

MUSICIANS AND PLAYERS

"The Little Minister" is being presented in a most creditable manner by the Selman Stock Company at the Savoy this week. The stage settings are in excellent taste, and from every point of view the production ranks with any seen at the Savoy this season. DuBois is to be congratulated on his artistic settings. Interest naturally centres in the appearance of Miss Margaret Hagen, who scored a great hit as Lady Babbie. She has charm and rare intelligence, and wins her audience completely. Mr. Selman appears to excellent advantage as Gavin Dysart, the Little Minister. Albert Taverier is in his element as Lord Rintoul. Stuart Beebe is a handsome Captain Halliwell. Thaddeus Gray is cast to advantage as Tammas Whamond, and his characterization was splendid in every detail. His Scotch accent was perfect. Campbell Stratton plays Rob Dow with the proper appreciation of its points. George Walsh made a comedy hit as Sneaky Hobart. Miss Claudia Lucas was a lovely Nanny Webster, her make-up, facial expression was ever in the character. Miss Pearl Gray appeared as Micaiah Dow, and also as Felice. She has made a fine impression with our playgoers, and her work this week can be called delightful. Miss Mildred Hermann is the Jean, the housekeeper of the manse, and won favor. Douglas Dumbrell was a dashing Captain Davidson. The play should be seen by all who enjoy good, wholesome drama.

Sets are now selling for "The Merchant of Venice," next week's bill.

Orders for seats for C. W. Bell's new play will receive prompt attention. Much interest has been manifested in this presentation.

A POWERFUL PLAY.

"The Witching Hour," said to be one of the greatest New York successes of recent years, will be offered at the Grand here next Monday and Tuesday. The play is in Toronto this week, and the Mail and Empire says:

"The Witching Hour," Augustus Thomas' powerful four-act drama, which last night opened a week's engagement at the Princess Theatre, comes with the hall-mark of a New York success. The author, who for fifteen or more years has stood in the front rank of American dramatists, has built up an impressive, strongly emotional, and exceptionally interesting play upon a fascinating sub-structure of psychic forces. He has crowded into "The Witching Hour" matter enough for two or three plays, and spirit, lore, telepathy, thought-reading, hypnotism, heredity, and other mystic influences, all have their part in the development of the story. Mr. Thomas himself is authority for the statement that part of the play was written over twenty years ago, as a curtain-raiser, but its subject was so far in advance of current thought at that time that he decided it would be hopeless to look for a manager to produce the piece, and so laid aside the manuscript, which afterwards became the basis of the successful play of to-day. While some of its prophecies and conclusions regarding the mysterious powers of the human will and intelligence the play goes much further than the average spectator is prepared to follow, this is an open-minded age, and the audiences take on trust much that they could not subscribe to as an article of faith. The process is rendered all the easier by the plausible fashion in which Mr. Thomas dresses up his material. There are times, however, when the probabilities are strained, as when an inherited aversion to cat's-eye jewelry is made the reason for one young man murdering another. A further point which strikes one on reflection is that in real life the acquitted prisoner would have avoided the spot where he had slain a man, instead of making it the scene of his return to his mother and his betrothed.

LEW FIELDS' NEW RULES.

Lew Fields has promulgated the following rules for the conduct of his charges in "The Girl Behind the Counter" company:

Rule I. Male cousins must deposit birth certificates with the acting manager of the Lew Fields company and with the manager of the local theatre. O. K'd cousins from other cities will not be accepted.

Rule II. Letters of introduction reading, "I met you when you were with Weber & Fields and I was taking an engineering course at Cornell," will not be tolerated.

Rule III. All references in notes handed to the head usher, in which is mentioned the alleged fact that she wore your blue violets at the Yale-Princeton game, are strictly barred.

Rule IV.—The same rule applies to red chrysanthemums for the Yale-Harvard game.

Rule V. Automobiles of over 40-horsepower must be left in the box-office. Smaller machines can, with safety, be given to the ushers or the advance agent.

Rule VI. Freshmen, sophomores and juniors will please not block the stage alley. Give the seniors a chance, as it is their last year.

Rule VII. It is a strict rule of the organization that no lady connected herewith shall marry a man worth less than ten millions. Too often have our girls married mere millionaires, and we have been compelled to carry the husband along with the show as excess baggage. Hereafter we insist that the happy bride-to-be wire back to prospective father-in-law, collect, to determine if he will pay for the message. We are tired of paying for brides. Long ago we fore-saw the harness business.

Rule VIII. Girls whom Abraham Lincoln once held on his knee and kissed and to whom he said, "God bless you, little girl," will kindly hand in their notices. Mr. Lincoln died in 1865, and this is a modern musical comedy that I am running and not an old woman's home.

Rule IX. It is not permissible for any girl in this company to say she has shot a white hippopotamus. If necessary, we will discover a pink canary, playing a green violin, while seated on the purple branch of a crimson tree, but we much prefer an eructated orange-yellow tang teaching a chromo-yellow Chinaman how to play the clarinet, with a lemon in his mouth. In other words,

this management would like to do its own press work.

Rule X. All this goes.

ITALIAN GRAND OPERA.

The sale of seats for the Royal Italian Grand Opera Company, which comes to the Grand for three performances, opened this morning and there was quite a demand. It is pleasing to state that the double bill, "Cavalleria Rusticana" and "Pagliacci," will be given on Friday night, and "Traviata" Saturday matinee, and "Carmen" Saturday evening. Each opera will be beautifully staged, and the following artists will appear during the engagement: Mme. Duce-Merola, Mlle. Bertozzi, Mlle. Almeri, Miss G. Strauss, Mlle. Zera, Mlle. Bossi, Signor Torre, Signor Arcangeli, Signor Rosso, Signor Zera, Signor Gravini, Signor Otteri, Signor Francosca. All under the conductorship of G. Merola.

AT BENNETT'S THEATRE.

Anything with an element of mystery in it appeals to the public, and that probably in no large measure accounts for the amount of interest aroused by Lawrence Crane, the Irish Wizard, at Bennett's Theatre this week. He has one of the best all round slight of hand and magical acts on the vaudeville stage. After several eye-bulging stunts such as making things appear in an empty water glass held by a member of the audience and releasing a chicken from an ordinary egg, Mr. Crane comes out with the main feature of his performance, which is transferring Miss Crawford, his assistant, from a cabinet suspended in the air to a glass lined trunk, in full view of the audience. Similar tricks have been accomplished before, but never with the trunk at the front of the stage. First, Miss Crawford is put in a cabinet, which is hoisted clear of the stage, the trunk is brought out, and shown to be empty. To make it impossible for anyone to enter in any way, its sides and bottom are lined with heavy sheets of plate glass, and after satisfying the audience that it is perfectly empty, the wizard pushes it to the very front of the stage. The cabinet in the air falls to pieces, and upon opening the trunk, Miss Crawford is found in it.

The Middleton-Spinner Company offer an exceptionally pleasing sketch. Hoey and Lee, Hebrew comedians, and Patsy Doyle, a unique comedian, in all that term implies, old favorites here, and The Laughing Horse, a very funny burlesque, by Josephine Davis and a company of five people, are the principal comedy attractions. Dainty Florence Tempest has captivated the Bennett patrons with her winsome manner and charming personality. Her latest song hit, "Oh, You Kid," clinches her success. The Yamaoto Brothers introduce a number of new feats in equilibrium.

BREITHOVEN NIGHT.

The Conservatory Art Culture Club will add to-morrow, another evening of unusual interest and merit to its unique series on the great masters. Those already given are Haydn, Mendelssohn and Chopin. The last two on the 100th anniversary of their birth. Some suggestion of what may be expected can be gleaned from the advertisement on the back page.

ORATORICAL CONTEST.

An interesting and entertaining evening is anticipated at Association Hall on Friday evening, when the second annual oratorical contest of the Canadian Club will bring together six of Hamilton's representative young men who will speak on Canadian topics, endeavoring to capture the Canadian Club prizes of \$15, \$10 and \$5.

Mr. Vernon Carey, Miss Della Ashley and Miss E. M. Clowes will assist in the musical programme, and Mr. Adam Brown, Mr. W. H. Wardrop and Mr. Charles R. McCullough will act as judges.

As no admission fee will be charged, it is hoped the hall will be crowded, and the young men taking part given every encouragement.

MADE MERRY.

Sons of Scotland Had a Very Pleasant Evening.

At the regular meeting of the Sons of Scotland last night an entertainment was given, consisting of songs, recitations, speeches and instrumental music. The opening numbers were two selections on the bagpipes by Piper MacArthur. They were composed by himself, the first being dedicated to Colonel Bruce, of the 91st Regiment, and the other to Major Hendrie, of the 48th. Songs were given by Messrs. Slessor, Rodgers, Jackson and Thos. Davenport. Colonel Logie gave a very interesting and instructive speech. Short addresses were also given by John A. McIntosh and Capt. Reid. "How to Win a Law-suit" was the text given to the latter, and he, with a great deal of wit and humor, gave valuable information to those contemplating a tilt with the legal fraternity.

Mr. Bertram, in a short and pithy speech, stated that Camp Hamilton was the banner camp of the Sons of Scotland in Canada, had the largest number of members and its finances were in excellent order. He urged the members to continue their good work and maintain this very high standard.

Recitations were given by Mr. Gillen and Mr. McClement. Messrs. Harry Henderson and Fotheringham danced the Highland Fling, and a Scotch reel to the tune of the pipes was engaged in by a large number of the members.

Every third Tuesday of the month an open concert will be given in St. Andrew's Hall, Arcade, to which all are cordially welcome.

Montreal Service.

Grand Trunk trains leave Hamilton as follows: 7:48 a. m., 7:05 p. m., 9:05 p. m. Excellent equipment and only double track line. Secure tickets and make reservations at city depot office.

Adam Amos, section man, tried to get a pick off the track before the express came along at St. Thomas on Monday night, but was too late, and was thrown violently to one side. His arm was broken in two places, four ribs broken and he may be injured internally. His recovery is doubtful.

Food is more tasteful, healthful and nutritious when raised with

ROYAL BAKING POWDER

The only baking powder made from Royal Grape Cream of Tartar

Made from Grapes

Absolutely PURE

SPRING OPENING AT STANLEY MILLS.

To-morrow Will be the Great Day at This Popular Emporium of Fashion.

A Peep in Advance at the Millinery Beauties of the Season.



Good-bye, winter! Spring has come! Poor, old, trite saying. But how shall one say it unless he have the words of a Lowell to write another "Day in June"? The storms may come again, the winds may blow, the snow may sear into a blizzard, but still one knows that spring has come.

Spring has come! With it comes the miracle of recreation, the bursting of the bonds of winter—the advent of all that is new and beautiful.

And with the clothing of nature in the beautiful garb of spring, one's thoughts naturally turn to the clothing of nature's fairest child—woman. What shall she wear this season? It is a weighty question, and one that can be answered only by a careful study of becoming fashions.

The writer has just come from the Stanley Mills store. To-morrow is their spring opening day.

Naturally one takes the elevator to the second floor, and, without waiting for more than a glance at the figures displaying garments in the garment section, turns to the millinery room. The colorings are simply ravishing, lovely tones of blue, taupe, and shadings of Paris tan, and rose harmonies. Answering the question what was the predominant style, Miss McLaughlin, the exceptionally capable young woman who has the sole charge of this important department, said: "So many styles that every face may be suited. Of course the 'helmet hat' and the large, overshadowing turban strike the note of the new season, but the broad, graceful, rolling shapes and picture hats will be worn just as much as ever before."

To wear what is becoming and at the same time conforming to the mandates of fashion is a proposition worthy of study by every fastidious woman, and surely one that may be easily solved, as far as the hat question is concerned, in the Stanley Mills & Co.'s store this season.

Exquisite Millinery—Forth from out the wrappings and great white boxes, Miss McLaughlin brought hats of exquisite charm and beauty; many patterns, but scores of hats that were fashioned in the Stanley Mills' workshop; all clever reproductions and adaptations of Paris and New York fashions, under the supervision of Miss Beasley, whose artistic work has done much to further the wonderful prestige of this store as Hamilton's leading millinery firm. Printer's ink seems cold and uncharitable in describing some of these beautiful hats. There was one that fairly breathed of a summer garden. Some of exceptional beauty were:

A Picture Lagoon—The crown is covered with soft green moss, with tiny pink roses peeping out, and banked with pale blue tulle, on either side a huge French pink rose with foliage; brim faced with soft pale blue satin; broad ribbon ties to match.

A large dome turban, in the new Japanese braid, taupe shade, with folded straps of silk around dome, finished with a row of tight little bows; large apricot rose with foliage.

An Amethyst Turban—Bowl shaped turban of amethyst mohair straw, scarf of soft silk ribbon, wreath of butter roses round crown; large bunch of moss buds.

Graceful Drooping Model—Large dome crown of blue pique, drooping brim of myrtle green corded straw, immense shaded blue shirred bow and blue silk facing.

In Tulle Straw—Large green Tulle straw hat, trimmed with ravishing

NATIONAL

LAZY-IVER PILLS

A vest pocket physician for 25c. at dealers everywhere.

Dept. A1, National Drug & Chemical Co., Toronto

Stanley Mills & Co. Limited

Wednesday March 17th 1909

Stanley Mills & Co. Limited

The Spring Millinery Season Opens At This Store To-morrow

THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 1909

Captivating Millinery Styles The Season's Most Fetching Models A Brilliant and Beautiful Initial Display

To-morrow we draw the curtain on our initial showing of millinery for the Spring season—and extend to every woman in Hamilton and vicinity a welcome to attend this brilliant opening event.

This Season's Styles are so superb—so entirely different, that to-morrow's exhibit will prove one of unusual charm as well as magnificence.

The variety of trimmed hats shown is simply wonderful. Side by side with imported models are the clever adaptations and reproductions of our own unequalled staff of trimmers—but withal, two striking features predominate every model—Refinement and a high standard of good taste.

You will see all the true types of Parisian and New York styles for 1909 here to-morrow, but nothing extreme, nothing ridiculously extravagant, nothing but what a woman of refinement in every sense of the word could wear. Come and see.

We'll be ready to receive visitors at 8.15 o'clock to-morrow morning.

We invite you, feeling confident that all past successes have been eclipsed and that this store still maintains the leadership in this city for fine trimmed hats.

Formal Spring Opening Display of Women's Tailored Outer Garments

In addition to our formal spring millinery opening, we will make our preliminary showing of women's finely tailored outer garments.

This season's showing far surpasses, in variety, comprehensiveness, and superb styles, all previous displays in this department and those who are considering Spring and Easter garments should give our garment section a thorough inspection to-morrow.

Stanley Mills & Co., Limited

shoes, the wash goods, the housefurnishings, the fine hosiery, laces, trimmings and gloves are all full of interest and offer a liberal education in spring and summer styles.

With Easter in the vanguard, Stanley Mills & Co.'s store will surely prove the favorite rendezvous for Hamilton women, and no better time to visit this store could be presented than during their initial showing to-morrow and the following days of the week.

Stanley Mills & Co. will be ready to welcome their opening day visitors at 8.15 o'clock to-morrow morning, and extend a hearty welcome to all to share in the day's interesting features.

G. McL. BROWN.

Brilliant Railroad Career of a Popular Hamilton Man.

The Canadian Gazette (London, Eng.) has the following about a well-known Hamilton man, Mr. George McL. Brown, son of Postmaster Adam Brown:

George McL. Brown, the new General Traffic Agent in London of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, is still young. Come of good Scotch stock, he was born at Hamilton, Ontario, on Jan. 29th, 1865. It is easy to understand his English sympathies, for he received his early education at Shrewsbury, passing thence to Hamilton Grammar School and Upper Canada College, where he took a literary and classical course. His first experience of transportation work was in 1881, in the freight department of the Northern & Northwestern Railway at Hamilton. He remained with the latter until 1883, when he shifted to the Grand Trunk Railway, working still at Hamilton, in the telegraph operating department under Superintendent Charles Stiff. Resigning that position in 1887, he entered the service of the Canadian Pacific, with whom he has since remained, rising by successive grades. First, agent at Vancouver, then assistant general passenger agent for the western division of the company, and executive agent for Western lines; in the fall of 1902 he was transferred to Montreal as superintendent of hotels, dining and sleeping cars; and when the Canadian Pacific launched out into the Atlantic steamship business he was appointed general passenger agent for that service. On Jan. 1st, 1909, he assumed the mantle and responsibilities of general traffic agent for the United Kingdom and Europe. A record of good service, this, and not without its inner meaning. The G. P. R. management have always been noted for discovering exceptional qualities in their young men—for discerning leaders of men and giving them scope for their development—and in Mr. Brown they have selected a man after their severest demands. An untiring worker, a progressive organizer, a coherent thinker, "McL." comes among us as a comparative youngster with an experience that a Cabinet Minister might envy.

Beyond his connections with the great corporation of which he is so important an officer, Mr. Brown is of social consequence. In all parts of Canada he left scores of friends who knew him not so much as a shrewd business man as a "half-fellow-well-met" of unusually varied tastes. A clubman, a member of the Montreal Curling Club, a follower of literary and artistic interests, this tall Canadian is an embodiment of much that is best in the life of the Dominion. In 1890 he married Miss Eleanor Crerar, daughter of John Crerar, K. C., of Hamilton. To Mr. Brown was largely due the Christmas trips to the motherland at cheap prices which the Canadian Pacific organized for the benefit of British emigrants to Canada. With an eye to the amenities of life, a notable addition to the Canadian community in London, but above all as the general traffic agent of the G. P. R., Mr. George McL. Brown has already found a ready welcome here amongst those who can appreciate his sterling qualities.

Concerning the New Spring Millinery

An unrivalled display of all that is newest and best. Individuality is the keynote for style and shape of hats for this Spring season. Big turban effects, toque effects, lampshade and bowl shaped hats. Bonnets of every picturesque period, and to the surprise of some large hats, all of which will be fashionable this season, are shown in profusion. Distinctive trimmings will be featured, and such French designers as Camille Roger, Pouyenne, Germaine, Mangin Maurice, Maison Virat, Georgette, Esther Meyer have contributed, as well as our own skilled artists, which make the new styles we show unique and out of the ordinary. All are most cordially invited to inspect this authoritative exhibit.

FINCH BROS., 29 and 31 King St. W.

Our Spring Opening Display



Thursday, 18, and Following Days of the Week

To-morrow ushers in one of the leading fashion events of the season, the authoritative showing of Spring and Summer styles in Dress Fabrics, Silks, wearing apparel and stylish millinery. Every section of this store is shining with the brightness and newness of the Spring novelties which include the latest exclusive ideas from the world's best fashion centres. This is a style function that no woman should miss. Come to-morrow or any day during the display.