

.. The Drama ..

At last Oregon in general and Silverton in particular is to be made famous in a play. Homer Davenport is responsible. The great cartoonist, pheasant breeder and importer of Arabian horses has gone into the show-making business and will attempt to dramatize the little town of his birth—that is, he will furnish the material for the play, but it will be written by Margaret Mayo, formerly of Portland, more recently coming into fame as the dramatist of "The Marriage of William Ashe," and "The Jungle." The new venture will be a character play and is said to be the young woman's first venture in this sort of dramatic art.

Of course, all the old characters who used to hang about Silverton's postoffice and exchange political opinions as to the best manner of saving the country will be in the play. Then, too, the emblazoned, uniformed band of which Davenport used to be a member, will be brought to life in the comedy. Also, to make it a success, the author will have to reproduce Homer as he was when a kid and used to draw pictures with a piece of chalk on his father's henhouse instead of hoeing in the potato patch, as he should.

Some people may think that it is mighty fine to write about shows and get a seat in the front row of the balcony by the aid of a pass. Well, this is all right as long as the show is a good one, but there is the rub. They are not always good, but you have to stay just the same. If you leave and the manager finds it out he will swear by all the rocks and hills that bound the coast of Oregon that your "writeup" is bias and that you could no more write an impartial criticism than you could referee a cockfight. I wish I could always obey that injunction of the golden rule and do to others as I would like to have them do to me, but when such productions as the "James Boys of Missouri" or "The Black Hand" come along it arouses all the Dutch blood in my veins and right there I want to chuck the whole business and go where there is something more exciting.

The theatrical season in Eugene this winter promises to be rather

dull. Now that Geo. D. Linn, who has so successfully managed the Eugene theatre for the past two years, is about to retire it will be a difficult matter to secure some one to take his place. Mr. Linn, during his incumbency as manager, has booked some of the best attractions on the road for our theatregoers. As the season is now far advanced for booking it will be a difficult problem for a new manager to secure first class attractions. Another thing, the theatrical trust of the Northwest circuit seems to have done its work well. Mr. Linn refused to be bled by it and he cannot be blamed for the stand he took in the controversy. Consequently we are almost on the black list of show towns, but, thank fortune, this state of affairs cannot last forever. So let us live in hopes that at some time in the distant future we shall be able to convict the management of the Northwest circuit that our town is somewhere on the Pacific slope.

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