

filled with speculators and commanding crowds going into the auditorium or being seated away for lack of room. We have not had time as yet to determine the final influence of the Hippodrome upon our regular entertainment scene. Whether it will prove to their benefit or not seems able to determine with any degree of certainty. Thompson and Dundy are of the impression that their establishment will be of help to amusements in general by making new patronage or awakening interest in the theater which may have been driven away those who may have been drawn away by the theaters in cities of less importance. Some other managers take a less optimistic view, believing that a less optimistic view, believing that a less optimistic gathering of eight or nine thousand persons a day in any one place of entertainment must necessarily be a subtraction of that number of men, women and children from the patronage list of other houses. The fact which sticks out beyond any possible denial is that the Hippodrome is the most amazingly successful venture in its line ever made known in any part of the world. *

George Ade's new play "The Bad Samaritan" will be presented in Washington for a week beginning next Monday as a kind of preliminary step for its opening at the Garden here Sept. 12. Mr. Ade's "The College Widow" was the only piece at the Garden all last winter and possibly his "Bad Samaritan" may turn out to be a repeater. Many critical managers laughed when Henry W. Savage took out his program of the Garden, and it proved to be one of the most successful theaters in all New York. Mr. Savage somehow seems to have the knack of hitting the nail on the head at just the crucial moment.

It is not altogether likely that Mrs. James Brown's tour may come to this country for the vaudeville tour which some imaginative individual has announced for her. Not that Mrs. Potter doesn't wish to make the trip. Far from it. The good lady needs the money, but needs so much of it that the managers of the "Continental" troupe are a bit worried, they show a distinct inclination to dodge. Ted D. Marks, one of the best known vaudeville agents and managers in the country, has Mrs. Potter's affairs in hand, but he is unable to convince the proprietors of the vaudeville theaters that Mrs. Potter can draw as much money as she demands for her services. If President Roosevelt doesn't interfere, it seems improbable that the peace negotiations may reach a successful issue.

Flossie Crane, the girl from Coney Island, is playing her last engagement in New York under Mr. Hirschfelder's direction. She has been steadily under engagement to this manager since he discovered her singing in bartons in a Coney Island saloon. A part of the time the manager has farmed Flossie out to other places of entertainment, but when outside dates were lacking she has occupied a place in the barbershop quartet. Her garden. She does some more reason of the skill with which she was advertised, but Oscar isn't sorry the engagement is over. He has had his troubles with Flossie. When she came up to town from the seaside saloon she brought some of her Coney Island habits with her, and was a large absorbing thing. There have been times when Flossie's orbit of sight was a trifly wobbly and the partner of Flossie's feet was not as steady as it might have been. Upon such occasions the vocabulary of the female baritone has been picturesque and damnable, but Oscar has been patient. So far, at least, Oscar's bereavement of Flossie at the end of the week will not occasion an outpour of tears threatening to swamp the cellars of the surrounding buildings.

It is said to be practically decided that within very short time the Knoblauch singer, which could be no man's excitement in New York last week will become a part of the equipment of Luna park. The managers of that behemoth resort, where there's always something doing, long ago offered a \$10,000 prize for any aeromut who would sail his ship from Luna park to and from Luna Park, and back to the park. Knoblauch has been inclined to accept the opportunity for this reward but it is understood that another arrangement covering a daily experiment in air navigation for the remainder of the season, has been framed up. This will be largely profitably, and bring in a larger and it will of course serve to still further center interest in Luna park, where the crowds continue to be far denser than at any of the other outdoor places of assembly.

Charles E. Evans, who some months ago purchased the handsome and costly

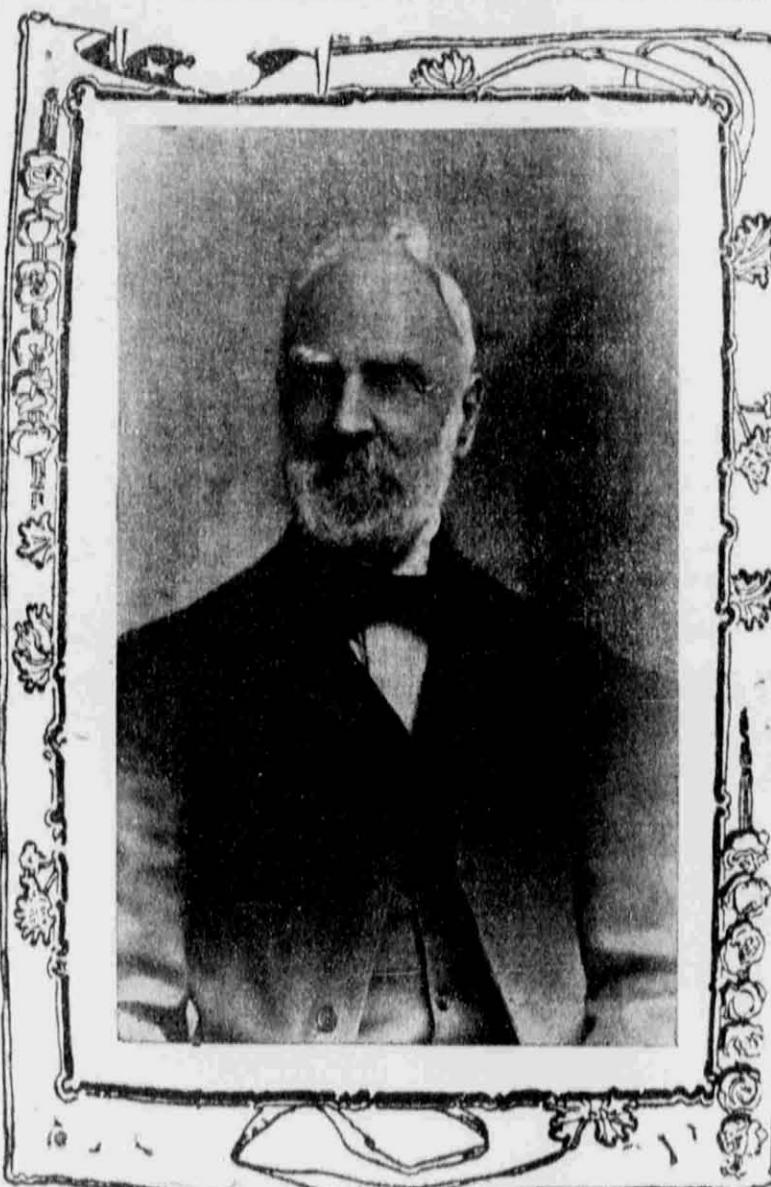
production of "The Filibusters" after it had been shown in Boston by the Bankers' association, has disposed of his interest in the company. A partnership arrangement was made at one time but abandoned, and instead of having an interest in the earnings of the company Mr. Evans will receive a very large salary for his services. He will be the star of the organization. The book of "The Filibusters" has been revised and enlarged, by George H. Bradhurst, one of the most gifted of our writers for the stage.

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George W. Lederer has been compelled to hurriedly resign from "Turn down" an opportunity that looked like a sure thing. Frank Andrews, who owns "The Gingerbread Man," made an offer to Mr. Lederer of a large sum of money, but needs so much of it that the managers of the "Continental" troupe are a bit worried, they show a distinct inclination to dodge. Ted D. Marks, one of the best known vaudeville agents and managers in the country, has Mrs. Potter's affairs in hand, but he is unable to convince the proprietors of the vaudeville theaters that Mrs. Potter can draw as much money as she demands for her services. If President Roosevelt doesn't interfere, it seems improbable that the peace negotiations may reach a successful issue.

In "The Beauty and the Bargain" N. C. Goodwin is a goodly example of comedy genius in which he so brilliantly excelled before the dramatists began giving him characters that were partially sentimental. Everybody who dates back to any extent remembers the irresistible drollery of Goodwin in such plays as "Turned Up" and with heart-felt admiration the comedy sketches of the pieces supplied for his use by Mr. Lederer would assemble the company and superintend the production. But the managers and agents are as full with the interpretations for "Crown Three the Rye" and "The Orchid" that he cannot possibly give any of his time to other undertakings for a long while to come.

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WILLIAM C. PRICE,

Of Center, Utah, Who Has Just Been Given a Bardic and Literary Degree by the National Eisteddfod of Wales.

The advance sale of seats for David Warfield's re-occupancy of the Bijou theater already embraces the entire auditorium for the first night and extends far into the fourth week of what promises to be a highly successful and extended New York engagement. Warfield closed up last spring in the height of his career when he was turning away numbers of would-be patrons from every performance. The "Music Master" is really one of the very great successes of the epoch, not alone on account of its own merits but by reason of Warfield's fine artistry and the perfection of the general performance.

Edna May has scored a stunning triumph at Daly's theater in "The Catch of the Season" and I have not the slightest doubt that the piece might run for a month if a program would suit the plans of the management. Edna herself is full of the personal charm that first brought her into the favor of the public and the musical comedy that has been supplied for her use is capital in book and score. Every part in it is played vividly, the dresses are beautiful, the "Goldfinch of Cluny" the organist, who deserves the honors is the "Gorsedd" which completes the alumnus of the Eisteddfod, of which he was a member in his youth. Last year his tour was directed by Klaw & Erlanger, but for several years he comes to the actor will be in the hands of Mr. Franklin.

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The proceedings concluded with the ceremonial of closing the "Gorsedd" of the Archdruid, using the customary ritual inquiring if there was peace, the response being in the affirmative.

The title, or degree conferred upon Miss Tout, is that of the "Telores of Utah," which, being interpreted, the Archdruid, Dr. O. Dowd, Dr. N. G. Dowd, seemed as it were, the public invocation of the spirit of peace upon, not only the "Gorsedd" and those present in it, but upon all men and women in Wales at the present suffering hour. It was like a prayer for the decent use of the divine drama on the heated tempests of empire and employed.

Mr. Harry P. Evans, of the county clerk's office of this city is the recipient of a lengthy letter from a friend in Wales that tells of the success of the great festival and of the pronounced victory of Ash Mountain, a writer says:

"A short time before the hour of noon, the venerable Archdruid and a few others proceeded privately to the "Gorsedd" stone to perform certain religious rites in accordance with the ancient usages of the Druids, fraternity of the tribes of Britain. The head is called the over antler that is to say, the hour when no clouds or mist obscure a full view of the morning sun. The faithful found the morning delightfully fine, and the stones standing in grandeur in the midst of lovely floral decorations of the hues that the Goddess Flora had borrowed from the sunbeams to deck the garden of Ash Mountain, or, in other words, the hill that the Lord High Chancellor had planted."

Before prayers were offered up by the Archdruid, the ancient ceremony of sheathing the sword of the throne of Britannia took place, and it was noted that the votaries were inhabitants of the Prince of Peace. It was a ceremony that means no harm, wings might have attended without any loss of dignity. It was the usual "Can y Cadairio," struck up the plaintive tones of "Dafydd y Garreg Wen," and then the bards slowly and with bowed heads retired from the scene."

The remainder were men. The names and titles of all are given as follows by the London Daily Mail:

"Honorary degrees were amidst loud applause conferred upon the following: Miss Nannie Tout (who afterwards ascended to the throne and delighted the audience), Dr. Arthur T. Jones, Cordelia Rice, London, who took the name of Cordelia Rice; Dr. Arthur T. Jones, Aberpennar, Arthur Feddy; Mr. W. C. Price, Utah, Bodawyn; Mr. Henry Powell Hughes, Warrington, Ap Hywel; Mr. Jeremiah Williams, Abergele, Glyn Fallon; Rev. J. L. Thomas, M. A., Vicar of Abergele, Aberpergwm; Mr. John Mills, Abertillery, Tariandydd; Dr. R. W. Jones, M. D., Penrhyndeudraeth; Ael Hafnau; the Rev. R. W. Jones, Penrhysceiber, Y Gwennith Gwyn; Mr. W. Hicks, Aberpennar, Myrddin; the Rev. R. W. Jones, Penrhysceiber, Y Gwennith Gwyn; Mr. W. Hicks, Aber-

NEWS of the LONDON STAGE

Special Correspondence.

ONDON, Aug. 19.—With nothing to do nothing—though a deal of prating—at playhouses here—little is being talked of in London theatrical circles but the fiery attack which W. T. Stead has just made in his "Review of Reviews" on "The Spring Chicken," the musical play from the French which George Edwardes is now giving at the Gastry. The piece is to be produced in the United States before long, so Americans will be able to decide for themselves whether Mr. Stead is justified in the head line which he used for his "rant," which is "Gomorrah at the Gastry."

As a matter of fact, the author of "Christy" came to Chicago to apologize for the way in which he defended, for "The Spring Chick," his own play, in the "Review of Reviews" and he goes on saying that he goes "just come up to Paris for a change."

A pessimistic writer who regards the audience with accounts of what he has witnessed through the keys of private dining rooms is another part of the evening's amusement.

Mr. Stead, however, all this is a pestilential and pernicious influence which reigns supreme on the stage of the Gastry, and declares that the whole thing is "one long presentation of lust unredeemed by a single spark of sentiment." He adds: "It is evil to the last degree. Everyone in the Gastry is vice, hinting at it, grinning at it, indulging in it. It is the morals of the cities of the plain served up in the Strand for the delectation of the most moral, the most virtuous community in the world."

Of course, such a broadside has not failed to draw indignant and virtuous disclaimers from the interested parties.

Mr. Stead, however, has got his own back in planning a little trap prepared for his wife in order that his gastry may be unimpeded. On the scene, however, arrives the young wife's mother, who offers her daughter valuable counsel. There is only one way, the mother observes, to clip the wings of such a gastry as this, and that is by means of a sleeping powder. She has tried with excellent results with her own lord, who used to be "just the same"—the thing we learn having been accomplished by surreptitiously sprinkling the powder over his food. She advises her daughter to adopt similar methods and the young wife does so. Meanwhile the barrister has made an evening appointment with one of his

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J. who adapted "The Spring Chicken," affirms that his play can be described as nothing worse than trivials.

The wonder is that those responsible for this latest musical show have thought it worth while to reply to Mr. Stead's attack, or that even so earnest a person as should have done anything so futile as to bring up to almost any limit as long as it is timely and amusing—both of which "The Spring Chicken" is to a remarkable degree. It would have been difficult, for instance, to tell the plot of "The Girl From Kaye" in drawing room, and I, for one, have seen a Gastry show that didn't contain at least one song that was uncomfortable if one was accompanied by a lady. London likes it. American cities are stricter about this sort of thing, however, and it will be interesting to see what the critics at home have to say about "The Spring Chicken."

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