famous tenor, Fiske O'Hara. The piece is distinctly Irish and also is of an historical nature. "Dion O'Dare" is a young Irish peasant lad, who takes up the art of sculpture and after traveling for a number of years he is called upon by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland to make a statue of him. In the last act just as the unveiling is about to take place, a great singer disappoints the assembled guests. O'Dare asks permission to take the

literature shown in some time. The plot deals with the machinations of the notorious "Black Hand" gang and, unfortunately, has succeeded in gaining a strong foothold in America. Dave Genaro is said to have a capital role in "Tony, the Bootblack," at Bay Black as Daisy Lane, a female detective, helps to rescue Grace Morton, the daughter of a millionaire, from the clutches of the gang.

During the first scene of the final act the stars give their famous speciality. There is an excellent supporting company, including a dozen pretty chorus girls, who contribute considerably toward the success of the play.

At the Gayety.
An army of painters and decorators have been in the possession of the Gayety Theatre rapidly transforming it into one of the handsomest playhouses on the continent, and has added much to the convenience and comfort of the public. One of the most important improvements made is in the matter of ventilation. A large air chamber between the ceiling and

the roof of the building is supplied with cool fresh air by means of great windows, and the draft is so great that there is a constant circulation, making it a most comfortable house even on a hot day. Running thru this, connecting the auditorium with the roof, are enormous ventilating pipes exhausting the vitiated air as fast as it accumulates. Commendable toilet rooms have been provided for the ladies and gentlemen, fitted up with the best devices in plumbing and fixtures that have been invented. In fact the needs of the gallery are regarded the same as those who purchase the highest price seats.

The color scheme for the decorations of the auditorium is much the same as before, but everything has been freshened up to good as new.

The season will open on Sunday, Aug. 24, with Clark's "Runaway Girls Company," with the four Livingstons, marvelous acrobats, and Miss Estelle Rose in a vision of "Salome" as the added features. This attraction is one of the very best extravaganzas organizations and presents a charming burlesque entitled "The Sultan's Dilemma." Introducing Frank Daniel, Frank Graham, "Tom" Elliott, Milton Schuster, Eddie Stone, Edith Randall, Francis Starr and a bright chorus.

The usual daily matinee will be given and the very successful amateur contests will be presented every Friday night.

At the Star.
In the race for success in the burlesque field this season the pace will be set by "The Colonial Belles," which will be the attraction at the ever-popular Star Theatre the coming week, commencing with a Monday matinee. This show is without a doubt the most meritorious and original production that has been organized to tour the burlesque circuit. The quality of the material, the merit of the company and up-to-dateness of the production make the show more closely resemble a Broadway musical review than any burlesque attraction ever witnessed. While all the burlesque managers have this season made an extraordinary effort to elevate the tone and quality of their performances, the managers of "The Colonial Belles" have been the most successful.

They have secured the services of Joseph E. Howard, who has written more successful musical comedies than any other writer of the past ten years, to construct a new two-act musical farce, called "Lady Wall Street," together with original music, new specialties, up-to-date songs and elaborate effects, which will positively not be seen or heard in any other show this season. They have also engaged a cast of principals and a chorus of girls whose equal would be hard to find.

Among the members of the company are: Arthur H. Kerns, the king of German comedy; Fern Melrose, prima donna soprano; Bandy and Fields, the vaudeville headliners; the Texas Quartet; De Hollis and Valera, the Alhambra Pony Ballet; Mlle. Zallah, in the Salome dance, and a chorus of the most fetching and lovely girls ever assembled. Bargain matinees are given each day and are increasing in popularity. One can still enjoy a good cigar also.

At Scarborough Beach.
One of the best entertainments ever brought to the city will be seen on the free open air stage at Scarborough Beach, all of next week. The tricks of trained animals, the appeal to the public, and Prof. Kreisel with his educated household pet, has evolved one of the most interesting and novel exhibitions yet produced for lovers of nature. The amount of intelligence shown by the ordinary cats and dogs is somewhat surprising, altho Prof. Kreisel's troupe is undoubtedly somewhat above the common standard. There will also be given every afternoon and evening of next week a high-class comedy acrobatic performance by the Reno and Smith, a team of equilibrists who have met with great success in their new act. Their grotesque and humorous stunts in mid-air will add an enjoyable feature to the trained animal show.

The appreciation with which Conductor Ebyen's band concerts were met during the past week, have induced him to put on another special series of selected programs. The new act

Back Home Again.
T. C. Irving, superintendent of Bradstreet's, has returned from a month's trip thru the west, even as far as Singway. He comes back radiant from contact with summer suns and optimistic as to the outcome of the harvest. He estimates that the wheat yield of the west will be 100,000,000 bushels. Confidence is fully restored among the business men of the west, and they are all preparing for the expected better times.

Mr. Irving passed thru Fernie, and he says he never saw a more contented lot of people whose lot has been so hard. There was a smile on everyone's face, tho the place was in ruins," said Mr. Irving.

Complainant Also Arrested.
In arresting Henry O'Neil on a charge of stealing a horse and harness from R. W. Ramsford of Lindsay, Detective Kennedy learned that the complainant was wanted for the arrest of one Burridge, John-street, Toronto. Upon wiring Lindsay for the arrest of Ramsford, the police learned that High Constable Broddy of Brampton, where the theft is alleged to have occurred, had already taken him into custody.

Fine for Coaches.
The Imperial Coaches Company, Limited, were fined \$5 without costs yesterday for soliciting custom at the docks and trains against the order of the police commissioners. The cabbies are not allowed to do this.

Tractions at the Park this year have proven great popular successes, and the various shows are crowded nightly.

The untimely death of Reuben Fax has created a serious gap in the cast of "The Fighting Hope," the latest of David Belasco productions. There are only five parts in the play, which has been written by a William Hurlbut, a hitherto unknown young American playwright. Mr. Fax was to have been associated in the cast with Miss Blanche Bates, Miss Loretta Willis, Charles Riphman and John W. Cope.

The executive of the National Chorus have definitely decided on the dates of their performances for the coming season, and have also selected the soloists and the orchestra for these concerts. The first performance will be given on Jan. 18 and the second on Jan. 19 at Massey Hall. The principal soloists will be Miss Margaret Keyes, contralto, of New York, and Miss Helen Davies, soprano. Miss Keyes will be remembered as the charming singer who appeared here at the Caruso concert last spring, on which occasion she shared the honors with the great tenor himself. The New York Symphony Orchestra, under Walter Devoy, will again be the accompanying organization.

The Seventh-day Adventists Pitch Their Tent in Toronto. The Seventh-day Adventists of the Province of Ontario are holding their annual conference and camp meeting in the city and the camp is pitched in Dufferin Grove. The meetings began Thursday evening, the 20th inst., and will continue ten days, closing Sunday night, Aug. 31. The Adventists have been conducting a series of tent meetings in the city this summer with good results, many becoming interested in the message they are now proclaiming to the world. These people believe in the Bible from Genesis to Revelation and make a special study of the prophecies. They believe in the evangelization of the world and the return of the Lord in this generation. They are proclaiming the third angel's message of Revelation xiv, in every nation on the face of the globe, and believe that when all have heard the last message of mercy the end of the world will come.

They are a temperance people, pure and simple, and stand uncompromisingly for the prohibition of the liquor traffic in this city, country, state and nation. Their present membership is about 100,000 and they are scattered all over the world, and there are nearly two million laborers giving their entire time to different lines of missionary work. They adopt the Bible plan of supporting Gospel work, paying tithes of all their income, and the annual tithe of the denomination is now \$1,400,000. Aside from this they are contributing \$200,000 for local church work, increasing in all parts of the world where the third angel's message is being proclaimed, and the people see the advantage of keeping the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, Rev. xiv, 12. They have publishing houses, colleges and sanitariums in various parts of the world and all are training centers well as doing their regular lines of work. Their publications, which are being held in Dufferin Grove, are well attended and much interest is taken in the preaching of the Gospel. The following are the subjects that are being considered at Dufferin Grove: Present Truth, Our Time and Its Meaning, the Gospel of the Kingdom, the Prophecy of Daniel and the Revelation, and the Saints' Inheritance. Sunday afternoon, the 23rd inst., will be devoted to the consideration of the temperance question and there will be able speakers present from all parts of the world. The public is invited to join the speakers of the camp in addressing the public on this very important subject.

Public services are held in the forenoon, afternoon and evening each day. There are several speakers from abroad. Seats are free. The public is cordially invited to attend these meetings.

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Was the Auto Out?
Dressed in a frock coat and carrying a silk hat in his hand, W. C. Tolton, 204 Crayford-street, appeared in police court yesterday afternoon to answer a charge of immediate auto speeding. Mr. Tolton was angry. He was quite positive that his machine had not been on the street that night. Apparently the case was sent over till Monday.

Another Disappointment.
It is F. S. Powell, brother of the famous Major-General, Baden-Powell, who will visit the exhibition. Another visitor to the exhibition will be Sir Augustus FitzGeorge, son of the late Duke of Cambridge, cousin of the late Queen Victoria.

Hotel Burns.
HUNTSVILLE, Aug. 21.—The Pym Hotel was destroyed by fire this morning, the guests having barely time to escape with their lives.

Sunday at Hanlan's.
The band of the Royal Grenadiers, under Mr. J. Waldron, will play special programs at Hanlan's Point Sunday afternoon and evening. Appropriate vocal solos will also be rendered by Messrs. Meade, Keen and Mosier, the solo vocalists of the band, giving further variety to the entertaining programs.

New Minister at Tangier.
LONDON, Aug. 21.—Reginald Lister, councillor of the British embassy at Tangier, has been appointed minister at Tangier.

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