Percy Hammond's Letter

(Copyright, 1923.) EW YORK, March 17. - The ways of the great actors are sometimes as incrutable as those of a man with a maid or a serpent upon a rock. Here is Henry Miller, renowned for his astuteness as a showman, electing to appear as Pasteur, the French physician, in a biography of that noble chemist, whose life, we gather, was largely sclentific.

Why, it can be asked, does Mr

Miller thus bestow himself on a role

so absent from the routine glamours? Pasteur was respectable though a ruthless germicide, and his career contained few of the elements of a hero in the theater. Such dilemmas as perplexed his existence were not romantic. No women interfered with his investigations; and there is no woman in his play. His ardor in the pursuit of serums was dramatic. of course, but it was of the laboratory rather than the stage. He was not as interesting as his work. It was said on the opening night of the play at the Empire that most Broadway drama lovers believe Pasteur to be a brand of milk bottle, not a human his achievements in fermentation and the antitoxins; and he was known vaguely as something or other that I have ever known him to be. Henry Miller was going to play. You Parker, author of "Disraeli," said you have to ask yourself "Why?" that American thought Disraeli was a breakfast food until he came along

with his drama and enlightened them. These are exaggerations, of course, but even so, Pasteur seemed lacking in appeal to American showgoers. In France, as written by the younger Guitty and played by the elder, it abandoned his hypodermics and was was a different matter. Mr. Miller, desiring to impersonate a benefactor, might explicably have been attracted by a drama called "Edison" or 'Hoover" or "Ford" or "Orville Wright." But he selected "Pasteur," and thereby added another to the many mysteries of the theater. Sometime, no doubt, a play entitled "Wilson" will be composed. It is interesting, is it not, to speculate on which Eugene O'Neill or Samuel Shipman of that period will re-creat its great events; and which George Arliss or Henry Miller will endeavor to impersonate its leading role.

about to begin life anew, unimpeded

Mr. Wade, acted with desterity by

Lowell Sherman, was on the down

ward path when "Morphia" began.

Secluded in his studio, he found for

getfulness in wassail with the opl

ates. A brilliant fellow withal, he was

rotting himself away in a slough of

indulgence, much to the distress of

feared, was soon to lose one of its

most sightly practitioners; for the

naughty popples were in his blood,

forbidding him to pursue with proper

assiduity his chosen profession. When

it seemed probable that he was doom-

(Miss Olive Tell), disguised as a nurse.

Says the Man Who

Will Be Placed on Screen

Waldemar Young has begun the

Knows Wild Animals

Treat 'Em Kindly,

those who loved him. Fiction, it was

by the drowsy gods.

"Pasteur," however, has one subtle advantage. The compassionate healer though she was a prominent actress. who relieves human suffering is ever He began to take himself seriously. the physician who feels your pulse. seductive toxics. Even though he be a surgeon, you your person will be improving. The doctor who has what used to be called Hammond. a good bedside manner is an auspicious spectacle, for the time being, and he is among your best beloved. It is possible that Mr. Miller in choosing Guitry's play as his this season's implement thought of that valuable qualits feverish little hand in his and trust- man comparatively easy. Haveman,

scientist is therefore at least a World theater, has achieved an indence. The play is in detached epi- ferocious beasts. after the fashion of "Abraham Lincoln." and it is a testimonial to wild animals more can be accom-Pasteur rather than a play. It has, plished by kindness than by force. nevertheless, its theatrical incidents. Pasteur, addressing the Academy of play with them several hours every favorites including Edith Roberts. These opponents are scattered only time the animals are really in "The Flirt." throughout the audience, and they ferocious is around meal time. startle you by jumping up and shout. Then they seem to get back the spirit proceeding thereafter of their native jungles and would kill to argue with the lecturer about mi- on the slightest provocation. But probes and vaccination. In my row when it comes time for them to put on the opening night many experi- on their act the animals seem just by men, with John Davidson heading Chauncey Olcott, Frances Starr, Mar- people in front that they know their Comedy and pathos are about equal Sutton's All Star Empress Orchestration Jorie Wood, Blanche Bates, Margola routine, as any other performer. I by balanced in the play. Mr. David- will surprise Empress patrons during dillmore, Margaret St. John, Mrs. Ar- have followed the profession of wild mold Bennett. Ruth Cratterton, Alice animal training for more than 25 Brady. George Creel. George Jean years and to me, at least, it is like Nathan, James Hamilton Lewis, and a fascinating adventure. others. Yet they were all just as much astounded as I was when a dig Adaption of "Salomy Jane" nified, quiet little fellow in our midst began to mutter and curse under his breath and to shake his fists at Pasteur upon the stage. That, at adaption of "Salomy Jane" from Paul least, was one of the thrills of the per- Armstrong's play based on Bret formance. Another was in the episode | Hart's story. This will be George Mel where a small boy came to the labora- ford's next Paramount production, fol-



What the Theaters Offer

ed a childhood sweetheart appeared The play is by Ludwig Herzer, with thrills and sensations.

contidently entrust to him your welis one of those showy, rocco things body," at musical sketch is offered by talk. A pleasing act, 'Dances Here of motive which has not been dupliall able players are under engagein which Mr. Sherman excels.—Percy Ethel McElroy and the Gotham City and There," is to be presented by cated by any other artist. As for her ment, Lately out there a director left er while the quartet introduces a Pryor. and song numbers. Putting a dozen wild animals feminine jester# are Jewell and Rita cartoon comic, Aesop's Fables, will be Pasteur as a sympathetic country doc-tor, with whiskers and baggy pants; ing the case with which such plants. for, with whiskers and baggy pants: ing the ease with which such playnot as a nerve bacteriologist. And at
ful pets as lions, tigers and leopards
ful pets as lions, tigers and leopards the first performance his audience put may be handled is to Richard Have- man and Lillian. At the organ Ar-Mr. Miller's reproduction of the headliner of the new bill at the bers, this time the tunes being of Irish swing, He will play two thoughtful one. It inspires confi- ternational reputation as a trainer of melodies at one time including "Stand Up and Sing" and "Annie Rooney." In Haveman's opinion even with

comedy drama of newspaper life lors" which will run from today un- insurance policies, with care in times lease at \$100,000 rental. If the deal "My lions, tigers and leopards are called "A Front Page Story." It serves til Wednesday and on Thursday the of illness and to safeguard their wel- is consummated it will be New York's One of these is the episode in which all pets to me," says the trainer. "I to present a capable cast of screen company will offer an entirely new fare. Medicine on the topic of smallpox, is day and they seem to enjoy the frolic Edward Horton and Buddy Messenheckled by his reactionary colleagues. as much as a family kitten. The ger, last seen as the mischievous boy Ray Parsons, late of Al. G. Field's

dence," is to be presented entirely

his memorable engagements was and Percey Bronson and Winnie starts at 3. NOVEL and unusual attraction Baidwin in "A Happy Medium." will be presented at the World Whiting and Burt are known as two Premier dance wonders of France, space, capable of accommodating over theater this week as its head of the most effective entertainers and Mile. Germaine Mitty and Eugene 5,000 people, is under lease at \$75,000 line feature in Richard Havenman's singers of songs on the vaudeville Tillio come to the Orpheum next week annually. "Kings of the Forest and Desert" stage. Among comedians of the as the stellar attraction. They are to who relieves numan suffering is ever an endearing figure. Stricken, as you He banished the nepenthes and in consisting of 10 lions, tigers and "nut" type, Fitzgibbons is in a class present a combination of the classic an endearing ngure. Stricken, as you their place he substituted love. White leopards. Haveman, internationally by himself. His eccentric fun-mak-dramatic and acrobatic phases of the movie directors and actors in the film colony of Los Andrews have been with an ailment, you have found nothing so heavenly as arms and red lips conquered the less known as a trainer of wild animals. Ing will be assisted by his brother, terpsichorean art. has a vaudeville act that is crowded Lew. "A Happy Medium," to be pre-Under the caption of "Miss No combination of songs and clever a daring, brilliancy and a frankness rectors are mostly in demand, though Miss McElroy is a clever danc. Misses Beatrice Gardell and Ruth partner, Eugene Tillio danced for one concern paying him \$1,000 weekly er while the quartet introduces a series of harmony song numbers. Joe Weston and Grace Eline offer comedy Miller sing, dance and play the violin, imitations of members of the upper Exceptional feats on the trapese and there. and underworld with breezy chatter flying rings will be performed by the Two, jovial Flying Henrys, Once again the

Omaha at popular prices. the principals are Faye Hammond, minstrels, Howard Barlow, Earle, William Basscoppi, Roy Har-At the Orpheum this week a court ris, Arline Walker and Kate Parroom drama, "Circumstantial Evi. sons and a real singing and dancing



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Down Go Prices for Front Seats at New York Theaters

admissions for the new season in the fall may be safely predicted. It be the extraordinarily costly show will affect the theater of the drama at \$2.50.

and the musical comedy. One New Tendency toward a lowered scale

on has other compositions to his largely benefited. published by an Omaha firm.

Bragdon and "Coo Coo" Morrisey, two commercial theater. boys whom Mr. Bedini has unearthed. the ingenue prima donna, and Mabs pictures were completed. Leo, a real Nubian lion, who creates menace to theater patronage,

foot for the benefit arranged annually for the National Vaudeville Artists. This year, in all variety theaters of The revival of "The Merry Widow" benefit will be held during the week thusiasm nightly. beginning April 1. At the Opheum The first of a series of musical in Omaha there will be a program Walter Hampden, the player of Naughty MusicalComedy company will achieve the most successful N. V. A. son. be the first of its kind to play in week that this theater has ever at- housed the long run of "The Cat and They will tained. Money derived from the bene- the Canary. be seen in two bills this week, the fit goes into the general fund to pro- seemed most likely Mr. Hampden The feature picture is a rib tickling first one being 'Four Jolly Bache- vide vaudeville artists with free life would secure the house on one year's

FEATURE PICTURE AT

12, 2:30, 5, 7:30 and 10 p. m.

young and old.

mitting visual evidence of his belief Written Exclusively for Universal Service, through presently opening in Chicago and permanent drop in theater admissions for the new season

York producer of extensive interests is again indicated by metropolitan has admitted privately his intention producers at popular price attrac of observing the warnings of this sea- tions. They are seeking to form ro The public has balked at un- tary circuits of a variegated assortattractive plays at unreasonable ment of plays to travel at a scale The same producer is sub of \$1. The movement is predicated upon the established and simple basis solo entitled "Pyramyths" composed that theatergoers will not pay pre by himself and which has become an vailing admission charges. Particunstant success. According to Jack larly in the hinterland have they exhausted and another is to be off referred to as the little theater. Vauthe press in a short time. Mr. Sut- deville and picture houses also have

renness of touring desirable plays at Jean Bedini, master mind of the reasonable figures have fostered stock burlesque world, and his latest ef companies. The public at large, by fusion, "Chuckles of 4923." is the cur- its absence from the theater, has rerent attraction at Old Man Johnson's sented the caliber of play presented Gayety, "Chuckles" is the identical and its scale, until the lesson has production that startled Londoners been firmly driven home to the show into shouts and cheers of approval man. It is that the countryside deall last summer at the Oxford theater, mands good shows at a proper charge. London. Heading the cast are Cliff Without both it easily sidesteps the

and who are revelations in the world. The government is reported to have of comedy. Billy Wells and the Eclair promptly annexed \$265,000 of the London, and Alhambra, Paris, are receive from a moving picture corpor-Australians who perform a neck-lation, It happened when an income Sax Four, with Emmett Baker, are of the films and the half million en-internationally known musicians, tered as part of his earnings for 1922. while the London Oxford girls, all The money was paid over to Jackie's English, dance with grace and aban- father in December as an advance ion. Chuckles Jazz band furnishes payment to cover four pictures the syncopation in goodly numbers, boy is to make during 1923. It would Elaine Beasley, the personality girl, not have been earned until those Howarth, the Australian nightingale. New York's Broadway is to have the

head the female contingent. Not the world's largest dance hall, at Fifty-Keane in "Arsene Lupin." One of least of the numerous novelties is third street. Looked upon as another with Ethel Barrymore in "Lady laughter and applause in his own dance palace has thrived and made Frederick." The bill is to have three way. Bedini has personally selected inroads in other cities with New York, featured acts: George Whiting and the cast and staged this attraction, comparatively, left alone by it. The Sadie Burt in "Several Songs," Bert Which means much to the show-wise dance palaces usually deplete balcony Fitzgibbons, "the original daffy dil;" Gayety patron. Today's matince and gallery attendance in the show houses. A new building will go up on the Broadway site and the dance floor

Salaries of the movie directors and sented by Bronson and Baldwin, is a dances express a freedom of thought, ty in picture making. Capable di-They will be assisted by 19 years in the ballet of the for directing, to accept a similar opsithe net profits each picture makes. His contract provides he shall not di-Once again preparations are on rect less than four pictures yearly during his agreement.

the United States and Canada, the in London provokes tremendous en-

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"It is plain to see that the people of Omaha are more or less saturated

"All the recognized downtown devide features and pictures. straight picture theaters are present- Musical comedy presented of bills have lost, by this time, their the people of Omaha at this time.

It is to meet a demand for some. thing new that Mr. Ledoux, manager Mills, his New York publisher, the proved it. Their show tastes have with the ready-made shows offered of the Empress theater, is changing supplied. The first edition was soon community players, the latter often by the downtown theaters," says Man- his policy of vaudeville and pictures

credit, his latest one which he has argely benefited.

The neglect if not indifference of ing programs of the same routine, vaudeville features and the usual high routing of the same routine, vaudeville features and the usual high routine routine. called "Klu Klux Blues" is to be the New York booking offices to namely, a feature picture, a comedy, grade feature picture, will be a much "the road" with the consequent barit is evident that such stereotype sort and should prove a real novelty for

> They Just Talk But They Act the Heart Beating Faster

of song sayings, which has been writ- vaudeville likes them.

ten by Mr. Whiting, himself, who is one of the very few good writers of popular songs who is equally successful in interpreting them.

And Sadie Burt! She ranks with the very few who can walk upon the stage in the most demure manner When it is talked by Whiting and and by force of sheer personality capture the hearts of the patrons before she utters a word. Whiting and Burt Patrons of the Orpheum circuit re- are true vaudevillians and have retwins, late features of the Collseum, \$500,000 Jackie Coogan actually did member Whiting and Burt and their mained steadfast to the two-a-day This team does not nearly all the time they have been sing songs; they do not pretend to partners, their only lapses being breaking dance routine. The Sterling tax return was made out for the boy sing them. They do not shout them, when they were featured in big musi-They have an entirely new series cal shows. They like vaudeville and

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CIRCUIT' VAUDEVILLE

tory, his hands and legs lagerated by lowing "You Can't Fool Your Wife,"

tion of rables. Mr. Miller was very will be produced on the west coast.

a mad dog. He was to be Pasteur's now in production at the company's first human adventure in the preven- Long Island studio. "Salomy Jane"

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