

THE NEWS-HERALD.

TWICE A WEEK

SEE PLATTSMOUTH SUCCEED

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FROM BEHIND THE SCENES

Grew Company at Parmelee as Seen by News Representative.

STAGE IN BIG PLAY A STRANGE PLACE

Scenery Presents a Peculiar Appearance to the Average Theatre Goer

From behind the scenes in a theatre a show seems as different as night does from day and a casual observer would not be able to distinguish a production from Othello from Ten Nights in a Bar Room. The activity behind the big asbestos curtain commences about seven-thirty and when you enter the stage at this time, many peculiar sights greet your eyes.

The shining finishes and gilt that are so conspicuous from the parquet are entirely lacking and you look curiously at the rough, dusty floor before you, at the piece of stone fences, trees, houses and lakes that are leaning against the walls. The back side of the wings are fantastically decorated with cartoons from the brushes of scenery painters. Up above you in the flies is a mass of ropes and pulleys attached to large drops and up among them are a number of flymen scrambling around on their lofty perches preparing and numbering the drops for the evening performance.

The stage manager is busily at work in his shirt sleeves tacking the canvas of a large panorama drop onto its frame. Then the raising of the big background commences and six men tug strenuously at the ropes. As the curtain nears its position the stage manager with his critical eye on the work directs its final fitting by "Heavy on the short—a little more—all right! tie away!" and the big sheet is settled for the evening. Then the borders are lowered, the drops are arranged in order and numbered and the scenes are shifted into place.

The props hurry on the chairs and a fireplace, a few tables are put in place and by this time it is a quarter of eight. The stage director is seen going from the dressing room below the floor to the one behind the boxes and later to the one in the flies with a call at each of "Half hour!" to which a faint response is heard, "Half hour." He is notifying the members of the troupe that they have thirty minutes before the raising of the curtain, and if any voice fails to respond from the dressing room the reason is immediately investigated.

The director retires to his room to complete his make up and the bustle on the stage continues. The juice man is busy with his plyers the grip men and fly men are repairing some broken parts of a rope, and the prop-

erty boy runs out to buy a piece of pie for the villain to devour in the third act. The "heavy" appears in his dressing room door and in a deep voice bellows for ice water. Two little kids spring up from noplac in particular and hurry for the water pitcher in the faint hopes of "gettin' a comp from the main squeeze." A number of stage hands are crawling over each other deftly bracing the chimney for the fire place.

As the court house clock strikes eight the stage director again appears, this time perhaps with a flowing beard, a red nose, and a military uniform, announcing in his basso voice, at the dressing room doors, "Fifteen minutes" to which is heard the miming voice, response.

The ticket-taker and ushers begin their work and the house lights are thrown on. In a few minutes the director orders "Overture" and the piano and drums strike up "Cubanola Glide." The stage hands are putting on the finishing touches, or is up on a step ladder putting in a window curtain while two or three are arranging a platform and apparatus for the second act. The manager from the O. P. (left) side of the stage, orders the wood wings set out a foot or two and the floor cloth straightened. The actors throw on a few final dabs of paint and one by one appear from their rooms, fixing on their wigs or pressing on their false nose. The villian sets up a hubbub for the prop has brought him a "Colts" instead of a horse pistol and he stalks over to get acquainted with the new girl under the pile of red hair.

It is eight-fifteen, and at the call, "First act, places" the actors hurry on the stage and assume their positions. At "Clear" the stage hands make for behind the scenes and the juice man gets ready for action at the switch board. From the director comes "Flash in yer orchestra" and the electrician gives the musicians the high ball with the glim. They drum off perhaps two measures, when "Let 'er go" from the director sends the curtain rushing above and the play is on.

The juice man is busy at the levers, bringing down into day and the hands settle down upon cracker boxes and stacks of scenery to take in the performance. The hero is scheduled for a quick change and ten or twelve speeches before he startles the natives by the dive through the window, the property man and two assistants line up his clothes for the quick work. He makes the jump; before he is through the window, he men have their hands on him and while one slips on a pair of chaps another ties a bandana around his neck, a third buckles on his spurs, and by the time the actors change his hat, he is ready for his appearance from the opposite side of the stage. The act continues with many interesting and amusing happenings in the rear, and a few speeches from the final, a ring from the juice man puts the fly man on his guard for the dropping of the curtain. At two bells from the man at the switches, the curtain drops, but the wild applause from the audience means there's something doing. "Hold yer places" and the curtain is run up again. As it descends the

ANOTHER EXPLOSION WITH FATAL EFFECT

Coal Mine Near Steubenville, Ohio, Scene of Terrible Disaster.

EIGHTEEN MINERS KILLED BY EXPLOSION

Interior of Mine a Wreck and Many Miners Seriously Injured by Fire.

Steubenville, O., April 22.—The lives of eighteen miners were snuffed out in a tremendous explosion in the Youghiogheny and Ohio Coal company's mine at Amsterdam last night. Seven men, bruised and burned, were rescued from the mine and their escape from death is regarded as miraculous. The interior of the mine was wrecked and all ventilation shut off. The cause has not been determined by the state inspectors and mining experts conducting the search for the bodies of the twelve victims. The mine had been inspected but two days before the explosion by Deputy Inspector Thomas Morrison. He was still at the hotel when the explosion occurred.

From the condition of the interior, the manager bawls "Lights" and the house brightens up.

The stage is alive with hurrying hands who have crawled off their comfortable perches for their few minutes of work. The scene is struck and a second scene is thrown in place. Two men are puffing at a heavy well for the center effect, three others are tugging at a log cabin and in a few moments time the place is changed from a room in New York to a Western scene, a few thousand miles away.

The second act is ready and a prop is deftly slapping his knees to resemble the gallop of a horse, the curtain rises and the hero comes in fresh from his ride across the prairie, while his noise making "horse" rolls another cigarette and hunts up his former seat. The act runs through quickly and the last scene is set. The third act follows and to the interested spectator in the rear it seems like but a few minutes before the grand assemblage is reached and the play is closed by the slowly descending fire-curtain. Some of the actors have already hurried into their street clothes and wiped off their foot-light faces. The others scramble up the stairs or below the stage to their dressing room and their evening's work is over. The stage men still have an hour's work in striking out the last scene folding up the wings and loading the scenery on the big wagons that are waiting outside the stage door. The property men are running around picking up a sack of trifles, an alarm clock and a number of things that have been entrusted to them by the local merchants. The orchestra has finished, the house has cleared and it is perhaps twelve-thirty when the stage grows dark, the heavy scenery door is bolted and the wagons rumble to the depot where their load for the morning train.

Halley's Comet Bashful.

As far as could be found today, no one in Plattsouth has yet succeeded in focusing their optics on the celestial visitor that is supposed to be visible in the eastern sky before dawn. The mornings this week have been partly cloudy and those who did rise two hours before the sun have not been repaid for their trouble. The observers at the Omaha High school thought they caught a glimpse of the wanderer

it is said, the explosion in point of force was the greatest ever rendered in Ohio.

When the explosion took place the people thought that an earthquake had occurred. A train was passing the mine and every window in every car was shattered. The trainmen fled as a car of dynamite was attached to the train. After working all night the rescuing crews succeeded in locating six bodies. These were taken to the bottom of the shaft, and at noon today lifted to the surface.

During the afternoon government experts from the geological laboratory at Pittsburg arrived with oxygen outfits. They failed to find any more bodies.

the other morning, but the big telescope at Creighton College has not been able to find it yet and it is doubtful whether the students at the High school were gazing at more than a morning star.

The comet will be visible as follows:

	Comet Sun	Comet	before	Sun
	rises	rises		
April 23	3:38	5:36	1h	58m
April 24	3:34	5:34	2h	0m
April 25	3:31	5:33	2h	2m
April 26	3:27	5:32	2h	5m
April 27	3:24	5:31	2h	7m
April 28	3:20	5:30	2h	10m
April 29	3:17	5:28	2h	11m
April 30	3:13	5:27	2h	14m
May 1	3:10	5:25	2h	15m
May 2	3:06	5:24	2h	18m
May 3	3:03	5:22	2h	19m
May 4	3:00	5:21	2h	21m
May 5	2:58	5:19	2h	21m
May 6	2:56	5:18	2h	22m
May 7	2:55	5:16	2h	21m
May 8	2:54	5:15	2h	21m
May 9	2:53	5:14	2h	21m
May 10	2:53	5:13	2h	20m

Warrant Withdrawn.

The cold weather of last night seemed to have a decided effect on the feet of Night Policeman "Doc" Young, for this morning he notified the constable not to serve the warrant for the arrest of Lawrence Stull who had disgracefully assaulted him with a fusillade of bad words a few nights ago at the postoffice. The police did not officially notify the judge of his sudden change of mind, but instructed the holder of the paper to let the matter drop. Why a constable should be called upon to do that kind of work when it is clearly the duty of the city police, can not be understood; and how one of the brave maintainers of the law could swallow the bunch of insults that were labeled out to him the other night without placing man under arrest himself, is another question to be solved; and after the warrant was secured, why was it not allowed to be carried out.

Miss Svea Johnson is suffering with a severe cold and has been forced to discontinue her studies at school.

Charles and Verner Perry who live a few miles south of town went up to Omaha on the morning train where they will stay over Sunday.

COLOSSAL SALE OF FINE MILLINERY.

At Fanger's Department Store Without Exception the Greatest Bargain Sale Ever Pulled Off Here.

We want to close out our entire line of Fine Millinery Spring and are willing to make a great cut price in order to do so. We have on hand over 200 Sweet Trimmed Hats, all brand new, bought for the spring trade. We also have a large line of Flowers, Fancy Feathers, Ostrich Plumes, and Wings, Ornaments, Velvets, Chiffons, Mullins, and everything pertaining to the Millinery department, all of which will now be sold at a greatly reduced price. Also bear in mind that we trim your hats free of charge.

Look Out For Old Goods. When you purchase your hat at some other store you are in danger of getting old goods and styles, which is not the case at our store, for all our hats are new and will bear the closest inspection, for, as well as every lady in the city and community well know that last summer we closed out our entire line of summer hats at as low as 5c each, and in order to clean up the old line entirely, the winter hats were burned in front of our store this spring. Other places you might find an out-of-the-season hat, but here you cannot possibly get anything but new goods, bought for and made up for this spring's trade.

Now, the spring season is drawing to a close, and our trimmers may not be with us many weeks longer, so we impress upon your mind that if you want your hat trimmed free of charge our expert trimmers are now at your service, but we ask you to come in soon as they will not remain long. Bear in mind that we are offering everything at a great reduction and will prove this to be true if you will call in and see.

M. FANGER.

Surprise at Donnelly's

A party of friends unexpectedly dropped in at the Donnelly residence night before last, the occasion being the birthday of Mrs. J. H. Donnelly. The evening was every enjoyably spent and the time was pleasantly whiled away around the bridge tables. Toward the close of the evening the callers enjoyed a light luncheon which they had previously prepared for. Those who were present at the surprise party were Mrs. Henry Herold, Miss Verna Leonard, Misses Mia and Barbara Gering, Mrs. William Clements, Mrs. John Donelan, Miss Dora Fricke, Mrs. Anna Britt, Mrs. Carl Fricke, Miss Maude Mason, Miss Julia Hermann, and Mrs. J. H. Donnelly.

McMICHAEL CONFESSES

Tells Express Officer This Morning About a Former Deal.

PULLED OFF SAME TRICK IN WYOMING.

Had a Diamond Sent From Sheridan to Newcastle and Got Away With Stone.

James J. McMichael, the man who recently pulled off the clever diamond swindle for which he drew five years, today confessed that this was not his first work of the kind. The confession was made this morning to G. M. Byn-ton, route agent for the Adams Express Co., who was sent for the purpose of probing deeply into the matter and finding out all the particulars possible.

The man in his conversation with the express company official, confessed that he had worked exactly the same trick on the company at Sheridan, Wyo., on March 8, escaping with the ring and disposing of it in Omaha a few weeks later. When first questioned on the matter he claimed never to have worked in Wyoming but as the conversation proceeded and the net was drawn closer about him he openly confessed that he was the perpetrator of the deal in Wyoming last month. He had the ring sent from a Sheridan Jeweler to the express agent at Newcastle, called for the ring, substituted it with a phony, and after refusing what was supposed to be the original, made his getaway. It is thought that this is the ring he had at the DeLong Jewelry company at Omaha and which he afterwards sold to an Omaha pawn broker. The unfortunate express agent at Newcastle was held responsible for the diamond which was stolen, valued at something over \$110.00.

A deal that corresponds exactly with McMichael's work took place in California a short time ago, and although the man stoutly denies having anything to do with it, it is suspected that he is the man wanted there for that trick.

It was a rather peculiar way in which

Continued on page 8.



GABERDINES, ROSEBERRY AND CRAVANETTE COATS

for slip-on's and sudden changes in the weather.

We have the full line in all grades from the \$6 zepher coat to the silk lined, light overcoat at \$40. Look in our corner window at the all wool rain coat we show there at \$15.

See us for automobile coats, caps and gloves.

C. E. Wescott's Sons

The Home of Satisfaction.

YOU realize of course that its worth a good deal to you, when you go a buying anything, to know



SUITS

\$10 to \$30

where to go to be sure of getting best quality and value for your money; or to put it more forcibly, perhaps, to know of a store where you can't buy anything that isn't best quality and big value for your money.

That's the kind of a store we're running. All the time safe guarding our customer's interests.

Our special hand tailored HART SCHAFFNER & MARX clothes are attracting more attention this season than ever before. They mark you as a man of careful thought. They're most economical clothes.

We'll show them to you gladly, any time.

The Home of Hart Schaffner & Marx clothes
Manhattan Shirts Stetson Hats
Falter & Thierolf
Value Giving Clothiers.