

TRUTHFUL TALES OF THE TRAVELING OPERA TROUPE

Frank W. Healy, manager of the San Francisco opera company, accompanied by Mrs. Healy, arrived in Portland yesterday in advance of the company which will play "The Toy Maker" at the Heilig. Since leaving Portland last December the company has visited the principal cities of California, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Colorado, Utah, Montana and Idaho and to use Mr. Healy's expression the eight weeks on the road following six weeks in Los Angeles has taught the company to appreciate Portland more than ever.

"The Toy Maker" has been used exclusively on the road, it being found unnecessary to make any change, the directors of every city visited backing up the opinion of Portland theatre-goers that "The Toy Maker" would do. Notwithstanding reports to the contrary that had been sent out from Los Angeles, Daphne Pollard is still with the company and continues to place the life of her sweet young life as the Doll. Teddy Webb succeeded George Kunkel as the Toy Maker and as such was very successful until overcast weather at Grand Junction, Colorado. Webb had not been out of California and Oregon for some 12 years and the zero weather and winds of Colorado proved too much for the dapper comedian. Arthur Cunningham, the sturdy baritone, has been succeeded by Wallace Brownlow, a handsome fellow the possessor of a truly beautiful baritone voice and a most scholarly singer. Brownlow is an Englishman, the idol of Australian theatre-goers, where for eight years he was the principal baritone of the J. C. Williamson forces.

Brownlow was brought over to America by the Tivoli management and was for two seasons the principal baritone of the new Tivoli. He created the role of Johnny in "When Johnny Comes Marching Home," "Little John in Robin Hood," and some of the greatest of the "Madame Butterfly" last February, his divining honors with Joseph Sheehan amongst the male members of that company. Robert Lett, who will be pleasantly remembered for his work with "The Little Duchesse" will divide the comedy honors with Teddy Webb. Wilder will continue to direct the stage and Bell Thorne, a most beautiful woman and one of the best soprano in comic opera will head the company. Miss Thorne was for some seven years prima donna soprano of the old Tivoli.

Daphne Pollard's reasons for holding out for a chaperone before she would leave Los Angeles, became apparent when her sister Ivy, who came from Australia with Daphne, surprised the members of the company by getting married to Willis Gregory, a Los Angeles capitalist, who first saw and ad-

mitted her while she was a member of the company in this city. Ivy's wedding followed those of Mary Brooks, Mildred Trolene, Ethel Manning and Stella Gray, considerably crippling the familiar front line of broilers and causing Manager Healy to draw on his reserve list. Pearl Girard, sister of Harry Girard, sister of Harry Girard, composed of "The Alaskan," was a member of the company long enough to contract the matrimonial fever and leaves the company tonight in Spokane, her marriage to a Winnipeg man taking place Monday. It may be worthy of mention to state that Gene Ormonde consistently refuses all offers of marriage, her smile continuing to illumine "The Toy Maker."

While in Los Angeles Daphne Pollard received an offer from De Wolf Hopper to work alongside the elongated comedian next season, it being understood that Marguerite Clark is to head a company of her own. Mr. Healy while in Denver received offers from the Tabor Grand theatre for summer stock and has also been requested to place the company in San Francisco, New Orleans, Milwaukee, Chicago and Canada.

THEATRICAL NOTES.

Alfred Hickman, leading man of "The Rogers Brothers in Panama," created the part of Little Billee in the first production of "Tribby" and was Blanche Walsh's first husband. They were married seven years and no one knew it until the actress asked for a divorce.

Mrs. Patrick Campbell's husband, Sergeant Campbell, was killed while campaigning with Lord Bethune in the Boer war. He is said to have been a modest man, from whom his brilliant wife had grown away during the last years of his life. One of his comrades knew that he was in any way connected with the woman whose name he gathered around the fire reading letters and eagerly devouring the papers. In an illustrated paper somebody came across a picture of Mrs. Patrick Campbell and an article telling of one of her latest successes.

"I say, Campbell," said one of his men jokingly, "I suppose this actress isn't any relation of yours, is she?" "No," said Campbell, "but I'm without looking up, and his mess went silent."

Father Vaughan, who is to talk on "The Story of the Stage" in Bush temple Tuesday afternoon, was for several years an actor and knows the life of the stage folk. He believes in the stage as a means to an end, and urges its elevation by the patronage of the better classes. He believes there should not be a gulf between the church and the stage, that since millions of people make the theatres their place of recreation, the church should have for it the feeling that a mother has for the playground of her children.

Louis James has bought the "Peer Gynt" rights and production from the Mansfield estate, and will shortly threaten to appear in the piece next season.

Charles Frohman has acquired the American rights to the latest London success, "Diana of Dobson's." The transaction was accomplished in London early last week, several other prominent managers bidding for the piece. It is a comedy and was written by Miss Cicely Hamilton, whose name never before appeared on a play bill.



Pretty Daphne Pollard, in "The Toy-maker," with the San Francisco Opera Co., at Heilig This Week.

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