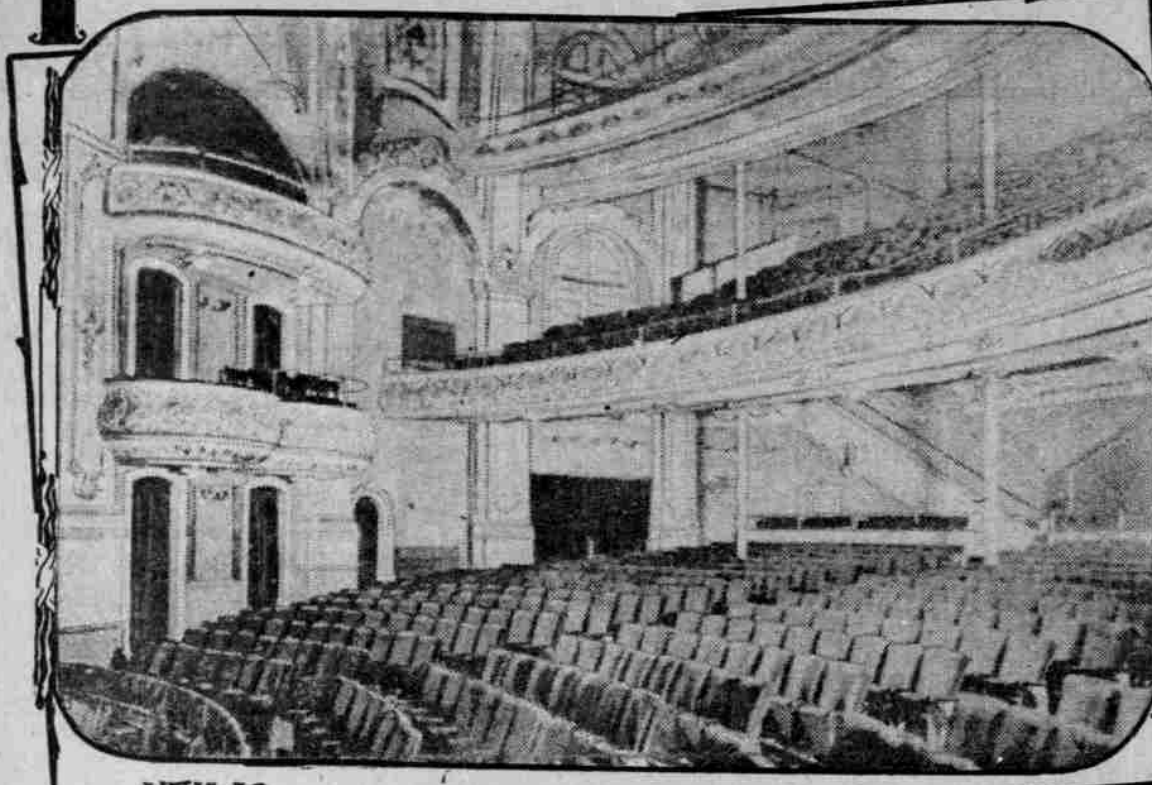


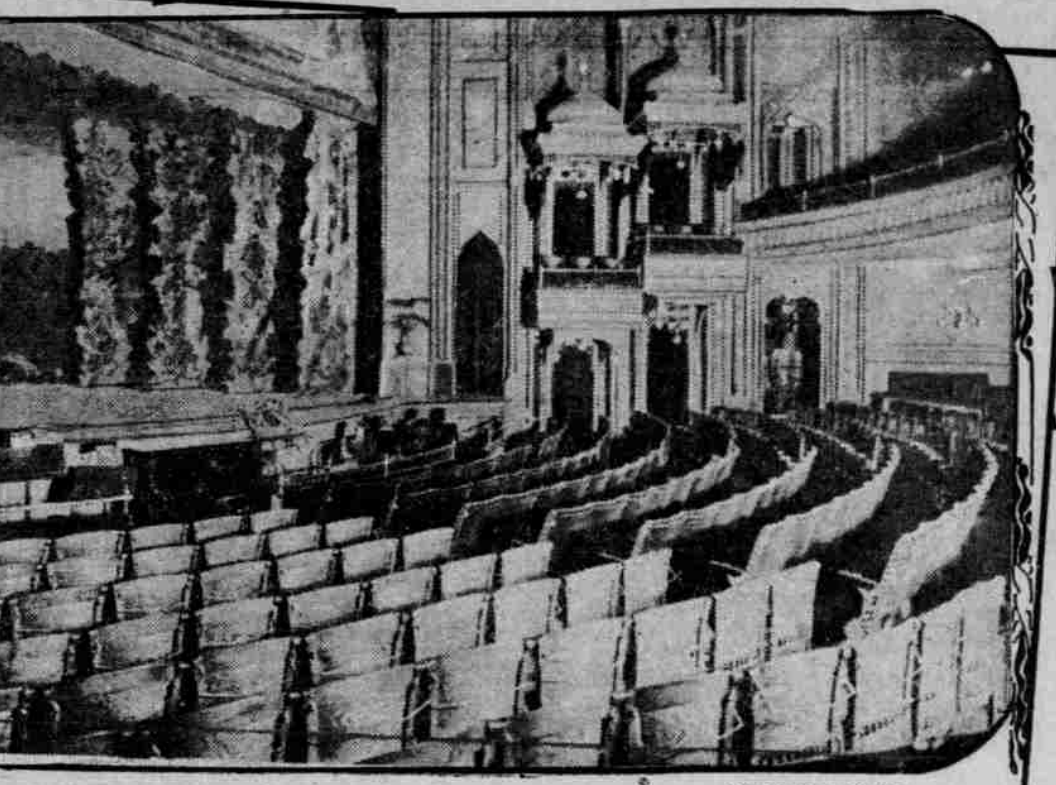
PORTLAND PLAY HOUSES.



HEILIG



MILTON WERSCHKO

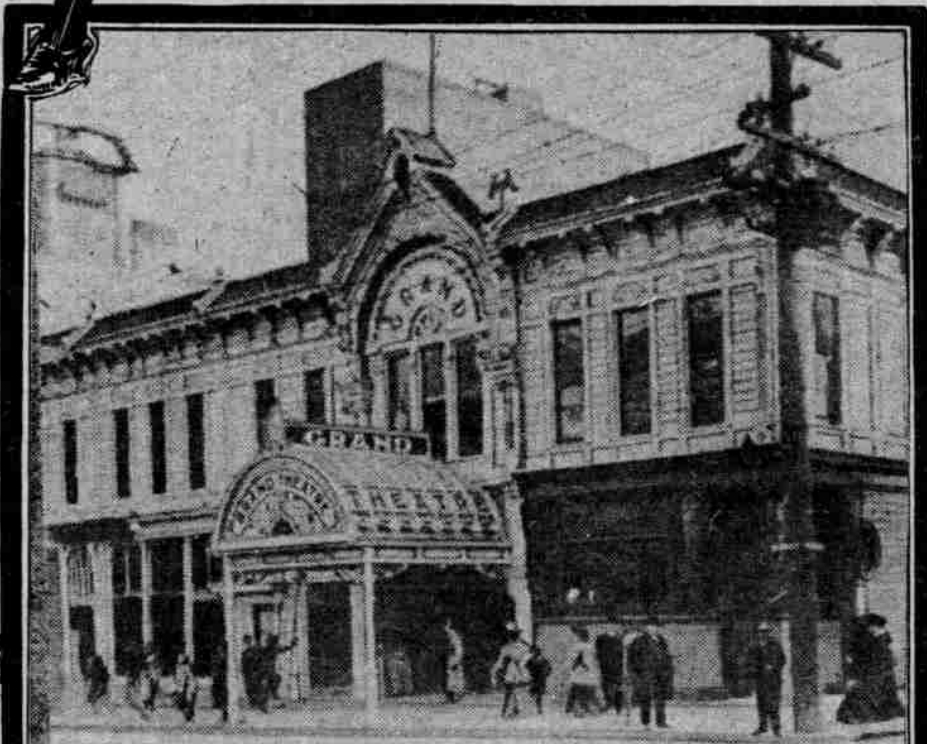
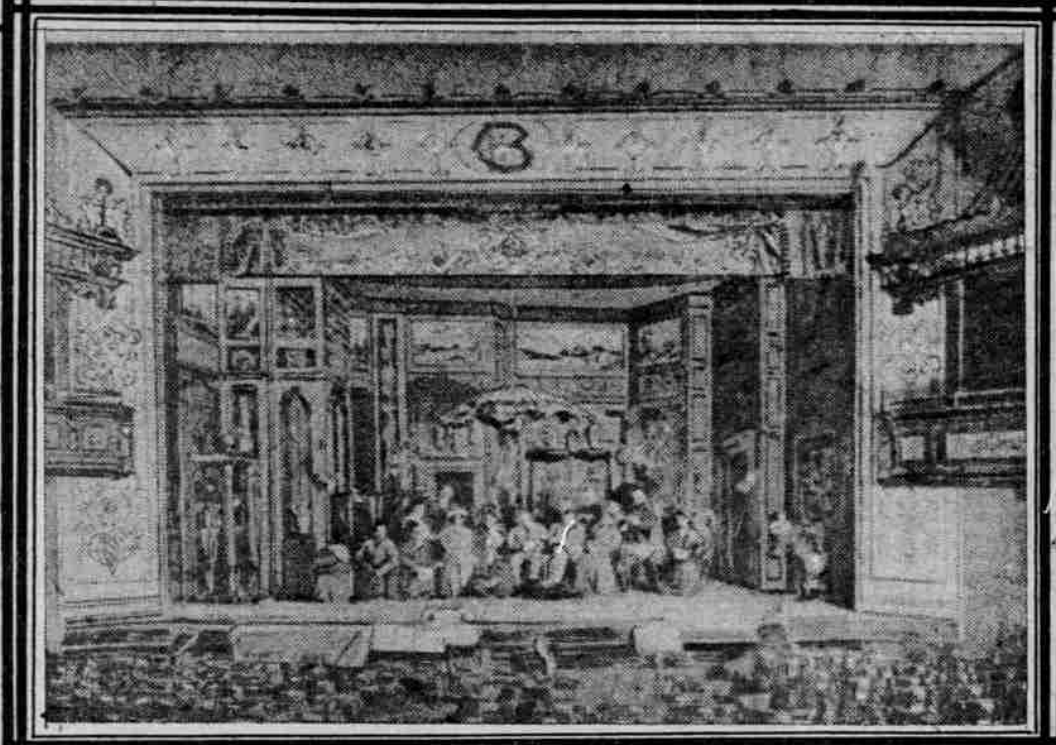


MARQUAM

By Horace E. Thomas.

FOR a city far from New York, the American center of things theatrical, Portland is well favored in the standard of its playhouses and the attractions they present. For many years the Pacific Coast had difficulty obtaining high-class plays, but the enterprising managers who look after the interests of Portland theaters and those of other Coast cities have been untiring in their efforts to bring to the Far West creditable productions and leading artists, with the result that local theatergoers are given the opportunity to see the best road companies and stock organizations that would reflect credit on any city.

Portland's theaters have kept pace well with the industrial progress and growth in population of the city. Year by year there has been marked improvement in the offerings of the local showshops and the present season has been no exception in this respect. The standard of attractions this year has been high and the schedules arranged by the various managers for the re-



maining months promise even better things before the season's close.

The Heilig Theater, at Fourteenth and Washington streets, the Marquam Grand on Morrison, between Sixth and Seventh, and the Empire, at Twelfth and Morrison, are the Portland homes of traveling organizations. Stock companies are maintained at the Baker, Third and Yamhill, and Star, Park and Washington, while vaudeville is the offering at the Grand, Park and Washington, and Pantages, Fourth and Stark.

The Heilig Theater is a member of the Northwest Theatrical Association, which is the largest organization of the kind west of the Mississippi River, controlling 30 houses. Calvin Heilig, president of the association, is manager of the Heilig Theater, and W. T. Fangle is resident manager. Both men are pioneers of theatrical business in Portland and have done much to bring to this city the best attractions.

The chief Klaw & Erlinger attractions are presented at the Heilig. Of particular merit is a series of musical offerings, several of which have been given and others dated at intervals during the remainder of the season. Among the engagements for the remainder of the season, which will last until June, are the following: James T. Powers in "The Blue Moon," Willie Collier, Grace George, DeWolf Hopper, Frank Daniels, Francis Wilson, Mrs. Patrick Campbell, John Drew, McIntire & Heath in "The Ham Tree," "The Man of the Hour," and probably "The Merry Widow." Among the remaining musical attractions are Kubelik, Witherspoon, Madam Homer, Madam Blavet, Federeski and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

Musical comedy has held the boards during the greater part of the past six months at the Marquam Grand, which has enjoyed a most prosperous season. The San Francisco Opera Company, which opened the house last Summer, was followed by the California Opera Company, and that in turn by another engagement of the San Franciscans, & Morton Cohn, manager of the Marquam, and Charles N. Ryan, assistant manager, are to be complimented on their choice of these companies, and it is with regret that local theatergoers see the San Franciscans return to the South.

Throughout the remainder of this season the Marquam will share with the Heilig the Klaw & Erlinger attractions, the more popular priced companies playing at the latter house, "Arno," the present attraction, will be followed in turn by the following engagements: "The Passion Play," Florence Roberts, "Way Down East," "Devil's Auction," "The Lightning Conductor," and many other good plays.

There is little that can be said about

the Baker Stock Company that people of Portland, or the entire Northwest, for that matter, do not already know. It is a fixed Portland institution, and one of which this city may well be proud, for it compares favorably with any stock company in the United States, and occupies an enviable position in a class which can almost be counted on the fingers of the two hands.

The members of the present company are Marion Barney, leading woman; Austin Webb, leading man; Louise Kent, second woman; Robert Homans, heavy man; Donald Bowles, leading juvenile; Maribel Seymour, ingenue; Mina Crollus Gleason and William Gleason, characters; Howard Russell, James Gleason, Earl Dwire, Ronald Bradbury, Charles Lewis, Fay Bainter, Elsie Garrett and Mamie Haslam; stage director, William Dills.

Among the plays to be produced in the near future are "Soldiers of Fortune," "Zaza," "The Mills of the Gods," Hoyt's "A Milk White Flag," "The Climbers," "David Harum," "Charlie's Aunt," "Gruentark," Hoyt's "A Bunch of Keys," "Raffles," "The Eternal City," "When We Were Twenty-One," and many others numbered among the greatest of modern productions.

The Empire is another of the George L. Baker interests, and has for the past three years been devoted almost entirely to the famous Stair-Havlin circuit of Eastern melodramatic road companies, playing week stands all the time during the regular season. This house is under personal direction of Milton Seaman, who is business manager for all the Baker interests.

A few of the attractions still to be seen at the Empire this season are Arthur W. Alsten's "At the Old Cross Roads," "A Desperate Chance," "Big Hearted Jim," "As Told in the Hills," "Peck's Bad Boy," "Lost in New York," "A Man's Broken Promise," "A Royal Slave," "No Mother to Guide Her," "Six in New York," "What Women Will Do," and many others mostly new.

The French Stock Company at the Star Theater has grown very rapidly in public favor and its productions at popular prices, are of exceptional merit. R. E. French, manager of the Star, has been fortunate both in the selection of plays and the personnel of his company, and has a good list in store for the remainder of the season. Crowded houses are the rule each night at the Star.

Lovers of vaudeville have had no complaint to make of the bills put on at the Grand and Pantages. The Sullivan & Conside circuit includes the Grand and has brought West some of the most costly and best vaudeville acts on the American stage. Pantages, managed by J. A. Johnson, is a member of the Pantages circuit, which has come to stand for high merit in vaudeville affairs of the West.



STAR

The patronage of both vaudeville theaters has been limited only by their seating accommodations.

J. H. Erickson, manager of the Grand, has announced that within the next few months that theater will become a member of the Orpheum circuit. It is expected that these acts will come to Portland about April 1, and they will be a distinct gain to vaudeville patrons in this city.

There is need in Portland for a theater

PORTLAND'S PUBLIC SPIRIT OFTEN PROVED

By E. C. Giltner, Secretary Chamber of Commerce.

Contributing money to commendable enterprises at home and helping those overtaken by disaster in other localities, is an indication of public spirit, no city in the United States can equal the record of Portland. During the year 1906 there was subscribed for the Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Association building \$250,000; for the Commercial Club building, \$350,000; for the relief of sufferers in the San Francisco fire, \$25,000; for the relief from sufferers from famine in Japan, \$4800, and many minor sums—a total of nearly \$1,000,000. This large sum of money was subscribed following the exposition year, which, in itself, was a great showing of public spirit and which called for nearly \$500,000 in contributions, and was a success from every point of view. Of the exposition fund \$250,000 was raised in 48 hours.

Portland has taxed itself, without complaint, to make necessary improvements in the Columbia River that should have been made by the General Government, having expended over \$2,000,000 for this purpose—and this amount to help a territory extending into three states and improving a water highway that is second in importance in the entire United States, and of great national importance as well. While complaining at the tardiness of the General Government the public spirit was such that this matter was taken hold of, and acted on, which

has done a large amount of excellent and necessary work for the city. From the standpoint of an officer of a commercial organization, Portland's public spirit cannot be called in question. The wonder is that with so many organizations, all having the same end in view, they get such loyal support. It is certainly a strong tribute to Portland's public spirit.

I cannot speak for the other organizations regarding the amounts that have been spent by them, but during the year 1906 the Chamber of Commerce spent for transportation matters alone nearly \$14,000, not a dollar which was taken from the dues of the Chamber, but was contributed by

Portland's public-spirited business men. The entire amount received for dues, amounting to nearly \$16,000 more, is all spent in the regular work of the Chamber, and still more is subscribed for maintaining a permanent exhibit, printing books, etc.

Portland supported the National Rivers and Harbors Congress more liberally than any other two cities of the country put together, and as an appreciation of this very liberal support J. F. Ellison, secretary of that congress, writes: "To no organization in the entire United States is the National Rivers and Harbors Congress more indebted for consistent and loyal support than to the Portland Chamber of Commerce, and it gives me very great pleasure to bear truthful testimony to the fact."

And to this congress is due the credit for the \$5,330,000 annual appropriation for rivers and harbors which will become a Governmental policy.

There are matters which upon first glance do not seem to show the proper public spirit, such as the condition of our streets, but a Western city growing at an unprecedented rate and every thoroughfare littered with building material incident to such growth, can hardly be expected to keep its streets in the condition of the older settled, slow growing cities of the East. And it is better to have littered streets and healthy rapid growth than immaculate streets and stagnation. With the public spirit that Portland has shown in other things, this will undoubtedly take care of itself at the proper time, and our streets will be in keeping with the city in other respects. The spirit is here, and it will soon show itself in the demand for perfect streets, more parks and fine drives, to be consistent with the spirit shown by the individuals in the fine architecture of their buildings, both public and private, and the beauty of their grounds.

Portland's public library is one to be proud of, its free museum is an excellent one. There will also be public docks in the near future, and a very large sum has been expended to secure the best water on earth, when anything less than great public spirit would have taken the water at our doors, which is much better than the average city gets.

A city has an individuality as much as, if not more than, a person, and a comparison in any one particular means nothing, but taking the good and bad together, there is not a city in the United States, even in the world, that can show the public spirit shown by Portland as well as by the facts mentioned, which are but a few of the many.

GROWTH PORTLAND SCHOOLS

By I. N. Fleischner, Member Portland Board of Education.

THE most noticeable feature of the growth of school population during the past year is the remarkable increase in attendance at the Highland and Arleta schools. Notwithstanding the erection of an eight-room building at Vernon, and the transfer of many pupils to Irvington, Woodlawn and Williams avenue, the Highland school is again crowded beyond its capacity, and measures must be taken for its further relief. Either an eight-room addition must be made to Vernon, or, what seems more probable, a site must be found for a new building somewhere to the south of Highland.

At Arleta the number of teachers has increased to 18, and since there are at this point only ten regular schoolrooms, it seems imperative that an eight-room addition be erected.

At Sellwood the increase in population has been steady, and six additional schoolrooms will be needed. It has been suggested by citizens of that neighborhood that a small building be erected a few blocks from the existing building. All the Albina schools are full. Room for further growth will be provided by finishing the Shaver school. This will give six additional rooms, and will take care of the situation for another year. The Board had expected to construct the new Williams-avenue building out of the proceeds of the sale of the Russell-street property, but as yet no satisfactory offer has been made for the purchase of that property.

Because of the deplorable condition of the old Peninsula school, that structure will be demolished and a new building erected on its site.

Arrangements have also been made for the erection of a new four-room building at Richmond. This will afford some relief to the Glencoe and Sunnyside schools and postpone the necessity of building in those neighborhoods.

At both Woodlawn and Oakley Green, all the rooms are occupied, but none of them are overcrowded. It is believed, therefore, that present facilities in those neighborhoods will be adequate for another year.

Last year the Board purchased in North Albina a three-acre site upon which to erect, at some future time, a high school for the northeastern section of the city. It would seem that the time

has arrived when provision should be made for such a building. Our present high schools will accommodate comfortably about 1800 pupils. After the February promotions they will probably contain more than that number, and will be somewhat crowded. If a new building is now authorized, it will probably not be ready for use until September, 1909, by which time the need for such will be urgent. When the East High School was opened a year and a half ago it was thought that it would meet all needs for several years to come. So rapidly has the school population been growing, however, that in this as in other instances, the Board of Education has erected buildings only to find additional accommodations needed as soon as they are completed.

CITY'S SECRET ORDERS

By A. I. Harbur.

WITH a total membership of more than 25,000 fraternal societies in Portland are prosperous and their enrollment is constantly increasing. Practically all orders of importance are represented by local lodges.

The Woodmen of the World, with 2500 members, has the largest enrollment. The United Artisans rank second, and other orders are represented as follows: Maccabees, 2200; Independent Order of Oddfellows, 2000; Ancient Order of United Workmen, 2000; Masons of Woodcraft, 2000; Masons, 1900; Modern Woodmen of America, 1500; Knights and Ladies of Security, 1500; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, 1400; Knights of Pythias, 1200; Royal Arcanum, 1000; Red Men, 500; Foresters, 350. The Eagles, Owls and several other orders have lodges, the membership figures of which are not available. The various orders own property with an approximate valuation of \$1,250,000. The Masons are the richest, their holdings amounting to about \$600,000. They possess two very beautiful buildings—the Masonic Temple, just completed, at West Park and Yamhill streets, and the Scottish Rite Cathedral at Morrison and Lowndale streets. The Masons also own their old temple at Third and Alder streets and a new structure on the East Side.

The Elks have one of the finest club houses in the West at Seventh and Stark streets. It is valued at \$250,000. The Oddfellows hold property valued at \$175,000; the Woodmen of the World, \$145,000; the Women of Woodcraft, \$100,000, and the Knights of Pythias, \$80,000.