

News Notes Gathered From the World of Stage and Screen

NEW YORK ACTORS MAKE PEACE OFFER

Endorse Tentative Agreement
With Leaders—May Mean
Equity Victory.

New York, Nov. 13.—Members of the Actors' Equity Association to the number of 1,300 indorsed with a loud, unanimous yell the tentative agreement which their leaders, John Emerson, president, and Frank Gillmore, executive secretary, have negotiated with Lee Shubert, acting informally for the Producing Managers' Association. Mr. Shubert will present the agreement to the steering committee of the managers. If the P. M. A. accepts the conditions imposed as a means of renewing the contract with the Equity on June 1, 1924, it will mean a modified victory for Equity.

If the managers do not ratify—and the time limit for so doing was set by the gathering at three weeks—then the Equity Council was empowered by resolution to negotiate a separate peace with any manager or group of managers. This leaves the way open for Lee Shubert, if he sees fit, as the man who has led the negotiations to their present point, to withdraw from the P. M. A. and effect an individual agreement with the Equity. If no treaty of peace is forthcoming up to June 1, President Emerson says a strike will result.

The gathering, which held many noted stars and was the largest the Equity has had in a long time, displayed a co-operative attitude toward the managers. Rumors along Broadway forecast considerable opposition at the meeting, particularly to the methods by which Emerson and Gillmore were said to have conducted the conference.

Opposition Voted Down.
A few suggestions were thrown out here and there in the audience addressed by Gillmore and several other speakers, such as that the proposition be submitted to a referendum, including Equity members on the road or otherwise absent, but were voted down with overwhelming accord.

A new phase of the agreement is the proposal that both sides agree upon a permanent paid umpire, his salary to be borne equally by both associations. He would adjust all cases where the joint arbitration board cannot reach a decision. Another feature of the new contract is the bond to be put up by Equity to cover four guarantees. These guarantees are:

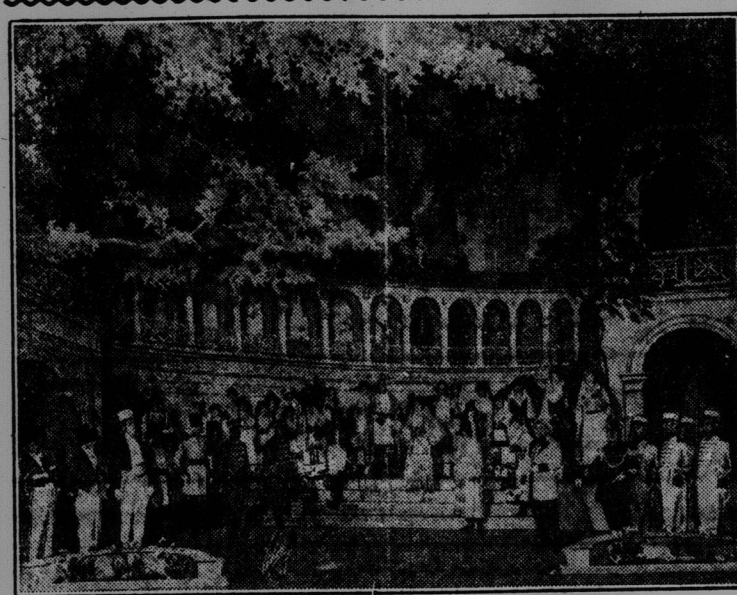
First, Equity will keep its ranks open and accept into membership any person a manager may wish to employ as an actor in any cast; second, it will interfere in any way with the casting of plays; third, it will not dictate to authors as to subject, plot or text; fourth, it will not raise its admission fee.

Meet Closed Shop Charge.
These four guarantees are drawn up to answer criticism of "closed shop" and interference with productions leveled at the Equity shop plan by both dramatists and managers. The guarantees are to run for twenty-five years. The other items agreed upon are to run for a period of ten years, except that at the end of five years the actors may call for a revision of the conditions of their contract of employment.

Equity would bind itself to keep out of sympathetic strikes on the part of its members. This is to lay the managerial apprehension that their casts will walk out every time stage hands, musicians, electricians or other unionized help does so, since the actors are affiliated with them through the American Federation of Labor.

Members of the Actors' Fidelity League who were in good standing September 1, 1923, would be permitted to appear with casts otherwise composed of Equity members. The fear

Musical Show Coming



Palace Scene from Act 2 of "The Maid of the Mountains," which will be shown in St. John this month.

on the part of the managers that they would lose many stars included in the Fidelity League has been a stumbling block. New Fidelity members are not to be exempted from the operation of Equity shops.

Further concessions to Equity include trial rehearsal period to be reduced from ten to seven days; no dealing with employment agencies; immediate payment of claims; backstage before and after rehearsals and performances; every company playing a season of twenty weeks or more to give a benefit annually for the death fund of the Actors' Equity Association.

Edith Day's Child
Is To Be Admitted

New York, Nov. 13.—The child of Edith Day, prima donna of "Wildflower" at the Casino Theatre, and her husband, Pat Somers, the actor, will be admitted to the United States this month. This, despite the fact that the youngster was born in England and the quota from that country is expected to be filled before its arrival. Harry Landis, Assistant Commissioner of Immigration, said in discussing the legal aspects of the infant's entry:

"I would be hard to find a case with more fine points under recent court decisions. Miss Day did not lose her American citizenship when she married Somers and the child, though born a British subject and prior to the American marriage of the couple last spring, might be classed as an American. Somers is an actor of the class exempt from quota regulations. Any exempt alien may bring in his minor children. Of course, Miss Day's child will be admitted, even if it has to be done by parole."

SCHAEFER AND HOPPE
TO PLAY IN BOSTON

Boston, Nov. 13.—Manager Pat Keefe of the State Billiard Club announced that he has signed Willie Hoppe and Jake Schaefer for a match to be held at the club commencing Monday, Nov. 19. The club has made a guarantee of \$2,000 and each of the contestants has posted \$250 as a guarantee of appearance, and as a side wager. Two details have yet to be agreed on—the number of points and the referee. Schaefer would like to play 2,400 points, while Hoppe insists on 1,500. Both of these differences will be decided within a few days. The match will be played in blocks of 500 or 600 points.

SIR MARTIN HARVEY MAY RETURN HERE

Negotiations Pending For Presentation of Two Classic Productions.

A telegram from Manager Bert Lang of Sir Martin Harvey's company now playing with distinct success in the Century Theatre, New York, asks if dates can be arranged in St. John for the noted English actor before Christmas. Negotiations are pending. Sir John Martin Harvey played here a few years ago in "David Garrick" and "The Burgomaster of Stimulund," and the wish was expressed at the time that the eminent star might be induced to make an annual visit. The present is his only trip across the ocean since the St. John appearance. New York has received him as the true artist he is and is according him splendid financial support. It is on this vital question of financial support that St. John often fails. The Sir Martin Harvey's engagement here was a financial failure for both the company and the theatre. Artisticly it was a high-water mark, box-officially it was almost disastrous.

Sir John himself was keenly disappointed. He asked: "What is the matter with your good people here—or perhaps I am to blame?"

Sir John was assured that his plays set a new record of excellence for the city's stage history and in founding for an excuse it was rather ruefully suggested that a city not accustomed to frequent visits from eminent players might have to be educated to their worth through actual experience. He was generous enough to accept this as a possible answer, but he did not promise to return. Evidently he is willing to give St. John another opportunity to appreciate him. The plays he desires to play here are "The Ligarette Maker's Romance" and "The Taming of the Shrew."

TWO N. B. RESIDENTS ASSIGN.
Mary Ethel Rose, general store keeper, of Hillsboro, has made an assignment to Vassie & Co., Ltd., St. John.

The creditors are to hold a meeting this week at the office of James C. Sherren, official receiver, at Moncton. C. Fred Steves, of Moncton, has assigned. Mr. Sherren being named official receiver and B. F. Miles, custodian.

Mr. Lawrence returned to the city yesterday after a week spent in duck shooting along the St. John River. In company with Captain Charles E. Ellwell, Mr. Lawrence was cruising in the "Finnis" and although they found that the ducks were late in coming off the lakes because of the mild autumn they were fortunate enough to get several fine birds.

CAN DO 37 PLAYS WITHOUT 'SCRIPT'

New York, Nov. 13.—A repertory company recently boasted in a theatrical trade paper that it could give ten plays without reference to a manuscript. Ruth Draper, who is her own repertory company of one, can outdo the boast single handed.

Miss Draper's repertory at present consists of 37 "plays." She not only can do them all without a manuscript, but until recently when they were copyrighted they never had been in manuscript form, but were merely written in her mind. In the 37 sketches Miss Draper actually plays forty-two characters. One of her followers who has seen them all declares that she causes to appear on the stage, in any vivid imagination, 162 separate and distinct characters.

Three of the sketches are given in French, and French that even Paris understood. In another she speaks both French and German, and in still others lapses into dialects which include Jewish, Scotch, Irish, negro, East Side, English and German.

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Enright Warns Theatres Not to Go Over "Limit"

Hints Some Producers Going Dangerously Far to Produce "Indecent Plays."

New York, Nov. 13.—Police Commissioner Richard E. Enright has expressed the opinion that certain theatrical managers have been competing with one another to ascertain the extreme length to which they could go in producing "indecent plays and provocative situations." The limit of this race has been reached, he declared with emphasis, and the fact that it has been reached is indicated by the great number of complaints coming to his desk from every quarter. "The limit," the commissioner added, "is the place where something stops."

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committee he has appointed to investigate the moral tone of the drama in New York—why it was appointed and what he expects it to perform—but his utterances on the subject evoked no echo from the producers and managers said to be most directly concerned. They, with one accord, declared it no business of theirs if the commissioner wished to appoint a jury to consider the purity of the stage presentations, because their own offerings were entirely immaculate.

Incidents Being Calm.

Two incidents of the day, however, belied the philosophic calm with which certain producers intimated that they regarded the action of the Police Department. One manager, who has a play which has achieved unusual notoriety, when asked for a statement, replied that nothing could be further from his intention than to stand up and invite the lightning. Let others talk if they would, for himself, he thought discretion the better part of producing.

The second incident was the appearance at Police Headquarters of the accused representative of the office of Charles Dillingham, who sought to learn whether Commissioner Enright or his jury had heard anything unbecomingly about "The Lullaby" now running at the Knickerbocker Theatre, and by some, it is said, considered sensational.

"The investigation is not to be technical in scope," the commissioner said, "but merely one of common sense and everyday morals. To accomplish that it seems to me that this is best approached through an application of the principles of wholesome judgment and tolerant attention. It is not my intention, and I think the situation does not require that professional critics of the drama be sent to investigate the plays about which complaint has been made. The committee is intended rather to represent the common denominator of public opinion and the limits imposed by good taste upon sensationalism in the theatre."

W. S. HARKINS COMING.
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The wonderful, refined, entrancing complexion rendered, brings back the appearance of youth. Results are instant. Highly antiseptic. Exerts a soft and soothing action. 80 years in use. While Pass-Rachel.

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Gouraud's

Oriental Cream

NEW HOTEL OPENS TODAY.

The Hotel Dunlop, formerly the Park, will be opened this morning under the proprietorship of "Black" Dunlop. The Rotary Club will be present for lunch and the principal speaker will be Lieut.-Col. Ronald McAvity.

THE GREATEST HUMAN
STORY EVER TOLD.

THE
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Clean, Wholesome, Honest
"ON THE BORDER"
Western.

"DONE IN OIL"
Comedy.

—THURSDAY—
ALIAS JULIUS CAESAR
Chas. Ray.

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