

# THE YEAR AT THE THEATRES.

LOOKING back over the two theatrical seasons, one of which has ended and the other begun, since the first of the year, it must be said that the review presents some sharp contrasts. At the Theater to serve an ending June 30 had the greatest in the history of the house. The beginning of the present season, however, from the Henry Miller engagement down to this date, has been one of uncertainty, although Salt Lake has little reason to complain when her record is compared with that of other sections of the country. Everywhere else the cry of poor business is coming up from the theaters, and many people think that as the theater forms a sort of financial barometer, of index to the pocketbooks of the people, more stringent times may be looked for ahead. The approach of the holidays, the heavy tax payments, and perhaps the terrific drain caused by "Ben Hur," have all contributed to affect theatrical business in Salt Lake.

As far as artistic achievement goes, the year 1935 has certainly brought us some of the best attractions that have appeared in the country. The list includes Anna Held, William Gillette, Nance O'Neil, Mrs. Brune, Mary Manning, Nat Goodwin, William H. Crane, E. H. Sothern, Amelia Bingham, Henry Miller, Royce, Italian Band, "Prince of Pilsen," "Ben Hur," Robert Edson, De Wolf Hopper, Jefferson DeAngela, and "The Bonnie Brier Bush," with Clara Bloodgood and Lulu Glaser to come.

Manager Pyper when asked for an expression of his views regarding the theatrical business, said:

"I do not think that the causes that have led to bad business in New York can be said to materially affect the business out here. For instance—New York has been over supplied with theaters and just at the time too, when the Wall Street troubles began. As a consequence, business dropped, but as I understand it, the attractions that have a strong hold upon the public are doing well in New York and elsewhere. In Salt Lake, the "Ben Hur" business has no doubt affected us since, however, the "Bonnie Brier Bush" did a better business here than in Denver or Omaha and the attraction came at a bad time too. The two weeks before Christmas is a season known as the worst theatrical time of the year. It is the time when people are thinking of Christmas matters, paying their taxes, etc.

"I don't believe the establishment of so many cheap theaters in Salt Lake will have any effect upon the regular theaters. They may leave an impression upon the gallery business but not to any marked extent. Altogether I am hopeful of the situation, and am satisfied that the theatrical business in Salt Lake will continue to be classed with the best in the country.

"We have made many improvements at the Theater during the season just closed, that the public cannot see. We have put in an entirely new heating plant; doubled the efficiency of our electric apparatus; built a new addition, containing a property room, five new dressing rooms supplied with hot and cold water, and the latest improvements, and a large "super" room. We have also put down a stone sidewalk on the east of the building and spent altogether upwards of \$10,000 in improvements. These improvements have added to the efficiency of the Theater in putting on big productions and in making things comfortable for the players. I hope, however, to be able to do something for the comfort of the patrons in the front part of the house, next year. I should like to put in an entirely new smoking room, gentlemen's toilet and lavatory for the front of the house, and redecorate the auditorium. With these additional improvements, the Salt Lake Theater will be in the best possible shape to handle



THEATRICAL GROUP FAMOUS IN SALT LAKE'S OLD DRAMATIC DAYS.

This half tone shows a group of players very familiar to old time Salt Lake theater goers. They are, beginning with the left end of the lower row: David McKenzie, Asenath A. Adams (mother of Maude Adams), Nellie Colbrook, and John B. Lindsay. The center standing figure is that of Phil Marzetti. On his right is Henry Maiben, and on his left is James A. Thompson. All the originals of the picture are still living, except Henry Maiben. The photograph from which this cut was made was taken shortly after a tour of the towns of northern Utah by those whose faces are depicted.

Wednesday, August 10, 1864.

Will be presented, for the second time, Shakspeare's sublime play, in 4 Acts.

## HAMLET

### PRINCE DENMARK

Mr. GEO. PAUNCEFORT.

Mrs. FLORENCE BELL.

THE PIONEER SHAKESPEARIAN PRODUCTION.

This old theatre bill, the property of Mr. Harry Horsesley, gives the cast of the first Shakespearian play ever produced on the stage of the Salt Lake Theatre—Hamlet, played by the gifted Pauncefort, August 10, 1864. Of those who took part, the following are deceased: J. M. Simmons, J. R. Clawson, H. Maiben, H. K. Whitney, J. B. Kelly and Mrs. Gibson.

### THE YEAR'S RECORD.

Commencing with Jan. 1 the record of the main attractions which have played at the Theater is as follows:

- JANUARY.**
1. "A Trip to Chinatown," 2, 3—Haverly's Minstrels; 5, 6, 7—Ward and James; 8, 9, 10—"Corlinton," 12—Andrew Robson in "Richard Carvel"; 13, 14—"Shore Acres," 15—"A Man from Sweden," 16—University Dramatic Club; 18, 20, 21—Gordon Shay Opera Co.; 22-24—Florence Roberts; 25, 26, 31—"Princess Chic."
- FEBRUARY.**
- 1—Paul Gilmore in "The Tyranny of Tears," 4—Salt Lake Symphony Orchestra; 6—Anna Held; 10-11—"Arizona"; 13—"Devil's Auction"; 17, 21—Miller Kent in "The Cowboy and the Lady."
- MARCH.**
- 1, 2, 3—William Gillette in "Sherlock Holmes"; 5, 6—Daniel Sully; 7—University Minstrels; 9-14—Florence Roberts; 14, 25—"Lovers Lane"; 26—Rose Coghlan; 28—Mrs. Ellen M. Stone; 31—Mrs. Rhoad's lecture.
- APRIL.**
- 1, 2, 3, 4—Last appearance of "Corlinton," 6, 7—"Our New Minister"; 8-11—Nance O'Neil; 13, 14—Al G. Field; 20—Chas. B. Hamford in "The Taming of the Shrew" and "Much Ado About Nothing"; 27, 28 and 29.
- MAY.**
- 1, 2—Mrs. Brune; 8, 9—Mary Mathering; 21, 22, 23—Wm. H. Crane; 28, 29, 30—E. H. Sothern.
- JUNE.**
- 12-13—Nat Goodwin; 25, 26, 27—Amelia Bingham.
- AUGUST.**
- 10, 11—Henry Miller; 12-15—Jose Minstrels.
- SEPTEMBER.**
- 1—"A Friend of the Family"; 14, 15, 16—"The Burgomaster"; 18, 19—"The Prince of Pilsen"; 21—Egley's Italian Band; 29, 30—West's Minstrels.
- OCTOBER.**
- 1, 2, 3—"Florodora"; 5-8—"Reuben in New York"; 9, 10—"Texas Steer"; 12, 13, 14—"The Chaperones"; 15, 16, 17—"The Storks"; 19-22—Ward and James; 26-30—"Ben Hur."
- NOVEMBER.**
- 6, 7—"Are You a Mason"; 9, 10, 11—Robert Edson; 12, 13—"In Old Kentucky"; 14—De Wolfe Hopper; 16, 17, 18—"King Dodo"; 19, 20—Eli's Circus; 23, 24, 25—"The Dairy Farm"; 26, 27, 28—"Foxy Grandpa."
- DECEMBER.**
- 1—Herrman; 4, 5—Jefferson DeAngela; 7-11—"Bonnie Brier Bush"; 14—"A Trip to Chinatown"; 18, 19—Andrew Robson in "Richard Carvel." These are yet to be closed, 25, 26—Clara Bloodgood in "The Girl with the Green Eyes"; 28—Marie Wainwright in "The Twelfth Night"; 29, 30—Lulu Glaser in "Dolly Varden"; 31—"Happy Hooligan."

### AT THE GRAND

The record at the Grand theater has been much the same as at the other house; good business in the early part of the year and bad business generally since the opening of the fall season. The record has been up and down, good attractions playing to good money, and the poorer ones to very light business. Among the most pleasing and successful attractions that have played at the Grand theater during the past year may be mentioned the following: Neise Erickson in "Von Yontson," "The Irish Pawnbrokers," Willard Simms in "Pickings from Puck," "For Her Sake," Sam Morris, in "The Peddler's Claim," "The White Slave," "A Gambler's Daughter," Thomas J. Smith in "The Game Keeper," "The Fatal Wedding," "Ole Olson," Murray and Mack in "A Night on Broadway," "Sandy Bottom," "Human Hearts," "The Man from Mexico," Barlow Minstrels, Gallagher and Barrett in "Pianigan's Ball," "California," "Faust," Chas. D. Herman and the Wardle company in "Othello," "Lion's Mouth," "At the Edge of the Grave," "Romeo and Juliet," "Macbeth," "East Lynne," "Uncle Tom's Cabin" and "Hazel Kirke," "An Orphan's Prayer," "Spotless Town," "Where is Cobb?" "Budded at Sea," "Down Mobile," Inez Forman in "East Lynne," Jesse Shirley in "Tilly" and

### ANTON PEDERSEN.

Prof. Pedersen was the leader of the Walker Opera house orchestra for seven years, organized the first symphony orchestra and conducted the first symphony orchestra in the state and did most excellent work with the Knights of Pythias band. Five costly medals evidence his ability in contests. He conducts the music department at all Italian colleges and is organist of the Christian Science church. At these places, and at his neat studio at the Clayton music store he labors long hours every day of the year. Among his best known pupils are Squire Coop, Agnes Dahlquist, his daughters Segrid and Rene and his son Arthur.

### FERGUS COALTER.

Has been in the music business 30 years in Utah, and has built up one of the most substantial business concerns in the state. Just glance at the list of agencies he has in pianos, Organs; Chickering & Son, Story & Clark, Baldwin, Ellington, Howard Hamilton and Hamilton Organs. He has also a full line of Violins, Guitars, Mandolins, Banjos, Band Instruments, Sheet Music, and Books. Catalogues sent free. Address Fergus Coalter, 39 Main St., Salt Lake City.



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**MR. ARTHUR SHEPHERD**

Mr. Arthur Shepherd is the youngest of our leading musicians and one of the most prominent by reason of his being director of the Salt Lake Theater Orchestra. He was also organizer of the Salt Lake Symphony Orchestra which created such a strong impression last year, and is now interested in organizing the Philharmonic Society. He has the reputation of being one of the most gifted composers in the west, his compositions which are decidedly artistic, having been submitted to and approved by such men as S. Conscience Taylor, who composed the song of Hinavata. In addition to his Theater work Mr. Shepherd has, at his studio, 266 Whittingham block, as many pupils as he can find time for in both piano and harmony.

**ALFRED BEST, JR.**

This well known tenore robusto, a pupil of Frank G. Deseret of New York, and the well known baritone Archambault, is now for the third year instructor of music at the University of Utah. He has appeared prominently before the public many times, among others in the Salt Lake Opera company, notably in the Prince and the Peasant. Vocal solos calling for strong dramatic effort are Mr. Best's strong point, and the managers of many opera companies when they heard him sing, offered him engagements, notably the Bostonians and John C. Fisher, but Mr. Best preferred to go on with his work here. Latter on, however, he intends to return east, when we expect to hear great things of him. Besides his class of 123 pupils at the University, Mr. Best has a strong following at his studio, No. 443 Constitution building. Besides singing, he gives instruction in the mandolin, making a specialty of full harmony in duo style, which brings out the entire quality of that under-rated instrument. Mr. Best was the guest at Prof. McClellan's recital in Denver last April.

**He Found a Cure.**

R. H. Foster, 213 E. 2nd Street, Salt Lake City, writes: "I have been bothered with dyspepsia or indigestion for 21 years, have tried many doctors without relief, but I have found a cure in Herbine. I recommend it to all my friends, who are afflicted that way, and it is curing them, too. 50c at Z. C. M. I. Drug Dept."

**FRED C. GRAHAM.**

Most of the readers of the "News" are familiar with the name of Mr. Fred C. Graham, the well known tenor. He is a native of Salt Lake, born in 1874. His first public appearance was in 1899. Mr. Graham's voice is naturally placed and most of what he has learned is what he taught himself by observation. He has sung over the whole of the state, having made an extensive tour of southern Utah in 1934. He has appeared in nearly every performance given by the S. L. Opera company, and is indispensable at almost every concert given in the city. He sings regularly at the First Congregational church of Salt Lake. Mr. Graham is a railroad man, having been with the Short Line now for six years.

**PROF. J. J. McCLELLAN.**

The popular Tabernacle organist, has a reputation extending over the country especially since his recent organ recital in Denver at the Annual Musical Festival, and also since he secured the \$3 prize for the music of the "Irrigation Cole" last August, which was sung with great success by a choir of 200 voices at the National Irrigation Congress in Ogden. He is a pupil of Albert W. Pinto, the famous organist Dr. Stanley, and the celebrated German pianist Johann Schumann, his education being finished by the renowned masters Jones, Scharwenka and Ledebky. As an accompanist his talent is known and appreciated by the best known local and eastern singers. He is also engaged in business, being a director and secretary of the Clayton Music company. Prof. McClellan has composed several songs, anthems and other works. Next April he intends to give two organ recitals in Boise. Prof. McClellan's new studio is over the Clayton Music company's store where he thus is fully equipped with his pupils.

**SQUIRE COOP.**

Mr. Coop, whose reputation as a musician and director is well established throughout the west, has studios both in Salt Lake and Ogden. He acquired his love for music under the tuition of Prof. Anton Pedersen and other teachers, and finished his education under the best masters of Europe, the famous Busoni and Godowsky, being among his instructors. Mr. Coop was formerly conductor of the tabernacle choir at Ogden, but his increasing responsibilities forced him to resign that position sometime ago. He is one of our foremost pianists as well as one of our most capable instructors, and is well known as having been the teacher of Miss Nan. At the present time Mr. Coop is only devoting himself to such pupils as are already on his list, a great part of his time being devoted to study. The Salt Lake headquarters are over the Leysen establishment.

**MADAME AMANDA SWENSON**

One of the best known musical conductors and instructors in the west. She is recognized as one of the leading ladies in her profession in the intermountain region and her studio is thronged early and late by the most promising pupils from all over the state. Her recitals are looked forward to as the climax of such efforts in the city and she has many pupils now in the east and in Europe pursuing their studies under the best masters in the world. Madame Von Kiener, the best known exponent of the Garcia method in the United States, writes in terms of the highest praise of the thoroughness and proficiency of the pupils now under her care coming from this studio.

**GEORGE E. SKELTON.**

The well known violinist and professor, Mr. George Skelton, is an Englishman by birth. His musical education was completed at Trinity College, London, under Crozier, in 1896, since when Mr. Skelton has earned many laurels with his instrument. One of his most notable achievements was the gaining of the first prize in the North of England Elitadford in 1904. Shortly after this he came to Utah. Besides his engagements as first violin in the Christus string quartet, Mr. Skelton has many engagements as a soloist at the most important concerts in the city. Among his successful pupils, Miss Mildred Almy Parker, who has gone to Paris to complete her studies, is prominent.

**Coughing Spelt Cane Death.**

"Harry Duckwell, aged 25 years, choked to death early yesterday morning at his home, in the presence of his wife and child. He contracted a slight cold a few days ago and paid but little attention to it. Yesterday morning he was seized with a fit of coughing which continued for some time. His wife sent for a physician but before he could arrive another coughing spell came on and Duckwell died from suffocation.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat, Jan. 1, 1911." Fairhair's Horchbound Syrup would have saved him. 25c, 50c and \$1.00 at Z. C. M. I. Drug Dept.

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