

Amusements

Although the dramatic season of 1902-3 is supposed now to be a week at least upon the way, very few of the first magnitude stars have twinkled across the footlights as yet. As a matter of fact, few of them will before some time in October. As an illustration of the dilatory methods nowadays pursued, take the case of Blanche Walsh. Her recent experience has not been such as would warrant any special arrogance, but all summer long her press agent has bombarded the newspapers of the country with the details of her new play, which is to be the greatest ever. While no date was named for its production, the impression was given that it would be ready to take the road at the start of the season. Now the news comes that the Walsh managers have just received the first two acts of the Walsh play from the Walsh author. When the final acts will be forthcoming is not vouchsafed, but the probabilities are that some time they will be forthcoming. What is true of Blanche Walsh is true of many others of the first rank actors, and the outlook therefore does not warrant the expectation of much brilliancy before the end of October. In the meantime the time-tried and fire-tested plays and players will surge along the well established routes, affording amusement for those who cannot restrain themselves until the coming of the day when the real stars will add their glorious radiance to the effulgence of the busy lights.

Richard Mansfield could no more keep out of print than a duck can evade water. Now it is his announced intention to double in the parts of Brutus and Caesar in the play of "Julius Caesar" that has set the myriads of the press on his track again. One of the curious demands to know how the great Richard is going to arrange matters at the time of the assassination, when as Brutus he will be called upon to thrust a broad two-edged Roman dagger into the corset of the great Julius. Others, with an air of mystery, suggest that he deliver the Marc Antony oration and ring in an impersonation of Ophelia to fill in the gaps. What seems to grate on the sensibilities of the critics mostly is that Mr. Mansfield has decided not to be effaced with the assassination of the emperor, but will "not" in a number of scenes where the great Roman has no part. These critics argue that the actor proceeds on the theory that it is Mansfield and not the play the people want to see. In this they are probably quite correct, for the people do want to see Mansfield, and if he would undertake to do a noble instead of a double role, it is quite likely there would be no objection. Mr. Mansfield may be eccentric in his ways, but he has always a cogent and weighty reason for anything he does. He has won his way by hard work to the foremost place on the American stage, and is indeed in the rank of his profession, making his way today, if he undertakes to do double work that his patrons may have the opportunity to see more of him than a single limited part would permit, it is quite as reasonable to think that he does so on an honest desire to give his patrons the most complete measure of the art of Richard Mansfield as to argue that he does so merely to feed the abnormal bump of vanity he is accused of fostering. Mr. Mansfield may never be able to make up his quarrel with the sensational newspapers, but he is not likely to tire the American people with his personality on the stage.

One thing the American actors have to thank Mr. Mansfield for is his demand for decent accommodation for actors at the theater. Until he began his crusade a few years ago, the theater from the drop curtain to the back wall was as a rule a most uninviting place. As a rule the dust accumulated since the opening of the house was only disturbed by the shifting of the scenery, and the debris accumulated by the appearance of the company fell legions to the next. In the dressing rooms, when there were such, conditions almost beyond imagination prevailed as a rule. Generations of managers and actors had tolerated these abuses, until it had come to be traditional. Mr. Mansfield entered the profession, and was denounced as a crank. He refused to play in unclean houses. He and the members of his companies were costly clothing, which was likely to be soon ruined by the filth and grime of the theater. It came to a point where the theater was either clean or have no Mansfield, and the local managers began to clean up. Other companies soon discovered the advantage, until now the dirty theater is the exception. This was only one of Mansfield's "cranky notions," but every traveling actor of today owes a debt to the man who first cleaned up the theater. Others of his alleged crochets have been directed along the lines of similar reforms, and he has not only done much to elevate the profession in an artistic way, but has added much to the physical comfort of those who follow him.

One of the things New York people are paying money to see has in it a scene where the hero and villain fight in the tunnel under the Hudson river, while the villain's discarded child remains the dynamite from the trunk in front of the onrushing express train. The hero is beaten into insensibility, and the villain grabs his revolver and shoots the great trust magnate whose will leaving \$20,000,000 to the villain's discarded child remains the dynamite from the trunk in front of the onrushing express train. The hero is beaten into insensibility, and the villain grabs his revolver and shoots the great trust magnate whose will leaving \$20,000,000 to the villain's discarded child remains the dynamite from the trunk in front of the onrushing express train. The hero is beaten into insensibility, and the villain grabs his revolver and shoots the great trust magnate whose will leaving \$20,000,000 to the villain's discarded child remains the dynamite from the trunk in front of the onrushing express train.

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its author charitably shows only their virtues. He characteristically says in his announcements of the play that the two brothers never were guilty of firing a shot save in the defense of law and order. The play is promised with a very elaborate scenic setting. George Kilmit and Alma Hearn enact the two principal roles. Last season the play was interesting and well received here and doubtless it is as worthy of consideration this season as it was last.

The diversions for summer resort patrons constituting the bill that opens the new week at Krug park today will be varied. A balloon race will be run at 6:30 p. m. The contestants are Prof. J. Waldorf Hall and Jose DeWitt, the latter of whom will use a new balloon constructed for the occasion, which he tested for the first time yesterday. The main points to decide the winner will be elevation and distance traveled, in addition to which the performance of the contestants will be considered. The afternoon and evening programs by Huster's band embrace well known successes of standard composers, ranging from popular to classic, including the overture, "Pique Dame," by Suppe, and "Tancrède," by Rossini, and popular songs, such as "Lullaby," "The Song of the Lark," and "The Song of the Sea." The solo features will be selected numbers by Mr. Albin Huster, trombone, and Mr. J. C. Lott, cornet. The familiar fairytale, "Little Red Riding Hood," and the "Passion Play" will furnish the moving picture entertainment. Huster's band will give the regulars a singing concert on Wednesday and on Saturday the Woodmen of the World will hold their annual outing. The bowling alleys, merry-go-round, shooting courts and other pastimes will bid for the favor of the devotees.

Plays and Players.
Thomas Jefferson's tour in "Rip Van Winkle" begins September 8. Joseph Franconer has gone to London to stage the production of "Quality Street" in that city. The company playing "The Millionaire" stranded in Springfield, Mass., on August 29. Mrs. James Brown Potter is to take part in the festival at Bristol, England, in October. She will recite "The Song of the Sea," "The Song of the Lark," and "The Song of the Sea." The company playing "The Millionaire" stranded in Springfield, Mass., on August 29.

On Sunday morning last I played a double bill, that is, I heard the new chimes and the organ and choir of Grace Episcopal church, Chicago, and leaving there during the "Jubilant" I hastened down town by cable car to hear the farewell sermon of Rev. Frank Crane, formerly of Omaha. As the service was held in a hall, I was not able to hear the new chimes were a sore disappointment to me, the bells being ordinary and the bellify altogether too low to give good results. Trinity, of Omaha, is good enough for me. As to the choir, under Harrison Biddle, I will simply state that it is not by any means necessary for an Omaha to go to Chicago to hear fine church music. The conclusion is self-evident. You can draw it yourself.

The farewell sermon of Dr. Crane was delivered in the First Methodist church, in the second story of a third-rate building down town. There were modern hymn books scattered through the pews and opera seats of the "Auditorium," (horror!) the dismal dinginess of it, and I could not but wonder how the management of the music of the "meetin' house." Dr. Crane made a masterly "apologia pro vita sua," and he was followed by speakers and "resolvers" being the celebrated senator, whom, I note, Chicago people speak of as "Bully" Mason. The speeches were so fulsome, so absurd, and so nauseating, that when Dr. Crane arose to thank those who had done the deed he said: "I feel as though I had been walking in a graveyard and reading my own epitaph."

Mr. E. G. Towne, tenor, of New York City, has settled in Chicago. He has been heard in Omaha. He will do concert work and teaching. I understand that some Omaha pupils went over to Chicago to study with Mr. Wareham. I have not heard one good word for Mr. Wareham's singing or teaching from any of the legitimate teachers there. But they do say that Mr. Wareham is a good musician. All good voice teachers are musicians, but all good musicians are not voice teachers by a long way.

Mr. and Mrs. Gahn have returned from their eastern trip. Mr. and Mrs. Keck and Miss Joy Keck have returned from their vacation. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Kelly have come back to Omaha after their vacation. Mr. Sigmund Landsberg has returned from his western trip. He has been in Colorado, where it's cool.

Miss Marie Swanson, harpist, has come back from her vacation tour. I am told that the Jewish synagogue has engaged Miss Danforth, from Chicago, for organist for the entire church year. Mrs. W. C. Hester for tenor and Mr. Hester for bass for the coming season. Mrs. Allen P. Kelly, contralto, and Miss Boulter, organist, have been engaged. The Marcher Bureau of Music furnished two of the new singers.

Miss Boulter has reopened her piano studio, 518 McCague building. There is a movement on foot among Masons of the city to start a fund to provide a place for an annual outing of the members of the society in Nebraska, somewhat upon the lines of that provided by the Masons of other cities for their summer outing. The plan is in its inception at this time and it may take a year or more to develop, but that it will be brought about in time the sanguine promoter who has taken but few into his confidence, believes. Of his plan he says: "I have set the pace for Masons of Nebraska. Near Cedar Rapids they have a campground where the annual session of the grand lodge is held in the summer time. Masons with their families come to the park, which is provided with an excellent lake for boating and spend a week or two of the warmest weather. The sociability which comes from these meetings is superior to that engendered by the meetings in the cities and every grand jurisdiction should have such a place. It is a place for good, for a summer of places in the state which might be secured cheap and developed into satisfactory grounds. The greatest objection to this plan might come from the members of the order in the smaller towns, who like to come to the city for the meeting of the grand lodge and similar sessions. The same objection was urged in Iowa, but all now see the advantage of such recreation ground."

It is not often that a past grand master of the Masonic lodge of a state leaves the jurisdiction over which he has presided, but one is to leave Nebraska this month for the jurisdiction of Missouri. The departure of Judge W. W. Keyser, therefore, is to be made memorable by a farewell entertainment in his honor by the members of St. John's lodge Thursday night, to which every master mason in the jurisdiction will be given a hearty welcome. The committee having charge of the entertainment has prepared an excellent program of speeches, music and song. The affair will be held in a tiled lodge, open in the third degree, and purely Masonic features will mark the evening's program. Visitors will be present from all parts of the state and two past grand masters are to speed the departing brother with remarks.

With the coming of the cooler weather and the resumption of Masonic work there will probably be some activity in the California Conclave club, which was organized with so great a flourish upon the return of the members of Mount Calvary commandery, Knights Templar, from the Louisville conclave. When the club went into the quiet season there were about sixty members and it is expected that several more will be added this fall.

Every Shriner who can will go to the circus a week from Monday. A committee consisting of Nobles Munson, Dyal and Kennard has taken the matter up with the Ringling brothers and has secured seats for the members of Tangier temple and their families. This action is a return of the favor, when by the owners of the circus—all Shriners—who, when the imperial council of the order met in Omaha, placed all of the camels in the menagerie in the line of march, and afterward gave the members of the temple a complimentary entertainment.

Members of Lillian temple No. 1, Rathbone Sisters, are making preparations to entertain the members of the grand temple, which meets in Omaha early in October, in order to raise funds for such entertainment. The local temple will give a card party and luncheon in Myrtle hall on Monday evening, to which all their friends are cordially invited.

A great deal of enthusiasm was aroused at the meeting of Mayflower Garden of the Gardeners Thursday evening, when J. F. Kelly addressed the members, announcing his purpose to cast his lot hereafter with the Gardeners. He was more than delighted with the progress made in putting on the military work and was highly impressed with the personality of the membership. Supreme Organizer T. Z. Magarril followed in the same vein and it was generally felt that the order is to be congratulated upon having such able men to look after its field work. The balance of the evening was spent in singing, dancing and everyone left happy and delighted.

At the meeting of Omaha council, Knights and Ladies of Security, Wednesday following officers were elected: Mrs. Helen Adams, president; Mrs. Mary Buane, first vice president; Mrs. Pollock, second vice president; Mrs. Spots, prelate; James Austin, corresponding secretary; Henry Friedlander, financial secretary; Phil Gotthelmer, treasurer; Edward Leader, guard; Miss Hart, secretary; Frank Rosewater, Mrs. Elmore Huberman and H. M. Pollock, trustees.

Clan Gordon, No. 63, Order of Scottish Rites, held regular meeting Tuesday evening in its hall, continuing the building, when two candidates were duly made members of the order. Financial results of recent picnic were so good that it seems, rain or shine, the Scottish picnic is bound to be a success. The evening was spent in song and story. "The Kitties" are again heading this way in their tour from ocean to ocean.

RESORTS.
KRUG PARK
Today Refined High Class 6:30 p. m. Special—Big Sensational BALLOON RACE
Between the undefeated champion J. Waldorf Hall and the great Jose Dewitt.
HUSTER'S CONCERT BAND
Entirely New Program.
Little Red Riding Hood
The Passion Play

Ante Room Echoes
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