

IN NEW YORK'S THEATERS

(By Acton Davies.)

Special Correspondence.

New York, April 2.—In a "fat" part a fat boy raised nearly all the laughter which was heard at the Savoy Monday night, when the new farce was presented there. Without going so far as to christen this play "It's All Your Fault," Mr. Edgar Selwyn, the author, must have undoubtedly been talking to himself; the evidence is all in that most of its shortcomings must inevitably be laid at his door.

The piece is a long procession of old situations strung together in a higgledy-piggledy way without any rhyme and as little reason, and the whole affair is lightened neither by one solitary gleam of originality or wit. The audience laughed at the fat boy, that is the honest sum total of last night's performance. When he was off the scene the plot sagged and the old situations which came tumbling along on each other's heels wheezed and gasped and refused to fit into the picture.

With half as many more situations more carefully elaborated the farce would have stood a better chance of scoring. But as fast as one old episode got under way another jostled it out of the picture, and the result was a more or less dire jumble with the "Pink Dominoes" chief situation supplying the climax of the second act.

Every writer of farce has to utilize old material, to be sure, but if he is clever he can score a success by giving at least two or three of the episodes a new twist, a different kink or at least some clever dialogue or new character. Mr. Selwyn's play last night lay the trail of the novice, the earmarks of an omnivorous reader of plays, but no trace of a practical playwright.

Master Pincus, the fat youngster who made the audience laugh by the sublime proportions of his nose, used to be a newsboy at Broadway and Forty-second street. His voice still has an "extry" dry tone to it, which makes it almost entirely incomprehensible; as an actor the youngster is as raw as the young ones. But he was a new exhibit. He brought the piece its one bit of novelty, and the audience welcomed him accordingly.

The farce had not even the advantage of being well acted. Most of the players, imbued with the idea that the audience must not be allowed to miss a single point began to play up to each scene several moments before they came to it. The result was that nearly all the acting became so obvious that it lost all charm. Almost every member of the cast overacted.

Mr. Herbert Slesch, who played the hero, was an exception. He acted under all circumstances like an ordinary well grown individual and he spoke his lines exceedingly well. The only thing he really lacked was magnetism. Mr. Edgar Selwyn the author, played

ed the role of a jealous friend. In romantic parts he had scored several successes, but his enunciation for a drawing room role such as he played last night, is to say the least, slipshod. Miss Louise Closser, an actress whose performance of Prose, the typewriter in Candida, was one of those creations which you don't forget, was as badly miscast as Mr. Selwyn. She did what she could with a hopelessly conventional role.

Mr. Herbert Carr was the fat uncle, about whom all the complications revolved. His comparatively quiet method seemed to throw into greater contrast the absurd overacting of the actress who played his jealous wife. There is no species of stage entertainment which offers more pitfalls to the unwary actors than farce, and last night's performance, if it did nothing else, seemed to show how easy it is to fall into most of them. "It's All Your Fault" is exactly the type of play which brought farce into disfavor with the people five or six years ago.

Now when the public is fairly clamoring for genuinely funny plays never (as a matter of fact they have never) stopped clamoring for plays that are really funny, it only serves to show what a labored and tiresome thing a farce can be when it isn't a good one.

Mrs. Fiske and her admirable company brought "Leah Kleschna" to the Academy of Music Monday night for a short stay. That the engagement will prove a popular one was evidenced by the large audience that turned out to hear the story of the girl thief's redemption.

The cast, with but a few exceptions, was the same that presented the play for so many nights at the Manhattan theater. Mrs. Fiske found the east side audience at least as sympathetic as any on Broadway, and just as quick to appreciate the finer points in her portrayal of Leah's character. Frederick de Belleville replaced Mr. Cartright as Kleschna, and gave complete satisfaction. John Mason and George Arliss, who took the other principal roles, won warm applause.

The Proctor all-star company is appearing this week at the Fifth Avenue theater in a revival of "Candida," with Amelia Bingham as the rector's wife. The work of most of the company is excellent, that of Mr. Van Buren as the Rev. James Mayor Morell and of James Young as the moody young poet being by far the best these actors have done since they joined the Proctor company.

Robert Cummings as the gruff father-in-law, Miss Agnes Scott as the typist, and Albert Howson, as the curate, delighted to large audiences yesterday by the manner in which they brought out the humorous phases of the Shaw drama.

At the other theaters the attractions are as follows: Casino, De Wolf Hopper in "Happyland"; Princess, Henry

Woodruff in "Brown of Harvard"; Lyric, "Mexicana"; Wallace's, William Faversham in "The Square Man"; Field's, "Hopkinson"; Madison Square, Howard Kyle as Mozart in "The Great Lover"; Harlem, "Just Out of College"; Joe Weber's, "Twiddle-Dee-Dee"; and "The Squaw Man's Girl of the Golden West." Empire, "Maude Adams in 'Peter Pan'"; Savoy, "It's All Your Fault"; Criterion, Francis Wilson in "The Mountain Climber"; Daly's, Lawrence D'Orsay in "The Embassy Ball"; Hudson, Odis Skinner in "The Duke"; Herald Square, Geo. M. Cohan in "George Washington, Jr."; Knickerbocker, Fritz Schaff in "Mile Modiste"; Lyceum, "The Lion and the Mouse"; Madison Square Garden, "Barum and Bailey Circus"; New Amsterdam, Richard Maasfield in repertoire; Broadway, Elsie Janis in "The Vanderbilt Cup"; Liberty, Benjamin Chapin in "Lincoln"; New York, "The Prince of Pilsen"; Hippodrome, "A Society Circus"; Academy of Music, Mrs. Fiske in "Leah Kleschna."

INDIAN WAR VETS.

Men Who Fought Red-Skins in Early Day Utah, In Annual Session.

The annual session of the Utah Indian war veterans was held in the thirteenth ward assembly rooms of this city last evening, at which delegates from most of the departments of the state were present, and a very interesting time enjoyed.

The principal business transacted was the re-election for the ensuing two years of the officers elected at the state convention held one year ago.

An invitation was received from the Sanpete delegates in attendance to hold the first state encampment of the Indian war veterans at Ephraim, which was accepted and the first three days in August, next, decided upon as the time. It is expected that every department, commandery or county throughout the state will as soon as possible, appoint or elect a committee of two on arrangements for this annual gathering and immediately notify Mons Monson of Ephraim of the fact, he being the chairman of the several committees, who will in turn, appoint a time for the committees to meet.

A committee on transportation was elected, consisting of O. P. Arnold and George C. Lambert of this city, who will secure the best rates possible over the railways for the veterans attending the annual encampment.

The Sanpete delegates will see to it that the veterans "go to the scene of their former service, some of them for the first time in many years, will have the time of their lives."

MEET NEXT TUESDAY.

A meeting of the Indian war veterans, reading in Salt Lake county will be held in the Thirteenth ward assembly rooms at 7:30 on the evening of Tuesday, April 10.

Will be to effect arrangements for the state encampment of the Indian War Veterans to be held on the 1st,

This Day In History.

APRIL 7th

1780—Dr. William Ellery Channing, distinguished Unitarian divine and one of the most eloquent American writers, born at Newport, R. I.; died 1842. Dr. Channing inherited high moral worth and intellectual powers from both parents. At his graduation from Harvard the English oration, an exceptional honor, was assigned him. At 18 he held a tutorship in a family in Richmond he traveled in Europe. On his return he became active in public questions, was an abolitionist and a peace advocate.

1888—Gen. Quincy Adams Gillmore, Union commander on the Carolina coast, died; born 1825.

1884—Ben King, the western poet and humorist, died at Bowling Green, Ky.; born at St. Joseph's, Mich.

1866—Josiah Wood Whympere, noted American artist and Alpinist, died in London; born 1812. Rear Admiral Geo. E. Belknap, U. S. N., retired, veteran of the Civil war, died at Key West, Fla.; born 1825.

DON'T LET THIS DAY IN YOUR HISTORY

Pass without investigating our Loose Leaf Ledger System, at Desert News Book Store.

2nd and 3rd of August next, at Ephraim, Sanpete county, including the election of a committee, therefore to represent this county.

Other matters, however, will be discussed, such as the prospects for securing pensions for the services rendered by the veterans, the assembly on Decoration day, etc.

Any veterans from other parts of the state who happen to be in the city on the occasion will receive a hearty welcome if they can make it convenient to attend the meeting.

O. P. ARNOLD, Department Commander.

RETURNED MISSIONARIES.

Have you a friend or acquaintance in your former field of labor, to whom you would like to send a copy of the Semi-Weekly News? If so, take advantage of our special offer, made to aid the great missionary work. We send the paper one year to any point in the United States, Canada or Mexico at half price, \$1.00. This does not apply to points where there are regular wards or stakes. Foreign postage extra.

BIG INCREASE IN PENSIONS.

At Least Two Million Dollars More Than Those of Last Year.

TO SPANISH WAR SOLDIERS.

Recent Bill Passed Provides For an Appropriation of an Additional \$2,000,000.

Special Correspondence.

Washington, April 2.—The pension appropriation bill which recently passed provided for an appropriation of \$2,000,000 more than that of a year ago, or, in round numbers, about \$141,000,000. It has been about 20 years, perhaps a little more, since John A. Logan, the best friend the civil war veterans ever had, announced that the pension appropriation bill had reached high water mark. James A. Garfield, who was murdered in 1881, had announced a half dozen years before Logan died that the pension list had reached its greatest limit, but since the days of those distinguished men, both field officers of the civil war, the pension appropriation bill has doubled. Most of us can remember that these increases have taken place since Grover Cleveland so severely criticised some of the private pension bills passed during his first administration. And there be shrewd politicians who believe that had it not been for these same pension votes Cleveland would have been re-elected in 1885. In other words, that pensions cut more figure than tariff in that great campaign.

THEN AND NOW.

Looking back over those days, we remember that Buck Kilgore of Texas was the uncompromising enemy of private pension legislation. In those days the house rules provided that all pension bills should be passed at Friday night sessions. Of course, a quorum never attended these sessions, and no bill to which any one man objected could get through. Kilgore held up many sessions by demanding a quorum. When Kilgore had joined the great majority Taft of South Carolina succeeded him and devoted his time to defeating private pension bills. He held the house at his mercy until the Republican majority decided to cure the no quorum evil by providing that one Fri-

day in each month should be given to pension bills. The result is that any bill reported by the two committees on pensions is passed and no questions asked. Always in the senate bills reported are passed without question. "Read the third time and passed" is all that is ever said of them in either house now.

WHERE THE INCREASE COMES FROM.

But it is not from these private pension bills that the increase comes. The famous order of the president making sixty-two years the age limit of disability and giving every man who reaches that age and the pension number of men who in any manner were connected with the Spanish war are responsible for the increased pension appropriation. It is interesting to know that more applications have been made for pensions on account of the Spanish war than there were men in the entire army who participated in that unhappy conflict. So instead of a decrease of the pension roll it continues to increase and probably will do so as long as we maintain an army in the Philippines and keep up a warfare with the savage tribes of those islands.

Senator Frye called up a bill which gave the secretary of commerce power to regulate the movements and anchorage of ships in Hampton Roads and said that it was necessary owing to the coming Jamestown exposition.

"It is," said Senator Daniel, "a delegation of the legislative power to confer the power on subordinate officers of the government to make these laws."

PACKING BOXES FOR MEMBERS.

The house of representatives had a long discussion recently as to whether it should pay \$2,500 or only \$2,000 for these packing boxes. These boxes, three or four each year, are furnished members, and they pack their papers, letters, books, etc., in them when they go home. Well, it had been a day of small things, and a point of order was made against the increase of \$500 this year, and a long discussion ensued.

"I want to know," said Champ Clark, "why the senate gets so much better boxes than we do."

"Why can't we have the same sort of boxes?" asked Representative Butler of Pennsylvania.

"The only way we can get them," answered Clark, "is to get into the senate, and several of us have not been able to get there as yet."

The question was also raised as to whether the members would not have to send these boxes by freight or express under the proposed provision of the new postoffice appropriation bill, which prevents sending large packages through the mails. Upon the whole, this packing box business raised considerable consternation among members, but finally the \$500 increase was adopted.

"DRUNKENNESS" Cigarette and Tobacco Habit Cured by TRIB

We, the undersigned, residents of Baker City, Oregon, have watched the good results obtained by the use of "TRIB" as a cure for the liquor and tobacco habits, and we can heartily recommend it to anyone in need. Signed: Judge Samuel White, Judge of the Eighth Judicial District of the State of Oregon; L. P. Desmarais, pastor of the Roman Catholic Church; Rev. J. R. N. Bell, the oldest Presbyterian Order of the World; the Methodist Presbyterian Church; R. D. Carter, mayor; W. H. Kilburn, chief of police; S. L. Baer, vice president Citizens National Bank; W. F. Butcher, lawyer; A. Welch, manager of Baker Gas & Electric Company; J. F. Ferguson, real estate (27 years); Grace & Robinson, druggists; John O'Connor, agent Pacific Express Co.

We will give you an absolute guarantee with each treatment. Price \$12.50 a cure.

Doull Drug Co., F. C. Schramm, Owl corner, next Cor. 1st St. and 2nd St. to new Post Office. Main St. where the cars stop.

Sole Agents.

THE VERY THING YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT.

Probably there is not a house-keeper in town who hasn't looked, almost despairingly, at the smoke-stained walls, and wondered how they could be made presentable. Muresco finish cleans walls and ceilings and makes them like new.

Morrison, Merrill & Co., 28 Main Street, CLEANERS.

FITS STOPPED FREE Permanently Cured by DR. KLINE'S GREAT NERVE RESTORER. CONSULTATION, \$1.00. 23 West 4th St., New York City. DR. R. B. KLINE, 11231 Arch St., Philadelphia.

GRAY BROS. & COMPANY'S

SPRING OPENING



"Chesterfield" Ready-to-Wear Clothes for Men Who Know

☐ To be dressed faultlessly, though not conspicuously, is characteristic of a gentleman—an attribute of "Chesterfield" clothes.
 ☐ If you are ready to look at the spring fashions, our salesmen are desirous of showing you and suggesting new ideas born this season.
 ☐ If you want "inside information" about what knowing dressers will wear this Spring, you can do no better than to get your hints from our showing of "Chesterfield" suits and spring overcoats. Prices \$18.00 to \$50.00.

Gray Bros. & Co.

154 MAIN STREET