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 Bob Robinson, a college pitcher of whom much is expected, has joined Brooklyn.

Francis & Vaughan,
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NEXT WEEK THERE WILL BE A CHANCE TO HEAR GOOD SINGING; NEWS OF AMERICAN THEATRES

Next week is going to be a great one in this city in the line of amusements, good, bad and indifferent. It is safe to assume there is at least one show that is going to be neither "bad" or "indifferent" and that is the Nickel, the big, airy showhouse that gets a steady flow of family patronage. The special feature of the early week will be "The Redhead" a novelty that is sure to attract many seekers after summer diversion. This saucy, pert and yet comely Miss will surely make a big hit; for her act is one of the best features of the amusement world in United States today. Robert Buchanan, the silver-voiced tenor, will be heard in one of his magnificent classics, "Jocelyn's Lullaby," a truly lovely writing and one which is rendered with exquisite finish and melody. Miss Gertrude Bennett Holman is down for another of her catchy numbers. In the line of pictures the Nickel has secured a decided feature in the finely-colored Pathé historical drama "Carnotchy" or the merry brigades of a hundred and fifty years ago in France. "A Woman's Intrigue" is a forceful film showing how the so-called gentler sex is oftentimes the



"THE RED HEAD" At Nickel Monday.

stronger. Then when it comes to the laughing department the picture "Mr. Physical Culture Gets a Surprise" will have an entertainment in large portions. Miss Jennie Evans is to sing a pretty ballad "Let's Go Back to Childhood Days" and the orchestra has a raffle-off of New York novelties in discourse. In all the Nickel has a show that has no strings to it. The reserved seat scheme (150 special chairs for hurried people) is very popular.

The rule about mother-in-law jokes at Keith's was broken for the first time last week and quite unintentionally by Lester the ventriloquist. He did it only once.

Sarah Bernhardt was among the artists billed to appear last week in the Canadian Palace, White City, London, in an entertainment to be given for Franco-British charities.

Adelaide Wise, sister of Thomas A. Wise, has been engaged by the stenographer in a Gentleman from Mississippi.

Mrs. Annie Adams, the mother of Maude Adams, has opened a brief stock company engagement with Willard Mack's company at Salt Lake City.

Ben Hur will open its eleventh season under the management of Klaw and Erlanger in Utica early in October. Richard Buller will play the title role. A new and enlarged production is being built. Twenty-four horses will be used in the chariot race. Only the larger cities in the east and Canada will be played.

A vaudeville circuit extending around the world is planned by John P. Squire, who arrived in San Francisco from China, June 9, Mr. Squire is interested in the Arcade Amusement Company, which composes a string of theatres in northern China. He said that it is extremely difficult to procure performers for the Orient because of its distance from theatrical centres. He is now on his way to New York to confer with Harry Rickards and from there he will go to London to complete the around the world circuit.

The acceptance of Randolph Hartley and Arthur Nevin's grand opera *Poly* by the Royal Opera House, of Berlin, marks a very important step forward in regard to the recognition of American art abroad for a hearing there in which Americans have no reason to be proud, but since they were obliged to "carry their coals to Newcastle," it is gratifying to know that they were merely won over by the acceptance by the authorities of the Berlin Royal Opera, the highest recognition in the world of operatic art.

In the daily and Sunday press articles dealing with motion pictures along similar lines are more and more frequent and here the progress of press opinion is all the more striking in that it seems only yesterday that the words "moving pictures" was a notice for the funny man of the daily paper to get busy or for the office romancer to grind out a story. To what influence is this sudden change of public and press opinion due? More than anyone else, the writer believes the film manufacturers are entitled to the credit. The vast improvement in the pictures themselves has been the dominating influence. As people of intelligence have been led to investigate they have found that in large part the evils they impute have disappeared or have diminished to a negligible quantity. The old-fashioned existence in the pictures. Thousands have attended picture shows for the first time expecting to see the salacious or the crudest sort of pantomime and have gone away astonished at the evidence of art displayed in many subjects and of the innocently amusing quality of the balance. By constantly striving to improve the picture, the manufacturers are doing, they are building on a solid foundation, in the vernacular, they are "delivering the goods." "The Usher," in Dramatic Mirror.

Picture pantomime is becoming a recognized art in America. The motion picture field has improved immensely in all its departments. Certain trappings continue to lower what they claim are serious dangers threatening the very existence of the motion picture business, but these fears when analyzed turn out to be only the trade complaints of the individuals who are not in tune with the upward progress of affairs—exhibitors who find that the little show, badly ventilated and cheaply conducted, no longer draw the crowds; irresponsible rental agents who are no longer able to pay off any old film on the exhibitor, and manufacturers and importers who have not been able to meet the growing demand of the public for higher class pictures. To these classes of people in the motion picture field the days do, indeed, look dark, and well they may. But to those who look to see picture pantomime become an established high grade amusement the future prospect bears a rosy tint. Squabbles and controversies over trade conditions are small and insignificant in comparison.

Clem Kerr, manager of the Jewell picture theatre of Dayton, O., has submitted a proposition to the Dayton Board of Education, which contemplates the introduction of motion pictures in the schools of that city. Referring to the matter, Mr. Kerr told the Dayton Herald that motion pictures had a high educational value. "Take travel pictures for instance," said Mr. Kerr, "they are not only of interest, but of genuine instructive value. There are numerous posed pictures depicting great historical events or events in the lives of noted persons of educational value and in my opinion it would be eminently proper to permit public school children to enjoy such advantages. There are representations of plays, as well as places of interest."

So enthusiastic is Mr. Kerr over the possibilities of his plan that he has announced a willingness to supply film suitable for school use free of charge and to assist the Board in every possible manner to make the plan a success. The result will be received with interest.

An excellent half tone of General Washington in the Dramatic Mirror's last issue is an admirable likeness of Henry Crosby, in the character of General Washington in Victor Mapes' new play. Mr. Crosby is a man who makes up with results so successful that his first entrance in the play used to make something of a small sensation and always earned for him a round of applause. Even in Canada, where the management feared antagonism and probably biases, the greeting awarded Mr. Crosby in the character was always enthusiastic. The press comments earned by Mr.

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PERSONAL
 Daniel Frohman returned to New York last Thursday on the White Star liner Adriatic, after several weeks' absence in Europe. Mr. Frohman's trip has undoubtedly benefited him. Mr. Frohman spent most of his time away at Bad Kissingen, in Bavaria, in company with William H. Crane and William Gillette. Both of these actors are resting, and Mr. Frohman reports each in very fit condition for the next season's work. "In Paris," said Mr. Frohman, "I consulted with my brother, Charles Frohman on matters pertaining to the Lyceum next season, and my plans for my theatre are now being shaped up by him in London. These preparations will doubtless be settled by the time Mr. Frohman returns to New York. The foreign plays? Well, the best of the European output are coming over. There are quite a few good ones. The new plays, particularly those from Germany and France, are of interest from the point of view of playgoers in these countries, but from the American viewpoint they would probably prove less interesting. I dare say the interchange of drama between Germany, France and England in this country arouses a more sophisticated interest on the part of our theatre-goers on dramatic matters, and this is desirable. Plays containing ideas beyond mere passing amusement gain greater acceptance in this country. There is a strong trend in the direction of plays containing thought, ideas of serious ethical purposes, but still in intimate, sympathetic contact with human life. This desirable end has been brought about by the reaction from the tremendous preponderance of light forms of entertainment, the musical plays and the vaudeville plays. All forms of drama move in cycles, and a predilection for one class of dramatic entertainment in time gives way to taste for another. The outlook for the season here, on the whole, is a very satisfactory one. In Paris, as well as in London, however, the outlook is less satisfactory. For too many theatres there are too few good plays. But this state of affairs has one good result, since it affords unknown authors a chance to be heard, and from such opportunity good is sure to come. The American playwrights are well represented abroad and are turning out excellent work. We have an interesting problem to look forward to in the American theatre. The many theatres being built and established give wider opportunity for testing and producing new works, new plays by many newer writers, and the public taste and preference will be readily gauged from the results of this wider experience. The effects will be most interesting to watch."
 Useful Articles.
 "See here!" snapped the angry passenger, "this nickel you gave me is lead, and has a hole in the middle."
 "I know it, sir," responded the conductor calmly.
 "Well, that's a nice way to ruffle up a man's temper when he is going on a fishing trip."
 "That is the reason I gave it to you, sir. You can use it as a sinker."
 Not Exclusive.
 "Was it an exclusive party?"
 "Not at all. Some of her relatives were there."—Detroit Free Press.