

DRAMATIC

At the Theater, the only sounds heard nowadays are those of the carpenters, cleaners and renovators, as they put the house in shape for the fall opening. There now seems to be some doubt—more the pity—as to whether the promised visit from "The Servant in the House" company will materialize—cause, the ever present uncertain relations between Syndicate and Independent managers located 3,000 miles away from the Salt Lake Theater. A paragraph in this department tells how Mr. Miller's play has stormed San Francisco.

As it now stands, the regular opening bill will be May Robson in "The Rejuvenation of Aunt Mary" on the 24th. Miss Robson is a Charles Frohman star.

The second week of the vaudeville season at the Orpheum has a bill of exceptional merit. First are Midgely & Carlisle, who present a rural comedy sketch entitled "After School." It deals with country life and the country fat boy, very sleepy and funny and the saucy village cut-up. It is said of them that they furnish as much mirth and entertainment as a whole musical comedy company.

Raffin's Samian performers give one of the most novel, unique and satisfactory trained animal acts on the stage. These animals are said to perform in a truly marvelous manner.

Vinie Daly is the younger member of the famous Daly family. She has had a phenomenally successful career as a few years ago she was a feature in the various Ward & Vokes shows, and later Geo. W. Lederer brought her to Broadway in his production of "The Southerners."

Next comes O. A. Duncan, who is well known to vaudeville patrons as one of the most popular of all American ventriloquists. His comedy is bright and new while his mummy figures are so deftly handled that they seem almost human.

Melville & Higgins are new comedians, but they are said to be genuinely funny and original. The title of their act is "Just a Little Fun." It is said that Miss May Melville is a real comedienne.

In the Edgertons, Orpheumites will see two of America's most celebrated artistic artists. Their work is never less than sensational and should be popular here.

Three entirely new films have been secured for the kinodrome and the Orpheum have several new overtures and selections.

THEATER GOSSIP

Booth Tarkington and Harry L. Wilson have completed their play for Eleanor Robson and named it "Countess Nancy."

Maude Adams' bills for the coming fall are "Peter Pan," "Laiglon," "Twelfth Night," and a new play founded on the life of "Joan of Arc."

William Collier was robbed of \$500 in money at Tacoma, Wash., recently by a thief who broke into his trunk somewhere between Bellingham and Tacoma.

E. H. Sothern will go in for Shakespeare next season. His new production will be of "Macbeth" and "King Lear," plays in which he never has been seen. "Lord Dunderbary" will be retained in the bill.

W. A. Brady is planning to give a single performance of "The Merry Wives of Windsor," at Robert Mantell's summer home, Atlantic Highlands, N. J., in September. Mr. Mantell will play Falstaff, and others who will take part are Phoebe Davis, Henry E. Dixey and Joseph R. Grismer.

"Three Weeks" was dramatized by the author, Eleanor Glynn, and put on the boards in London for "one night only," last week. Mrs. Glynn had the principal role. The British censor refused permission to have the play continue, but it was brought to America, where the censor is unknown.

A report from Los Angeles last week to the effect that Mrs. Daniel Frohman (Margaret Hillman) had decided to buy a California orange ranch and retire from theatrical life, was corrected with scornful Mr. Frohman's office. Miss Hillman's plans for the next two seasons have already been made.

Mr. J. M. Bartlett's new play will be produced in the Duke of York's theater, London, in September. It is in four acts, and is said to contain several studies of Scottish characters. Gerald Du Maurier, Mrs. McCarty, Mrs. Beerbohm Tree, Sydney Valentine, and others have important parts. It will be staged by Dion Boucicault.

Miss Gertrude Coghlan, daughter of that superb technician, the late Charles Coghlan, used to act little roles under her father's eye, when she was a child. Once this dialogue was exchanged, she says:

"What shall I do with my hands?"

"Forget them," my father replied.

Maude Adams' fondness for children has made one little girl very happy. Augusta Schiele, an unusually bright youngster, who is "going on 11," and who was one of the wolves in "Peter Pan," is Miss Adams' inseparable companion. Where Miss Adams goes she goes, and where Miss Adams lives she lives. The actress "found" Augusta in Buffalo a year or so ago and since has kept the child with her ever since.

George B. Frothingham, the veteran Bostonian comedian, especially engaged for "Robin Hood" at Philadelphia, recently made his 1,500th appearance as the jolly old Friar Tuck. Mr. Frothingham has spent forty years behind the footlights, during which time he has been closely identified with three roles—Gonzalez, the tailor, in "The Serenade," the title role in "The Mikko," and Friar Tuck in "Robin Hood."

Work is progressing rapidly night and day on the reconstruction of the practical part of Drury Lane Theater, London, destroyed by fire some months ago.

At the time of the fire there were rumors that this historic playhouse would not be rebuilt, and the press published long stories of its career for generations as the professional home of a long list of great actors.

It is still to have a place, however,



MISS VINIE DALY.

At the Orpheum All of Next Week.

among London theatres, and will probably be called New Drury Lane.

Phoebe Davis is in Los Angeles, where she is to stage her four-act dramatization of Bret Harte's "Two Men of Sandy Bar," which has already had a copyright performance in London. On her return, about Sept. 1, she will take charge of the coming season's revival of "Way Down East," an annual task that has hitherto been performed by William A. Brady and Joseph R. Grismer. Miss Davis will then begin preparations for the production of Addison Enright's comedy called "Mrs. Tantalus."

No play has been seen in San Francisco.

English Theatrical Invasion Of the United States.

Special Correspondence.

LONDON, July 22.—If an Englishman, strolling along Broadway next autumn imagines himself in his big, gray, somber London, it will hardly be a thing to wonder at. For every day I hear of fresh announcements of English actors and actresses who are to try their luck along the Great White way and to the westward before another frost rolls around. Just to mention the most important there are Seymour Hicks—a sort of Willie Collier and Eddie Foy rolled into one—his wife, Elaine Terriss, Cyril Maude and his wife, Winifred Emery, Constance Collier, George Grossmith, Jr., Gertrude Millar and Alexander Carlisle. And now I understand that Julianne, the husband of Constance Collier, who could not bear the thought of being parted from his beautiful wife, has obtained his release from a contract with the Drury Lane Theater people to permit of his becoming leading man for Maxine Elliott in the United States this fall.

Although the exact date of his departure has not yet been decided upon it is pretty certain that Sir John Gielgud will soon sail from these shores to the United States to say his last farewell to his many admirers over there. He has just finished a similar job in London in which he appeared in "The Gay Lord Quex" and "A Pair of Spectacles," and is now getting ready to tour the provinces in the same plays. But despite the fact that these are all "farewell" performances no one takes the announcement very seriously. Sir John himself has publicly announced that he hopes to be "sent back to the stage again" at some later date by a part which especially appeals to him.

A lot has been written of late years on the subject of "musical plays" or "straight dramas," and the declining taste of the theater-going public inasmuch as they are supposed to prefer the former. A striking refutation of this argument is to be found in the season now drawing to a close in London where there have been more than 60 plays as against only six musical comedies, and 30 revivals of spoken dramas against three of plays with music attached.

The season has also been remarkable for the prominence of female dramatists, for nine of the plays have come from the pens of the gentler sex. Of the lot, however, only one, "Diana of Dobson's," by Cicely Hamilton, which was produced by Lena Ashwell, made a big success. Curiously enough, the scene in this play which attracted the most attention was a disrobing scene very much like that in Clyde Fitch's "Girls," which is soon to be presented in London.

Women were also the authors of five of the 35 one-act plays which have been tried on at the London houses during the season and part authors of four more full-length plays.

No less than five London theaters—

SALT LAKERS IN GOTHAM.

Special Correspondence.

NEW YORK, July 26.—Miss Leigh and her "Kid Glove" company arrived in the city a week ago from their successful western trip, and all were greatly disappointed at not meeting

the Garrick, Terry's, His Majesty's, the Haymarket, and the Prince of Wales—closed their doors during the week just passed. The holiday season has worked havoc with the London houses except in the cases where the attractions are remarkable hits. "The Merry Widow" is still playing to crowded houses and the box office is devoid of tickets for three weeks ahead. "Merry Widow," the popular and original London "Merry Widow," has gone on her holidays and her place is being filled by an understudy who, by the way, is the fifth woman to play the part in the Drury's theater production.

Of the other plays which hold their own, there are "Mrs. Dot," in which it is expected that Marie Tempest will play at the Comedy until after Christmas, "A Waltz Dream," which is soon to go into a "second edition" and "Lady Frederick," which has now filled no fewer than five different London playhouses.

Somerset Maugham, the remarkably successful new dramatist who now has four of his plays running at London theaters, has at last suffered or is to suffer a slight reverse. The run of "The Explorer," which is being played by Lewis Waller, will be brought to a close on the 26th and the James Hackett of England will take a rest. There is some talk of reviving the piece in the fall, but this is not likely unless Waller should be compelled to fall back upon it temporarily by the failure of Justin Huntly McCarthy's new version of "The Duke's Motto," which will reopen the season at the Lyric on Sept. 8.

"The girls of Gottenberg," which you will see this fall in the United States, will be revived in London for a few weeks in the immediate future and then sent on a tour through the provinces. As Gertrude Millar is booked for the American production, George Edwards has been compelled to look around for some one to take her part in the play. To everybody's amazement he has hit upon "Happy" Fanny Fields, that joyous little American comedienne who has been making England laugh for many months past and who has just returned to London from a vacation of rest in her native land. "Happy" Fanny has long been a favorite in the English halls and in pantomime but has never tried anything so serious as musical comedy and she is very nervous about her first "plunge." The American girl will certainly add an element of humor to a part which was devoid of it in the hands of more serious-minded Gertrude Millar.

The revival will open at the Adelphi Strand. Less than a year ago when Fanny appeared at the same house in pantomime she got into legal difficulties with the management of the Tivoli music hall which is right across the street. The latter claimed that the American girl had signed contracts with them in which she bound herself not to appear within a mile of their hall. Fanny lost and was ordered to pay rather steep damages. I wonder if she has made some arrangements with the hall people or will again "take a chance."

CURTIS BROWN.

Miss Alexander were entertained by Dr. John Elmer and family of Denver, during convention week. Dr. Elmer, being the father of Edward Elmer, author of the "Kid Glove" sketch. The doctor is the pioneer physician of Denver, having gone there June 6, 1856, and succeeding in building up a great practice; his frontier experiences read like fairy tales and are verifications of what the early settlers in that western land lived again and again during their first years of exile. Mr. Edward Elmer, author and stage manager, is now busy rehearsing four different road companies of "The Thief," he being Daniel Frohman's first stage manager and has charge of business shows and has a large number of engagements when that popular artist has had need of a few nights' rest.

Miss Leigh and her aunt go to Providence tomorrow for a special two weeks' engagement with the Albee Keith Stock company and Aug. 31 sees the beginning of Miss Leigh's tour at Montreal in the sketch, which is booked for the entire season of 1908-1909 up to May. Miss Leigh has well earned the success she is now enjoying.

The Mauritania, which sailed last Tuesday, numbered Miss Maude Adams among her passengers. Miss Adams, while abroad, will buy her gowns for her new production of the coming season, and also enjoy a much needed rest of a few weeks.

Messrs. W. G. Patrick and Joseph Decker of the Snowcroft firm in Ogden, left last night for the west. Mr. Joseph Snowcroft, who has been in Boston for several days, returned yesterday to the Ogden office where his wife and daughter, May, have been staying during his absence. Miss Snowcroft will come east to school and the suburban schools in the different places around New York have been visited by her parents in order to decide upon one best adapted to the requirements of their daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Snowcroft are leaving Monday evening for home. Mr. and Mrs. Early entertained for the Ogden party at their home on West One Hundred and Thirty-sixth street one evening last week.

Mrs. Charles Seymour, now of Atlantic City, N. J., paid a flying visit to New York last Thursday. Mrs. Seymour's fruit business is growing each year, and makes it necessary for her to keep in close touch with all the leading eastern cities. She is constantly besieged to take charge of a factory, but so far her private interests consume all she can handle, and the factory industry is in the remote future.

The first of August Mrs. Helene Davis left for a visit with her brother, Edward Garber, and family of Pittsburg, and hopes there to meet her sister, Mrs. Catherine Laine, from Ogden.

Artist Leo Fairbanks, with his father, J. B. Fairbanks, is making excursions to all the picture galleries of New York, and incidentally doing an amount of outdoor sketching. Young Mr. Fairbanks was at Sunday services shaking hands with his friends and meeting a number of new acquaintances. The elder Mr. Fairbanks will be in the city a week longer and then leave for home.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Eccles, who have been in the city for several days, left for Chicago last Thursday. Mrs. M. Banks, the Salt Lake milliner and mother of Mrs. Eccles, has not yet finished her business and will not leave for the west until the end of the week.

Messrs. Henry Last of Last & Thomas company, Ogden, and C.



VIOLA PRATT GILLETTE.

The above picture shows Utah's beautiful contralto at the age of 15 years. She had just finished a course at the University of Utah, where with other studies she had taken the deaf and dumb sign language. At this early age she taught vocal music in the district schools, earning in this way money enough to go to New York for her own musical instruction. This was when she was in her 18th year, and her success since is too well known to need repetition. Mrs. Gillette's first ambitious effort in opera was with the home company in Salt Lake her role being that of the Marchioness in "Martha." She afterward took part with equal success in "The Bohemian Girl" and other operatic productions, before commencing her professional career in the east. Mrs. Gillette's last public appearance here was at the Orpheum, where she took part in a musical vaudeville sketch.

D. Ives, the furniture man of the same city, are here on business, the latter at the Knickerbocker and the former at the Monticello.

Friday, July 24, the Brooklyn branch, with their friends, spent the day in Bronx park. A program was prepared, beginning at 12 o'clock. Prest. Allen presiding. Speeches by Prest. McQuarrie and others, singing and games, were indulged in. A grand picnic was arranged under the trees, and a jolly party sat down to well filled tables, the day being perfect; everything was in harmony, and only the shadows of nightfall were able to disperse the joyous party.

JANET.

KOEBELE'S VACATION.

The department of Agriculture of the Hawaiian Islands has given Prof. Koebeler a long vacation on full pay in partial recognition of his services in the past as a searcher of parasitic insects. Koebeler has no superior in this line, and his health failing, it is pleasant to know his government appreciates the work he has done and is now giving him the chance to recuperate his shattered health. He was known to scores of the pioneer readers of The

Times both personally and professionally, having lived in Los Angeles, and soon after leaving becoming the agent of the most remarkable achievement in economic entomology the world has ever experienced. It is true that none of his latter work has approached that of the introduction of the Vedalia into the orchards of Southern California, but his work in the Sandwich Islands has been satisfactory. So well pleased are the people of the islands that one of their officials is reported to have said that the Hawaiian government would not do more than justice to Mr. Koebeler should he be retired on full pay for the balance of his life. He gets \$5,000 per year, but will not be altogether idle during his stay in Europe. While on the continent for his health he will keep in touch with his government and took up a few parasites for his people.

DISCRETION.

He (to servant)—I understand that you have dared to drive my automobile during my absence.

Servant—Don't be vexed, sir. I was very careful. I ran over two persons, but they were very old.—Jugend.

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