

THE STAGE AND ITS PEOPLE; MANY WELL REMEMBERED HERE

Close of The First Season Of Permanent Stock in St. John Foundation Well Laid For Next Year—Teddie McNamara in Western Canada—Martin Harvey Wanted For Tour of States

Those who have entertained the stage followers of St. John for the last forty weeks are leaving. The players of the Thompson-Woods Co. are through at the Opera House today and are saying farewell to the numerous friends they have met in St. John. While all are pleased at the chance for a rest, after the strenuous season which they have had, they regret, for the most part, having to leave St. John, for they have become most popular since playing here. It is regrettable that better houses have not greeted the players consistently throughout their stay, but they have been considerably better than many of the "wolves" predicted—in fact many would-be prophets insisted that the company would not be able to run longer than four or five weeks.

While in one or two particulars there could have been an improvement, the company on the whole was well balanced, and it may be said right here that some excellent plays were given, and given cleverly. Stock fixtures which in the ordinary run of things theatrical St. John might not see for some time, were given a presentation soon after being released, and to the Thompson-Woods Co. must go the credit. It is to be hoped that next season will see the return of those who have become most popular during their stay. It cannot be expected that the same company could be gotten together to come back, but it may be expected that some will play the second season. This has been St. John's first venture in permanent stock, and though financially it has not been successful for the first season, the encouragement met with should mean better results and satisfaction for a second season.

Madame Nordica, after being seized with her fatal fever, had Alva Adams, ex-governor of Colorado, who was a fellow passenger with her on the ill-fated steamer *Tasman*, draw up a will in which she disposed of an estate valued at \$1,000,000, which will go to her husband, George W. Young. The dead prima donna's body was shipped from Batavia, when she died, to the states for burial.

The Orpheum Circuit has given Alice Lloyd, who sang in St. John last year, a complete route of its time for next season at \$1,500 weekly, commencing late in September. Miss Lloyd sailed Tuesday for England.

Albert Bruning has been engaged by Selwyn and Company for the cast of "The Salamander," by the London St. John's Theatre, this week. Phyllis Neilson-Terry played the part taken by her mother, Julia Neilson.

It is not generally known that Rudyard Kipling has been approached to write the libretto for a grand opera. The largest advance now made toward one of the inducements held out to England's greatest, who has not yet indicated his decision.

Teddie McNamara and Queenie Williams, two of the most popular members of the Poland Opera Troupe when they sang in St. John are playing tabloids in western Canada, giving condensed or "abridged" versions of their favorite comic operas with much success.

"The Holy City," of Thomas W. Broadbent, has just been produced by Miss Nancy Paine, who is playing at the theatre, London. The singing was furnished by the choir of the Roman Catholic church. A prominent critic writes: "The author has identified Mary, the sister of Lazarus, with Mary Magdalene, and the first act shows her house at Magdala, where during her unrequited love days, she is entertaining a gay throng with wine and dancers, among the guests being the uninvited Barabbas, who has ventured over for that purpose, as set on his head, because he wishes to make Mary his lawful wife. Her refusal of his offer is very shortly followed by her conversion, and in the next act we see her return to her home repentant."

Kirk Brown will open his summer season next week at Altona Park. The contract for the English rights to George M. Cohan's play, "Seven Keys to Baldpate," by the London St. John's Theatre, has been negotiated for the purpose, as well as to study the technicalities of Mr. Cohan's play. Mr. Hawley has announced his plan to give an initial Autumn attraction of his Apollo Theatre in London.

Julia Marlowe arrived in Boston Sunday, to join Mr. Sothern for the first time since January and to see him in his new part of Charlevoix. In one of his infrequent curtain speeches Mr. Sothern made the interesting announcement that if Miss Marlowe's health permits she will probably appear in it.

The *Overmanagers* Passion Play is to be performed in England next July with the original company, according to a cablegram. This will be its first presentation outside of Germany. As the Lord Chamberlain has refused to license the Passion Play, it cannot be given in a theatre, and will therefore be produced in the open air. A picturesque location, near a large town, on the south coast was selected, where a huge stage and amphitheatre is being erected.

"I have been writing plays," said Jerome K. Jerome, "for thirty years, and most of them have been failures. But they have given me keen joy in the writing and I like to think that perhaps to others some of them have given pleasure. To the younger dramatist knocking at the door I would say: Be prepared for more heartache and disappointment than falls to the lot of most. Punishment for failure is somewhat severe, and the rewards are few and far between. But the work is fascinating and the game, if you are not afraid of hard knocks is worth playing."

"Mr. Wu" is the title of the play in which Walker Whiteside will make his reappearance in America next autumn upon his return from London where he has been playing for several months in

WOMAN MAKES \$300,000 A YEAR

More than a quarter million dollars earned in a year by a woman? It's true. That's Margaret Mayo's income—\$300,000 in less than twelve months—produced mostly by her daring play, "Baby Mine." This clever woman, in private life is Mrs. Edgar Selwyn.

"Baby Mine" had all the setting of the so-called "problem" play with the problem left out. But it was daringly original.



English Actors Praise Canada

Laurence Irving and Cyril Maude Have Kindly Words For Us After Tour of Dominion

(Times Special Correspondence) London, May 19.—Laurence Irving does not share the feeling that Canada is becoming "Americanized." He says: "It is very gratifying to an Englishman to find how strong a wave of feeling for everything English is now passing over Canada. No doubt this feeling has always been very widely nurtured, but during the last few years it has become organized, crystallized in the shape of men and women's Canadian clubs with ramifications in the very smallest towns and many other kindred organizations. These organizations are always most flatteringly anxious to hear the views of Englishmen on the subject, and so much so that one is occasionally apt to grudge the time given to expressing one's own views rather than observing and collecting information as to this land of great attainments and of immeasurable future possibilities."

As to Canada generally, from hotel life to workmen's dwellings, he considers conditions to be of the very best. As regards the theatre, he declares Canadian theatres are every whit as good as our best homes here. "There is indeed," he says, "as far as I can judge, a little Englishness between Fort Garry Hotel, Winnipeg, and, say, the Ritz or the Carlton in London—at least nothing in essentials. From the outer look of things, the artizan home of Canada is far more attractive than the corresponding structure in our country. They look with their red or green or brown coloring, their two storeys or one or three, their wide verandas and surrounding plots, each varying in style from its fellow, more like erections dotted in an exhibition than

greatly increased expenditure on scenery and the accessories of the stage. That, I think, is the justification for the price of the stalls, to which at first so much exception was taken. "It was interesting to note that Sir Squire, in speaking of the play of the present day, supports Sydney Grundy, a playwright who recently complained that the new playwrights did not write with regard to the sense of the plays produced at the present day which fall far short of the quality of the old. The cause of the failure is that they are not plays at all in the proper sense of the term. They are simply a series of arguments and theories, and the audience is left to speculate for their clever authors to the platform than to the stage. Not that I am disposed, as veterans are apt to do, to despise the new through admiration for the old. There is an immense amount of cleverness in modern plays, while I frankly admit that the actors of the present day are in the main a more cultivated class of men than those of fifty years ago. But in my opinion it is no good setting clever and accomplished actors, of whom there are so many on the stage at the present moment, to represent plays which do not conform to the requirements of the stage. And I particularly object to the adjective 'theatrical' as a term of reproach when applied to a play which is not theatrical or it is not a play at all."

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"The fact is that the expenses of management have risen out of all proportion to the increase in the prices of admission," he says. "Salaries of actors have increased enormously. In the so-called 'polity days' of the drama salaries were lamentably small, and even the rewards secured by eminent actors were, according to modern ideas, pitiful. Even at a later period, when I became connected with the Prince of Wales Theatre, the salary of John Hare, who was, as you know, a member of our company, never exceeded twenty pounds, which was then esteemed a large sum. The advance was rapid. Four years later we gave George Hare sixty pounds a week to play the part in 'Caste' which he had previously acted for eighteen, and Mrs. Stirling, when she played the marquise, in the final revival of that comedy, received eight times the salary we had paid to the original representative of the character. When Charles Coghlan came to us to replace Montague he had nine pounds a week; on subsequent dates we gave him fifty and then sixty pounds. I might give you many other examples of the kind. And coincidentally with the rise in salaries there was a

Famous Dancer Gives Complexion Secrets
I've learned the secret of Dolores' enchanting beauty—the wonderful charm that has dazzled the courts of Europe and captivated every eye wherever she goes. The famous dancer, Dolores, has a complexion best described as "indescribable." She keeps her face so fresh and glowing by regularly using on her face what druggists call "Dolores' Skin Cream." This is applied at night in the manner shown on the box, and washed off in the morning. It absorbs the dirt and impurities of the skin which daily appear, and a fair, soft, fresh, glowing complexion is always in evidence.

Dolores' skin is not marred by a single wrinkle, not even the finest line. She washes off by daily bathing the face in a so-called "Dolores' Skin Cream." This is applied at night in the manner shown on the box, and washed off in the morning. It absorbs the dirt and impurities of the skin which daily appear, and a fair, soft, fresh, glowing complexion is always in evidence.

When Henry Shaw revisited a circus to which he had belonged many years before, in Bellefontaine, O., no one of the people connected with it recognized him, but the elephant started trumpeting as soon as he appeared in sight and showed every sign of glad recognition.

FAVORITES IN MOVIES MARRY

Tom Moore and Alice Joyce Spring a Surprise

SOME NEW MOTION PICTURES

Small Sized Zoo Imported By The Selig Company—Roosevelt's Films of South American Trip Reported a Failure

Tom Moore and Alice Joyce both picked favorites in St. John who have been appearing together in the Selig Company working at Jacksonville, spring a surprise on their fellow players by getting married at ten o'clock one night recently by A. M. Wolfe, notary public. No honeymoon trip will be taken until the company leaves Jacksonville, Fla.

A theatrical performance for a local benefit was given at the Jefferson Theatre, St. Augustine, recently, and in addition to the usual talent the more prominent roles were in the hands of Edith Storey and Ethel Lloyd of the Vitaphone players; Earl Metcalf of the Lubin forces, and Courtland van Deusen and Alan Campbell of the Vitaphone Company.

Under the guidance of Augustine Thomas the work of production of the latest release of the "All-Star" Company has been begun. The subject will feature Lew Dockstader. It is called "Dan" and it is from the pen of Hal Reid. The author himself will personally appear in the film and be on hand to aid where possible in its direction. There will also be George Henry Irving, the assistant director of Mr. Thomas who is not content with directing part of the directing work of his company.

In support of Mr. Dockstader there has been engaged cast including Gail Kane of "Seven Keys to Baldpate"; little Kathryn Lee, the child actress who is winning the hearts of Broadway audiences with the exceptional performance of the little mermaid sister in the Globe Theatre production of "Neptune's Daughter"; and a big change of scenery on Broadway in "Help Wanted."

Walter E. Perkins, who will be remembered through his starring tours in the Du Souchet success, "My Friend from India," is at work on a photoplay scenario of the force which will soon be produced by the Edison Company. The production will be in three reels and staged by Ashley Miller.

From all reports the films and photographs were taken by Col. Theodore Roosevelt and his expedition to their South American expedition are failures by reason of their having been taken in the wrong places. It will be during a certain leg of the journey. Only one of the films that were under water may be any good and that is quite insignificant. Roosevelt stood a big chance of making a small-sized fortune out of his movie exhibition of the tour, but two black panthers, and a cage full of monkeys, knocked it away.

A small sized zoo was brought to Philadelphia Wednesday by the British freight steamer "Kabalanga" from Calcutta, the animals being consigned to the Selig Picture Co. There were four leopards, a beautifully striped Bengal tiger, two black panthers, and a cage full of monkeys.

Alice Joyce, star in motion pictures, had an experience with a little negro in a few days ago, which brings a chuckle whenever it is repeated. Miss Joyce was on her way home after an arduous day's work, when a colored girl crying against a telegraph pole aroused her sympathy. The charming star inquired the cause of the trouble. The child replied that her aunt had just driven her from the house.

"Where is your father?" asked Miss Joyce. "Never had no pa-pa," was the reply. "Well, where is your mother?" "Dead," was the answer. "Dead," she replied, pitifully.

"Yah! she done died befoah ah was born!"

There are no complaints about ventilation in the new moving-picture theatre in Buenos Aires, which marks a disaster in the history of the city. The class of buildings. An oval opening is left above the centre of the house, through which the clouds and stars may be seen, while an abundance of fresh air is always obtained even in the most stifling heat of summer, when other theatres are deserted. A. J. D. Maher writes of the theatre appears in the June Popular Mechanics Magazine.

WHEN SCANLON SANG SONGS

So Many Good Ones in Show He Threw Some Away

When W. J. Scanlon was in the show business he invaded Washington on one occasion with a brand-new comic opera. In order to give the piece a fine send-off he formulated the plan of sending free tickets for boxes to the president, the cabinet members and other men high in official life.

"That won't do one of his newspaper friends told him. 'Too common. Do something picturesque. Why don't you go after Mr. Wu the Chinese minister?' If you get him he will bring down a lot of other diplomatic people."

Scanlon felt for the proposition, and called at the Chinese legation. "What sort of a show is this?" asked Mr. Wu.

"It's a comic opera," replied Scanlon.

"Any good joke in it?"

Scanlon said it was full of good jokes.

"Tell me some of them," commanded Mr. Wu.

Scanlon did so, and Wu got such a series of laughs out of them that he sent for his whole establishment, numbering thirty-two persons, and made the celebrated Scanlon tell them all over again.

"Now," continued Wu, "are there any good songs in the show?"

"The show has so many good songs," declared Scanlon "that we had to throw some of them away."

"All right," said Wu. "Sing me one of the best."

"I sang them," said Scanlon, telling the story afterward. "But that wasn't so

Great Musical Event; Welsh Singers Coming to Opera House



GWENT WELSH MALE SINGERS

Edwin Bower Hesser has announced that on Monday evening, June 1 he will give theatre-goers of the city their first chance to hear the world famous Royal Gwent Welsh Singers, an aggregation of sixteen men who have twice sung before Their Majesties the King and Queen, and the President of the United States. They are led by George F. Davies, of Newport, South Wales, who conducted them when they won the singing championship of all Wales at the Eisteddfod last year. Mr. Hesser heard this choir at the London Coliseum in the Easter season a year ago, and arranged for a tour of America this season. They made a tremendous success at Carnegie Hall, New York, which was repeated at the leading theatres of the country. All the old familiar songs are rendered by these men with such skill and exquisite art that they appeal not only to the most highly trained music lover but please those to whom ordinary singing has no attraction. There is a thrill to these splendid voices that no other singers in the world possess, and the tenors have the sweetest tones in the world. "Annie Laurie," "Kathleen Mavourneen," "The Blue Danube" and many other familiar choruses are on each programme presented.

ALL EUROPE TO SEE CANADA ON THE STAGE

Somerset Maugham's Play Also To Be Given in Dominion

OUR SINGERS ABROAD

Madame Edvina Hailed as a New Star—Imperial Choir of 2,000 Voices at Royal Albert Hall, London

(Times Special Correspondence) London, April 19.—The Canadian play *The Land of Promise*, still goes with a swing. Canadian criticism of Somerset Maugham's attempt to reproduce the atmosphere of the prairies on the stage has resulted in some important modifications being made in the text and action, and with the exaggerations cut out the play is much improved. It will soon be seen all over Europe and in Canada and the United States.

Madame Edvina, a well-known French tragedienne, after seeing two stonemasons, has acquired the French rights and will appear in it in Paris next autumn. The play has also been secured for Germany, Austria, Hungary, Russia, Denmark, Norway, and Sweden, and Charles Frohman is organizing two companies to tour Canada and the United States during the coming season. Canada, therefore, is going to secure in Europe an advertisement of high value.

Somerset Maugham's play emphasizes the material side of Canadian life, and, by inference, leaves one to suppose that the artistic side is dormant and neglected. It is interesting to note therefore that within a stone's throw of the theatre where it is being played, Madame Edvina, Canadian prima donna, has been giving a series of lectures on the title part of Puccini's *La Tosca*, at the state performances in honor of the King and Queen of Denmark, at which King George and Queen Mary were present. The critics hail her as a new star, and as a worthy successor of Charles Harnett, whose merit has been applauded in Britain's temple of music.

Since the day when Albani first came to London there has been a succession of Canadian singers at Covent Garden. Last year it was Miss Edith Miller who maintained the high standard set many years ago by Albani. Donalda is another Canadian singer who stands out in Covent Garden records. By the way, Donalda, who has recently returned from Nice, where she has been singing in grand opera, tells me that she is going to follow Sarah Bernhardt's example and appear at the Coliseum next week. She is a Canadian, and has indeed been very prominent in the dramatic and musical events of the week. On Thursday, Dr. Charles Harnett of Ottawa, conducted the Imperial Choir of 2,000 voices at the Royal Albert Hall. One of the most impressive items of the evening was the singing of "Jesus, lover of my Soul" in memory of three empire-builders lately dead—Lord Strathcona, the Earl of Minto, and the Duke of Argyll—the first named having been the first president of the choir. Doctor Harris is proud of the fact that the Imperial Choir is the largest permanent organization of its kind in the world. As it appeared in the orchestra of the Albert Hall the other night, it presented an impressive sight, and, as spectacle, and, consisting as it does of picked voices from the London choral societies who have been in constant association under Doctor Harris, it proved a much more flexible instrument than one would expect it to be. The performance afforded evidence of the thorough control of Doctor Harris over his forces, and the admirable balance and precision of the singing; while the volume of sound that it can produce has great majesty and force.

The musical world of London is looking forward with great interest to the visit of the Mendelssohn Choir from Toronto. In spite of the strict time-table in which it is necessary in order to get through the allotted work, the London representative has received many requests to extend the programme, but this, I understand, is out of the question.

\$1,000 CHALLENGE

GENT'S STYLISH SUIT, COAT, VEST AND TROUSERS, \$4.50. MARVELOUS OFFER BY ENGLISH FIRM.

A most marvellous, but perfectly honest, offer. *Telegraph* readers are being made by Messrs. H. Thomas & Co., the well-known English wholesale clothiers, 142, Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C., England. This well-known English clothing house will send, simply as an advertisement, a Gent's complete suit, coat, vest and trousers, cut right-up-to-the-minute in fashion from good durable English cloth for the small sum of \$4.50. Duty and Postage paid. Remember your money nothing further to pay.

\$1,000 CHALLENGE

Because some have stated that it is impossible, this enterprising firm offer \$1,000 Dollars if not true that they supply Suits for \$4.50. Duty and Postage paid. Other prices of suits are \$6.50, \$8.50, \$10.50, \$12.50 and 15 Dollars. Mail a card to-day for a free set of choice patterns with latest fashions and full instructions for self-measurement to their Toronto Branch, H. Thomas & Co., (Dept. 1), Dominion Bank Bldg. cor. College and Spadina Toronto. Mention the patterns wanted, also the *Telegraph*.

remarkable. "I had to sing em There were thirty-two persons, and make me sing em. The amazing part of the thing was that all thirty-two of them came to see the show that night."—Popular Magazine.