

# AT THE THEATRES

**"The Garden of Allah."**  
The biggest thing scenically ever attempted upon the stage is what is said about "The Garden of Allah," which will be at the Princess Theatre all next week. The play is a dramatization of the novel of the same name by Robert Hichens. The locale is the Desert of Sahara and its environs to the north. Briefly told, the story deals with a Trappist monk who becomes weary of the monastery and yields to his natural inclinations. He wanders off into Morocco and its environs, and at a dance hall in Blisville meets and falls in love with a wanderer like himself, but one of the female persuasion, who confesses that she is half a gypsy. He constitutes himself her protector, which eventually leads to their love and marriage. Their adventures in the desert and the final discovery by the wife that her husband is a monk who has broken his vows to the church — her renunciation and his return to the monastery — form a story of absorbing interest. "The Garden of Allah" is costly and elaborate in its pictorial effects. Its pictures of the Orient, its camels, horses and other animals of the desert, its melange of Eastern peoples as well as Occidentals, its views of the desert and its luxuriant gardens, are fascinating and far in advance of anything ever attempted heretofore upon the stage. The cast of players includes Sarah Tuxas, Lawson Butt, John Blair, Florence Lester, Antonio Salemo, Frank Kingston, William Jeffrey and 200 others.

**Stratford-on-Avon Players.**  
A company of fifty trained actors, headed by the most experienced and scholarly producer of Shakespeare in the world, will be seen by lovers of the theatre when Mr. F. R. Benson brings his Stratford-on-Avon Players to the Princess Theatre on October 22nd. For a quarter of a century Mr. Benson has been director of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre, the most beautiful playhouse in England, and has arranged the annual festivals which attract tourists from all parts of the world. The member of a family of distinguished theologians and literary men, including his uncle, the late Archbishop of Canterbury, he has devoted his life to the highest interests of the drama. He began his career as a student at Oxford by producing Greek tragedies at the university, and won such success as an

actor and producer that he was invited by Sir Henry Irving to join the Lyceum forces. After two seasons he became an actor-manager on his own account and is credited with having done more than any man of his time to interest the people of England in the greatest of poets. His capacity for making classic plays live is remarkable and nearly all the good actors of England have graduated from his companies.

**"Oh I Say."**  
Interest should be manifested in the forthcoming engagement of "Oh I Say," the musical farce in three acts from the French of Keroul and Barre, announced for one week at the Alexandra Theatre, beginning Monday, Sept. 29th, with the usual Thursday and Saturday matinees. The production when originally presented in London and Paris made a sensational hit and it is believed that the American organizations with its musical equipment as arranged by Sidney Blow and Douglas Hoare, while the music is by Jerome D. Kern.

**"The Firefly."**  
Captivating Little Emma Trentlin in the record-breaking Casino Theatre (N.Y.) success, "The Firefly," will be presented by Mr. Arthur Hammerstein at the Alexandra Theatre week of October 6th.  
"The Firefly" tells the story of an east side street singer (Miss Trentlin) who, thru peculiar circumstances, is yachting party which, as the story opens, is about to start on a cruise from New York to Bermuda.

at once so peaceful and so bracing, together with the genuine touch of nature, which makes the whole world kin, serves to enhance its every feature and to bring the audience into the closest relations with both the player and the production. The cast is practically the same as last season. Some of the company have been in the cast for many years. Mr. Frank Thompson, son of Mr. Denman Thompson, for many years has had the management and direction of the detail accounts in no small way for the merited success of this beautiful idyl of New England.

**At the Star.**  
Don't wait for someone to tell you how good a show the "Dolly Dimple Girls" Company is, but go and see it yourself. The cast is a very strong one and made up of the leading stars of the vaudeville and burlesque field. Most prominent may be mentioned: J. Theodore Murphy, Cole and Warder, Wm. H. Smith, Ford and Forrest, May Burns, Jack Shutter, Gloria Martine, Jack Shutter, Gloria Martine. Two original burlesques will be seen, entitled "In Atlantic City" and "The Trail of the Underworld." Pop and prices, and a good show will prevail. Special feature: Living Models, "September Morn."

**At the Gayety.**  
Get in line this morning for seats at the Gayety Theatre for the "Behman Show," which will be here all week. Jack Singer brings the best shows ever under his management, and that is "going some," as Singer never had a bad show. This season's cast includes such names as Lew Kelly (Stand still, Roger), (Prof. Dope), Fred Wycoff (The Mayor of Tanktown), Leon Henschel, Vic Clumore, George Douglas, Eileen Sheridan, Freda Florence, Amata Pynes, Laura Hayden, Gertrude Lynch and Martelle. Don't miss the "Behman Show" whatever you do.

**Big Week at Shea's.**  
Manager Shea will offer patrons of Shea's Theatre another big bill next week. Heading the list is the Toronto favorite and comedy entertainer, Billy B. Van, with the Beaumont sisters and a clever company, presenting the one-act musical comedy, "Prop." The scene is laid on the stage at the time of rehearsal on Monday morning and Mr. Van names the place as the stage of the Gayety Theatre at Podunk. An audience is always interested in what is going on behind the scenes and Mr. Van and his company give a lively travesty of the doings on the bare stage. The comedians appear as the property man and the members of his company represent the stage manager, the headliner, played by Nellie Beaumont and last, but not

least, clever Rose Beaumont, as the scrubwoman's daughter. Assisting Mr. Van and the Beaumont sisters are Jack McIntyre, Ed Doremus, and Nat. Whitestone.

As a special extra attraction on the bill for the week, Manager Shea has secured Frank Hale and Signa Patterson, American tango dancers, who come to Shea's Theatre direct from the Folies Marigny, Paris. These agile and clever young people have been playing all summer in Paris.

Another welcome feature of the week's bill is Willis Holt Wakefield, who sings her own songs in her own inimitable way, as she plays her own accompaniment. Miss Wakefield's personality is radiant and she never fails to impress her audience. She is a favorite in Toronto and her welcome will be warm.

Kadyana, the Japanese handwriting expert, who was here last season, will be seen again this week. This little man of the Sumire Kingdom has an offering that is full of interest. Appearing in his native costume, Kadyana is graceful and fascinating and the act is one that Shogers will be glad to see again.

James H. Cullen is the man from the west, a popular monologist, with a jovial personality and budget of songs, stories and parodies with which to entertain. The musical Johnsons have not been seen in Toronto for several seasons and their xylophone music is always welcome. Montague's comedy picture will be shown by the first time. The birds are trained to do all sorts of entertaining stunts, closing their act with a scene called "Fighting the Flames." A new comedy picture will be shown by the kinetograph to close the show.

Musical Director Augustus Naumann has prepared a special performance to be played by Shea's Theatre orchestra before each performance this week. These fifteen-minute concerts are regarded as part of the entertainment at Shea's each week.

**Mme. Melba's Concert.**  
In Mme. Melba's girlhood she became an expert in the art of whistling, an accomplishment which she later put to use when studying operatic roles. This attainment was supposed to be peculiarly shocking to the sentiments of her Presbyterian school teachers, a fact of which small Nellie was quick to take advantage of by whistling popular airs from one end of the house to the other. Often by way of variety, her small schoolmates would cluster round her and say, "And now, Nellie, make that funny noise that you hear when you whistle." The earliest appreciation of the natural trill, for which she subsequently has become so famous.

On October 7 (Tuesday) she is to be assisted by Edmund Burke, the Canadian baritone; M. Marcel Moyes, the famous flautist, who plays with Mme. Melba are celebrated, and M. Gabriel Lapierre, accompanist. The next sale will be opened on Wednesday, October 1st, on which date the mail orders already sent in will be filled and the plan will be open to the public.

A striking innovation that will be received with much appreciation by musical people is announced by Dr. Albert Ham at the first full rehearsal of the National Chorus of Toronto, on Monday evening. He has decided to introduce a small choir of boys with highly trained voices at the January concert, in Gluck's "Cherubim Song." In a fine double choir that he has added to the list already published. This is by Gounod, and will give the chorus a fine opportunity to display its great vocal qualities. Its title is "Lo, the Children of the Hebrews," a theme for which Gounod confessed he had a great sympathy, and is full of the dynamic effects for which he is noted.

The rehearsal showed the chorus to be of even greater strength than last year, and in all round splendid shape, the already fine basso section having been added to in order that the extreme low written notes of the Russian capella music should receive adequate rendering. Especially interesting was the number "Jubilate Amen," by Max Bruch, and the addition of Mme. Marie Rappold as soprano soloist at the January concert will give it added interest. The rehearsal will be held weekly for the balance of the season.

**Arthur Friedheim.**  
The announcement that Arthur Friedheim, the great pianist will give one of his famous recitals at Massey Music Hall, as the second attraction in the Gilmore Course on Thursday evening, Oct. 9, will be received with satisfaction by music lovers. On this occasion, Mr. Friedheim will give an entirely new program, which in scope and variety has never been equalled in Toronto. For many years he has been recognized as one of the prominent figures in his profession. Certain it is that as an interpreter of Liszt, he has no equal, and it is doubtful if he can be said to have any superiors in his rendering of the works of Chopin, Mendelssohn and Rubenstein. As a student under the latter, he acquired a thorough knowledge of the great composer's style, while his many years as the close companion of Liszt, gave him a deep insight into that great master's conceptions of his own works, and also of the great musicians who were his contemporaries.

**SAILOR HELD UP.**  
KINGSTON, Sept. 26.—(Special).—The second hold-up to occur on Swift's Wharf in a few weeks took place last night. When about to go on board his vessel, William Offord, a sailor, was attacked by three men. Two held his arms, while the other went thru his pockets, relieving him of \$15 and a watch.

**Pianos to Rent.**  
Good pianos to rent on application to Ye Olde Firme Heinzelman & Co., Limited, 193-195-197 Yonge street, Toronto, phone Main 5587.

**EDMONTON'S NEW LOAN.**  
LONDON, Sept. 26.—(C. A. P.)—Arrangements are proceeding for an issue of City of Edmonton 5 per cent. bonds for \$2,000,000 at 98. The price is three points below the present quotation of the 5 per cent. sterling bonds for a little over a million. Issued in April last at 100%, Edmonton, last year, raised £600,000 in 4½ debentures at 99½, and now issues a 5 per cent. loan at 4 per cent. discount, which proves low municipal rates all over the world have to realize the tightening of London's purse strings.

**Popular Saturday Afternoon Excursion.**  
The Niagara Navigation Company will run a popular afternoon trip across the lake, Saturday, September 27th, at 2.00 p.m. at the low rate of 50c for the round trip. No doubt many will take advantage of the last September half-holiday for a delightful boat ride. Tickets at office, 46 Yonge street or Yonge street dock, 55

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## DEMIMONDAINE DIES IN AN OPIUM DEN

Place Was Frequented by People of Good Position, Police Assert.

PARIS, Sept. 26.—A sensation has been caused by police discoveries in a villa at Vincennes, a suburb of Paris, where a young demimondaine named Pierrette Fleury was found dead thru an overdose of ether. Circumstances pointed to the place

having been used as an opium den by people of good position, of whom twelve were found on the premises by the police. On Fleury's death became known a large number of others called and were submitted to a searching examination by the police. They include very well-known members of Parisian society and several wealthy foreigners.

## LET AEROPLANE TRAVEL ALONE

PARIS, Sept. 26.—For twenty minutes in a wind exceeding eleven miles an hour an aeroplane, piloted by Moreau, and carrying Naval Lieutenant as a passenger, safely sailed in the air at Melun, the aviator during

the time not having touched one lever or handle in the machine. The aeroplane thus won a prize for automatic stability in a contest which had long been open under the management of the National Aerial League. The machine got into winds blowing over forty miles an hour and rolled so much that the officer often shouted to the aviator to give up the contest and seize his levers, but Moreau steadily refused to touch anything. The aeroplane righted itself every time and he won the prize.

**MAKES NINTH VICTIM.**  
QUEBEC, Sept. 26.—(Can Press).—Mrs. Ulric Trudel died this morning from burns received last night in the fire in which eight of her children perished.

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