

ACTORS' UNION FEASIBLE, IS VIEW

Portland Persons Identified With Theater Skeptical Regarding Proposal.

MOVE CREATES INTEREST

Executive of White Rats Declares Profession Will Not Receive Fair Treatment Unless Organized Strongly.

The presence in Portland last week of Harry Mountford, international executive of the White Rats Actors' Union, has created local interest in the country-wide movement on the part of members of the theatrical profession to become unionized.

Mr. Mountford addressed local actors and transients connected with the several vaudeville houses and urged them to join the organization and become affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. He declared it would be impossible to receive fair treatment from theatrical managers until the actors become strongly unionized and are in position to eliminate what he termed, the more "flagrant abuses" which, he says, have been heaped upon them in the past.

Local men identified with the theater, who have discussed the subject, are of the opinion that the movement is not a feasible one.

John F. Loggell, legal counsel for the Hellig and Baker theater interests, and who has been for years local correspondent for the Dramatic Mirror and especially interested in the theater, said:

"The whole scheme of the relation between the theatrical manager and the actor is at the bottom of the ways. Customs which have been honored in the observance since the days of David Garrick, over a century ago, and which are being cast into the melting pot of change. The question is, shall the actor's adventure with possibilities of achieving great success, or terminating in a financial failure upon two weeks' notice, continue to be the rule written or unwritten as a part of every contract, or shall the engagement of the actor be reduced financially to a prosaic certainty in the form of a fixed sum per week throughout a fixed season?"

Old Custom Recalled.

"It has been the custom, against which the memory of the oldest actors runs not to the contrary, that when an actor engaged himself to a manager in a given play, he, with the manager, embarked for a voyage which led to the Golconda of financial and artistic success or ended in a sea of troubles. By rules as ancient as they were fast and binding, the actor's life was one of uncertainty, and by the same token, the actor, if dissatisfied with his or her situation, or with more alluring adventures elsewhere, could in the same time and by the same means terminate the engagement.

"It was further the custom that during Christmas week and Holy week preceding Easter, the manager would at a proper time give notice that the company either must lay off or work upon half pay. It was further the right of the manager to withhold salary payments while traveling and for missed engagements. Other customs, large and small, important and trivial, made the actor's life one of uncertainties until payday, commonly known as the time "when the ghost should walk," was often as fickle and uncertain as the size and enthusiasm of the varying audiences.

Extortions Are Charged.

"Added to the actor's ancient troubles, there have lately arisen extortions, not large in themselves, but aggregating considerable by reason of repetition in the form of various booking commissions. Other charges involve the manager's handed contracts which give the managers so many loop-holes to escape a bad bargain, while the actor is held strictly to every provision against his interest which has been adroitly nominated in the contract. To rectify these and many other charges, the actors called, the actors throughout the United States in all branches of the profession are in a seething committee of the whole brawling with one another, and equitable contracts be made or entered into between the actor and the manager. Their ultimate aim has been charged to be that of unionism and confederation with the American Federation of Labor.

"The immediate remedy proposed for these evils is an equitable contract wherein the manager and actor will come together without the accused middleman and the right on the part of both actor and manager in case of dispute to have their grievances settled by arbitration. In doing this the managers charge that the actors will lose their artistic standing. The all-sufficient answer of such men as Francis Wilson, Wilton Lackey, Howard Kyle and others is that if it be treason to former artistic standards which made the actor the grasshopper and the manager the ant, the managers can make the most of it.

Milton Seaman, manager of the Baker Players Company, cannot see the advisability of such an union as the association suggests. He says:

"I can speak for only the stock actor or actress in connection with the proposed Association and so far no one here seems to be able to see wherein stock people would be at all benefited by joining such an organization. It may be very good for the so-called 'production actor' who has been subjected to more or less abuse in connection with that branch of the theatrical business which might be regulated by a strong organization and adherence to established rules, but in the language of the average stock actor "there ain't no such animal" in connection with stock. And stock people have no special grievance, that is no particular commonly practiced evil that it is necessary to unite to protect themselves against.

Rules Not Evaded.

"The rules governing stock engagements and the customs pertaining to the same are very equitable, and seldom does one hear of any reputable manager or actor trying to evade them. As for any established salary for actors, that is simply out of the question. That is governed entirely by circumstances, and circumstances change and fluctuate from season to season and from place to place entirely too widely for anybody or any book of rules to make any serious attempt to regulate. "If any stock actor, in the preparation of not dealing fairly with his people he simply finds that it is impossible to get anyone worth while to join him and that soon after he really belongs. If, on the other hand, an actor does a few things that puts him in wrong with any reputable recognized manager, no matter how good an actor he might be, he soon discovers that his application for work receives scant attention at any place where he really desires to go.

"All these people pass the word along by the actors' wireless, and managers nearly always write or telegraph former managers regarding any people

in whom they might become interested—as to other qualities besides acting ability. For stock theaters are in a way "homes," and it is desirable from all standpoints that a congenial family be gathered together, thereby avoiding much grief and discord as the trying weeks of a long season go by. If the managers are satisfied and the actors are satisfied with present stock conditions throughout the United States, why an Equity Association?"

Arbitration Board Suggested. As a result of the meeting of the Actors' Equity Association held March 10 in the Hotel Astor in New York, at which the members by unanimous vote went on record in favor of joining the American Federation of Labor, the United Managers Protective Association has begun steps to enlarge its or-

PORTLAND GIRL APPEARS IN ORPHEUM PLAYLET.



Marguerite McNulty, who has the role of wife in "The Lollard," a playlet to be seen at the Orpheum for the first time this afternoon, is a Portland girl. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank T. Bourgeois, of 313 East Thirty-third street, "The Lollard" is a comedy from the pen of Edgar Allen Woolf and the star is Harriet Maricotte. Miss McNulty has a vivacious part to play in the comedy and critics along the circuit have singled her out as one of the hits of the show. Many praising her work as being next in merit to that of Miss Francis Wilson, the star. The young Portland actress gained her first stage experience in San Francisco, where when but 8 years old she played "Oliver Twist" with McKee Rankin. She is a niece of Chief Justice Sullivan, of Idaho, and is in her 18th year.

DISEASES INVADE CAMP

CANADIAN SAYS QUARANTINE IS PLACED ON TROOPS.

That the forty-seventh Battalion, Canadian volunteers, quartered in Bramshott-camp in England has been having difficulty with contagious diseases is indicated by a letter received in Portland by Mrs. Osborne Middleton, 322 Dekum street, from a brother, James E. McInnes, who joined the army at Vancouver, B. C. The letter was dated March 1.

"We started our quarantine on Christmas day with meningitis," he writes, "and got out after 15 days, but were only out about six days when we were put in with measles. If there are any more signs the day the doctor inspects we will have another 12 days and so on. As there are 32 in our hut the chances are that we will not be out for a month at least."

Mr. McInnes said that the original plan of sending his battalion to Egypt had been changed and they are to be sent to France instead. "We will be at least two months at the base in France training before we go into the trenches," he thinks. The letter says that the windows of the camp are kept darkened in order not to lure the invading Zepellins.

Of the fatalities of the camp life he says: "One of the men in our hut took the liberty of blowing his head off with his rifle the other night while temporarily insane and was accorded a military funeral. Another, while doing bayonet exercises, in jumping into the trench, ran his bayonet through him and died immediately. Another, while unfixing his bayonet, had the misfortune to run it into his eye. He was lucky enough to come off with his life, but lost his eye."

Woman, Eager to Cast Vote, Registers in Hotel.

No! She Didn't Want Room, but She Did Want to Take Part in State Primaries.

A PORTLAND woman appeared at one of the hotels yesterday and told the clerk she wanted to register. The hotelman politely turned the register around, handed her a pen and she wrote down her name and address. "Do you want a room with bath?" he asked.

"Why, no, I don't want a room at all. I just wanted to register so that I can vote," she replied.

The clerk informed her that it would be necessary to give a brief history of her life to officials in charge of registration at the County Courthouse, if she desired to vote at the forthcoming primaries.

"Oh, my dear, I didn't know that," she said, as she darted out of the hotel.

PERSONAL MENTION.

William Sterling, of Burns, Or., is at the Imperial. George L. Bond, of Roseburg, Or., is at the Perkins. D. J. DuBrille, of Corvallis, Or., is at the Seward.

R. H. Schilling, of Boise, Idaho, is at the Nortonia. J. W. Cook, of Deer Island, Or., is at the Cornelius.

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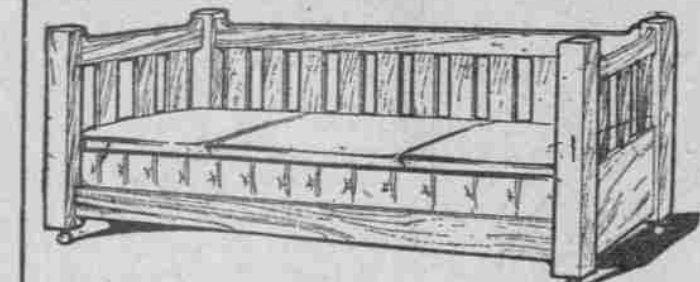
William Harper, of Cottage Grove, Or., is at the Oregon. C. V. Burt, of Newport, registered at the Imperial yesterday.

J. R. King is registered at the Nortonia from Arlington, Or. Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Reynolds, of Silverton, are at the Oregon. Mr. and Mrs. J. G. White, of Pendleton, Or., are at the Seward.

J. L. Adams, of Ashland, Or., registered at the Perkins yesterday. E. S. Mitchell, a lumberman of

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Removal Prices on Davenport

Rather than move these fine Davenports we are offering them at the lowest prices ever made on pieces of equal quality. Reg. \$65 Quartered Oak Davenports, 6 feet long, fumed finish, genuine Spanish leather bag cushion seats \$31.75. Reg. \$100 Quartered Oak Davenports, with genuine Spanish leather bag cushioned seats, fumed finish \$44.35. Reg. \$95 Mahogany Frame Davenport, leather upholstered with tufted seat and back, 6 feet long, with extra large storage space (sample) \$37.50. Reg. \$100 genuine Mahogany Davenports, 6 feet long, upholstered in the finest Verona Velour \$52.25. Reg. \$130 Quartered Oak Davenports, upholstered in first quality genuine black leather; tufted seat \$67.50. Reg. \$40 Quartered Oak Davenports, 4 feet 6 inches long, with genuine Spanish leather bag cushion seats \$21.25. Second and Morrison Store.

Arts and Crafts Furniture

We are exclusive Portland agents for Lambert's Arts and Crafts Furniture, which is the very highest possible type of workmanship. We show today in our windows a fine example of this furniture in a solid oak dining-room suite, inlaid with ebony; massive, yet graceful, in design. A full stock is carried on our floors.

Spring Housefurnishings

See our window display of Reed Furniture, Crex Rugs, Hodge's Fiber Rugs, Aerolux Shades, Draperies and Cretonnes. We show the newest patterns and colors.

Rugs at Removal Prices

We made heavy purchases of Rugs before the recent advance in price and we are actually offering Rugs now at less than present wholesale prices. The Rugs listed below are rare bargains at the prices we name: Regular \$27.50 Velvet Rugs, 9x12 size, a number of patterns in small patterns from which to select. Special \$19.85. Regular \$15 Brussels Rugs, 9x12 size, in a variety of the very latest designs, special \$9.85. Second and Morrison Store.

Refrigerators

We have just unloaded a car of the famous "Columbia" and "Herrick" Refrigerators; they are in the newest models, modern and sanitary, either white enamel or genuine porcelain lining. This is a rare opportunity to buy a new refrigerator right at the beginning of the season at removal sale prices. Priced from \$8.50 upward. Second and Morrison.

A Sale of Rugs

Regular \$37.50 Seamless Axminster Rugs, 9x12, extra fine quality, in small designs, suitable for the dining-room or bedroom, at \$28.75. Regular \$5 Axminster Rugs, 36x72, large variety of patterns, special at \$3.90. Regular \$2.25 Reversible Bath Rugs, 27x54; in small geometric designs. Special at \$1.60. Second Floor, Main Store.

Removal Sale Spec'ls

Regular \$22.50 Quartered Oak Buffets, with plank top and 10x36 beveled French plate mirror, golden wax finish \$13.75. Regular \$15 Solid Oak Dining Tables, 45-inch top, with 6-foot extension, heavy pedestal, golden wax finish, removal sale \$8.75. Regular \$4 Quartered Oak Dining Chairs, with genuine leather slip seat, priced this week \$2.75. Second and Morrison Store.

Lace Curtain Sale

Fine Marquiesette Curtains in beautiful patterns, with imported lace edging and insertion. Regular \$3.50 Curtains, pair \$2.65. Regular \$4.00 Curtains, pair \$3.00. Regular \$5.00 Curtains, pair \$3.75. Regular \$6.25 Curtains, pair \$4.70. Regular \$7.50 Curtains, pair \$5.60. Regular \$9.00 Curtains, pair \$6.75. Second Floor, Main Store.

EXTRA SPECIAL—Regular \$3.50 Hygeno Carpet Sweepers

with metal case and nickel trimmings; cyco bearings, special at only \$1.90. \$14.00 Royal Oak Princess Dressers, with 18x30 beveled French plate mirror \$8.75. \$17.50 Quartered Oak Dressers, with 14x24 oval French plate mirrors, golden wax finish \$8.75. \$6.50 High-back Arm Rockers, hardwood body, with quartered oak back and roll seat, well made and substantial, four patterns from \$3.95 which to select \$3.95. Second and Morrison Store.

A Sale of Trunks

Regular \$14.50 Trunks, specially priced this week at only \$10.90. Regular \$23 Women's Trunks, completely lined with art cretonne, \$17.25. Regular \$31 Fiber Wardrobe Trunks, with four drawers and hangers, \$23.75. Regular \$9 Cabin Trunks, \$6.75. Both Stores.

Henry Jennings & Sons Washington Street at Fifth Removal Sale at Second and Morrison Streets

MRS. WITHERSPOON IS SUED

Hill Military Academy Anticipates Collection of Howard Judgment.

Without waiting for Mrs. Edah Witherspoon to collect the \$833 heart claim she was awarded recently by Circuit Judge Morrow from her recalcitrant wooer, Joe Howard, actor and playwright, the Hill Military Academy yesterday filed suit against Mrs. Witherspoon and her father, G. L. Reinmann, for \$364.40.

The money is due, it is set forth, for tuition and study materials furnished Mrs. Witherspoon's son, Lawrence Amde Witherspoon, who has been a student at the academy since 1911. The amount is asked with interest from June 30, 1915.

ALL COOS TO BE HOST

RAILROAD CELEBRATION WILL BE IN JULY OR AUGUST.

Plans for Excursions and Entertainment of Visitors Are Being Completed.

MARSHFIELD, Or., April 8.—(Special.)—The entertainment committee of the railroad celebration organizations are busy with their plans for the excursions which will visit Coos Bay the last week in July or the first in August. Assurances have been coming in so fast recently that the expectation is the country is going to be swarmed with visitors when the time arrives for the Coos Bay reception to the state of Oregon.

The committee is enlarging the occasion to a county demonstration and the Bandman, the Coquille and the Myrtle Pointers will be as glad to entertain the stranger as anybody else nearer to the arriving point.

One idea that will greatly facilitate the opportunities of becoming acquainted has been adopted and will be carried out to full measure. It is proposed to tag every visitor so he may be known as a stranger, and every Coos County person will wear a badge of identity.

Details of the programme will be worked out without undue haste, for it is desired to have events of real interest. It is taken for granted that guests are not going to be so much seekers for frivolous things as they are on seeing something new. There is here in the way of natural scenery and points of beauty.

"JOY RIDE" FINE IS \$10

Two Arrested on Charges of Supplying Liquor to Auto Party.

Algie Hall, 20 years old, who has been living in a barn near Bertha Station, was arrested yesterday by Detectives Hyde and Abbott, and special agents of the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company, as he was carrying an electric meter to a second-hand store.

He is charged with the theft of the meter and several yards of copper wire from a vacant flat at Second and Clay streets. The police have watched him for some time.

The young man was recently convicted in the Circuit Court, for stealing tools from a Portland Heights home and served 15 days in the County Jail.

Professor Weds Graduate. UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, SE.



It is but a matter of months until the Packard Twin Six power plant will dominate land, air and sea.

FRANK C. RIGGS COMPANY Cornell Road, 23d and Washington Sts.

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April 8.—(Special.)—Harvey Lanitz, professor of law, and Miss Helen M. Ross, a newspaper woman who was graduated from the university with the class of 1911, were married at the University Congregational Church (Wed.)

April 2. The wedding was intended to be a complete surprise to Miss Ross' colleagues in Journalism. It wasn't. The university chimes rang out a wedding march while the knot was being tied.

LEWIS-WILEY HYDRAULIC CO.

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Speaking of the revival of the lumber market—"With the opening of the camps there is employment of many men, the consumption of quantities of supplies and the placing in circulation of the pay rolls of the camps." Things are getting better.

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The Manning Kerosene Oil-Gas Producing Burner generates gas from Kerosene Oil, can be fitted in any stove, range or heater, water heater, coffee urn, candy furnace, or, in fact, any place that a good heat is required without alteration of any of these appliances. For use in homes, hotels, stores, boats or any place where fuel is used. Noiseless, smokeless, odorless.

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