

CANADIAN ACTOR JOINS THE COLORS

Malcolm Owen, Native of Montreal, Leaves The Stage

SKETCH OF TOM WISE

W. S. Harkins Abandons Stock in Montreal - Boer War Veteran as Comedian - "Peg o' My Heart's" Anniversary

Another actor of rare ability, Malcolm Owen, who has just closed a sixty weeks' engagement with the Hyperton Players, New Haven, Conn., is to go to the front with the British army. Mr. Owen is a Canadian by birth, and has appeared before the public in the states for the past seven years. He is twenty-five years old, and has had a wide experience in both musical and dramatic productions. He appeared for two seasons with Mont H. Singer, of Chicago, and Harry Bulger in musical comedy. Later with Margaret Anglin in "Green Stockings," and Lydia Gilmore playing the juvenile leads, a season as the son in "Madame X," and twenty weeks with William A. Brady's "Over Night" in 1913-1914. He played thirty-three weeks in "Madame X," and has the record of appearing for more consecutive performances as the son in that piece than any other performer. His stock experience began with Lee Baker in Minneapolis; later he appeared in stock in "Yonkers, Philadelphia, Keitt's Greenpoint, Brooklyn; with Come Payton in his short-lived stock engagement at the Park Theatre, New York, two seasons ago, and finally with the Pell forces. S. Z. Poll says an engagement was always open to Mr. Owen at the Poll office. Mr. Owen is at his former home in Montreal, at present with his mother, and will leave for England soon.

W. S. Harkins has given up a stock engagement at His Majesty's, Montreal, and returned to New York. Business was very poor. The first production of the season to be made by Klaw and Erlanger, in association with George C. Tyler, will be a dramatization of Eleanor H. Porter's novel, "Folly." The stage version has been made by Catherine Childholm Cushing. The first performance will take place at the Blackstone Theatre in Chicago early in August. Wilmut Young, who played a lengthy engagement here last spring, is now at his summer home in Mesquite, N. Y. He plans to begin his season in the early fall, and has secured several new plays, including "Get-Rich-Quick Wallingford," "The Lion and the Mouse," "Such a Little Queen," "The Naked Truth," "The Mercy of Thibault," "All-of-a-Sudden Peggy," and others. A new farce-comedy in three acts, entitled "Good Intentions, But," the joint work of Eden Greville and Kate Woolsey, is to be produced in New York during the coming season. The scenes of the play are laid in Washington, D. C. Empire Musical Comedians.

A Boer war veteran, Dick Stead, is the leading comedian in "The Stead Musical Comedy Co." booked for an indefinite engagement at the Opera House. He is an Australian by birth, but after serving in the Boer war, where he was wounded, he went into the English "alls and created quite a popular impression for several years. He has been playing through the States with this company for some time—in fact they have had a steady series of engagements for three years. Mr. Stead writes his own songs, and sings them well, besides being an all-around actor in that he directs his own mechanical effects, and scenic and electrical settings. Beatrice Miller is going down with the company. Ollie Perkins, coubrette and danseuse, and there is also a funny vocal quartette. The engagement should prove popular. Laurette Taylor celebrated her one thousandth performance as Peg in "Peg o' My Heart" recently at the Globe Theatre, London. With the possible exception of "Folash and Prentner," the play has scored the biggest success of the London season. It is thought she will soon close, according to a letter from her last week. "The latest news is that in the near future the theatres in London will all be closed. I learned this on applying at the Carlton for permission to give a dance. They told me that a license could be obtained for dancing only up to 2 a. m., that the authorities wished everyone to be home these nights

and that presently, owing to the likelihood of Zeppelin raids, it is the intention to close all places of amusement."

The engagement of the Orpheum Players at the Opera House this week in three different plays, found favor with quite a number of people, who appreciate the merits of this talented company and the pleasing standard of plays presented. They gave a thoroughly finished presentation of "The Mills of the Gods" a drama of heavy scenes, and then jumped quickly into the lighter realm of comedy with "Mrs. Temple's Telegram" and "The Lottery of Love," tonight, demonstrating versatile ability in both. The action of Manager McKay of the Opera House and Manager Howson of the company in sharing the proceeds from last night's performance with the Soldiers' Tobacco Fund, was keenly appreciated. The company closes its season here.

Encouraged by their recent success at the Bandbox Theatre, the Irish Theatre of America is planning a repertoire season of twenty weeks next year at a Broadway theatre. Whitford Kane and John P. Campbell are the producing directors of the organization.

Annette Kellermann has withdrawn from the cast of the "Ziegfeld Follies of 1915," in which she was to play a principal role, owing to the inauspicious of the setting which Joseph Urban had designed for her swimming and diving act. Thomas A. Wise

An interesting sketch of one who was once a prime favorite in St. John, Tom Wise, who had since been seen on the American stage with much pleasure by local people on visits there, appeared in a recent issue of "Paste-Easy" from the Selwyn Co.

The sketch follows: Thomas A. Wise, who played the role of "Judge Priest" in the dramatization of Irvin Cobb's "Black Horse" stories by Bayard Veiller and Mr. Cobb, at the Spring try-out in Atlantic City has played such a number and variety of parts that it is scarcely possible for you to have been to the theatre as often as once in a blue moon, without having seen some one of his parts he played.

His versatility in the theatre is almost without peer. He has, for example, the distinction of having prepared and put on the largest and most ambitious Lamb's Gambol that has ever been presented at the Century Theatre. This spring, The Gambol made an unprecedented amount of money, and was pronounced in all quarters the finest, completest and most lavish that had ever been attempted. Thomas A. Wise did it. He was co-author of the first play he ever starred in "The Gentleman from Mississippi," and also of "An Old New Yorker," in which he starred two years later at Daly's Theatre. To get round to the parts he has played "The first was a little one in "Lost in New York," one that came very near fitting him, he says, as he hadn't been here from his native England for very long. Then came a whole series which hadn't any great significance beyond boosting him nearer to the point at which he emerged as a Grade A comedian in the leading role of "The Wrong Mr. Wright." That was followed by "Amos Bloodgood" in "Are You a Mason?"—a role in which he stayed for two years. After a few years in musical comedy, riding with a flourish as "Mr. Hook" in "Miss Hook of Holland," he became the co-star of "The Gentleman from Mississippi." "An Old New Yorker" came next, but didn't tarry, and "Mr. Wise made" Broadway again in "The Lights of London" when it was revived at the Lyric Theatre with an all-star cast. He had a play called "Edele Sem" in which he starred in 1911, and another called "Captain Whittaker's Place," and neither of them was so potent to keep him out of vanderbilt the latter part of that same year, when "A Chip of the Old Block" and a record-breaking salary, were offered to him. Two years ago in St. Louis he starred in "The Silver Wedding" and this past

DAVID BISPHAM IN SCREEN PLAY

Will Appear as "Beethoven" in Vitagraph Co's "Adeleide"

OTHER STARS IN FILM

Cyril Scott, Nat Goodwin, Josie Collins and Others—"The Spoilers" a Great Picture - Gossip of Studios

David Bispham, who is well known to music lovers in St. John, has been engaged by the Vitagraph Company to appear as Beethoven in the screen version of the opera, "Adeleide." It is the intention of this company to take the theme of the works of the world's master musician and present them on the screen; in other words, visualizing the thought that the music is meant to convey. In this way, it is hoped, a clearer meaning of the message that the well-known composers, such as Wagner, Beethoven, Schubert, Rossini, Mendelssohn, Grieg, Liszt, and others, have celebrated masters meant to convey to the world.

Mr. Stuart Blackton is giving his personal attention to this plan, and some unusually artistic pictures are promised. Josie Collins on Screen. Josie Collins, a well-known singer and actress, will make her first screen appearance in "The Spoilers," taken from the play of the same name by Douglas Murray, which is to be released soon by the World Film Corporation. Alec. B.

Francis and Dorothy Fairchild will also have prominent parts. As the initial motion picture vehicle for the well-known theatrical star, Cyril Maude, the Oliver Morosco Photoplay Company has selected "As the Years Go By," conceded to be the biggest production ever attempted at the Morosco-Bosworth studios. The drama embraces the world wanderings of a post-souled adventurer and will accordingly present scenes typical of every clime and people. One of the innumerable details taxing the resource of the directors is the special train, which will take a small army of principals and extras to the Imperial Valley for the desert scenes alone.

Mr. Telegen, who has never before appeared on the screen, decided after a most careful survey of the situation that the Lasky Company was the one organization with which he could consent to ally himself. The terms of the contract between Mr. Telegen and the Lasky Company are of such a nature that the distinguished artist will be seen hereafter exclusively in Lasky productions. It is, nevertheless, understood that Mr. Telegen's legitimate engagements are not to be interfered with unduly by the time devoted to photo-dramatic posting. "The Spoilers." St. John "movie" followers enjoyed "The Spoilers" at the Imperial this week. Not often is it found that a multiple reel makes so universally popular an impression as this famous story from the pen of Rex Beach, and very often the

reason is found in that the narrative does not lend itself to film action, no matter how well liked it may have been in book form. In other words it lacks "punch" when placed upon the screen. But with "The Spoilers" it was different. The action and interest were well sustained throughout, and though it was a lengthy showing—possibly too much so, in fact, for it seemed as though the producers could have cut an extra reel or so—the time was unutilized, and the picture commanded attention throughout.

With the older throng of stage-goers in St. John, say of some fifteen years ago, special interest attached to the picture because of Wm. Farnum being in the lead, for there were many who recalled him from Harkins' engagements here. From the record of attendance, St. John, it would seem, will support a special attraction of this kind, and there were many who complimented Manager Golding on his showing, and assured him that other big features in the pictorial field would be as well received.

Nat Goodwin is soon to be seen in moving pictures in a special offering written by Carroll Fleming, called "The Master Hand," to be released on the World Film Corporation programme. Three trained rats play an important part in Essanay's "The Broken Pledge." The rats are used by a party of campers to scare out three girls who are camping near-by, and have taken a pledge never to marry.

The Foundations have been completed in a splendid stone post office building at University City, which, when completed, will be turned over to the United States government. Flora Finch, a Vitagraph star, will give a home warning party in a few days to celebrate the purchasing of a new home in Flatbush.

Antonio Moreno is now working in "Kendrick Square" and "For the Honor of the Crew," in one case being a young man in the stirring times of 1830 and in the other a modern up-to-date member of a college crew.

Robert Edson and a company of players left last week for South Bethlehem, Pa., where the final scenes of "The Cavanaugh" will be filmed in one of the large steel mills.

A "Scott's" Echo. A certain glen in Scotland had the reputation of having a great echo. An English gentleman visited the place, and asked his guide about the echo. "Just about 'Two bottles of whisky,'" said the guide.

The gentleman did as requested, and after waiting for several minutes, he turned to the Scot, and said—"But I do not hear any echo." "Maybe no," chuckled the Scot, "but here's the lassie comin' w' the whisky." Money talks and it doesn't have to use a megaphone, either.

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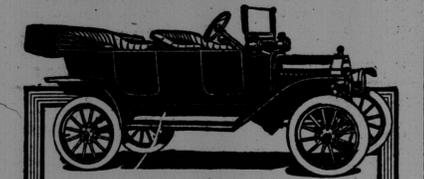
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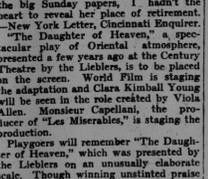
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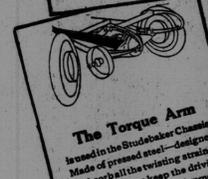
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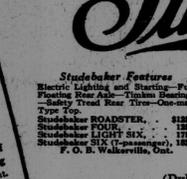
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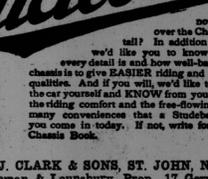
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