

UNABLE TO TELL JUST WHAT ATTRACTED HER TO THE STAGE

Something About Former Oregon Girl Who Has Succeeded as Playwright—Recently-Completed Drama of West.

"POLLY OF THE CIRCUS" has been of more than ordinary interest to Oregonians, not so much, perhaps, because it has been a recognized success throughout the East, but because its author was Margaret Mayo, a former Oregonian, Miss Mayo, who in private life is Mrs. Edgar Selwyn, is very proud to consider herself an Oregonian, although, as a matter of fact, she was born in Jacksonville, Ill. She recalls her school days spent in Salem, Gervais and later in Portland with no small amount of pleasure. Her first connection with the stage was not surrounded with any great degree of brilliancy, and as she says herself:

"I cannot really say how, nor just why I should have gone on the stage. I studied for a year in one of the dramatic schools and that was probably more because it afforded me the opportunity to remain in New York than for any other reason. My first role was cast in 'Charlie's Aunt,' but as I did precious little study, I can hardly imagine how I got on even as well as I did, because I did not take it very seriously."

"I think it was a fortune teller who caused me to decide that I should go to New York and go on the stage. The first thing connected with the stage that really appealed to me was to make a play out of Ouida's 'Under Two Flags'; not for any definite purpose, but just because it pleased me to do so, and I doubt that I ever worked with greater concentration."

"When it was finished I showed it to one or two friends, who suggested that I take it to a manager. I need not say that I had little realization of what 'taking it to a manager' meant. However, by the time I did decide to do it, I saw the announcement that Blanche Bates was to appear in a version of the same work, consequently I felt that my occupation, much like that of Othello, was decidedly gone. 'Under Two Flags' was laid to one side and I had practically forgotten the episode when someone who had seen it before insisted that this was no way to treat the work, and I stood as much chance as anyone else. I need only say that I am still drawing royalties on it."

Then Miss Mayo tried her hand at writing original plays, and "Polly of the Circus" was her first attempt.

"Don't ask me how I did it or where I got it because I don't know. I can only say that I got subjects from everywhere and through everyone. I see people and I imagine how they would lend themselves to this or to that situation, and in the life of nearly everyone I find there are episodes that serve to make good plays."

Miss Mayo, or Mrs. Selwyn, as we may choose to call her, has a remarkable personality. She seems to absorb and to evolve, and it is certain that whatever she may absorb from those with whom she comes in contact, she would be able to pass through her fantastic brain until it would be quite unrecognizable to those who had supplied it. One of Miss Mayo's earliest works was a play called "The French of Divorces," which Grace George played for a long period with very great success. With Mrs. Humphrey Ward the ambitious young writer drama-



MARGARET MAYO, FORMER OREGON GIRL AND SUCCESSFUL PLAY-WRITER.

lized the author's "The Marriage of William Ashe," and just before she left on an original trip with Mr. Selwyn, Miss Mayo completed a new play for Grace George. Of her Miss Mayo said: "I love to write for Miss George, as in every word that comes to me I can see the way she would say it or how she would do it. I cannot tell whether it is because her style fits into my ideas or whether she makes me think certain things, but I only know that when I write for her I feel her presence. The new play is laid in the West, but not in the section of dear old Oregon, although I have made much use of my knowledge of Western characteristics, because they

are rich in originality and charm, and they lend themselves well to reproduction on the stage."

The greatest charm of Miss Mayo lies in her great simplicity and in her direct unaffected manner. That her husband is also a playwright made their trip unusually interesting, as he went for "atmosphere"—but she went for "fresh air." After six months spent in the Orient they are delighted with their new home on the Hudson, which was not completed yet at the time they left New York, but which will offer enough quiet and fresh air to work off all the new ideas gained in Jerusalem, Constantinople and elsewhere. EMILIE FRANCES BAUER.

GREAT WILD EAST SHOW IS STILL GOING ON IN GOTHAM

Moonshiners on East Side, Noise-Deadeners for Ears, and Money Being Made From Taxes, Are Some of Leading Features.

BY LLOYD F. LONGERMAN.

NEW YORK, AUG. 14.—(Special.)—New York has sent an army of the millennium to Boston, and it is the "war game," which begins there today. Not since the Civil War period has Massachusetts seen such a gathering of armed men.

The 2000 members of the Massachusetts militia are "defending" Boston, and are aided by three troops of regular cavalry from the "Fighting Tenth," the colored regiment which met with such a cordial reception here a few weeks ago when it returned from the Philippines. The attacking army of 2000 men, and composed of the guardsmen from New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and the District of Columbia. It is conceded that the invaders have the strategic ability to land their forces and then will endeavor to fight their way through the state. The defenders, assembled in Boston, will be promptly informed of the place or places of disembarkation, and the future maneuvers are problematical.

The initial line of defense, to be moved backward or forward according to the strength of the defenders, will extend from Plymouth, bordering Cape Cod on the east, to the town of Mansfield, close to the Massachusetts-Rhode Island boundary on the west.

Major-General Leonard Wood, U. S. A., commanding the Department of the East, is the official umpire, assisted by members of his staff and other experts. The game will continue until one week from today. Naturally the march of both armies will involve damage to property, and fences will be torn down and gardens trampled to make way for the broad lines of soldiers. So behind each of the two bodies will be a special corps of adjusters who will take care of the damage done and award compensation. Disputed claims will be adjudicated at the close of the maneuvers.

It is estimated that the present war game will cost all of \$200,000, as salaries for the 18,000 men will range from \$2 a day for privates up to \$15 for Brigadier-Generals. Each state meets the expenses of its own troops while the National Government will look after the damage, and various general items.

Ready for Hudson Visitors.

The celebration commission has completed its plans for the care of the millions of visitors who are expected to attend the Hudson-Fulton celebration which begins next month. Rest stations, medical stations, registration and information bureaus will be established in all parts of the city and particular attention will be paid to caring for the crowds during the land and naval parades.

Already one-third of the churches have agreed to keep open as rest stations from 8 A. M. to 9 P. M., with nurses and other attendants on duty. Registry and information bureaus are planned for the centers of traffic and railroad entrances to the city. At these places out-of-town visitors can register, locate their friends and also be told where to live and the points of interest worth seeing.

Platt Scandal Again.

If ghosts can laugh, the spirit of John R. Platt must be having a gay time these days, watching the legal troubles of Hannah Elias. She is the negress who, it developed four years ago, had wheedled the aged manufacturer out of \$88,385. The scandal came to light after a negro eket the venerable Andrew H. Green to

death, mistaking him for the aged John R. Platt.

A civil suit was brought against the woman, also a criminal action on the grounds of extortion, but as Platt could not swear that he had given the money during the proceedings, the case was dropped. Since then the lawyers have been busy suing Hannah.

The latest case is brought by William T. Daniels as assignee for Washington Brauns, lawyer, who sues for \$83,000 counsel fees. It is admitted that the woman has already paid Brauns \$27,000, which she claims is all his services were worth.

In the course of the hearing it was brought to light that ex-Governor Frank S. Black, who represented the woman in court on one day, received \$30,000 for his services. Black was in court less than an hour on that occasion. James W. Osborne, engaged to defend the criminal action, which was never pressed, asked for and received \$30,000. All in all the unfortunate negro was mulcted of about \$300,000.

Vice-Chancellor Stevenson, during a hearing at Peterson, N. J., the other day, warned members of the bar against encouraging litigation. He remarked very truly that laymen failed to realize what an expensive luxury the law was.

The Vice-Chancellor's statement was prompted by the case of a manufacturing company that came before him for services. Lawyers had enjoyed a fine time, and in the windup each of the three partners of the firm received \$21,500, although the property was valued at \$175,000 when the trouble first began.

Craze for Lincoln Cents.

Everybody in New York is saving the new Lincoln cents, firmly believing that because new dies are ordered, the first issue will bring unheard-of prices.

B. F. Belden, director of the American Numismatic Society, calculates that in 25 years each of the coins may be worth 5 cents.

"There is no danger of a shortage in the supply," says Mr. Belden. "Fully 2,500,000 cents have been minted and professional collectors have gathered up all they want of them."

But do you think the general public believes that? Never, and then some. Men, women and children are firmly resolved to save the coins, hoping thereby to reap a fortune in their old age.

In the meantime the argument between Secretary MacVeagh and V. D. Brennen, who designed the cent, is being treated in the papers like an international war. The cent is being given the name of "Lincoln" because he will be limited to one initial. Here is an extract from one of his numerous interviews:

"When my design was accepted by the Treasury, my full name was upon the coin. Secretary Cortelyou, with whom I had my dealings, assured me that my name should remain on it. Mr. MacVeagh, of the mint, at Philadelphia understood this, too. When I received the first die of the coin, my name was there, just as I had engraved it. They said that the mint at Philadelphia on this my initials appeared instead of the whole name. I thought that was an exceedingly peculiar thing for them to do, but I decided to say nothing."

"Now that they are going to cut down the initials to one, I feel that I have a right to object. Why should they deny this courtesy to me? They are taking it upon themselves to ask whether the United States Government is issuing Lincoln pennies, or Brennen medals. The next designer who comes along will probably expect to have his business address stenciled on the coin of the realm. The Sage Foundation, which was su-

dowed with \$10,000,000 by Mrs. Russell Sage, has decided to enter the suburban development field, but along philanthropic lines.

Fifty acres of land at Jamaica, Long Island, and the plot of the same size at Forest Hill are the basis of the project. These spots will be laid out with over 2000 homes along lines not duplicated in any other part of the world, but it is said that the Foundation will build them in such a way as to enable their sale at prices around \$1250 or \$1500.

Every prospective purchaser will be asked frankly all about his money-making ability, so that he will not select a house that is too expensive, and it is thought that the cheapest of the homes may be carried at a cost of about \$3 a week.

The spirit of charity will enter into the business features of the plan to the extent that any workingman of good standing, who, through no fault of his own shall be temporarily unable to make his monthly payments, would not lose his homestead.

Mrs. Sage figures on having community playgrounds and roller skating rinks, and the liquor dealers are raising. It is even possible that the Foundation may run community stores, to make certain that the residents get to know that they want at the best possible prices. It is explained that the new scheme will not be a charity, but is to be self-supporting.

"Moonshiners" in Gotham.

Some facts which developed in the staff Supreme Court the other day might supply material for a brand new comic opera. For the East Side of town is full of desperate "moonshiners," and the liquor dealers are organizing to fight them.

Justice Bray granted the petition for the corporation of the Protective Liquor Dealers' Association of New York. The purpose of the society, as stated in its papers, is "to co-operate with the authorities of the United States, the state and municipality in purging this city and state of immorality, dishonest and criminal persons who deal in and distill spirituous liquors."

Attorney Jacob Frank, for the petitioners, stated that his clients have a list of over two-score of men who are illegally distilling liquor on their premises on the East Side, and selling the same at a price below the market value. "The amount of illicit distilling at present is alarming," he said. "It is ruining legitimate business and my clients have decided to aid the Government in every way in their power."

For years various grand juries have attacked conditions as they exist in the Essex Market Police Court. This tottering relic was opened for business in 1855, and is now in an alarming state of decay.

The July Grand Jury realized that the usual presentment would be disregarded in the usual way, so decided to adopt new tactics. The members took up a collection and hired a photographer. Then they turned in a red-hot report, illustrated with pictures of the conditions criticized. Their conclusions have been referred to Borough President Ahearn, who has promised to take up the matter at once. Whether he will do so or not is another question, for public officials move slowly.

Sheriff Foley has asked for more keepers in the Ludlow Street Jail, and our busy little Grand Jury took a whack at that job. They found ten prisoners and 11 keepers, and loudly demanded to know why Foley wanted to increase his untrained force.

Williamsburg, the eastern district of Brooklyn, has an attraction these days, which is beginning to affect the attend-

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ance at the roof gardens and the beaches. The entertainment is supplied by the members of the Funtastic Union, or "Pillars of Fire," as they desire to be known. Their nightly gatherings, which are held in a hall, are known as "Hell Fire Meetings," an appropriate designation.

The services are punctuated with the banging of drums, hammering of chair seats and pounding of piano strings. "The Dance of Joy."

At a certain period the leader gives the signal and everybody romps around

like children at a May party. The elect hop, skip and jig, uttering their college yell at intervals, scaring the children for blocks around. It is a strenuous, yellow-journal kind of a religion, and has made many converts, especially among longshoremen. But one-legged citizens are in eligible.

"Leper" Early "At Home."

John R. Early, the former soldier who was detained in the pesthouse at Washington for more than a year because he was a "leper," is now the happy occupant of a flat in Brooklyn. His wife, who was with him, and he is fully restored to health.

Had it not been for the visit of Dr. L. Duncan Bulkley, the famous skin and cancer expert to the nation's capital, Early would probably have died in his lonely prison. But Dr. Bulkley scoffed at the idea of leprosy, and maintained that the man had merely been poisoned in a pulp mill in the South. After much correspondence the physician succeeded in having the man removed to this city.

For a short time Early was in the New York Skin and Cancer Hospital, but is now free to come and go at will.

Early is preparing to take up Salvation Army work again. He was isolated in Washington it before being isolated in Washington.

After 20 years in a madhouse, Eugene Anderson has applied to the courts for a chance to prove that he has regained his mental faculties, and is again able to look after his affairs. The petitioners are the Committee of One Hundred, and is valued at \$300,000.

A lawyer representing the brother opposed the application on the ground that Anderson was committed to an institution at Amityville after having been adjudged an habitual drunkard.

"That is true," replied the unfortunate, "but I have reformed. Twenty years of captivity should cure me of drinking, and it has."

Justice, Mills, in deciding to name a price, said in his decision to learn from the affidavits the truth as to the present habits of the petitioner.

"So long a period has elapsed since the case was last investigated," he said, "that it seems proper that a referee should be appointed. The petitioner certainly should be given a chance to prove his case in Court."

Little incident which serves to illustrate how certain people get rich at the expense of the city has been brought to light by the Committee of One Hundred, which is gathering campaign data.

Make Money From Tax.

Every trolley car that passes over the Williamsburg bridge pays into the City Treasury 5 cents for each round trip. This money comes from the New York City Railway Company, which entered into a long-term contract in 1904. Now the New York City Railway Company is leasing to other companies the right to run cars over the bridge, and is charging 10 cents for each conveyance. In other words, the city's tenet makes as much money out of the privilege as the municipality clears.

10 apartments in the house, and that eight of the tenants have lived there two years or longer. Trains run through Eleventh avenue on the New York Central, and trolley cars run through Tenth avenue. In the vicinity are lively stables, stores, saloons, tenement houses, a wheelwright's shop, a blacksmith shop, a steam laundry and a piano factory.

The plaintiffs' premises are habitable. The tenants, with one or two exceptions, are the same as when plaintiff's plant began to operate two years ago.

"In the meantime plaintiff has purchased property on the opposite side of the street, and reputable witnesses testify that, as city noises go, those produced by the defendant's plant are quite negligible."

"It is not necessary to have the quiet in a noisy neighborhood that would be deemed a requisite in a quiet, retired section. Different rules must necessarily apply to different sections of the city."

This is the first ruling of its kind, and is regarded by property owners as highly important. Hereafter if one buys land or property in a noisy neighborhood, it is his own fault.

Speaking about noise one New York citizen is happy in the possession of an invention which deadens all sound. He finds it particularly valuable at this time of the year when the voices of the Summer make sleep difficult.

The invention is a small metal ball which fits into the canal of the ear and stops it up. It is kept in place by a narrow rod no thicker than a pin, which fits against the shell of the ear. These deadeners of sound are rare here, but popular enough in Europe, whence this one came.

Big Fireman Now.

Chief Croker is happy because the Civil Service Commission has decided to give him his firemen, just the kind of men of whom Croker has been dreaming for more than a year.

The Chief realized some time ago that many of the men chosen for the fire service in the city were thin, pale-faced young fellows, almost undernourished, and not capable of doing the work of real firemen.

It made Croker feel that if this sort of system should continue, the Department would deteriorate because of its lack of powerful men, able to cope with any situation that might arise. Small men were all right in other positions, he declared, but when it came to selecting chaps to fight fires he wanted big men to undertake the task.

"I want stalwarts," he said, "fellows who can lift a ladder with one hand, and are able to rescue fat people with the ease of trained athletes."

So he prevailed upon the Civil Service Commission to change the minimum height from 5 feet 3 inches to 5 feet 8 inches.

Women's Secrets

There is one man in the United States who has perhaps heard more women's secrets than any other man or woman in the country. These secrets are not secrets of guilt or shame, but the secrets of suffering, and they have been confided to Dr. R. V. Pierce in the hope and expectation of advice and help.

That few of these women have been disappointed in their expectations is proved by the fact that ninety-eight per cent. of patients treated by Dr. Pierce have been absolutely and altogether cured. Such a record would be remarkable if the cases treated were numbered by hundreds only. But when that record applies to the treatment of more than half-a-million women, in a practice of over 40 years, it is phenomenal.

And entitles Dr. Pierce to the gratitude accorded him by women, as the first of specialists in the treatment of women's diseases.

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A rainy dawn will bring him out to view the sudden earth. This hasn't proved, beyond a doubt, he is no kind of myth. And here is where he hangs about and grips his middle girth.

Within a pall this lengthy beast takes on a fairer guise. We do not mean in the least, and yet one denies That on his shape we like to feast our dish-bellied eyes.

Alone we saunter to the brook where trout And telescope with subtle hook this earth-worm lank and light. For hound's or brute may look it should be laid right.

Again we seek the anglerworm is not a thing of joy. And yet it seems to feed the germ of pleasure in a boy. And ye old angler will affirm he loves with it to toy.

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