

IN AMUSEMENT LINES

The Holden Comedy company has continued to attract large audiences to the Lansing theatre all this week, presenting a different bill nightly. There will be performances as usual tonight and tomorrow night, with a matinee on Saturday, and the engagement will close Monday (Christmas) evening, with a special bill. Popular prices still prevail with this company.

Thursday evening, December 28, Hoyt's "A Brass Monkey" will be presented at the Lansing theatre by a company containing a number of old favorites. This farce-comedy is familiar to most playgoers, and it always receives a warm reception in Lincoln. There are some new things in "A Brass Monkey" this year, as well as some new faces, and the theatre will doubtless be filled with admirers of Hoyt's fun.

The Western League.
A correspondent of *Sporting News* says, apropos of the new Western league: Mr. T. J. Hickey will most likely have hold of the Lincoln club and Dave Rowe will handle Omaha.

Some of McCaull's friends will see to Des Moines and George Brackett will put a club in at Peoria.

Baldwin will look after Quincy, Guy Hecker will see that Jacksonville is well represented.

As to St. Joe and Rock Island Moline they both have knocked at the door for admission.

A meeting will be held in Chicago some time in January, when the association will be organized and the signing of players will commence.

All the teams will play Sunday games.

NEW WRINKLE IN DANCING.

From Pottstown, Pa., comes the report of "an astonishing exhibition of girlish charms which furnished a theme for an immense lot of gossip. A camp of the P. O. S. of A. gave a benefit entertainment, the chief feature of which according to the official program, was a 'nightgown drill.' This drill was just what the name implied. The lights in the room were slightly lowered, to give the scene a more realistic effect. The audience sat breathless for a minute or two, and then, from the wings of the stage, emerged a vision of maiden loveliness. A pretty girl, of interesting years, walked slowly before the footlights. Her only robe, so far as the charmed spectators could see, was a white flowing gown of the simplest make. The soft material clung nicely to the prettily rounded shoulders. Those delicate curves of the young woman's physique seemed all the more entrancing beneath this bewitching garb. Her hair fell loose upon her shoulders. Her snow-white feet and ankles twinkled beneath the filmy lace at the bottom of the gown.

Hardly had the audience recovered its breath before another girl, dressed just as the first, appeared. Then another and another, until seventeen bewitching girls, with loose flung hair and twinkling feet, were upon the stage. Each young lady carried a lighted candle. They marched back and forth across the stage and performed various evolutions. They refused to respond to an encore.

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Niagara Falls.
Next to the world's fair, all our foreign friends want to see Niagara Falls, and in the minds of many, Niagara Falls is placed first. One of the first questions they ask an American either at home or abroad is about Niagara, but to many of us Niagara Falls is too near. Were it on the other side of the world, thousands of American globe trotters would hasten there, who pass it by now because they can go there any time.

The Michigan Central has made it, perhaps, too easy of access, for its through trains from Chicago to New York and Boston run directly by and in full view of the great cataract, and those passing by daylight stop five minutes for passengers to view the Falls. The wise traveller however will stop over there as long as his time will permit to view the beauties and the grandeur of the falls under different aspects and from different points of view. The longer he stops the more he will find to repay him for whatever expenditure of time and money he incurs.

WERE WILLING TO UNLOAD.

They were talking on the rear platform of the car, when one suddenly turned to the other with:

"Were you ever in California?"

"Oh, yes."

"Great country, isn't it?"

"Let me sell you some property there."

"I was about to propose the same thing to you. Where is your property?"

"About fourteen miles from Blankville."

"Mine is just fourteen. What did you pay?"

"About \$800 per acre."

"So did I. Did you buy for an orange grove?"

"Yes."

"So did I. Any hill on your land?"

"Yes—all hill."

"So is mine. You paid \$800 per acre, and you'll take about \$25?"

"Yes—\$20."

"So will I. Beautiful climate, isn't it?"

"Perfectly lovely."

"Then I can't sell you?"

"Not today. Never told any one you got left, did you?"

"Never."

"Nor I, either. Always claim to have made \$20,000 on my deal. Good day."

"Good day."

Luxury of Travel.

"Hello, Jack! Just come down town?"

"No; why?"

"Because you look so fresh and trim—as though just out of a bandbox."

"Well, that is natural enough, when you consider that, instead of just coming down town, I have just got into town after a trip east."

"But that generally uses a man up, and gives him that tired feeling, what with cramped quarters and jarring and worrying him almost to death."

"I know that is sometimes the case. But frequently it depends upon what road you ride over. There are roads and roads. I made my journey by the Michigan Central, and they have such perfection in appliances for comfort, such discipline among the employes, that the annoyances are small indeed, and the comfort equal to that in one's own home, unless it is an exceptionally luxurious and well-appointed one. Try the Michigan Central, the Niagara Falls Route, next time you wish to go east. You'll find it so."—Arkansas Traveller.

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TRAVELING ON HIS FACE

J. Francis Payne, a smooth shaven, dark-complexioned young man, very nattily attired in a blue cheviot suit, left the Union Pacific ticket office on Broadway, Oakland, Cal., just after dark one day recently and walking away down to the railroad yards stealthily boarded a freight train which forty minutes later started for Sacramento. He walked down to the yards because he couldn't ride. He was possessed of only 1 cent, and on that he and a companion named Sydney had lived seventy-eight days and travelled 3,800 miles, and on the same cent he is compelled to live twenty two days more and to travel 2,200 miles.

Payne is a Chicago newspaper man who in the interest of a Chicago journal and for a wager of \$5,000 is striving to travel 6,000 miles in 100 days on a capital of one cent.

Just seventy-nine days ago he and Sydney left Chicago.

The conditions of the wager were that the combined capital for the trip should not be more than 1 cent; that they could not travel on tickets or passes and that they should stop one day in certain large cities.

Payne still has the 1 cent piece that they started with, but it is now polished to a bright golden hue from contact with his pocket. But his companion, Sydney, is not with him. They alighted from a flying freight at Los Angeles, and in the confusion incident to an accelerated roll down an embankment and their subsequent landing in a ditch, Sydney broke his leg and is now living with some degree of comfort, notwithstanding his broken limb.

The journey of the two young men to the coast has not been such a harsh one as might be imagined. Judging from the neatness of Mr. Payne's raiment and the absence of grime from his hands and face, he has not been obliged to ride very far on breakers-beams or conceal himself under the seats of passenger coaches or do any of the things that tramps and professional "hobos" are supposed to do. But he doesn't care to tell just how he manages to get along. Mr. Payne expects to write a good deal about his trip, and he does not want to have his material made stale by premature publication. He admits that his journey so far, except for the accident to his companion, was rather enjoyable. He says he has had plenty to eat, but he will not tell how he manages to persuade people to feed him, and to feed him well, too, or how he induces conductors to let him ride on their trains just as though he had a ticket.

He hinted that he had some mysterious scheme by which the proprietors of hotels were to be advertised, and he said that they were all more than anxious to feed and shelter him in return for the benefits they will derive.

After leaving Chicago they proceeded to New Orleans by means of freight trains and obliging train hands. They were there honored by the famous Olympic Club, which tendered them a banquet. At this banquet they met Vice-President Thorne of the Texas and Pacific Railway, the young man who rumor says is going to marry Miss Helen Gould. He offered them passes over his lines, which they were compelled to refuse, but he told them they would have no trouble in getting over the road, and strangely enough they did have no trouble.

From New Orleans they went to the City of Mexico by way of Laredo and thence to Los Angeles by way of El Paso. Down in Mexico it was rather more difficult. Payne does not understand much Spanish and he found it rather hard work sometimes to make the people understand that he wanted to eat. That is, it was no great task to let them know that he was hungry, but they could not comprehend from his signs and imperfect talk why they should feed him.

Payne lost six days in caring for his unfortunate companion.

He yet has twenty one days left and in that time he must travel from Sacramento to Ogden, to Salt Lake, to Denver, to Kynsas City, to St. Louis and thence home to Chicago. But at Salt Lake, Omaha and Denver he must stop one day, according to the terms of the wager.

Payne is allowed sixty-eight pounds of baggage, which is forwarded for him from city to town and vice versa by Wells, Fargo & Co., and this baggage has enabled him to keep supplied with clean linen and starched shirts and collars.

He expresses himself as being fully confident of reaching the point he started from within the stipulated time.

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