



LILY BRANSCOMBE
At the Lyric

"ACROSS THE PLAINS."

"Across the Plains" is a charming romance of the early days when the pioneers crossed the continent to open up the western country. The pioneers we meet in this romance settle in Southern California. In the first act we find Stevens (Frank Fanning) running a big sawmill in Bacheldeez Gulch. He is also taking care of a little mountain waif (Lily Branscombe), whose father died and mother was murdered while crossing the plains. A party of tourists arrive at the Gulch, consisting of Mount Calm (W. Wenterhoff), Fairfax (Carroll McFarland), Florence (Miss Howard), Miss Mount Auburn (Gwyn Sterling). Much to the disgust of Stevens Iones (Chas. Connors), Pike (Vin Moore), as Stevens has impressed on them not to encourage women in camp, the only women there at present being the little waif and Sarah (Miss McDonald), who is crazy and is really the wife of Mont-

calm, and mother of Florence. Mont-calm's mission is to find Morrow's daughter, the heiress, who in reality is the waif. Fairfax offers her his hand and plots to get rid of Mont-calm by bribing the Indian to kill him, and Stevens is accused of the crime, but the Indian proves that Stevens is innocent. The waif is proven the heiress. Florence Mont-calm's real daughter, and Sarah is her mother. The villain, Fairfax, is killed. The climaxes are strong and exciting; the comedy is quaint and supplied by Ione's and the old maid. Stevens is a beautiful heroic part, and the waif is a part that Miss Branscombe revels in. The Indian (Herbert Ashton) is a very strong part. In fact there is not a weak part in the piece. The scenes are in California and New Mexico. New scenery is being painted, and the patrons of the cozy Lyric may be sure of an enjoyable production.

New song by Master Neuberger and moving pictures will be shown.

LABOR NOTES

Seattle is going to vote upon the question of municipal ownership of street railway on September 12.

It is estimated that the Farmers' Union has a membership of over 500,000 in the cotton growing states of the South alone.

The union carpenters of Los Angeles are asking for a raise in wages from 43 3/4 cents per hour to 50 cents. They are already working the eight-hour day.

Keir Hardie, the English labor leader, is organizing an Agricultural Labor League on the lines of the National Agricultural Union founded by Joseph Arch in 1872.

Miss Mary MacArthur, the English suffragist, is working in the formation of a working woman's federation in England to be formed along lines similar to those of the A. F. of L.

The Poster Artists' Association is reported to have been granted a charter by the American Federation of Labor. The union has enjoyed the eight-hour day for a number of years.

The Chicago Federation of Labor has adopted a rule whereby no delegate will be entitled to a seat unless he wears at least four union label articles. The rule is having a good effect.

The convention of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners will be held at Niagara Falls, commencing September 17 of this year. The meeting will last two weeks. The Amalgamated was organized August 12, 1881.

Railroad telegraphers on the Santa Fe system have been voluntarily granted a wage increase averaging about \$4 a month. The increase is to become effective at once and applies to all the operators between Chicago and El Paso, about 1000 in number.

Bricklayers and carpenters in Pittsburg are protesting against the work being done by inmates of the workhouse who are farmed out in gangs often to do work on buildings. A contractor pays a policeman for watching them and gives each convict \$1 per day, a saving of \$2 to \$3.50 per day on each man. The labor

unions as a whole are taking up the fight against such labor.

The trainmen on the California Northwestern Railroad have presented their demands to the company for a 20 per cent increase in wages of conductors, engineers and firemen and brakemen. The California Northwestern is now a part of the Hariman system, and the employees ask an increase to the wages paid by the Southern Pacific.

The California promotion committee is trying to solve the servant question for California, and has sent instructions to its eastern bureau at New York to visit Ellis Island and have the incoming women from European countries told of the advantages of California. They will be given an idea of the wages paid, the class of work and other information necessary.

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania handed down an opinion holding that a certificate of qualification is required before a miner can work in the anthracite mines of the state, and that two years' practical experience as an anthracite mine worker or laborer is necessary before the certificate can be obtained. The operators attempted to have this law knocked out.

An international exposition portraying the life of the laborer for the past 2000 years, showing conditions surrounding him from the time of feudal slavery to the present time, is contemplated by the French Parliament. The resolution asks the government to appoint a commission to look into the question of finding ways and means to organize an international exposition to be held in Paris in 1909 in which there will be as full and perfect display as possible of a laborer's life. At the first meeting of this commission, held recently in Paris, M. Leon Bourgeois, president of the French Chamber, said the exposition would serve as a comparison between the conditions of the life of the laborer of today in all countries of the world and conditions existing in past centuries. It would serve also as a striking illustration to the laboring classes of the steps by which they have gradually freed themselves from the state of servitude existing in feudal times until they have arrived at the independence enjoyed today.

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