What Ails Stage

Brady Admits Radio Is Not Only Thing That Is Cutting Down Seat Sales

By PERCY HAMMOND.

New York, Jan. 11. O one seems to believe in Wil llam A. Brady's discovery that the radio is the cause of the present suffering in the dramatic business. Ever since he made his terrified announcement the news papers have been full of articles prov odynes are the least of the theater's ailments. Mr. Brady, like Mr. Ber geret's dog, is of an "aboriginal pru dence" regarding every newcome with distrust. But in a letter to these dispatches the other day he. admits that his critics are right and that the managers persist in harboring en emies much more harmful than the

A majority of those who correct Mr Brady tell him that the high cost of tickets is keeping the public away from the theaters. On Monday night for instance, \$5.50 was charged for a single seat at "Mrs. Patridge Pre sents-" a good comedy, but entailing no great expenditure in production The theaters affiliation with the brokers and speculators is an ancient source of complaint, but never was resentment so deep as it is at pres ont. In answer to Mr. Brady's outer; many people write in to say that they have abandoned playgoing because o he prependerance of bad shows Others tell me that they refrain from the dramas on account of uncomfort able seating arrangements, ill ventila tion of theaters and a general disregard on the part of the managers for the comfort of their patrons.

You would be surprised to know how many correspondents say that their chief grievance against the theater is discourtesy in the box offices. Customers for the less exper sive seats make their purchases a the ticket windows and there, the complain, they are subjected to indif ference insolence and humiliation Disdainful young men treat ther with an impatient contempt, especia y when the wares are popular. So rather than have their feelings hur or their ire roused, they seek othe means of recreation. Following is sample of the numerous protest against the unfriendliness of the theaters:

"Sir: Can you explain why seller of tickets at the box offices of the aters hold the public in contempt? "Who do they frown when they

serve a customer? "Why do they snap at him when he asks about the prices and location of tickets?

"Is it one of the qualifications of successful ticket seller that he or she be as ugly and unpleasant as possible when taking the theatergo-

"Are all ticket sellers dyspeptic, or do they work for nothing, or do they feel that the public gets too mucl dejected because of the low state of the drama? . THOMAS STEEP." In no other line of merchandising

s so little attention paid to amity between buyer and seller. I suggested answer left me with no reply. ville program above the ordinary. received the united praise of critics Townsend Ahearn, Lawrence Rob-"What's the use?" said he. "If I Some of the old-timers in the Sale and a discriminating public than was erts, Clement Taylor, Phillip Kelman, al experience has covered almost every brilliantly baid pate has glistened have a show they want to see they'll gallery of rural characters will per- accorded "Biossom Time" and its re- and the Misses Edith Thayer, Louise form of entertainment. ome to it, and if I haven't they form with new recitations and such, turn with the original company and Arnold, Mary Stockwell, Violet Rio, won't, no matter how polite I am."

a bright little serious comedy called artist of rare accomplishment. He Mrs. Partridge Presents-" the uses no makeup, depending solely authors of which are two young and upon his facial expressions to inter obscure actresses named Ruth Haw- pret his different characters, which thorne and Mary Kennedy. It was so are never overdrawn, popular with its first audience that Though experts of practically every seems safe to include it in a list of style of dancing, Deno and Rochelle

felightful widow of course, who has it one to be remembered. Val Adley's suffered from matrimony. Having orchestra provides a spirited accombeen rendered unhappy by the wed-paniment for this spectacular danceding ring, she determines to make program and contributes several novel her progeny independent of wedlock's interludes, and Deno Brothers furdisasters. Her son must be a painter; nish the songs. her daughter must be an actress "Birdie" Reeve, a 16-year-old miss upon the Broadway stage. Both of is the world's fastest typist. She these offsprings have other ideas, operates a typewriter at 20 strokes But Miss Bates is so lovely and hyp- per second, averaging as high as 300 notic that she misdirects their careers words a minute. Added to this, she and tries to send them to horizons has a vocabulary of some 64,000

lady as a handsome, humorous, ad- tertainment on her mastery of the venturous milliner and haberdasher. as well as a witty hen who clucks Teddy Sabini are ultra-comedians prudent advice to the sagacious con- They are featured this season in tents of her eggshells. I have seen new version of their comedy, "I Quit. with much satisfaction Miss Bates Their series of clever antics keep the play in many plays. But I believe audience in an uproar. Fred Babb that in "Miss Partridge Present-" Lois Syrell and Iris Lorraine offer she resembles, so far as the stage cleverly arranged assortment of interesting and human being.

of Miss Sylvia Field, who is patheti- scientific manipulating. Green and cally frightened by her mother—so LaFell are featured in an original much so that she hesitated for two musical act, a novelty that is espeacts and a half to abandon the drama cially interesting for its entertainfor Sidney, a shrewd and handsome ment. farmer of Westchester county, I liked the sophomore cynic of Mr. Edward Emerey, fr., a wise and Havana, Cuba, to make location promising actor if ever there was one. scenes for "A Kiss in the Dark." Hiced Miss Ruth Gordon, too, as she impersonated a new kind of ingenue, quietly, but eloquently imploring laughs. Miss Gordon was very good, and obvious. She split the difference between life and the theater almost as expertly as Miss Laurette Taylor does. I shall read in other journals that she was the "hit" of the performance; yet I shall still suspect that she was merely the shrewd and wise

His role in the M. C. Leves production, "One Year to Live," pleted, Antonio Moreno will leave Hollywood for New York within the

After a brief stay in Manhattan, Moreno will sall for France the early part of January to meet Rex Ingram, with whom he will make the trip to Spain to commence the picturization of "Mare Nostrum," Ibanez's novel.

It will be the first time in years that Moreno will portray a native Spaniard, and the first time that he has ever played a star ring role it his native country. He will be absent more than six months.

Sidney Olcott having completed the cutting of "Salome of the Tenements," has left for California to di reut Pola Negri in "The Charmer."



Laura Arnold, IN "BLOSSOM TIME. COMING TO BRANDEIS Edith Barry, AT WORLD

"Blossom Time" to

Sunday, January 18.

Shine for a Full

The Song

of the

Blood-Red

Flower

A celebrated cast of Swedish a

Norwegian actors

Greta Almroth, Axel Nelson,

Lillebil Christense, Doris Nelson, Louise Fahlman, Hjalmer Peters, Nils Lundell.

Produced by A. B. Svienska,

Biograftertern, Sweden.

The Outstanding Success of

Musical Stage History

and also in Omaha last year.

Will Danforth

George Hackett

Roy Cropper

Alma Keller

Gay, Golden, Glorious

Edith Erastoff,

Week at Brandeis

"Blossom Time" embraces all the O'Donnel, premiere danseuse.

SCANDINAVIA'S GREATEST PHOTOPLAY

All Titles in English. Don't Miss It. It's Different.

MAIL ORDERS NOW---TICKETS THURSDAY

ADMISSION—Evenings, 7 and 9 p. m.: Adults, 50c; Children, 25c. Saturday Matinee, 1 and 3 p. m.: Adults, 25c; Children, 10c.

WEEK STARTING NEXT SUNDAY, JAN. 18

(MATINEES WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY)

FAREWELL ENGAGEMENT

THE FAMOUS NEW YORK CAST

Edith Thayer

Laura Arnold

Erba Robeson

Ferne Newell

Peggy O'Donnell

The Ideal Ambassador Theatre Production

A ROSEBUD GARDEN of RADIANT GIRLS

NIGHTS, 80c to \$2.50. Pop. MAT. WED., 80c TO \$1.50. MAT. SAT. 30c TO \$2.00. When remitting by mail add 10% for govt. ter

Violet McKee, AT GAYETY

Chick Sale Will Make Fun for the Orpheum This Week

The return of "Chic" Sale to the for half-empty theaters. His Orpheum this week insures a vaude oldest theater goer has a musical play Ker, David Andrada, George Hackett, on't, no matter how polite I am."

but they will have to compete with some newcomers that "Chic" is preduction marks another real epoch in the present season.

Miss Blanche Bates is the star of senting this season. Mr. Sale is an "Blossom Time" embraces all the O'Donel premiere danseuse.

have chosen the "Apache" as thei Mrs. Partridge (Miss Bates) is a master achievement, and they make

words. She gives 15 minutes of rap Miss Bates represents this lovely id-fire, interesting and stimulating en "hunt system" of typing. Frank and will allow her to do so, a complete, dances. Johnson and Baker are tw mad hatters. Theirs is a juggling Admirable also is the performance act of deft, capable, amusing an

Adolphe Menjou has left for

CLEAN Columbia Twice Daily All Burleak Ladies' Barg. Mat., 2:15 Wk. Days HERE'S A SHOW THAT WILL KEEP THE PEW-HOLDERS IN THEIR SEATS.

Danny Murphy, Will H. Ward Beauty Chorus of 20

Nifty Weenies Hundreds of 25c and 50c Seats Every Night

Today's Bargain Mat. at 3:00. Best Seats 50c Always A 21/2-He

for Gayety Patrons

The Gayety theater will this week ffer twice daily one of Joe Hurtig's 'Niftles of 1925" in which Comedians Danny Murphy and Will H. Ward are | Empress Players to the featured members. Among the ladies are Violet McKee, a newcomer to the Columbia circuit, said to be the best dancing soubrette in the business: Mildred Campbell, last sea-

Empress Singer Has Had Varied Careeer on Stage

Lillian Bessent.

elements that give fascination to

THURSDAY, FRIDAY

January 15-16-17 and SAT.

light musical production. Its story,

AT EMPRESS

Maybelle La Couver, playing character roles with the Empress Players, tarted her theatrical career with the company, famous team of Johnny and Emma

Miss La Couver was in the chorus general allurements. Its music, com- studied voice for a year at the Chiposed largely of the works of Schu- cago College of Music. The following season she was en

bert, is fascinating in the extreme with a melodious beauty unsurpassed gaged as a prima donna in a Broad in any modern play of its kind. At way production, having the distinct a production it brings an old world tion of being one of the youngest ever "Blossom Time," the brilliant atmosphere of a century ago which engaged for a role of this character. Franz Schubert operetta, which is as quaint as it is delightful. And one engagement that Miss La created such a furore, will paly a return engagement at the Brandels said that it is flawless.

One engagement that Miss La Couver is especially proud of is the one she filled with the Dunbar Opera liam Danforth, Bertram Peacock, number of stock companies, including 1925,"

Not within the recollection of the Robert Rhodes, Yvan Servale, Paul Walker Baldwin and others. She has appeared in several vaude a familiar figure to all patrons of

> Keller, Virginia Danforth and Peggy Bebe Daniels in her next Paramount Ward, discovered this character in a picture "The Crowded Hour."

Make It Clean, Says Chic Sale Regarding Comedy

stage affords.

'Chic' is often heralded from the pul- recognize him immediately, as he is aged to attend the theaters where he store. is entertaining with his inimitable

Mr. Sale is at the Orpheum theater this week and he is truly "the man who makes us laugh at ourselves.' He is the teacher in charge of the Friday afternoon entertainment, who asks his audiences to regard themselves as pupils in school, and he cural centers of America.

That's what I'm most interested in. Taking a letter from his pocket. Chic," with pardonable pride, read ow the minister in his home town

high-lighted with every possible touch formance. One of the comedy suc bles from a spring.

Put Lena Rivers Into Real Life

son with "Happy Days" and now Rivers," has been made the basis Arthur Hays in a novel organ inter- character impersonations from real cting as comedienne; Teresa Adams. for the musical comedy production lude offers something musically dif- life, believing that in this way he can stately blond prima donna, and being offered at the Empress this ferent. Lillian Murphy, ingenue soubrette week. The title role is played by Honor and Smiles, eccentric danc- Helen Burke. Lillian Bessent will ing comedians, is another vaudeville surprise Empress patrons by playing recruit. William Murphy, character, the part of Lena's grandmother. Joe and Jack Coyle, straight man, make Marion has just the sort of part that up the rest of the cast proper. An he plays best, that of "Joe Slocum, elaborate production has been pre- a country hick. The story of "Lena pared to house all. Today's matines Rivers tells a love romance that is sprightly Kitzl of the "Blossom things that will hand you a laugh. It sical numbers include selections by

Starting next Saturday, the Em press Players offer an entirely differof their play, "King Casey." After a hot farce, entitled "One Wild Night," season with the Rays, Miss La Couver and shows what happens to a young rounder who gets into an amazing amount of trouble through looking upon the wine when it was red.

> Ward Has Made Village Wise Man Basis of Character

ville acts as well, so that her theatric. Columbia burlesque. Ward, whose over the circuit for many seasons his year presents an original char Kenneth Harian will play opposite acter known as the "Wise Cracker. Vermont grocery store in a little

VAUDEVILLE—PHOTOPLAYS



Only act of its kind in vaudeville. A sensational stage spectacle-the destruction of Tokio by fire, earthquake and tidal wave right before your eyes.



CHARLES T. ALDRICH Originator of the novel effects presented in his extraordinary act

Bordner & Boyer "A Laff, a Thrill, a Laff" | Gold & Edwards

Barry & Rollo 2 Girls and a Piano Arthur Hays

SHRINER & FITZSIMMONS In Their Comedy Hit, "The Newsdealer"



and dark shadows

of Paris

dents in the life of FRANZ SCHUBERT,

RETURN IN RESPONSE

CONTINUOUS PUBLIC DEMAND

Bertram Peacock

Townshend Ahern

Virginia Danforth

David Andrada

Tomorrow Eve at 9 o'clock Who Are Omaha's

EXTRA

Syncopation Kinge?

Six Local Bands in Competition at the Same Time

Winners of the Daily News-Sun Theatre Syncopation Week

NOTE-Immediately following the contest, two winning | bands appear at the Roseland of the bright lights Gardens continuous dancing -two orchestras.

own where he spends his vacations.

In fact, the appearance of ever lived in a rural community will merely the latest in the line.

Doom of Tokio Shown in Terrible Realism at World

terday," one of the headline attrac- the stage, when at last she should aptakes them back to childhood days tions in the new bill at the World, pear before an audience, convulsed his with his genre paintings of life in the Described as a mechanical production parents while they drove Miss Vir-"Just say that I want to produce Japan, by fire and earthquake, H. hearsals over and the curtain soon to clean comedy, will you?" he asks. Armand and Margaret Lester, who rise on her "first professional appearinique entertainment novelty.

n Illinois announced in church that scene of a busy, beautiful city. Then mere sight of the "wire" made her film in which he was starred would comes the disaster. Fire, earthquake hysterical, but she tore it open, to be shown at the local playhouse and and tidal waves engulf the metropolis read the following: "Dear that it was "good, clean comedy." and it is all said to be uncannily And the congregation was urged to brought before your eyes in one of don't sing until you can see the the most spectacular methods ever whites of their eyes. offered upon any stage.

Sharing top line honors is the noted Jr." up with them. They are of the soil character change artist, Charles T umorous because they are human- Aldrich, presenting an all-comedy perout not burlesqued. He does not need cesses of the season is promised by o strain for his points and the laughs Shriner and Fitzsimmons in their come as naturally as the water bub- laughing act, "The Newsdealer." Barry and Rolle, "Two Girls and a songs and ballads. A smart program with some new ideas is what Gold the ordinary takes all his types from and Edwards, "The Dancing French- real life. nen," will offer. Harry Bordner and For 20 years Aldrich has been re The popular old novel, "Lena laughs in their tampoline oddity, tainers in his field. He selects all his

> Brother's Advice to Sister About to Sing First Time

Virginia Danforth, who is the will find many people and many one of the most convincing ever writ- Time" cast coming to the Brandeis is equally true that one sees sorro en. Played in two scenes, the new theater for one week starting next and grief out in the open, but these bill promises to prove one of the most Sunday, January 18th, with matinees are the things that should be passed attractive in the long series presented Wednesday and Saturday, is the only by unnoticed, Look on the bright side by the Empress Players. Nine mu- daughter of Will Danforth, the lead- of life has always been my motto am ing comedian of "Blossom Time." by bringing this theory into my enter he Chesterfield Four, Rudy Wintner, Miss Danforth, now in her first year tainment, I have been fortunate in h Joe Marion, Lillian Bessent, Maybelle on the stage, will recall to many a ing able to appear with a fair degree La Couver and other members of the gray-haired fellow, her beautiful moth-

er, who, under the name of Norma "This 'wise cracker,'" says Ward, Kopp, was the delightful soubrette of knew more about the topics of the "The Wizard of the Nile." "The Idol's day, in his own estimation, than the Eye" and so many other of the Frank secretary of state. He could garble Danlels productions of a score of anything into the most unintelligible years ago. It seems to be the fashion Charles (Chic) Sale is one of the state that I have ever heard. Some among our leading stage comedians at best examples of cleanliness that the 40 years ago he had made a trip to the present time to absorb their own New York and picked up a few pretty daughters into their compan-In a day when censors are abroad phrases and he has since been em- tes. Really, everybody is doing it. n the land, ready with blue pencil bellishing them with his own crea- Fred Stone started the fashion with and shears to make stage and film tions. I spent several hours a day his fair daughter, Dorothy, in "Steponform to critical standards of mor listening to him and I now have him ping Stones," and now there is quite dity, he remains untouched by cendown pretty pat. Folks who have a list of them-Will Danforth being When demure little Virginia finally

pits and congregations are encour a familiar figure around the general gained her father' and mother's consent to go on the stage, her little brother-age 12-began to reveal not only the sly waggishness familiar in his father's fun-making, but gave evi dence which made his log suffering sister proclaim him a "veritable limb of Satan." The young fiend's admoni A vaudeville act which has created tions, delivered with mock serious much comment is "The City of Yes. face, as to how to conduct herself on showing the destruction of Tokio, ginia nearly frantic. Finally, with reappear in the act, have devised a ance on the stage," a telegram was brought back to her dressing room, Showing first the city of Tokio as it where she stood trembling with trepiexisted in its pristine days there is a dation awaiting her first cue. The Watch your hands and feet closely and It was, of course, signed "Willie,

Aldrich Finds His Models on Streets of Any City

Charles T. Aldrich, whose character Piano," have a cycle of humorous comedy impersonations at the World this week will be found quite out of

Bob Boyer intermingle thrills with garded as one of the foremost enterome nearer entertaining the average theater goer.

"It is the things that happen every day that are the funniest," opines Mr.





"HER OWN FREE WILL"

Four shows today-2:00, 4:20, 6:45, 9:10 Other days at - - - 3:15, 6:45, 9:10 Continuous daily from 1:15 p. m.