

# POOR DOCUMENT

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Amusements

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Amusements

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### CANADA COMES WELL TO FRONT IN THEATRICALS

Dumbells' Manager, Visiting Saint John, Instances Production Advances

DOMINION TALENT BEING DEVELOPED

Saint John May See D'Oyly Carte Opera Co. of England

George G. Garrette, who has been the business pilot of Capt. W. M. Plunkett's Dumbell shows since their general public appearances following their war shows at the front, and who left Saint John yesterday for Moncton, Halifax and Newfoundland to complete arrangements for the appearance of the ex-soldier entertainers, spoke interestingly to a Times-Star reporter on things theatrical in Canada in this reconstruction period. He emphasized the assertion that the Dominion is showing sure progress as a producing country. He thinks the next few years will find the Land of the Maple Leaf contending with the adjoining republic and the Netherlands in creating and sending forth worthwhile units of entertainment.

"MISS TORONTO," Beginning with the Dumbells, which like Zeigfeld's Polles in New York, the

Vanities, Varieties and Winter Garden show, is an annual, the Canadian field has widened into a second group under the same business incorporation known as Capt. Plunkett's Revue of 1926. This is a girl show and sparkles with wholesome dancing, singing and sketchy numbers, somewhat after the model of American shows but suited to the tastes of Canadian family folk. Jean Ford Tomlin, who as Miss Toronto won the international beauty contest at Atlantic City last year, and Patricia O'Shea, who as Miss Winnipeg won third place in that battle of coquetry, are included in this wing of the Dumbells' incorporation. The revue is moving east and is due to hit the Maritimes early in the spring. Jeanette Garrette, 8-year-old ballerina, is one of the features of the Capt. Plunkett girl aggregation. The genial George is father of the little star.

Budding Talent.

Speaking of the development of Canadian talent Mr. Garrette cites the Leontoff and Rogie Russian dancing school at Toronto where an average attendance of 350 pupils is affording a great deal of dancing talent, at least 12 to 20 promising youngsters each term.

Singing schools and private tutors are developing vocal entertainers whilst in schools of acting there are many showing talent of sufficient value to warrant entry into professional ranks. Canada could well live within its own people, as far as supplying the lighter form of entertainment at this juncture, the Dumbells manager thinks. A chain of houses controlled by the Famous Players-Lasky Corporation from Toronto westward to the coast is lending patriotic support to British shows. It is not only using Canadian talent for prologue and atmospheric picture settings but gives guarantee of housing traveling English shows to such an extent that some of the best companies and stars of the Motherland have no hesitancy in packing up and crossing the ocean. Conditions in the Maritimes Provinces for the last few years, however, have been bad for expense-laden overseas companies and the people down this way have been denied many of the best attractions. A notable instance last year was the

visit of Sir John Martin-Harvey who contented himself with playing Halifax only. His offer for Saint John was so low that a local theatre could not entertain it without facing certain loss. Sir John's previous visit during the war when he presented Garrick and the Burgomaster of Stimundee, was so unprofitable to both him and the house that no argument could induce him to try the experiment again without greatly increased terms in his favor, terms which could not be entertained by the theatre.

PROSPECTS BETTER

However, with the brightening prospects in the Maritime Provinces it was expected the English attractions would not find it necessary to exclude Saint John, Moncton and Halifax from their Canadian itinerary, particularly since it was necessary for them to embark or embark at one of the Maritime ports in the winter season, which is usually the period they choose for playing this country. The picture business, Mr. Garrette thought, was not so deeply rooted in the estimation of the Maritime entertainment-loving public that spoken plays and musical attractions were to be forever taboo. Matheson Lang, noted English romantic actor and tragedian, was now touring Canada in some of his successes, including the "Wandering Jew," "Typhoon," "The Chinese Bungalow," "The Tyrant," etc. This man's name was a household word on the other side and his company included not only some of the most talented play people in the British Isles, but three of the loveliest women of the English stage. In Toronto alone recently Mr. Lang did \$86,000 business in a fortnight.

DOYLY-CARTE OPERA CO.

The next big overseas attraction booked for Canadian routes was the D'Oyly-Carte light opera company, a famous institution for many years and kept up to a high standard of excellence. It was today's guarantee official expositor of Gilbert and Sullivan's classic light opera, a class of entertainment perennially popular in the most blasé circles, continually up-topping in London, New York, Australia, South Africa and even in lands where English is not spoken. The D'Oyly-Carte people would arrive presumably in this port of Saint John, aroundabout Yuletide and would be of at least 60 people, including orchestra.

Bert Lang of Montreal has charge of the Canadian itinerary and some attempt will be made, it is understood, to have this splendid aggregation sing one or two of their shows in Saint John, though there is no guarantee they will be able to do so, having fairly close connection between approximate date of arrival and their official opening in Montreal. Mr. Garrette says the visit of the Dumbells for a week's engagement in

### Across Canada

MONTREAL—Plans for the erection of an antimony refinery by the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company at Trail, B. C., have been completed, and it is expected that construction work will start shortly.

TORONTO—Married in November, 1919, separated after twelve months, re-united a year later and again separated by agreement, Mrs. Nellie Hicks Woods, middle-aged, began suit against her 70-year-old husband for alimony here.

ST. THOMAS, Ont.—Delegates to the executive meeting of the National Council of Women in session here again passed resolution emphasizing the desirability of banning from Canada all pernicious literature from other countries.

BELLEVILLE, Ont.—Expert evidence concerning the mental condition of David Arthur Moon, charged with murdering Clayton McWilliams on April 6, 1925, was declared inadmissible by Mr. Justice Howat at Moon's trial here. It is expected the case will go to the jury Saturday morning. McWilliams

Newfoundland following the Halifax route, would be the first visit of the Plunkett show to the ancient colony. The Newfoundlanders were on the quiver over it. Next season the Dumbells would not come to the Maritimes—that is the spring show—but would work from Vancouver as a starting point down the Pacific coast on the American side, Seattle, Portland, Spokane and all that route of theatres. This would be an extreme novelty for the show and for the American west-erners.

Suburb, Ont.—Charles McCrear, Ontario minister of mines, was unanimously selected to contest Suburb in the tions at a Conservative convention here. The minister of mines supported the liquor policy of the Ferguson government, coming provincial general election, stating that he would sooner have his children brought up under conditions that existed prior to the Ontario Temperance Act than under present conditions.

and John McGle were killed in a local drug store and for the latter death Moon is now serving a life sentence in the penitentiary.

HAMILTON, Ont.—Rev. A. E. Smith, Toronto, president of the Ontario section of the Canadian Labor party, will contest Centre Hamilton as the candidate of the Hamilton central council of the Canadian Labor party. Mr. Smith was chosen candidate at a meeting of delegates at the Labor temple. The feature plank in the election manifesto calls for a federal government liquor control which will provide for the buying and selling of alcoholic liquors by the Dominion government solely.

CALGARY—Liquors have become so numerous in Calgary that the city council is discussing regulations requiring owners to keep their dogs locked up at night or on the leash. One alderman was in favor of forbidding the streets to dogs altogether, unless they were on the leash. An alderman dog fancier wished to retaliate against cuts. A similar discussion some time ago ended in such a hot argument that the subject was dropped.

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### NO RAIN FOR YEARS IN PARTS OF ARABIA

Major Cheesman Tells of Mysterious Settlement of Jabrin in Book

Special to The Times-Star  
LONDON, Nov. 12.—Stories of the mysterious settlement of Jabrin are told by Major R. E. Cheesman in his book, "In Unknown Arabia," published recently. Major Cheesman was formerly private secretary to Sir Percy Cox, High Commissioner for Iraq. Some of the punishments of Arabia, which he mentions, sound harsh to western civilization. Thieving, for instance, is punished by the loss of a hand.

PRIMITIVE PUNISHMENT

The cutting off of the hand is a punishment that seems primitive to us today, but it is generally accepted for that particular crime in the Arab legal code as well as by most Eastern potentates. Major Cheesman was received by the Amir, who said that the southern parts of his lands had been without rain for two years, and that it was six years since they had had good rains. Of the tribes whom Major Cheesman met, some of them reminded him of features to be seen on early Sumerian sculptures. "It is not unreasonable to suppose that they are the representatives of this earliest civilization. The conquests and passing of nations from the trade routes would leave them unaffected and unchanged in the fastnesses of their desert strongholds."

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The King of the outdoor stars is here in a whole of a western that will enthrall his vast more in the hearts of all western fans. The thrilling cross-country race in this picture will give you more excitement than you've had in a month of Sundays.  
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**FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS**  
The Future Doesn't Bother Oscar  
By BLOSSER  
GEE-ITS CHILLY TODAY!! TLL GO OVER TO 'TA CLUB AN' GET WARM—OSCAR SAID JED GET UP EARLY AN' BUILD A NICE FIRE FOR US!  
GEEWITZ!! IT'S COLD IN HERE—'I THOUGHT YOU WAS GOING TO BUILD A FIRE TODAY!!  
YEAH—I WUZ!  
BUY THERE ANY COAL?  
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME YESTERDAY AN' I WOULD'VE BROUGHT SOME TODAY?  
BECAUSE WE HAD ENOUGH FOR YESTERDAY!!

**BOOTS AND HER BUDDIES**  
Poor Boots  
By MARTIN  
OPAL DIDN'T WE JUST SEE A DOCTOR COME IN HERE?  
IS ANY-ONE SICK?  
GEE, WHAT'S THE MATTER?  
OH, IT'S SO FRIGHTENING! BOOTS HAD A TERRIBLE COLD YESTERDAY AND THE DOCTOR SAID IT HAS GONE INTO PNEUMONIA. OH, WHAT SHAME, I DO F!

**SALESMAN SAM**  
A Hot One On Sam  
By SWAN  
GOLLY, BUT I'M HUNGRY! SOMETHING TO EAT BEFORE I DO ANOTHER THING.  
HERE'S YOUR PLUM PUDDING, SIR.  
HEY COOK!! DID YOU PUT ON THAT PLUM PUDDING?  
LOOK!!  
WHY—I DIDN'T GET 'TH BRANDY TO LIGHT—  
SO I POURED A LITTLE KEROSENE OVER IT

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**JOY BOMBS**  
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