

At the Theaters



Adele Farrington in "A Fool There Was" At the Brandeis



Owen McGivney At the Orpheum



Mr. and Mrs. Duncan in "Freckles" At the Brandeis



Grace Cameron At the Orpheum



Lillian Kemble in "The White Sister" Glaser Players-At the Boyd



Kenny St. Clair At the Krug



Ida Bayton-At the Gayety

MR. CRANE'S visit was the event of the week in Omaha; it would be the event of a theatrical week anywhere, for this great actor so easily holds his pre-eminent position that there is no gainsaying his importance to his profession. He is one of the men who have come on to the present day from a past rich in memories and traditions; he is listed among the great actors of a generation ago, before the American stage had witnessed that great transition which came about with the introducing and ascendancy of the "modern" as distinguished from the "classic" school of acting. If Mr. Crane were asked to define the difference between these schools, he would probably say there is none, that the modern is but the natural sequence of the classic; that it is but the adaptation of the art of acting to the conditions made possible by the development of the purely mechanical side of the stage. He that is it may, Mr. Crane has gone over the ground in his own person, and his growth in his profession, keeping easy pace with the development of his art, is but another attribute of his greatness. His visit to Omaha was notable for the unusual demonstration in his honor at the Commercial club, where he was the guest at luncheon on Saturday.

The appearance earlier in the week at the Brandeis of the New York company in "Boys and Girls" was properly acknowledged by attendance that shows Omaha to be interested in first class productions at all times. An interesting feature of this engagement was that three Nebraska towns got such a treat as must be rare in their history—the company playing at Norfolk, Fremont and Plattsmouth on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Mr. Mann's engagement was not a success, for the reason he was here in a play that did not prove popular last season. In this instance, at least, "the play's the thing." At the Boyd the Vaughan Glaser players are raising daily in popularity, and a brilliant season is promised them. The company is strong in all ways, and ought to succeed.

Taken from Rudyard Kipling's "The Vampire," Porter Emerson Browne five years ago wrote "A Fool There Was." Robert Hilliard made a wonderful success with the piece and its story left an impression on the American public that has never been forgotten. For the first time in the history of the play it is announced to be at the Brandeis theater four days, commencing today, at popular prices. The story of the power of a woman over the mind of a man, as portrayed by Elsie Jane Wilson and William L. Gibson, is so realistic, so true to life, that students of psychology have solved why it has such a hold on the theater-going public. The play deals with the every day perplexities of life as brutally as does a surgeon about to perform an operation. This season Robert Campbell has secured from Klaw & Erlanger the right to produce the play in a few of the larger cities. The cast includes The Husband, William L. Gibson; The Vampire, Elsie Jane Wilson; The Wife, Ethel Strickland; The Sister, Agnes Mapes; The Child, Agatha Frederic; The Friend, Rupert Julian; The Steward, Frederick Nichols; Young Pharmacia, Charles McHenry. These people have been chosen because of their particular adeptness for the niche each fills in the completeness of the whole. Mr. Campbell has built an entirely new production for this season's tour.

Neil Twomey's dramatization of Gene Stratton-Porter's greatest success, "Freckles," will be the attraction at the Brandeis theater Thursday, Friday and Saturday, under the direct management of A. G. Delamater, who has in the past given to the stage some of the most worthy successes. There is an intense desire to see "Freckles"—the nameless waif, to follow him through his adventures in the great "Lumberlost" swamp, with his engaging personality and his love story with "The Angel"; to become acquainted with his benefactor, McLean; to see Mrs. Duncan, with her motherly love for Freckles, and all the other well-

Omaha theater-goers will doubtless be delighted to learn that the Liebler company are sending to this city for the first time one of their most famous comedies in one of their most successful companies. The announcement is made that for the Christmas attraction, opening with a matinee on the afternoon of Christmas and continuing for the remainder of the week with matinee on Saturday, the famous all-English company will be seen at the Brandeis theater in Louis N. Parker's "comedy of happiness," entitled "Pomander Walk." This is the same play and almost the same company that appeared at Wallack's theater, New York City. The atmosphere of "Pomander Walk" is so thoroughly English in action and character that none but a company of thoroughly English players could properly enact it and lose none of its delicate flavor.

Mr. Parker has laid his play in a quiet little nook in the suburbs of London, called Pamander Walk, and the period he has selected is in the latter years of the Georgian era—1785. It is practically the annals of a quiet neighborhood, and the most exciting episodes that occur during the three acts of the play are four simultaneous courtships, finishing with four simultaneous marriages, and nearly all of the characters concerned live in the five little, quaint Queen Anne cottages that stand in a row along the bank of the River Thames. Several of the characters in "Pomander Walk" look as if they might have jumped out of the annals of a quiet neighborhood, and the most exciting episodes that occur during the three acts of the play are four simultaneous courtships, finishing with four simultaneous marriages, and nearly all of the characters concerned live in the five little, quaint Queen Anne cottages that stand in a row along the bank of the River Thames. Several of the characters in "Pomander Walk" look as if they might have jumped out of the annals of a quiet neighborhood, and the most exciting episodes that occur during the three acts of the play are four simultaneous courtships, finishing with four simultaneous marriages, and nearly all of the characters concerned live in the five little, quaint Queen Anne cottages that stand in a row along the bank of the River Thames.

When the curtain rises Sunday evening at the Boyd theater the patrons will have an opportunity to witness the most gripping, stirring romance ever offered at popular prices. "The White Sister," the second offering of the Vaughan Glaser Players, dramatized from F. Marion Crawford's novel, was the most successful vehicle Viola Allen ever had, and only recently has been released for stock. The audience will have the opportunity to view the talents of Miss Lillian Kemble in a new light and so much of the success of the play depends upon her work as sister Giovanni Severi that it is considered a great personal triumph. Charles Mackay as Captain Giovanni Severi will again demonstrate to the audience his ability to portray the character of the disappointed lover and will leave nothing to be desired. Will D. Corbett will show his worth as Saracinesca, a lovable old money-signor with plenty of quiet force when necessary. An unusual effort has been made by Mr. Curtis, the director, and Mr. Englander, artist, in the production of this piece, which, it is believed, will be one of the most popular of the entire sea-

son. Matinees—Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

One of the best bills of the season will be given at the Orpheum this week with a double headline attraction—Owen McGivney and Grace Cameron. Owen McGivney, the Irish actor, will appear in his latest Protean success, "Bill Sikes," a dramatic episode from Charles Dickens. The five characters in this dramatization will all be taken by Mr. McGivney. The scene is in Sikes' garret with the tenant retiring. As soon as he is asleep the despicable Pavin enters. Then come the Artful Dodger, Monks and Nancy in rapid succession. The most interesting incident in the production is the kidnapping of Oliver, which always holds the audience spellbound.

Grace Cameron, the well known light opera singer and comedienne, is just returning from Europe where she created a furore. The clever little actress is now called "The Dainty Singer of Rollicking Songs." She first appears in the dignified style of a prima donna. Her next song is a sprightly ragging tune. Her other selections are equally good. The Three Collegians will offer a timely melange entitled "The Rehearsal," Minnie Allen, "The Little Volcano of Mirth," will add much to the enjoyment of the bill. The Five Mowatts will give an unusually interesting juggling performance. Lewis and Dody, called "The Two Sons," will give a remarkably clever musical act. The Kyles, original entertainers, will offer a novel act which will undoubtedly please.

The attraction at the Krug theater for the week commencing with the usual Sunday matinee will be Charles Daniels' "Whirl of Mirth," presenting a program of exhilarating farce, brilliant burlesque, high grade vaudeville and a beauty display of young women that is said to be the classiest and most stunning ever seen with an attraction of this kind. The performance opening with a lively burlesque, entitled "Cartoon Land," introducing the entire company, including Edith H. Collins, Frank Walsh, Clyde J. Bates, Tod Browning, George Topack, Leon Mayo, the Georgia Twins, Alice Walker, Fanny St. Clair, Ethel Vernon and Eloise McCloud. The big singing spectacle, "Rubbing It In," which closes the show is one of the most complete offerings ever seen in burlesque. Friday night the special feature of the Country store will be to night. Wonderful mechanical toys, motion picture machines, electric

train, dolls, and other toys will be given away that night.

Merriment and mirth will reign supreme in "Taxi Girls," this week's attraction at the Gayety theater, starting this afternoon, 16 keeping with its name, the show is a rapid-fire one. It's a swift moving affair with many brilliant scenes and the humor rolls on with whirlwind rapidity. The travesty itself is divided into two parts, the first one presenting a picturesque panorama of Vera Cruz while the second one portrays the interior of a ray Mexican prison. In conjunction with the regular attraction a most excellent vaudeville program is offered. The Farrell-Taylor Trio, Woolley and Woods, Ward and Bohman, the Roman Duo, Ida Bayton and the Moran Sisters, will be among those, who not only appear in their respective specialties, but who will also take charge of the principal comedy roles in the satire. The chorus is well selected, possesses voice material and charm and appears to great advantage in the costly gowns with which they adorn themselves for the various ensembles. Starting tomorrow there will be a tired shoppers' matinee daily.

The Hippodrome this week will have an all-comedy bill from beginning to end, its feature attraction being those well known boys, Klein, Ott and Nicholson, in a new comedy musical act. The Baader-Lavelle Trio will present comedy on wheels. Allison & Nevins will make themselves welcome with their impersonation of two rube conques. Until now the Hippodrome has not had an out-and-out con shouter, and when you hear Elsie Murphy sing some of her comedy-con songs, you'll realize what has been missing all along. The antics of Tony Johnston's comedy dogs, will please also. The Hippodrome has also caught the comedy spirit and will offer many "movies" of the laugh-making kind. Each afternoon all week, 2 to 5, there will be a three shoppers' matinee. Two complete performances each evening starting at 7 and 9, precisely. The Hippodrome will be found to be a most welcome haven of rest for shoppers the coming week.

W. H. Crane Talks to Omaha Business Men

William H. Crane, who is playing "The Senator Keeps House" at the Brandeis, made a talk (he insisted it was not an address) before the Commercial club at noon in which he declared it very difficult to secure clean plays that will pay, or plays that combine instruction with entertainment.

More than 500 business men and women listened with keen interest to what the actor had to say on the subject that had been given him, "The Business of the Actor." The principal part of his talk was reminiscences and humorous stories. While he digressed into a serious vein long enough to give reasons for the insufficient numbers of clean plays. All show managers, he said, would rather produce moral and refined plays if the public would show appreciation of them. He said that in the majority of cases cheap melodrama and burlesque paid better than the theatrical productions that instruct or afford strictly moral entertainment.

Two births and two deaths.

Two persons died and two births occurred in Omaha Friday, the 13th, according to reports received at the health commissioner's office. The births were: W. A. and Ella Ellis, 3661 Ames, girl; Antonius and Rosario Angelos, 1169 North Seventeenth, girl. The deaths were: C. E. Johannes and Allison Wood.

HEALTH OF THE CITY IS GOOD

Birth Rate Shows Big Increase Over Last Year.

DEATH RATE IS DECREASING

Remarkable Showing is Made in the Report of the Health Department of the City of Omaha.

Births in Omaha during the year 1912 will show an increase of nearly 300 over the births in 1911, and deaths for 1912 will show a proportionate decrease, a condition that will obtain for the first time this year.

In 1911 the total births were 2,571. Already this year to December 1 the births are 2,599, and Health Commissioner Connell says there will be, judging from present indications, 300 more before the year is out.

Deaths this year will be decreased by a large per cent, sanitary conditions being attributed as the chief cause of the decrease. In 1911 the deaths were 1,522, and to December 1 this year the total deaths number 1,568, with the probability that they will not reach more than 1,500.

U. P. Celebrating Its Anniversary

The Union Pacific is quietly observing the forty-ninth anniversary of its existence as a railroad. Forty-nine years ago, December 14, at Omaha, ground was first broken looking to the construction of the road. Since then the road has grown until now it has 3,575 miles of track, including main line and branches, 774 of which is double track.

Forty-nine years ago there were less than 100 persons on the Union Pacific payroll, while now there are over 30,000 drawing salaries that aggregate more than \$17,000,000 annually.

"HICKS AT COLLEGE" IS WELL RECEIVED BY THE STUDENTS

"Hicks at College," which was presented Friday night at the University of Omaha by the secular class, was a very pronounced success. From the first rise of the curtain until it dropped at the end of the third act everything went along as smoothly and easily as though the production was being presented by an aggregation of stars instead of a group of students who were making their first dramatic attempt. The audience was large and receptive and gave the youthful actors round after round of applause. Much credit must be given the coaches, Miss Bernice Baughart, and Edna Sweeley for the selection of the cast and the training.

GRAND ISLAND OFFICER IS RUN DOWN BY AUTOMOBILE

GRAND ISLAND, Neb., Dec. 14.—(Special Telegram.)—With one leg broken at the hip, the other at the ankle, two ribs broken and several cuts about the head, Night Policeman W. R. Jensen lies at St. Francis hospital as the result of fast automobile driving. While crossing the streets an automobile driven by a Mr. Neal of Aurora came swiftly around the corner, struck the officer and traveled thirty feet after the collision. The accident occurred in the heart of the business district. The officer will recover. Some time ago the council refused to buy stop watches for the officers to aid them in remedying the speed limit in the downtown district.

BRANDEIS THEATER
 THIS AFTERNOON—TONIGHT—4 DAYS
 SPECIAL WEDNESDAY MATINEE
ROBERT HILLIARD'S
 GREAT SUCCESS
"A FOOL THERE WAS"
 By Porter Emerson Brown
 Suggested by Kipling's Poem, "THE VAMPIRE"
 First Time at Popular Prices

THURSDAY 3 DAYS—MATINEE SATURDAY
 A. G. DELAMATER Announces
THE NEW SONG PLAY
FRECKLES
 Dramatized by Neil Twomey from the famous novel by GENE STRATTON-PORTER
 Author of "The Girl of the Lumberlost" and "The Harvester"
 A Superb Scenic Production.
 Nights 25 to \$1.00. Matinee 25-50c

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS ENGAGEMENT
 Opening with a **WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 25**
 Holiday Matinee
 Initial Omaha Engagement of
 LOUIS N. PARKER'S QUAINT COMEDY
POMANDER WALK
 (The Liebler Co., Managers)
 ONE YEAR IN NEW YORK ALL-ENGLISH STAR CAST
 Happiness and charm are the winning elements in this beautiful play.
 Seats Ready Friday. Best Seats \$1.50. Mail Orders Now.

OMAHA'S TWO LIVE ONES

GAYETY
 IF IT'S AT THE
GAYETY
 IT'S GOOD

HIPPODROME
 WORTH CLIMBING THE HILL

Devoted to Strictly High Grade
 Extravaganzas and Vaudeville
TWICE DAILY ALL MAT. TODAY
WEEK MAT. TODAY
 JOE HURTTIG
 Invites To a Pleasure
 Trip With
TAXI GIRLS
 48 CHATEAUX OF FURY
 And a Big Vaudeville
 Olio Including
 FARRELL-TAYLOR
 TRIO
 PRIMROSE SEMON
 WOOLLEY & WOODS
 BLANCHER DAVEN-
 FORT
 WARD & BOHLMAN
BEAUTY CHORUS
 THAT IS

On Douglas St. at 18th.
TODAY—AT 1, 3, 7 and 9 P. M.
TOMORROW and WEEK—FROM
2 to 5; At 7 and 9 P. M. Daily.

"ALL COMEDY" WEEK
 OFFERING OF
HYTONE & VIGOR
KLEIN, OTT and NICHOLSON
 Comedy Musicians.
BAADER-LAVELLE TROUPE
 Comedy Bicyclists.
TONY JOHNSTON'S DOGS
 Comedy Canines.
ELSIE MURPHY
 Comedy Con Shouter.
ALLMON & NEVINS
 Rube Comiques.
OUR NON-FLICKER HIPPOSCOPE
 Offers Com.edy "Movies."
TIRED XMAS SHOPPERS' MAT DAILY

Matinee every
 day, 2:15
 Every night,
 8:15
 All Week
Orpheum
ADVANCED VAUDEVILLE

The Great Irish Actor,
Owen McGivney
 Presents His Latest Protean
 Success,
"BILL SIKES"
 A Dramatic Episode from
 Charles Dickens'
"OLIVER TWIST"
 Playing Five Characters Alone

Grace Cameron
"Dainty Singer"
 OF
Rollicking Songs"

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| The Three Collegians Offering a timely melange called, "THE REHEARSAL" | Minnie Allen "The Little Volcano of Mirth." | FIVE JUGGLING MOWATTS |
| Lewis & Dody, "THE TWO SAM'S" | THE KYLES, In an Eccentric Novelty | PATHE'S WEEKLY REVIEW |

PRICES—Matinee, Gallery 10c; best seats, 25c, except Saturday and Sunday—NIGHT 10c, 25c, 50c, 75c.

BOYD'S ENTIRE WEEK Tonight
 MATINEES TUESDAY, THURSDAY AND SATURDAY.
Vaughan Glaser Players
 IN VIOLA ALLEN'S GREATEST SUCCESS,
THE WHITE SISTER
 1000 SEATS 25c
 NEXT WEEK—"THE DEEP PURPLE"

KRUG THEATER
 MATINEE TODAY, 2:30—NIGHT, 8:30
THE WHIRL OF MIRTH
 WITH FUNNY FACE
EDDIE B. COLLINS
"IN CARTOON LAND"
 —AND—
"RUBBING IT IN"
 A WHIRL OF LAUGHS.
 EXTRA FRIDAY NIGHT—Country Store Night, Christmas Toys and Presents for the Children.