## Amusements

vaudeville bill of unusual excellence at the Orpheum. A musical comedy at the Boyd the latter half of the week drew large audiences despite the fact that the same piece was offered during an extended engagement here last season. So far since the opening of the present season the good attractions have been few and far between. One really good play a week is about all we have had. Commencing with the week opening today the good things theatrical are to come thick and fast. For this week there are two excellent attractions booked, the week following three and for the balance of the season not a single week will pass without seeing at least two good attractions at the Boyd.

The management of each of the local play houses reports business excellent, even better than last season, and a prosperous year in amusement circles is reasonably assured.

A number of letters of inquiry have been addressed to this department recently by different local theater-goers, who inquire when we are to see a good genuine light opera, or if everything in a mussical way that is to come this season is to be of the so-called musical comedy variety. This is not a very difficult question to answer, and it is not necessary to consult the booking sheet of the theater to make reply since there are but three genuine light opera or-Quiller." one of them, has already been seen here. The Bostonians never fail to pay Omaha an annual visit and Lulu Glaser has already announced that she will bring her "Dolly Varden" here early in the new year. Francis Wilson, Frank Daniels and others booked for appearance, but are each offering musical farce this season, having abandoned comic opera because of the fact that it has proven unprofitable with them during the last few seasons. George Bowles, for many years associated with Frank L. Perley in was in the city last week, and when approached upon the subject of musical attractions said: "Musical farce, or, more properly speaking, vaudeville, has to a great extent supplanted opera comique in popular regard, particularly in the larger cities. Omaha has always been a splendid comic opera city, and probably is yet, but it is a question whether the most weritorious light opera, with the best cast obtainable, could play longer than four weeks to profitable business in New York City, or a week in Boston, Washington, Chicago, Philadelphia, or any of the larger cities where in earlier days it would have run from four to forty weeks. On the other hand, almost all of the musical comedies that have been brought out since the craze for this style of entertainment started are doing splendid business in large and small cities alike, 'Florodora' is probably the most successful of any it is hard to account for its success. It has been running in New York to the absolute and gives every promise of continuing to be first few weeks of its run it was not suc-Finally the 'Tell Me Pretty Maiden' air commenced to be heard frequently upon the streets and then people seemed to be playing follow the leader in flocking to see the piece.

absolutely correct ones. Real light opera and there is naught of hate, revenge or presented in the most perfect way is apby the public and liberally patronized, especially in the cities outside of New York, but people of cultivated musical taste are few and light opera cannot be played profitably in any city for as long an engagement as can musical farce, simply because the latter class of entertainment pleases everyone, while light opera appeals to fewer people. It cost in the neighborhood of \$7,000 a week to put 'The Fortune Teller' on and it was hard to take in more than that on an average the year round. The production cost originally close to \$25,000, so you can readily see that this class of light opera, which is in reality the only sort that will draw at all, is too expensive to be profitable. Managers can't afford to produce it. Naturally they look for a substitute and find it in the musical farce, which B. B. Valentine, a New York newspaper costs but little to produce, as compared to Take for instance, 'The Burgomaster.' While its scenery is very pretty, it is almost all painted on what we call drope, and can be carried in a single right to dramatize it for America. About car. The costumes are by no means gorgeous, although well in keeping with the balance of the production. There are no der the title of "The Blue Rose" in France high-priced prima donnas, tenors or bassos employed, neither are there a half dozen star comedians included in the cast. Yet the play attracts the people in as large numbers as a more pretentious comic opera dissatisfied, emotional girl, one who is would and is accordingly profitable to its

"Another thing to which I attribute the vaudeville craze is subsiding somewhat. People are tiring of the vaudeville theater. yet they are still partial to the style of entertainment furnished by vaudevillians. As a matter of fact, if the English and Parisian definition of vaudeville, musical farce, etc., is correct, we have things theat-Pical misnamed in this country. What we call musical-farce is in reality vaudeville. Our vaudeville is what the English and Parisians call variety, and the plays abroad. So you see our musical comedies really belong to the vaudeville type of en-

"It is pretty hard to draw the line between light opera, comic opera, musical extravaganza and burlesque, but the differ-

explain. In comic or light opera a consistent story is told. The words of every musical number, all of the dialogue, on the story, must help connect and tell it logically. In musical farce just the reverse is usually the order. Nothing need be consistent as long as the music is tuneful and the songs catchy. There need be no high class comedy, buffoonery is all that is necessary. Local gags may be interpolated at will. In fact, the people in the cast can do almost anything at any time, so long as it is within the bounds of decency. If the law against plaglarism was not so severe in this country I should want nothing better with which to amass a fortune than a musical comedy, the book of which was made up of popular stories and witticisms of the day, the score embracing all of the popular songs, pathetic, sentimental and otherwise, with a few good singers, a half dozen good knockabout comedians and a bevy of shapely cherus maidens. I would surely be rich in a short time.

"It is rather surprising to me why some enterprising manager does not organize a first-class burlesque company, such as we the season. In the early days of burlesque | the band. in this country a whole play, book or poem was burlesqued, as, for instance, Rice's 'Evangeline.' 'Adonis' was another good one. In it 'Hazel Kirke,' 'Esmeralda,' and of the former comic opera favorites are other goody-goody type of play so popular in those days, was burlesqued. these entertainments, as well as others of their kind, proved splendid money-makers for their owners and were immensely popular. 'Evangeline' lived three or four the management of the Alice Nielsen Opera lived. Where did musical comedy origincompany, and who is now interested with ate? The home of all of this class of enter-Ben Stern in the Blanche Walsh company, tainments is the Gaiety theater in London. Musical comedy developed from burlesque in the theater some few years ago. Ten years ago 'Monte Christo' and such plays

were burlesqued there. The comedians the hands of the audience and gradually the burlesque faded away and the musical comedy appeared. Do I think the new type of musical play will last? I doubt it very much. I don't see how it can consistently, for the simple reason that there is little or practically nothing at all to it."

Coming Events. Lincoln J. Carter's "Eleventh Hour" will be opened this afternoon at the Boyd for an engagement that includes tonight and Monday night. This is the piece that made such a big hit at the Boyd last season. Crowded into its five acts are many thrillof the many so-called musical farces, and ing situations and hair-raising climaxes. In one scene five men engage in a deadly fight in the drawing room of a millionaire. capacity of the theater for more than a year | Every article of virtu and bric-a-brac is broken, as is the furniture and other fura drawing card well into another year. The nishings. Charles Gardner-Karl, the sweet singer-heads the cast presenting the piece. He will sing his popular song hits, "Little Bunch of Roses," "The Lilacs" and "Apple Blossoms.

Adelaide Thurston will be at Boyd's 'How do I account for the change? Well, Wednesday matinee and night. As a star it is hard for one to figure out a logical in a beautiful new comedy-drama, known reason. Merely a change of taste on the as "Sweet Clover," based on the old-fashpart of the public. In my own mind I have loued country home and the people that figured out several reasons, but I would make such homes. The spections of love not want to be quoted as saying they were and sorrow predominate in its expression otions of love other of the baser passions in its construction. The company is said to be a strong one. Otis Thayer, a sterling actor of wide reputation, enacts the role of an old country gentleman of the old school.

Blanche Walsh, with her excellent company, will be seen at Boyd's Thursday, for Happiness." The piece is modern, but is said to be as strongly dramatic as the Sardou and other costume pieces with which Miss Walsh's name has been assopiece was originally written in the Italian artificiality-all sincere. for Mme. Duse by Anita Vivanti Chartres. It was translated into English and made into a novelette by Mme. Chartres and Happiness" it was published in Town Topics. The story was so human and dramatic that Miss Walsh paid \$1,000 for the the same time Mme. Sara Bernhardt bought the right to produce the plece unand about the same time Beerbohm Tree bought the English rights Mr. Tree will produce it under the name of the "Unattainable." The story is that of a selfish, clever enough to attain great success on the stage, but who, at the time of her greatest triumph, sees nothing but emptichange in a measure is the fact that the ness in fame and on the impulse of the moment accepts an offer of marriage and seeks contentment in domestic life. The duliness of housewifery soon palls upon her and she sinks into a condition of slovenly torpidity, neglectful of herself, her husband and her child. The tempter comes in the person of a soulless roue, who makes love to her and persuades her that happiness is found only in the gratification of passion. An elopement follows and then "the wages of sin"-desertion, ignominy and finally death. The story is said to we call comic operas are styled burlesques be handled with dignity and sincerity and to teach a powerful lesson in a masterful

The Svengalis, who have been more suc-

way. Robert Lowe, Emmet Shackelford

leading members of the cast.

and Rose Brahm and Harriet Sterling are

three in number-two men and a woman. and they do things right. The last week has furnished little of in- | ence between any of these and musical The woman and one of the men occupy terest in the amusement line aside from a farce is so marked that it is not hard to respective places on the stage, the one at whether humorous or otherwise, in fact backs to the audience. The second man continued a year or so ago in Portland, everything done, must have some bearing mingles with the audience and hears re- Ore., on account of her health. When in certainly without a spoken word or visible quests of those in the audience can be conveyed to the persons on the stage. The operator in front does not even face the others, but keeps his back carefully turned. Along with this act there will be a splendid aggregation of vaudeville talent in the and Dixon, Bowers and Dixon, known as the Three Rubes, will be the chief artistic service." and fuomaking factors, while Dorothy Walters, female whistler; Worden and Shepard, | cal libraries in this part of the country is Latina, and Smart and Williams will each in the possession of Miss Nora McCabe of contribute to the general entertainment.

lesque bits of a few of the popular plays of drum major lend a unique distinction to lus."

## Musical

Through the courtesy of Miss Fannie Ar nold I had the pleasure of visiting the various rooms of the Farnam school last Monday. I heard the singing of the children years, and 'Adonis' was equally as long Arnold led me to think of three points in father speak at the Unity club meetings connection with her work. First, the devotion of her teachers; second, the devotion of the children; third, the thoroughness of her musical discipline.

Miss Arnold is the hardest worked public official in Omaha. She never stops for a moment. From class to class she goes, and learned that frequent interpolations of top- the lesson seems to be a continuous "proical songs and jokes met with approval at gressive" game. As I walked with her from room to room the conversation was invaria bly a connecting link between the work just heard and the work coming next. I am not exaggerating when I say that if a business man on the school board or anywhere else wants to see a person work sixty-one minutes to the hour he should see Miss Arnold.

> Here in the Farnam school I notice the same emphasis placed upon the necessity of singing softly. From the little people who have just graduated from the kindergarten to those who are already taking on the dignity and manner of the High school student there was a deep interest in the instruction. The teachers all declare that the children look forward eagerly to the music period. and I think the teachers do also. One case interested me very much and I must mention it. One of the teachers said to me, in an almost apologetic way: "You know, I don't know anything about singing. I cannot sing at all." This was said before the singing in her room began, and suggested the thought, "You must not judge the work by my room." I wondered then what the result would be, and to my great surprise and pleasure, when the young people sang. it was excellent. "How do you accomplish this?" I asked. "Oh, I just take a few of the leaders over to the kindergarten room where they have a piano, and I play the notes for them. Then they assist me greatly." The teacher who did that is putting talent out to great advantage. She will receive the "well done, good and faiththe talents and leave them idle!

Mrs. Harrison is the principal of the Farnam school and she is warmly interested Friday, Saturday matinee and night of in all musical affairs. One can see by this week in her new play. 'The Hunt watching her that she loves music with all her soul, and that she appreciates the work defendant of Dreyfus, will be a candidate and appetite and grew wretchedly ill, esof her teachers in developing it. Mrs. Harrison must be an inspiration to her students because of a heart alive with symclated since her advent into stardom. The pathy and tenderness. No austerity, no

Another feature of the school work which has attracted my attention is the the next French parliament or congress hearty way in which the boys go into the probably will be graced by every male man. Under the title of "The Hunt for work. The absurd idea that "music is for member of his family, himself and his three girls" seems to be gradually dying out. sons. The marquis considers his chance extherefor.

I wish I could tell all these boys some of the conversations I have had with well candidate at St. Fleur. Count Stanislaus, known Omaha men on the subject of sing- already mayor of Murat, and youngest ing. Some day I will give in this column a symposium of remarks and sentiments of our most prominent men on this matter and then I will ask Miss Arnold to let the school boys hear what these gentlemen say. As an example, a leading physician, who is well known throughout this section, said to me a few months ago: "I would give \$1,000 cash to have back the opportunity I had when a boy to learn to

well known insurance man told me last week that he would give a year's income just to be able to sing a few songs his friends. The sad part of cach tale comes here: "But it is too late now." It is a great good thing that the public school music is interesting the boys. More power to them!

Miss Arnold gives attention to the minutest details of her work. She watches the position of the student. She gives them certain easy and healthy breathing exercises and her strictness as to time is splendid because she insists upon a proper sentiment and expression also. The "reading" of the various grades is marvelously inter-esting. I am afraid that Miss Arnold some anxiety on the part of some of her teachers last Monday because she took up selections that the young people had never seen before. But, as she explained to me, "This is not showoff work. want you to see how it grows." I was very glad she did so, because it paid a much greater tribute to the work of the teachers and the direction of the super-visor to see the system in its develop-Too much praise cannot be given to that earnest missionary of music and wonderful woman, Miss Fannie Arnold.

As an encouragement to the teachers who are working hard for musical success I quote the following to show that their work is being noticed and that they have colaborers in high places.

"I have been very much interested of late in your accounts in The Sunday Bee of your personal inspection of the work being done in vocal music in the schools of Omaha, South Omaha and Council Bluffs. Now I would like to have you see what is being done in at least one country town in the state and what may be done in nearly all of them. There are a number of cittes in the state of Nebraska employing from thirty to fifty teachers that make no attempt to systematic musical instruction. but the city of Blair, employing twenty two teachers, has vocal music in its course from the first grade through the High

This is part of a letter from Mr. W. K. Fowler, state superintendent of public instruction, and he invites me to accompany him to Blair on some future date to hear the music there. I have assured him that

cessful in mystifying the public of two nothing would give me greater pleasure continents than has any other one act and when I can secure a date mutually that has ever appealed to amusement convenient Blair will be visited with much seekers, will be the chief attraction at interest. I always expect great things the Orpheum this week. The Svengalis are from Blair. They are great people there,

One of the most interesting personalities a piano, the other at a cabinet arranged of the local musical world this year is Miss with wigs and other appurtenances for Blanche Sorenson, who has recently remaking quick changes. Both are with their sumed professional work, which she disquests for selections of music or for the Portland she had charge of school music. appearance of some great international a church choir and, in addition, she taught celebrity. Almost with a second's wait, and and did concert work. She is a most inmeans of communication, the woman at the study down to a fine point. Since her replano plays the selection requested or the turn to Omaha the wonderfully recuperaman makes up to represent the persons tive properties of the Nebraska climate named. Apparently there is no means of have done wonders for her and she now communication by which the whispered reseason, teaching, singing and taking concert engagements. Miss Sorenson sang at Plattsmouth last week and the Evening News has this to say of her: "Miss Serenson has a very fine mezzo-soprano voice World and Hastings, sketch artists, her selection added very materially to the which shows a high degree of culture, and

One of the most interesting private must

Council Bluffs, a well known planist over there, who should also be well known in "The Kilties," the military band of the Omaha. This library contains many treas-Forty-eighth Highlanders of Toronto, Can- ures, and amongst other things she has, had in this country ten or fifteen years ada, will be here December 16, afternoon what I expect few people here have, the The nearest approach we have to a and evening, at the Coliseum. This is a "Elijah," the "Hymn of Praise" and "St. real burlesque company is Weber and great organization, from a musical point of Paul" of Mendelssohn, in the German, under ganizations upon the road today. "Foxy Field's in New York, yet they only bur- view, while their kilts and seven-foot high the titles "Elias," "Lobgesang" and "Pau-These proved very interesting to An immense "folio" edition of the "Elijah" was gullty of making me break the commandment, "Thou shalt not covet." Then there are Schubert songs innumerable, and dozens of symphonies, etc., to say nothing of the many other cantatas and oratories. The editions are all authentic. Breitkopf and Hartel's famous foreign editions being conspicuous. Miss McCabe is a constant student of music and musical of all ages and it was most enjoyable. Miss literature, and those who have heard her

> One of the recent acquisitions to Omaha's musical colony is Mr. Edward Garelssen violinist. Mr. Gareissen has the same devotion to music as his brother. Oscar Rudolph, the well known singer. He procures a beautiful tone, and it is more than likely that he will stay here permanently, although he has a good business in Detroit It is to be hoped that he will find Omaha a sufficiently tempting field.

will easily understand her studious tastes.

program at St. Mary's Avenue Congregational church tonight THOMAS J. KELLY.

Capitola Williams, piano. Studio 8, Dav dge blk. Marie Swanson, harp soloist and ac

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French Push the Project for School in Engineering and Business Methods.

the Northern railway, believes the school will be in operation by next September, with at least 300 students, half of whom will be supported by the government, the other half being pay students. The number of pay students, however, will not be lim- structions. What a rebuke to people who have ited. All parents desirous of giving their sons the benefit of an American sojourn may do so, provided the man is a college graduate and able to stand a special examination A mevement is on foot to extend the same privilege to young women.

Maitre Labori, who gained fame as the for the Chamber of Deputies at the next election. He will run at Fontainebleu, a historic town a ride of an hour and a half south from Paris. He will deliver his first as he had finished talking a representative speech next Thursday, explaining why he will support the radical socialist platform. The Marquis de Castellane announces that And to the teachers belongs much credit cellent at St. Nazaire. Count Boni's candidacy is unopposed in his present district, his family's home place. Count Jean is a mayor in France, will run there against the present representative, M. Peschaud, whom he slapped at a railway station last week, in return receiving a beating with a cane. The bill known as the pardon law will successfully pass. It is believed no question has excited such interest here since the passing of the Berenger law a few years ago, giving the courts discretionary brought the invention to perfection. power to parole first offenders. Even those who at first were the most stubborn advocates of paroling, now acknowledge that the Berenger law has given inestimable moral benefit. Since Judge Magnaud started on his ad-

cases in equity and began a campaign in sonating the principal character.

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oughly cleansed of this impure matter. Any physician will tell you that the only way to cure Rheumatism is to remove the cause. That is exactly what "5-DROPS" does. It will cure Rheumatism in any form-it does not matter whether you are suffering from Inflammatory, Nervous, Muscular or Articular Rheumatism; whether your whole system is full of uric acid, whether every part of your body is aching and every joint is out of shape Swanson's "5-DROPS," if used as directed, will positively give instant relief and effect a permanent cure.

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favor of granting to judges full power to pardon where the offender's moral salvation seems to demand it, the best public Mr. Keck will present a special musical opinion has been entirely with him. Even paroling leaves the sentence a record, hanging like the sword of Damocles over an individual's life. This brands the culprit, often ruining all future endeavor. But a pardon, after the severe iesson of public rial and a narrow escape from dishonor. It is generally found, will suffice to stop the downward course of any man or woman. Gabrielle Ricard, a notorious Italian anarchist, in a fit of lunacy swallowed a dynamite cartridge, the fuse of which was left running through a diminutive rubber pipe, the end of which was outside his mouth. Having decided to commit suicide, Ricard thought the quickest way would be to blow himself up. Owing to a kink in Copyright, 1901, by Press Publishing Co.) the rubber tube the fuse would not ignite PARIS, Nov. 16 .- (New York World Cable- the cartridge, which was afterward exgram-Special Telegram.)-The committee tracted at a hospital, an incision being

American methods and to arrange a course week, while the woman, though much more of study, held its first meeting today. The intelligent, and evidently the instigator chairman, M. Sarmiaux, chief engineer of of the crime, got her death sentence comderer's body was buried in the same grave with the famous anarchist, Rayachol, the new grave digger not being familiar with the cemetery and having mistaken in-

says she got her idea while watching chil-

workingman, until successive experiments Mrs. Grant Scott, lately back from Lucerne, where Empress Eugenie still is, says the empress of late has grown so ag d and feeble that she cannot possibly live

dren struggle with an ill-built contrivance

She had several models made by a French

Sarah Bernhardt will produce a new onemirable course of judging all petty criminal act play by herself, November 21, imper-

President Loubet, upon the advice of the judiciary, had refused to pardon the murderer. The morning of the execution the aged president, pale and nervous, asked his secretary: "Is it over?" and then confessed that whenever he knew the guillotine was about to be used he lost sleep pecially if he had been called upon to pardon a criminal and had been conscientiously compelled to refuse to do so. Jusbrought up the case of a Mrs. Gortsinger, recently sentenced to death at Versaille for the murder of her husband. She got the benefit of President Loubet's horror of the guillotine and her sentence was commuted to five years' imprisonment. Mrs. Arthur Paget has entered a mechanical toy of her own invention in a toy competition instituted by the city of Paris, with twenty large money prizes. The exhibition will open at the end of the month. The purpose is to provide for children amusements more ingenious and better calculated to develop their brains than the present toys. Mrs. Paget refuses to give an advance description, but she

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