

Amusements

THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1920

Amusements

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MIRACLE PLAYS STILL FLOURISH WITH MEXICANS

Were Brought to Country by
Spanish Priests and
Kept Intact

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Dec. 7.—Miracle plays, the religious spectacles of the early church which were the forerunners of modern drama, still flourish in this vicinity and in parts of old Mexico.

The plays, usually given by the Mexican or Indian residents, were brought to the southwest by Spanish priests hundreds of years ago and have been kept alive since that time, almost in their original state.

Miracle plays were introduced in the medieval days after the church had banished Greek and Roman drama. Usually they are merely illustrative tableaux of biblical stories, but in time they developed speaking parts and comedy, and eventually the modern play was evolved.

"Los Pastores" or The Shepherds, is one of the most common. It is a play said to have been written by a Franciscan missionary and it is most com-

New Instrument Equals Five Violins



Vincent Lopez, New York orchestra leader is shown here playing a new musical instrument called the "violinofon."

It is an ordinary violin provided with a sounding piece (horn). Through a special contrivance it gains in tonal quality and beauty of delivery. It is equivalent to five violins in an orchestra.

francescan fathers. Usually it is given at Christmas time.

The play opens with a chorus, reminiscent of the Greek theatre. The chorists sometimes take part in the action, but usually they merely interpret the action to the audience. The play opens with a meeting of the patriarchs to select a husband for the Virgin Mary. Joseph is selected and mon in communities settled by the

Movie Sidelights

By Associated Press

THE late Harry Houdini was the man who christened Joseph Francis Keaton "Buster," the latter's father says. Joe and Myra Keaton and Houdini were traveling in a tent show in Kansas, when the infant fell down a flight of stairs. "What a Buster!" Houdini exclaimed, and the baby became "Buster Keaton."

HARRY LACHMOND, internationally-known American painter, three of whose pictures hang in the Paris Luxembourg Museum, has given up painting to become the business manager of the Rex Ingram Company in Europe.

OSCAR F. MORGAN, former sergeant in a company of infantry once commanded by Irene Rich's husband in Hawaii, says Miss Rich was an excellent rifle shot in those days before she had even dreamed of a movie career.

ALL records for the making of screen tests were shattered recently

coming of the Messiah, but they are circumscribed each time by the angel Michael.

Lucifer, in some versions of the play, offers comedy relief because of his long tail, which is sometimes made of fire-crackers. As his plans are finally frustrated a stagehand touches a match to his tail and he vanishes in a cloud of sulphurous and thunderous smoke. The old miracle play stage frequently had a hell to one side of it, a trap door, or a large fenchel head, into which the defeated villain vanished. Many of the presentations of "Los Pastores" preserve this by dropping Lucifer through a trap door through which red smoke rises.

Mail Service Is Resumed At Shediac

SHEDIAC, Dec. 7.—After the terrific northeaster which began early yesterday had cleared up early this morning several owners of motor cars, which had been abandoned on the highway between Shediac and Moncton, towed them home or to garages. The motorists had thrilling experiences before they abandoned the cars, but fortunately they were able to find shelter at the homes of residents.

MAILS AWAY

The first mails for Buctouche, Cocagne, etc., on the north, and for Shediac on the east, since last Saturday noon, left Shediac this afternoon, it having been found impossible to force cars or teams through the furious storm. The gale last night at one time

GAIETY FAIRVILLE

WED. and THUR.

"OLD LOVES AND NEW"

With Lewis Stone, Barbara Bedford, Tully Marshall

Based on E. M. Holt's Celebrated Novel

"THE DESERT HEALER"

Those hillmen who had known him as The Desert Healer were now to find him the desert killer.

The drama of the man who dared for the love of daring—and the woman who dared for love.

"HOLD YOUR HAT"

Melville Comedy

TO IMPROVE CHURCH MUSIC

A movement has been started to raise the standard of music in the Church of England to a higher degree of purity and simplicity. Speaking on the subject recently, Bishop West-Watson said: "Some of our hymns are weak and merrymaking, and Jesus, Lord of My Soul," which was popular with the English troops, could be taken as an example. It was found that the theme was almost too personal to be sung about in public." The Bishop added that the hymn sung to another tune had a different force and meaning, and that some other hymns had weak words and worthy tunes.

Queen Square-Today

AL CHRISTIE'S LAUGH SPECIAL

MARIE PREVOST

UP IN MABEL'S ROOM

with HARRISON FORD & PHYLLIS HAYER

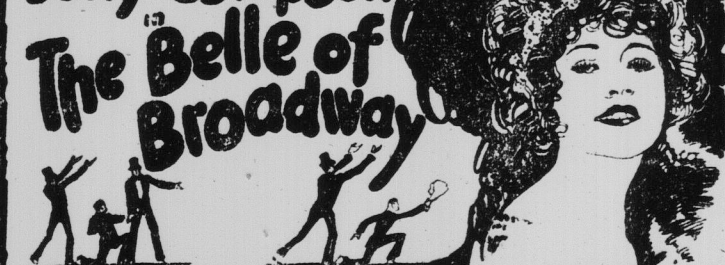
A Farce of Frantic Husbands, A Laugh Riot of Rivals—You'll Whoop, Holler and Roar When You See What Happens Up in Mabel's Room.

Matinee 2.30 10c, 15c, 25c

Evening 7.00, 8.45 25c

OPERA HOUSE - TONIGHT ONLY

At 7.00 and 8.45



OPERA HOUSE - STARTING TOMORROW

LEON ERROL with DOROTHY GISH

And NITA NALDI in

CLOTHES MAKE THE PIRATE

PRICES

Matinee 10c, 15c, 25c

Nights

Lower Floor and Balcony, 25c

Gallery, 15c

Captain Kidd and O' Morgan joined the Boy Scouts when Errol went to sea.

He was so tough, his pet goldfish jumped overboard and tried to pick a fight with a shark because one day Leon frowned at it.

A Real National Picture

Palace

WED. and THUR.

Thrills!

Wild horses. Wild steers. Wild men. Cowboys. Cowgirls. Bronco-busting. Bull-dogging. Hurdle-racing. Steeplechasing. Stolen locomotives. And the great Pendleton Round-up—greater Rodeo Show on Earth. "UNDER WESTERN SKIES" has nothing else but thrills

Drama!

Bankers and business men against ranchers and farmers. Dudes and tenderfeet against cowboys and bronco-busters. Dollars against courage. Hate, envy and greed against love and honor. "UNDER WESTERN SKIES" is tense with human interest drama.

Love and Romance!

A fop of fashion gives a fortune for a kiss. A millionaire works as a farmhand for the girl he loves. A tenderfoot breaks a wild horse while the girl he loves looks on. Love and romance is interwoven through every foot of "UNDER WESTERN SKIES."

You'll enjoy every minute of this great two-in-one heart-throb drama.

"UNDER WESTERN SKIES"

starring dashing NORMAN KERRY

"THE STEEPLE CHASER"

Imperial Comedy

Imperial Comedy

Imperial Comedy

Imperial Comedy

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