

AMUSEMENTS.

This is the season of the year when most people find but little time to attend the theater. The holiday shopping is not only taking up everyone's time, but it is tugging so persistently at the purse-strings that few have money to spare for amusement. It is the season when the majority of the large traveling combinations do not play unless booked in New York, Boston, Chicago or cities of like size, as they can better afford to "lay off" than play to the small business characteristic of the last two weeks of every year.

This accounts, in a measure, for Omaha's lack of really high class amusements during the last week, and for the fact that an excuse for what is to be offered this week. It must, however, be admitted that the Orpheum last week furnished one of the best vaudeville menus of the season, and this week's bill, headed by Paplata, promises to furnish enjoyable amusement.

Commencing with the new year the management of Boyd's promises some attractions considerably above the majority of offerings during the last three months. "Our season opens in earnest immediately after the holidays," said Manager Burgess yesterday. "and then look out for the good attractions. While I cannot promise productions of 'Ben Hur,' or its like, I am sure I have a host of attractions booked that will surprise as well as please the theater-goers of Omaha.

Friday last was amateur night at the Creighton-Orpheum and, while such nights have been in vogue in the east for some time, it was Omaha's first indulgence. That it was a most provoking success there can be no gainsaying, and its future popularity is assured, at least to the extent of a month. Some of the specialties were indeed praiseworthy, but the majority were so ridiculously funny as to keep the audience in a continuous uproar during the entire time the "artists" were upon the stage. Some of the performers seemed to feel that they had a duty to perform in entertaining the audience and bravely stuck to their posts despite the fact that they were being unmercifully gaped by their auditors and several actually hooted off the stage. One might naturally expect to be bored at a performance of this character, but proved, in reality, too laughable to be boring.

That the lives of the many legitimate actors and actresses who have, owing to the popular demand for such entertainment, entered the vaudeville field, are not fraught with the amount of joy and merriment it would have the theater-going public believe, is attested by Wright Huntington, who played an engagement at the Orpheum last week and who is to join the Woodward Stock company in Kansas City next week. Mr. Huntington was found last evening in his dressing room just finishing the transformation from street attire to the handsome, well-fitting uniform of a United States naval lieutenant, which role he enacts in "A Stolen Kiss," which he played in answer to the writer's query as to why he intended to leave vaudeville.

"It is a question easily answered, purely for financial reasons; it is rather a turning of the tables, is it not? Usually, it is the legitimate actor who is tempted from dramatic work by the fabulous (?) salaries offered by vaudeville managers. "Let me say at once that vaudeville is the most delightful field of professional work I have ever been engaged in. The surroundings are pleasant, the work easy, the courtesies received from the manager to the humblest stage assistants invariably delightful. While on the stage you are for the time being a star and not one player of many, as in dramatic productions. Everything that can make your act successful is furnished by stage manager and helpers, but—no in most things in the world there is a but—the first season of a dramatic headliner is rarely a profitable one, as you do not care how popular a sketch may be or the star appearing in it, it is next to impossible to book continuous time, to keep employed week after week the entire season. Of course, there are exceptions, but they are few and far between. I think I may venture the assertion that 'A Stolen Kiss' as played by my little company, an attractive, bright, catchy little play, and yet I had no time booked after this week in Omaha until February 12, in Brooklyn.

"Others? Yes, any number. One manager, representing a well known circuit, offered me the four weeks engagement at \$175 per week, which he afterward raised to \$200. Let me show for the benefit of actors contemplating vaudeville what profit I would have received from that engagement. The usual commission is 10 per cent, but on the Orpheum circuit, for example, an additional 5 per cent is deducted by the Great Western Vaudeville association. Even with all this the salaries paid by the Orpheum management would leave a respectable margin were it not for the time lost in travel and the thousand and one other expenses a headliner must pay, such as baggage hauling, property bills, tips to stage hands, etc. From my six weeks engagement on the Orpheum circuit I had a balance of \$346, but being obliged to lay off one week and two weeks of travel, making nine weeks, or a little over \$60 per week for my share. Taking into consideration the fact that my services as a dramatic leading man have for the last five years been in demand at from \$100 to \$150 a week (according to the number of performances given), you can realize my bank account has not assumed very gigantic proportions. Consequently when Manager Woodward of the Auditorium Stock company, Kansas City, tempted me with one of the best salaries ever paid a leading man in stock in this country I did not feel much of a pang in parting from the vaudeville stage.

"What salaries are paid those not fortunate enough to be top liners in vaudeville? Well, I have given you an idea what headliners' salaries are and will leave you to guess at the salaries paid lesser lights. Of this fact, I can assure you, however, none of them will ever become bank presidents on account of the wealth they accumulate in vaudeville.

Of the many actresses who visit Omaha few if any are held in greater esteem by the play-going public than dainty little Julia Marlowe, who for the last five years has favored this city with an annual visit. In that time Miss Marlowe has made an almost countless number of friends and admirers among theater-goers. She is not only admired for her exceptional histrionic ability, but for the pleasing personality which she possesses as well. The announcement of her matrimonial troubles was received with regret by her many friends and admirers, not only here, but likewise all over the country. The story of her brief unhappy married life as told by the little lady herself is one that

cannot but help gain for her the sympathy of every fair-minded person. Sorrow was first felt for her when the announcement was sent out for divorce from Robert Taber was interpreted to mean the ending of a rare romance of the stage, closed in consequence of temperamental differences which advised a separation. But the sorrow of the play-going public has given way to indignation, accused by the revelation that for three years the charming young actress has been silently suffering under a burden of cruelty, indignity and neglect, which would long since have broken the spirit of a woman of less force and balance. According to the affidavits read last week in the little county court at Stowe, Vt., her husband had been jealous of her success almost from the beginning, and surrendering to an ungovernable temper, has beaten her and eventually cast her off. Miss Marlowe's deposition told of her marriage to Taber in Philadelphia on May 28, 1884. Her real name was Sarah Frances Frost. They went to live at Stowe, Vt., and that was thereafter their home when they were not traveling.

Until March, 1896, their relations were "reasonable and normal." Then they were in Providence, R. I., preparing for a New York engagement. A mutual friend sent some press clippings—advance notices in the New York papers. "I was mentioned more than he was," said Miss Marlowe, "and he showed his dislike to that by hurling a glass at a mirror and breaking it." In the fall of 1895 they were in Atlanta, Ga., at breakfast together, when Taber lost his temper and, seizing the tablecloth, threw all the dishes in the air. In Salt Lake City during the same season he became enraged in his wife's dressing room one night and seized her by the throat. Her mother, Mrs. Daly, interfered and he turned on her, too. "This lasted quite a few minutes," testified the actress, "and I was terribly distressed and physically unfit to give my performance, although I did go on and managed to get through."

It was not until January, 1897, that Taber adopted a more refined mode of torture. He would not notice or speak to his wife for days at a time. A little later he left her to go abroad and join Irving's company. In the spring Miss Marlowe started for Europe, intending to meet him in London. She had written several letters to him and receiving no reply finally sent a cablegram, but he ignored this as well. Reaching Liverpool, she found a telegram saying that he would meet her in London. She arrived at the station at 1 o'clock in the morning and he was there, but it was only after the entreaties of his wife that he consented to take her to his apartments. There he brutally told her he had sent word by his brother that he did not wish her to come to London and that all was over between them. In consequence of this Miss Marlowe was prostrated for a week. "I never can have such a scene as that again," she says in her affidavit. "I never can have such dreadful sensations as I had at that time. It was a great blow. She wished to leave his rooms, but he urged her to remain 'for appearance's sake,' and she did so until she was able to take her maid to Paris. Willing to forget Taber's brutality if he would consent to a reconciliation, she pleaded with him by letter to come to her, but he steadfastly refused. Eventually he came to Paris to see some friends and remained there several days, but he insisted on stopping at another hotel, telling her that he did not consider her his wife and did not want to live in the same house with her.

At the end of the same week Miss Marlowe made another trip abroad. She went direct to Scotland, remaining there four days; then to London and Paris and finally to Giverny, Switzerland. There Taber joined her in the latter part of July and it was then that all semblance of a marital relation between them ended. He returned to London and she to America. They traveled to Havre in the same train and even then she begged him to see her off on the steamship, but he refused. Since then he has not provided for her in any way. In fact he has, according to her statement, never made any substantial provision for her; never asked her if she had any money or if she required any, although he knew that her health had been poor.

"I have played," she said, "when it has been a considerable strain upon me and on the four weeks engagement I completed when, if I had had a husband's care I should not have done so, and finally I broke down." When Taber first laid hands upon her he, fortunately, left no mark, and, leathes to publish her unhappiness, she concealed it; but after that he assaults often left her bruised and scarred, and sometimes the dishes he would fling at her in his rage would strike her.

"Did he seem to be enraged at you or at the great expense of about \$200?" "Well it was a combination, I think, of both, and he seemed to spit his vengeance on me."

Much of this testimony was corroborated by the maid, Mary Daly, who personally appeared in court. The court's decision was reserved, but a stipulation was filed that should the decree be granted, Miss Marlowe should receive \$3,000 alimony.

According to press dispatches, Robert Taber was seen last week in London, and was shown a cable dispatch detailing the charges preferred against him by Miss Marlowe in her suit for divorce. He smiled broadly as he read the dispatch and then said, "I have nothing whatever to say of his score. I do not intend to say anything for publication to anyone."

He was evidently amused at the charges and handed the dispatch to a friend who was with him. The friend also smiled knowingly, but remained silent.

Miss Marlowe is at present playing in New York City at the Criterion theater. She has scored one of the greatest triumphs of her career in Clyde Fitch's "Barbara Frietchie." It is doubtful if she will be seen in Omaha this season, as she is not booked here and her New York run is for an indefinite period.

Coming Events. The engagement of Paplata, the famous dancer, at the Creighton-Orpheum this week, beginning at the matinee today, will in all probability prove an event productive of much pleasure to the patrons of this house. Since she was in Omaha last winter she has been playing in all the leading vaudeville theaters of the principal eastern cities, and has added greatly to her reputation. She will no doubt receive an enthusiastic welcome upon her re-appearance in this city. The renowned minstrel, Billy Rice, and the famous basso, H. W. Frillman, will appear in a sketch specially written for them. Miss Florence Henri King, a violinist who has been highly praised by the critics for her artistic work, will give some selections; the Chappell sisters will appear in songs and dances; Rosalie Tyler will give her sweetest songs; Delcher and Morris will present a sketch entitled, "You Can Make a Speech, But I Can't Make Any," and the Rozinos will give a gymnastic-spectacular entertainment.

receive \$6,000 for six months' work in Paris next year. Mr. and Mrs. Reginald de Koven will reside in Washington this winter. Hilda Clarke is to replace Neila Bergen in the company of De Wolf Hopper. Sardou is in charge of the new play, "Blanche Walsh and Melbourne MacDowell."

Wilson Barrett has been acting Hamlet and Othello at special engagements in London. Ears Kendall is going on the road next season in a farce comedy written by himself. "Ben-Hur" will run for a year in New York. For a gallery admission speculators are asking \$15.

A. Conan Doyle's novel, "The Firm of Girdlestone," has been adapted to the stage under the title of "Dark Deeds" in London. Another play has been written dealing with the Boer war. An attack on an armored train is the principal sensation.

Nathan Franko, the well known violinist, was married lately to Anna Bragan, a member of Manager Conradi's German company. This new comedy, written by Victor Herbert and Harry B. Smith, will be produced in Denver January 11.

Marie Burroughs, who has been quite ill in this city, expects to leave town soon for a rest; trip that may hasten her recuperation. Frank Daniels' receipts at Wallace's last week were the largest he has ever placed in a first week in New York. The total receipts of the Amey for seven performances amount to \$10,000.

Marcus Van Dresser, the new contract of the Bostonians, received her musical education in this city. Miss Van Dresser will be remembered, was in Augustin Daly's production of "The Great Ruby."

Mrs. George Gordon is to return to the stage. She will appear in private theatricals, for which elaborate productions are being made. There are a very clever leading man in these plays in the person of the duke of Manchester, who will, of course, be one of the guests. The remains of the late Charles Coghlan were placed in a receiving vault at Galveston, Tex., on New Year's day. He was removed later to New York for cremation, in accordance with the wish of the actor, Mrs. Coghlan left Galveston November 30 to join her daughter Gertrude, who is reported to be seriously ill.

William H. Crane has made a contract with Charles Frohman by which Crane is to be seen in the dramatization of "David Harum." Mr. Crane is the actor best suited for the role, and his performance will be another big money success like "The Little Minister." The piece will be produced in Syracuse, the honor, this season, and will then go on tour.

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collaborate with the orchestra, and Miss Myra McClelland, well known in Omaha, will be one of the participants.

The play that was so well presented at Creighton college last week was interesting to the musical world, inasmuch as through its medium the new orchestra of the university was heard. This orchestra is composed of mandolins, violins and other stringed instruments, and it is under the direction of Mr. Alfred Huster, the well known violinist. Mr. Huster has accomplished excellent results, and the young gentlemen play most acceptably. This idea was adopted by Father Heman, who was at the college last year, and his work is being ably carried on by the interested efforts of Father Coulman and Prof. Schiermann of the chair of philosophy, who is himself an accomplished musician.

The many friends of Mr. Charles Higgins will no doubt avail themselves of the opportunity of hearing him in one of his own concerts, at the Young Men's Christian association, Wednesday evening, December 20. Mr. Higgins has always been a popular musician, socially and musically, and he is certainly entitled to whole-hearted support. His professional friends will contribute their services to the evening's entertainment. Thomas and Charles Higgins, after his return from his eastern tour of last season were surprised at the great gain he has made in breadth of tone and finish of style. Messrs. Gareissin, Landauer, Karl Smith and Frank Potter will assist.

An interesting program will be given by the pupils of Mrs. Merges and Mrs. Connor Tuesday evening next at the Unitarian church. Admission will be gained by the offering charge of two persons for a shilling. This is a good idea. The program will be musical and literary.

The event which all music-lovers are now looking forward to is the appearance, for one concert only, of the great Miss Nevada, who will present a high-class program on Wednesday afternoon, December 27, at the Boyd theater. It is fully a dozen years since the famous cantatrice has been heard in this country and her former successes have not been forgotten.

Mr. Arthur Delmore Cheney, baritone, is to assist at the Methodist church, Twentieth and Davenport, singing the offertory solo this morning. He has selected "It is Enough," from "Elijah" (Mendelssohn). THOMAS J. KELLY. Miss Julia Olfcer, piano studio, Karbach block. Miss Evans' studio, 228 Bee building. Mrs. Frances Baetens' Piano Studio, 2220 Burt street.

CHILD'S TRAGIC STORY. Brings Back from Manila Memories of Death and Suffering. Every vessel that sails into San Francisco from Manila these days brings many stories with it, but the most pathetic of all came to the surface when a slim 7-year-old girl stepped ashore from the Ohio last Sunday, reports the San Francisco Chronicle. There is something eerie about this little woman, with her great, melancholy eyes, her keen wit and unsharpened speech born of a vast experience and unchildish associations. Jeannette Corin Morris, who will not be 8 years old until the 23rd day of next February, has journeyed with troops across two oceans to Manila on a big government transport, has seen the ship's company dropping away under the hand of disease which robbed her of her only playmate, has tossed about in storms and been cradled on tropical waters, has witnessed the siege of a city and the burning of villages and has lain at night in a tent around which bullets hissed and a shell sometimes exploded, has herself fought death in the form of a disease almost always fatal in the Philippines, has seen her fair young mother sicken and die, and is now returning, a lonely little voyager, to find shelter with her kindred on the far side of the continent. She told her story to sympathizing friends the other day and there are not many who could stand up under the sight of indignation in the child's eyes as she described the circumstances attending upon her mother's death. Her account is reproduced literally, if not in fragments, in the following: "My father is first sergeant of Company G, Third Infantry," she said. "My mother and father and I left New York on the Sherman with the troops about the 23d of last February. We couldn't get into a tent on the mess-deck and quite a lot of people died. At first

we anchored off Sandy Hook and then Mr. Sherman was polite and sailed into a storm and rolled and tumbled all over and balanced first on one end and then on the other. They reported us last that time, you know. There were ten of us women and all were seaship but me and there was a little girl, Mabel Clark, daughter of a non-commissioned staff officer. She died on the way over Manila was the horriest place. We had to live in a tent, with only pork and beans and hard tack to eat three times a day, except when once in a while we had rice and bacon. At night the bullets sang around the tent and once a shell fell near us. I was sick and the doctor didn't think I could ever get well, but Colonel Page of our regiment was real good and he let my papa come in from the battlefield to see me. When I got well my mamma was taken sick. That was last May. They took her to the government hospital and she was sick from May to July—July 15. And there was a government nurse there, Miss Henshaw, and she turned my mother out in a pouring rain and she was so sick she couldn't stand and half a day she had to lie there in the ambulance, the water all up around the wheels and leaking through the top. The pillows by mamma and the other soldiers put around her wouldn't keep the rain off and they took her to the Spanish hospital and here she was always sick from July 15, at 1 o'clock. That was Saturday. I stayed with her all the morning and the very last thing she said, very soft and low, was 'My Jeannette,' just like that. I put my hand up and smoothed back her hair—it was soft and dark and shining—and she closed her eyes and never opened them again. My father went out on the porch and cried and I cried, too. And if it hadn't been for what that government nurse did I'd have my mother right here today. "After that papa didn't know what to do with me. I stayed with Mrs. Clark for a while, but I was unhappy. So when the Ohio went home he put me on it and the nurses coming back—Miss Sarah and Miss Agnes Shaw and Miss Starr—they took care of me."

The little girl found friends awaiting her here. The Red Cross ladies had heard of her and Mrs. Arthur Cornwall at once took her to her heart and home and would gladly have kept her always had it not been that her grandparents in Schenectady, N. Y., were eagerly awaiting her coming. In the ears of those who met this forlorn little victim of the Philippine campaign there will long echo her quaint, unchildish phrases, with their invariable refrain: "I'm forgetting all my manners since my mother died. She was constantly reminding me. My mamma'd say, 'It seems to me you're not doing justice to me, little daughter.' And oh, to think I'd have my mamma with me, they hadn't put her out in the rain that day!"

In China tea costs 14 cents per pound. America makes 20,000,000 false teeth annually. Twenty important products are now manufactured from corn. Fifty-seven new cotton mills have been built in the south during the last twelve months. During the month of October the American Federation of Labor chartered eighty-two local unions, aside from those granted by its subordinate national and international unions. A man at Lawrenceville, Ill., is advertising for 1,000,000 pounds of sunflower seed. He has bought three-fourths of a million pounds of sunflower seed, and expects to ship 5,000,000 pounds. Practically all of this crop raised in the great grain belt of Lawrence county, Illinois. At San Francisco, during the months of September and October, the capacity of the glass factories was curtailed, so that it was necessary to bring out a number of men from the east to take the extra places. In about a month, which will require the services of thirty blowers and 100 helping hands. All glass factories not controlled by the trust are now operating. Altogether fifteen factories were started in the country December 5, with a capacity of 275 pots, making a total of over 900 pots in opposition to the new trust. Six independent and co-operative window glass companies are to be formed in Pittsburgh, and many others in various parts of the gas belt in Indiana, Ohio and West Virginia. Pushing on the question of working women, Rev. S. G. Smith of the People's church, in St. Paul, said last Sunday that the great task of the church is to take the number of such women in the last decade had been in girls under 18 years of age, and that number is increasing. The number of such women in the last decade had been 28 per cent. "Forty-five per cent of the manufacturing in the United States is now done by women," said the preacher. "We may well be ashamed to use the appliances of modern civilization when we regard that they mean the life blood and agony of delicate womanhood, the paralysis of our homes and the stopping of that abounding American physical vigor which has marked us for a century, because America has hitherto been the paradise of woman."

AMUSEMENTS. Orpheum. The Famous Minstrel - BILLY RICE and H. W. FRILLMAN, Basso. Papinta, Glorious Papinta. MATINEE TODAY 10c & 25c. TONIGHT 10c, 25c, 50c. THE ROZINOS. Original Spectacular Gymnastic Entertainment. A Merry Xmas to all. ROSILIE TYLER. Nightingale of Vaudeville. FLORENCE HENRI KING, Renowned Lady Violinist. BOYD'S: Woodward & Burgess, Managers, Tel. 1919. 6-PERFORMANCE. COMMENCING SUNDAY MATINEE, DECEMBER 17. FITZ & WEBSTER. A BREEZY TIME. An up-to-date, successful farce comedy. Playing to crowded houses everywhere. 20-COMEDIANS-30. Prices—50c, 75c, 1.00, 1.25. Matinee—50c, 75c. BOYD'S: Woodward & Burgess, Managers, Tel. 1919. ONE PERFORMANCE ONLY. Wednesday Matinee, December 27. America's Greatest Singer. Mme. EMMA NEVADA. Remember the date. Concert by Charles Higgins. Wed. Dec. 20 Y. M. C. A. 8:15 sharp. Assisted by Mr. Oscar Garlerson, basso; Miss Daisy Higgins, contralto; Karl Smith, alto; William Landauer, pianist; Mr. Francis Potter, mandolin virtuoso. Tickets, 10 cents. HOWELL'S: With Cure Coughs, Croup, Whooping Cough, Sore Throat, Asthma, etc. Sold by all druggists, 25c and 50c. Anti-Kaw.

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The little girl found friends awaiting her here. The Red Cross ladies had heard of her and Mrs. Arthur Cornwall at once took her to her heart and home and would gladly have kept her always had it not been that her grandparents in Schenectady, N. Y., were eagerly awaiting her coming. In the ears of those who met this forlorn little victim of the Philippine campaign there will long echo her quaint, unchildish phrases, with their invariable refrain: "I'm forgetting all my manners since my mother died. She was constantly reminding me. My mamma'd say, 'It seems to me you're not doing justice to me, little daughter.' And oh, to think I'd have my mamma with me, they hadn't put her out in the rain that day!"

In China tea costs 14 cents per pound. America makes 20,000,000 false teeth annually. Twenty important products are now manufactured from corn. Fifty-seven new cotton mills have been built in the south during the last twelve months. During the month of October the American Federation of Labor chartered eighty-two local unions, aside from those granted by its subordinate national and international unions. A man at Lawrenceville, Ill., is advertising for 1,000,000 pounds of sunflower seed. He has bought three-fourths of a million pounds of sunflower seed, and expects to ship 5,000,000 pounds. Practically all of this crop raised in the great grain belt of Lawrence county, Illinois. At San Francisco, during the months of September and October, the capacity of the glass factories was curtailed, so that it was necessary to bring out a number of men from the east to take the extra places. In about a month, which will require the services of thirty blowers and 100 helping hands. All glass factories not controlled by the trust are now operating. Altogether fifteen factories were started in the country December 5, with a capacity of 275 pots, making a total of over 900 pots in opposition to the new trust. Six independent and co-operative window glass companies are to be formed in Pittsburgh, and many others in various parts of the gas belt in Indiana, Ohio and West Virginia. Pushing on the question of working women, Rev. S. G. Smith of the People's church, in St. Paul, said last Sunday that the great task of the church is to take the number of such women in the last decade had been in girls under 18 years of age, and that number is increasing. The number of such women in the last decade had been 28 per cent. "Forty-five per cent of the manufacturing in the United States is now done by women," said the preacher. "We may well be ashamed to use the appliances of modern civilization when we regard that they mean the life blood and agony of delicate womanhood, the paralysis of our homes and the stopping of that abounding American physical vigor which has marked us for a century, because America has hitherto been the paradise of woman."

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Nicoll the Sailor