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AT THE THEATRES

At the Princess.

"The Golden Butterfly."
Reginald De Koven showed considerable of his old time "form," musically viewed, in his opera, "The Golden Butterfly," which was sung last night at the Princess before a large and delighted audience. It was as if the composer of "Robin Hood" had come to life again with that merry tunelessness which distinguished the light opera which first gave him relatively undying fame.

There is nothing to an opera, unless like the standard in this style, namely, Gilbert & Sullivan's, it is a shock full of haunting melodies and evocative harmonies. In this respect, "The Golden Butterfly" is really superb, and the composer's sense of light opera who have missed for several years in the hodge-podge of productions which have appropriated the name but contain none of its substance, will find in "The Golden Butterfly" something which will bring back old memories and delight the ear.

Mrs. Van Studdiford, as Irma, the heroine, so to speak, of the opera, was a delightful throat. She has a fine part, and displayed remarkable vocal powers, singing all the while with purity of tone and a notable sweetness, even in the most difficult passages. Carl Haydon, a Toronto favorite, as Franz, lover of Irma, displayed a finished tenor voice, and acted his role with common sense, Charlotte Lee, as Tina, Irma's prima donna, was in excellent voice and proved a capable actress, and Harry MacDonough, as always, sang the old MacDonough songs, when he was first seen in comic opera, a genuine fun maker. And the two Novato sisters won just admiration for their pretty ballad dancing.

As to special "hits," Miss Van Studdiford was at her best in "Don't Forget Me," and her duet with Carl Haydon, "In Paris." Harry MacDonough was repeatedly recalled for his clever song with chorus, "The Man About Town," and for a song and chorus, with unique electric effects, "Butterfly and Clover," sung by Irma (Miss Van Studdiford) and company, is the cleverest novelty yet seen here in opera. "The Bottle Imp" was, too, (Carl Haydon and company) was in its way effective, and inimitable. The comic band, especially the midge George Edwards, created an immense amount of pure fun. If you want to have an evening of unusual music mixed with considerable comedy, you will get it from "The Golden Butterfly," all this week at the Princess.

Royal Alexandra

"Billy" a Breezy Comedy.

One of the brightest and breeziest of comedies is "Billy," produced at the Royal Alexandra last night. The motive is simple enough, but the ingenious display in its development leads to many truly amusing situations, worked out in a vein of genuine comedy. Then the hero owes his distinction to a play which is a story everything depends on the players. In this instance these were all excellent. The result was a constant ripple of laughter, broken frequently by the real healthy laughter that can only be elicited when the art of the dramatist

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finds sufficient reproduction. Judging from the more than cordial approval of the audience, "Billy" will make good in Toronto, as it thoroughly deserves to do.

Billy is a college of Pennsylvania University, who in the decisive contest of the year has lost four front teeth. He is unduly sensitive and round his disinclination to reveal the true nature of his injuries hangs the comedy. It is intensely funny, just the thing to drive dull care away, and the plot is admirably sustained by the lively company that will present it to-day and to-morrow.

The company is of all-round excellence and every one reveals real grasp of character. Edgar Atchison-Ely, as Billy, showed true art in a role which, with undue exaggeration, would have destroyed the story. Miss Jane Marbury as his sister revealed exceptional ability and Mrs. Stuart Robson again showed herself a thoroughly capable artist. But, taken all over, the company is one that gives a thoroughly enjoyable evening's entertainment.

"Billy" is only a three-night stand and closes on Wednesday evening. It is most artistically staged and those who like an evening's enjoyment full of fun and laughter could not do better than visit the Royal Alexandra either to-night or Wednesday evening.

Grand.

"In the Bishop's Carriage."

Thru the various thrilling adventures that beset her in the carriage and later at the home of Bishop von Geman, a large audience last night followed Nance Olden, the principal character of "In the Bishop's Carriage," at the Grand, with such breathless interest and warm and ardent sympathy and such obvious delight, that it was some time before the triumph scored by Miss Stephanie Longwell in the part of Nance, the little girl thief, who is brought to the Grand, by the strength of her love for a good man, was simply overwhelming. She gave a splendid characterization of the part and showed real power both as a comedienne and an emotional actress. Nothing more delicious than her treatment of the lighter scenes could well be imagined. And in the later passages she acted with a tender pathos and sweet serenity quite beautiful.

The story of the play is as unique as it is charming. Nance being as orphaned child, she is taken in by a French heeler, has just added her pal, Tom Dorgan, to lift a watch from a bibulous old gentleman at the railway depot, and finds herself in imminent danger of arrest. She conceives the daring idea of disguising herself under the bosom of an elegant New York lady in the ladies' waiting room, she takes a beautiful red cloak from a peg on the wall and putting it on walks elegantly and nonchalantly into the street. There she finds herself under the fire of a pair of sharp eyes belonging to a well-known detective. She plunges into a waiting carriage to throw the sleuth off the scent. She intends, of course, to jump out again as soon as the detective leaves, but he lingers and before Nance can escape, the bishop, who is the owner of the brougham, comes up. He mistakes the little thief for a niece and carries her off home with him. Thus plunged suddenly into the bosom of an elegant New York family, little Nance is at first transported with the fun of the situation. Then she begins to have a headache over the difference between herself and the gentlefolk by whom she is surrounded. Next she wins the love of Latimer, a wealthy lawyer, and after she loses her own heart to him her redemption is complete.

As before remarked, Miss Longwell plays the character of the thief in the

first part in an interesting manner, and later makes an adorable little sweetheart.

Majestic.

Willis Holt Wakefield's Drawing Room

A cultured and talented woman entertaining her friends in her own drawing-room. That is the impression you carry away of Willis Holt Wakefield at the Majestic this week. There are all too few such acts in vaudeville. Miss Wakefield sits at the piano and sings and recites her own songs. The songs are of that delightfully quaint and quiet humor which won fame for Eugene Field and Whitcomb Riley. The act is so quiet that no storm of applause follows her exit for several seconds until you realize that she is gone and long to have her back. The feature is a warm and friendly intimacy which makes you personally wish for her success.

Willard Clarke & Co. have Mr. Clark's whirlwind of mirth, "What Will Happen Next?" It is absolutely the best one-act farce that has been woven about the hiding of the other woman by a reprobate husband. Clarke himself is a scream from start to finish and the business thrust is merrier itself.

Young and sister is a juggling act. The man is one of the "three try" jugglers. He nearly always does the trick on the third attempt. The sister certainly can throw a ball and makes no mistake. The Jackson Family have the best bicycle act that has been seen in these parts. These many moons, there are a lot of them and they are all clever. Healey and Mealey are acrobats with an elaborate set and some amazing business.

"The Winsome Woman," Josephine Davis, is an average singer of average songs. A little less make-up, please, with the xylophone, certainly a wonder.

J. F. Clark, Irish monologist, has a funny face and several good stories, but someone here seems to know that nice people do not like being gazed upon from the stage. It is not done outside the burlesque houses.

Shea's.

Wonderful Acrobats.

The nine "Eight Killings" at Shea's this week are a revelation in acrobatics. Something along all the lines they attempt has been seen here before, but never such a perfect combination of comedy stunts, all neatly and cleanly executed, and welded into a perfect whirl of fun and wonder. This troupe is far and away ahead of anything in foot-balancing like their work that has come this way, and everything else they do is in a line with this branch of their work.

Clayton White and Marie Stuart are here again with the best of all slang plays. It is the same old comedy which only when these two come to town to pull off. There is the same old "business" with the hat and the sugar bowl, and these two queer fish with these two queer fish, in a million of ways, and have lots left over for many seasons.

Belle Blanche is some imitator. She shows you a lot of things that you have seen before and does it so well that you do not know whether to admire imitator or imitate the more. Miss Lyle, in her novel comedy, "Juggling Stunt," in a Billiard Room, has something as new as it is clever, and that is saving something. It is in that way just what the acrobatic performance of the Killings is in their different line.

Joe Carrillo, newspaperman turned minstrel, has the best Chinese dialect that has been heard in this city. He is old town outside of that served up by the Chinks themselves. His stories are his. His dago dialect talk is also good.

Eveline Francisco's animal act is the big thing with the little folks, and many of the features are new. It comes in several days, and includes a dog, a cat, a monkey, and a donkey, as "The Five Friends."

Gayety.

Clever Burlesque.

There may be a sameness about the general run of burlesque as has often been remarked, but a few of the lighter theatricals will find two or three distinguishing features embodied in the Gayety bill this week. One of them is Billy Hart, who is a comedian which is handsome and clever individually and collectively, and the other is a family of jugglers. Jugglers have become almost as common as wine walking or tumbling, but there is no reason to be bored by the Pirocosco family of jugglers. They are easily the topnotchers in the juggling business.

Billy Hart, with the aid of a Scotch and a Jew comedian, has some funny stunts, but the chorus provided for the really attractive part of the show. All the girls are graceful and handsome, and can dance some.

Star.

The Frolicsome Lambs.

The cleverest troupe of Japanese athletes that has ever been seen on a Toronto stage is at the Star Theatre this week. There are five of them; all "grown-ups," the supplest, slickest and cleanest aggregation one would wish to see. They handle their feet with a nimbleness and delicacy that a cat, creeping up on a mouse in the hay mow, displays with its paws. They juggle adroitly with their feet, manipulating anything from a feather-weight parasol to a miniature grand piano.

This act furnishes merely a climax to a bevy of highly meritorious vaudeville stunts in this week's olio. A great novelty in comedy bicycle riding is presented by a troupe of three, a father and two wee children. The parent, himself, is a huge treat in burlesque; but the star of his company is this tiny baby boy, called "Chick."

Quirk and Nickerson, instrumentalists, are brilliant exponents of very fine harmonic and temperamental melody.

Souza To-Day.

John Philip Souza will, as usual, appear with his distinguished band of musicians and celebrated soloists at the Massey Hall, this afternoon at 2:30 and evening at 8:15.

While the seats have been extremely encouraging, choice seats may still be had for the local concert. Souza has prepared two splendid programs, and his three soloists, Misses Frances and Grace Hoyt, soprano, and Miss Florence Hardman, violinist, are most attractive.

Kitty Grey Next Week.

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to win his sincere appreciation not every woman knows.

The only way is to buy where none but the best is sold.

The least expensive gift we sell is bound to please because all our goods are selected for the best dressers in Canada.

Refined Vaudeville.

A refined vaudeville bill that includes many redeeming features is offered at the Argus-street Theatre this week. The show pleased four large audiences yesterday. Heading the bill is Zeno and Zoa, the "hobo" contortionist and the lady tumbler, whose work received commendable endorsement.

Score's Holiday Display.

Holiday time is right on us. Holiday shopping will begin in good earnest almost any day. "My Lady," amongst others, is puzzled after her brain what to buy as a gift for the gentleman, be it son, brother, husband, father or sweetheart. A store like R. Score and Son's, the King-street West Tailors and Hobblers, with its wealth of useful things in men's wear can settle many a knotty gift-giving question, and this week "The House that Quality Built" is making its first special big display of high-class imported haberdashery, especially suitable as "Christmas Boxes" for the gentlemen.

FARMING MOST DANGEROUS

25 Killed and 40 Hurt in October in Rural Pursuits.

OTTAWA, Dec. 6.—(Special.)—The following is the list of industrial accidents for October, compiled by the labor department.

Trade or Industry. Killed. Injured.

Agriculture. 25 40

Fishing and Hunting. 7 2

Lumbering. 3 2

Mining. 4 12

Building trades. 5 23

Metal trades. 19 47

Woodworking trades. 1 10

Printing trades. 0 0

Clothing trades. 0 2

Textile trades. 0 0

Food and tobacco preparation. 0 7

Leather trades. 1 1

Railway services. 28 44

Transportation. 2 16

Civic employees. 3 19

Miscellaneous. 6 27

Unskilled labor. 6 15

Total. 146 293

EXPERIMENTAL UNION

Annual Meeting is Now in Progress at Guelph.

GUELPH, Dec. 6.—(Special.)—The 31st annual meeting of the Ontario Experimental Union opened this morning at 10 o'clock.

J. O. Laird of Benham is president, and delivered his address, noting the growth of the union from a few men into the big provincial organization with its 4866 co-operators.

The work of the union along experimental lines with cereals and legumes was illustrated by Prof. C. A. Zavitz, who reported with regard to Ontario's forestry work.

The hotels are crowded with visitors for the fat stock show, which will be in full swing to-morrow.

\$10.00 New York and Return—Last Excursion This Year.

Via Lehigh Valley Railroad, from Suspension Bridge, Thursday, December 9th, tickets good 10 days. Particulars, No. 54 King-street East, Toronto, Ont.

C. N. R. RIGHT OF WAY

Company Applies for Expropriation Across Three Farms.

Before Judge Denton yesterday the Canadian Northern Railway applied for the right of way of the right of way of its Toronto-Ottawa line across three farms in the riding of East York.

Mrs. W. E. H. Massey was offered \$100 for the right of way, but she claims that the railway will destroy the property and the court will fix the damages. William Harris was offered \$300 for 3.57 acres. These values are not considered sufficient by the owners.

The hearing was adjourned.

Baby Among Planes.

We are used to associating the name of a plane with the big instrument used at concerts, which is too large for the ordinary drawing room. Helzmann & Co. have turned out a size suitable for dwellings. This small grand is a musical product of wonderful power and possibilities. Its simple and sympathetic touch and its delicate and refined expression stir the enthusiasm of everyone possessed of the love of music. The case is a masterpiece in piano making, and makes a beautiful piece of furniture.

Reduced Rates for Christmas and New Year.

Tickets will be on sale at C. P. R. ticket offices at all stations in Canada, Buffalo, etc., at single fare, good going Friday and Saturday, Dec. 12 and 25, good to return Monday, Dec. 27, and also Friday and Saturday, Dec. 31 and January 1, 1910, to return Monday, January 3, 1910. Tickets at fare and one-third will be on sale Dec. 21 to 25, and Dec. 28 to January 1, 1910, with a final return limit of Wednesday, January 5, 1910. A ticket by the Canadian Pacific assures a comfortable Christmas journey.

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IN SOCIETY.

Mrs. Frank H. Stark and Miss Kerr, 155 Collier-street, will not receive until the New Year.

Miss J. Jarvis Kennedy, 113 Rushmore-road, will not receive until the second Tuesday in January.

Mrs. Philip Snowden was the guest of the medical alumnae at a reception and luncheon in McCloskey's Cafe yesterday, when she was presented with a beautiful bouquet of crimson roses.

The reception was held in the Turkish room and the dinner in the pink room. The toast to the guest was proposed by Dr. Augusta Stowe Gullen, honorary president, and responded to by President Dr. Rowena Hume. At the head table were Mrs. Snowden, Dr. Rowena Hume, Dr. Augusta Stowe Gullen, Lady Galloway, Mrs. Margaret Jackson, Mrs. Falconer, Mrs. Flora MacDermott, and Mrs. Rutherford.

Among the artists who will take part in the musicals arranged by Miss Patricia Brazill at the Women's Art Association this week are the following: Mr. Hollingshead, tenor; Edgar Trio (violin, cello, piano); Miss Shayne, reader; Miss Dickenson, guitar soloist; Miss Ryan, pianist; Miss Brazill, mandolinist.

Under the patronage of his honor the lieutenant-governor and an address was made by the Toronto Society, Miss Charles Spencer gave a recital in Association Hall last evening which in the diversity of the program presented and the encores accorded her was artistically a success. As usual the lighter pieces found most favor, but the recital was a whole which made each distinct. Three poems with musical accompaniment were a striking feature. The last was patriotic and new, and, being the occasion, by Owen A. Smyth, and entitled "The Girl of Canada," and as the title might imply it was popular.

Mr. Arthur D. Brown will receive for the first time in her new home, at Lynwood-avenue, College Heights, on Thursday, Dec. 9, and afterwards on the first Friday of the months following.

TORONTO SLOW TO BEAUTIFY

Hon. S. H. Blake Says Rio Puts it All Over Us.

Hon. S. H. Blake, K.C., gave an informal talk on South America last night to the Wycliffe Association of Laymen in Wycliffe College. About 100 of the younger business men of the city were present.

Mr. Blake's address was devoted mainly to a description of the marvelous development of the natural beauties of the City of Rio, gathered during his visit last summer to his daughter, Miss Mackenzie.

He drew a strong comparison between the use the citizens of the Brazilian capital had made of the religious advantages and the way Torontonians are losing their chances of beautifying their city. He mentioned especially the magnificent esplanade, which has recently been constructed at great expense in the South American city.

In conclusion he spoke of the formal election of the religious life of the southern continent, and the need of aggressive missionary effort there.

New Hospital for St. Kitts.

ST. CATHARINES, Dec. 6.—(Special.)—Council to-night decided to submit a by-law to the ratepayers at the January election to authorize a grant of \$15,000 to the trustees of the General Marine Hospital towards the erection of a new \$15,000 hospital. A request for \$10,000 for repairs to the Collegiate Institute was again laid over.

Christmas is Coming

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Four trains leave Toronto for New York at 7:45 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m., and 7:10 p.m., running over the Canadian Pacific-New York Central 4-track route direct to the Grand Central Depot, New York City. This is the only line entering New York City, and gives the fastest service to New York. Through sleepers on the 5:30 p.m. and 7:10 p.m. trains. Berths, etc., city ticket office, corner King and Yonge-streets. Phone Main 6580.

Art Planes.

Nowadays there are so many styles of pianos. To get a really good idea of the different designs, one should visit the showrooms of the Canadian Pacific-New York Central 4-track route direct to the Grand Central Depot, New York City. This is the only line entering New York City, and gives the fastest service to New York. Through sleepers on the 5:30 p.m. and 7:10 p.m. trains. Berths, etc., city ticket office, corner King and Yonge-streets. Phone Main 6580.

Quackenbush in Tolls Again.

BRANTFORD, Dec. 6.—(Special.)—Following the arrest in Toronto recently of Bert Gilet, charged with house-breaking, Harry Quackenbush was arrested here to-day. The Toronto police found a letter from Quackenbush in Gilet's possession intimating that in a short time everything would be ready for a job in Brantford. Quackenbush is a Toronto jail-breaker.

Liquor Tobacco Habits

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