THEATRICAL NEWS

One Night Stand Actor and Stock Player Discussed.

"Blaylock Good Mephisto But Not Good as Morrison."

HIGH SALARIES PAID.

Permanent Thespians Must Keep Up Standard of House.

Get Up in Part in One Week While Playing Another Part.

COMING ATTRACTIONS.

At the Grand.

November 15.—Madame Labadie in an interpretation of Hedda Gabler.
November 21—Henry Woodruff in "The Genius."
November 22—"My Cinderella Girl."
November 24—"Three Weeks."
November 25-26—"The Lottery Man."

At the Majestic.

North Brothers Stock Company in "Sapho."

At the Novelty.

Vaudeville.

"Does the stock actor have to stand comparison with the one-play actor," ask Robt. Blaylock dramatic director in the North Brothers Stock company, "In other words is the stock actor expected to give as good a performance of a part as the actor who has spent weeks preparing one part and a whole season acting it?

"Well, I'll tell you," he answered himself. "A short time ago I played Mephisto in Faust, and while on Kansas avenue after a performance I heard a man say: 'Yes, he played a pretty good Mephisto, but he is not as good as was Lewis Morrison.'

"Now, isn't it really remarkable that Mr. Morrison with his twenty years of playing one part should be better in it than a man who learns the part and plays it in one week. I am sure that the average patron of a stock theater does not consider the fact that it is a performance which has had one week's preparation that is being witnessed.

"Every little defect that may crop out is picked up quickly by some persons, that is, if an actor chances to stumble on a line he is condemned, at least laughed at, and yet he is studying one part and playing another all of the time.

"I am not apologizing for the mistakes of stock actors. In the first place I am not very lenient with them myself in my capacity as dramatic director. I insist that they know every line before the final rehearsal, but I do think that there should be a line drawn on the criticism given on the work of members of stock companies.

"One can go to the stock theater and see plays having a metropolitan reputation presented upon a high plane of acting which is just as good as that of traveling companies at top prices.

"It must be understood that in stock there are actors and actresses who get as high salaries as do those who act in one play and who must needs be better than the average traveling thespian because the stock actor is engaged for a year at least, while the one night stand player usually spends a night in a town and goes on. If he gives a bad performance the auditor is disappointed and that is all; if a stock company does not keep its players up to an established standard the house is not patronized and the company closes."

Will Interpret Hedda Gabler.

Madam Harriet Labadie will make her first appearance in Topeka when she gives an interpretation of Hadda Gabler by Henrik Ibsen, at the Grand on November 15. This is the second

Mrs. Harriet Labadie, Who Will Interpret Ibsen's "Hedda Babler" at the Grand Next Wednesday.

season of her world tour and she is on her return from the western coast states and Canada. Her appearances here will be under the auspices of the Ladies' Aid society of the First Presbyterian church.

"Seven Days" Has Laughter.

With the avalanche of laughter in "Seven Days," the comedy by Mary Roberts Rinehart and Avery Hopwood, that the Wagenhals & Kemper company will present at the Grand tonight, there is a pretty vein of heart interest and romance, as shown at the matinee presentation. The story of the play really is entertaining and ingenious, and with all its lightness and brightness there are touches of real sentiment.

A young couple who are separated still love each other, and a girl, who, to save a situation, agrees to pose at dinner as the man's wife, is unexpectedly confronted by her affianced husband, who believes she has been married to another in his absence. Of course all ends happily after a week of the drollest complications ever woven into a comedy, and in the entire three acts of whirlwind merriment there isn't a word to which the most squeamish could object.

At the Majestic.

North Brothers Stock company will offer for next week's attraction a dramatization of Alphonse Daudet's great story of Paris life "Sapho." The play has become almost a classic.

In the first production of "Sapho" some few scenes and incidents of the play called forth the censure of clergy, press and public; in the present day version all such objectionable scenes and lines have been eliminated, making of "Sapho" a story pure and simple, carrying home to the heart the moral it teaches, in a manner one will not forget easily.

Miss Russell plays the part of the adventuress, "Fanny Le Grand" better known to the world as "Sapho." Mr. Spurrier plays the part of "Jean Goussin," and Mr. Hilliard will be the Uncle Cesaire. Harry North will appear as "Flamant," and Mr. Blaylock as "Caoudal." Albert Ferguson is cast in the comedy part of "Hettima" while Miss Lamar plays the part of "Mme. Hettima." Miss Robinson plays Alice and Miss Fulmer "Aunt Divonne." Mr. Herring plays "Dechlette."

Miss Russell will wear some magnificent gowns in the production. One of them is direct from Paris, the others were designed by a local modiste. Every attention has been paid to the perfect mounting scenically of this bill, the scenery having been painted from original models.

At the Novelty.

The bill booked for the Novelty beginning matinee Monday, will be another of their famous shows known as the Novelty Road show, the headline act of which will be Hickman Brothers & Co. in a comedy sketch, "A Detective Detected."

As an added feature the Melrose Comedy Four, a male quartette emphasizing the comedy features in addition to the harmony, has been obtained, also Miss Kate Watson, a comedienne, known as "The Hoosier Girl" and the Belmonts, novelty gymnasts.

Harry Clark will sing the illustrated song and the usual moving pictures will close the bill.

MARGARET ANGLIN, THE ACTRESS, WHO MAY LOSE HER VOICE.

As a result of her strenuous work on the stage Margaret Anglin lies in a hospital in New York, a nervous wreck and must submit to an operation on her nose and throat if her voice is to be saved. The situation is grave, although the attending physicians state that the operation itself is not a serious one. The congested condition of Miss Anglin's nose is hampering her recovery. The physicians admit, however, there is grave danger that the actress may lose her voice entirely.

THEATRICAL FLASHES.

Harry Mintern, leading man in the North Brothers' Stock company when they opened at the Majestic for the autumn season one year ago, now is playing leads in the road show "In The Bishop's Carriage."

Jack Truitt, manager of the Majestic theater, visited friends in Osage City last Sunday.

C. E. Bray, manager of the Western Vaudeville Managers' Association, will be in Kansas City next Tuesday to confer with James Kearney on business. Messrs. Bray and Kearney probably will visit Topeka while Mr. Bray is in this section.

Henry W. Savage's gallantry to Mme. Sarah Bernhardt in giving gratis to that famous actress the right to play "Madame X" during her forthcoming farewell tour of America is another evidence of the cordial good will obtaining in the world of the stage. Mme. Bernhardt offered to pay roundly for the privilege, but Mr. Savage preferred to have her accept it as a token of his appreciation of her art. Mme. Bernhardt has agreed to give a special matinee performance for the benefit of each of the three distinguished actresses playing this role in the Savage companies. It is probable that one will take place in New York, another in Boston and the third in either Denver or San Francisco.

L. M. Miller, manager of the Princess theater at Wichita, stopped in Topeka this week on his way to Kansas City on business.

James R. Kearney reports additions to his booking, as follows: Lawrence, Ottawa, Pittsburg and Coffeyville, Kan.; Moberly, Trenton and Warrensburg, Mo.; Council Bluffs, Ia., and Omaha, Neb.

Until Maclyn Arbuckle's new play is ready he will appear in vaudeville in a one-act play entitled "The Welcher," by Robert H. Davis, the magazine editor. Mr. Arbuckle's first appearance in vaudeville will be at the Fifth Avenue theater. The character which Mr. Davis has created for him is a distinct American type along the same lines as his role in "The County Chairman" and the sheriff in "The Round-Up." Mr. Arbuckle will return to the legitimate stage later in the season under the management of Klaw and Erlanger.

Doris Hardy, who has been playing a special engagement in stock at the Paterson opera house, Paterson, N. J., has gont to Wichita, Kan., as special featured leading woman. She opens November 7 in "The Daughters of Men."

Manager C. U. Philley of the Tootle theater, St. Joseph, has announced the booking of "The Nigger," one of the sought after shows of the season. This follows the truce agreed upon by the open door syndicate forces which have been at war. It is not improbable that "The Nigger" will be presented in other houses, including Topeka, on the Crawford, Philley & Zehrung circuit.

Several of the company appearing with William Morris in "My Cinderella Girl" which comes to the Grand on November 22, are well known to patrons of legitimate drama, among them Myra Brooks, for several seasons with the late Richard Mansfield, Frederick Van Renssalair, formerly leading juvenile with Otis Skinner, Ralph Theadore for several seasons with Mrs. Fiske and the late James A. Hearne; Willis Browne, formerly with Edeson and Mrs. Fiske; Maurice Cass, who was prominent in the support of Charles Hawtrey.

Mort H. Singer will present Henry Woodruff at the Grand on November 21 in a new song comedy entitled "The Genius." The new play is by William Cecil DeMille, the musical portion having been supplied by Paul Reubens. The cast was personally selected by Henry Woodruff.

"The Lottery Man" will be the Shubert attraction at the Grand November 25-26. It is a comedy dealing with the customs of some newspapers to increase their circulation by other than professional methods and is said to be exceptionally good.

Walt Mason's book of poems was placed on sale in Topeka this week. The sale of this book during the six weeks that intervene before Christmas ought to break all records. Not since Field's and Riley's masterpieces were published has a more delightful and acceptable gift book been placed on the market. Uncle Walt's rhymes are delightful, and the philosophy and humor with which he links his lines together are a comfort and shining light in time of trouble. In sending this book to friends and relatives it is sending nothing less than a message of cheer, and at the same time one can point with pride to the happy genius of the author, a fellow Kansan.

One cannot describe Uncle Walt's verses or write about them. They never pall, they never miss the mark. They apply to all the things that an average man thinks about during his waking hours while he is being boosted and humored by the world at large. Walt's book of poems will do the average citizen more good than all the volumes on Elliot's bookshelf one yard wide.

It is quite a common statement nowadays that sentiment has more or less disappeared from the makeup of the average man and woman but that this is not so Mrs. Margaret Hill McCarter has shown in her new book, "The Price of the Prairie." Mrs. McCarter lives in Kansas and her story deals with pioneer days in that great state, and it is safe to say that by Christmas there will be very few Kansans, young or old, who have not made it their business to read this book, for although it has only been out three or four weeks it has already taken its place as the best selling Kansas book ever published, one bookseller in Topeka alone having sold over 1,500 copies. The publishers, Messrs. A. C. McClurg & Co., have just put a third edition to press and they recommend the story to the attention of readers everywhere who care for a thrilling story and a vivid picture of pioneer days on the western frontier.

Laird & Lee's excellent little diary is issued each year, and kept strictly up-to-date. First things, facts about the Bible, memoranda for every day of the year, showing day of week, month and year, holidays and special church days, recent historical events, cash account for each month; identification page. Calendars for 1910, 1911 and 1912. Full black or red leather, gold stamping, gilt edges, vest pocket size, 25c. Over two millions sold. Twelfth annual edition. Better than ever! Laird & Lee, Chicago, publishers.

Aside from the interest of the story, the English papers are hailing Elinor Glyn's new novel, "His Hour," as a remarkably interesting picture of the social life of the Russian nobility. It is said that hardly a single Anglo-Saxon has been admitted into its circles, and that Mrs. Glyn's novel is the only book in English that sets forth the kinds of good times which the wealthy and noble Russians enjoy during the long winters.

The first chapters of Robert Hichens's new novel, "The Dweller on the Threshold," which is running serially in the Century, indicate that psychical research is to be the keynote of the story. It is not the object of Mr. Hichens's story, it is said, to set forth what has been accomplished in the field of occultism; but his working out of some of the phenomena of occultism in his story can not fail to interest all who have paid any attention to psychic problems.

BOWSER'S NO PAPA.

But He Relents Enough to Kiss the Baby.

One of Mrs. Bowser's lady friends on the block, and the mother of a year-old babe, had been obliged to make a trip to the suburbs to see a sick relative, and Mrs. Bowser had kindly volunteered to take charge of the little one during the absence. It had fretted some at finding a new mother, but it had been hushed to sleep by the time Mr. Bowser came up to dinner. He came banging in in his usual way, but was met in the hall by Mrs. Bowser, who held up a warning finger and whispered:

"Hush! I've just got him to sleep."

"What do you mean?" was asked.

"Don't shout so!"

"Who's shouting? I'd like to know what in the old Harry this fooling means!"

"I'm taking care of Mrs. Thompson's baby for a few hours. Please lower your voice, as he is rather fretful."

"Lower my voice? Have I got to whisper because somebody's young'un is in the house? I don't think I shall. If the said young'un don't like it, let him get out!"

"But come down to dinner, and I'll tell you all about it. Walk softly! Hush! Don't cough that way."

"Now, then," began Mr. Bowser, when they had reached the basement dining room, "I want a full and complete explanation of this affair. I leave home in the morning and things are as usual. I come home at night to find a great mystery hanging over the house. I am told to hush. I am told not to cough. I am told that if I dare to sneeze some dire disaster will take place. Go ahead and explain things."

Mrs. Bowser did so in a very few words.

"And because Mrs. Thompson saddles you with her young'un you expect to saddle me also. I've got to sit with my hands folded. I mustn't move a toe. I must whisper. Well, by thunder, I don't propose to be bulldozed by any yearling kid! If he doesn't like my style, let him take a skate."

"Now, Mr. Bowser, you know you don't feel that way at all. You are always ready to oblige a neighbor. This baby is bright and handsome, and I know you will like it."

"Never! He comes into this house and through you says I must not cough or sneeze. He may be a bright kid, but he can't run my business."

"PLEASE COME AND CHUCK HIM UNDER THE CHIN."

"Don't be silly. He was a little fretful for his mother and I'd just got him to sleep. He may wake up all right. I don't ask you to go around as if there was a funeral here, but you can keep your voice down a trifle. Mrs. Thompson may be back any minute now."

"And she may not be back 'til tomorrow. This kid may keep the house upset for hours and hours. We may not get a moment's rest. He may squall so as to attract a crowd in front of the house. He may get something in his throat and choke to death. Mrs. Bowser, I shall take no chances."

"But there are none to take. I have him on the lounge. If he wakes up and frets I'll take him upstairs. You can smoke, sing and do what you wish."

"I shall go to one of my clubs. I shall be gone 'til midnight, anyhow, and may go to bed there."

Mrs. Bowser made no objection to this, but when they reached the sitting room she found baby awake and sucking his fist, and she called out:

"Why the little tyke is awake and smiling! Just come and look at him!"

"I have no curiosity to gaze at young villains!" was the reply.

"You mustn't feel that way. He isn't to blame that his mother had to go away for a few hours."

"It was probably to get a rest from his infernal squalling."

"But he doesn't squall. He frets now and then, but all babies do. Oh, you little darling, come here!"

She lifted the kid in her arms, and his smile became a "coo-coo."

"You've got to come and look at him and see how cute he is."

"He's a young scoundrel!"

"How can you say such a thing! See. He is looking at you!"

"He can look and be hanged to him!"

"Mr. Bowser, I thought you had a heart."

He turned his back on her and began to whistle.

"Please come and chuck him under the chin."

He walked down the hall and out of the house and took a saunter. He had not meant to go to the club. That young villain of a kid had come into his house without notification or permission, so far as he was concerned, and he felt it proper to resent the intrusion. He had a dignity to maintain. He sauntered around the block and returned to the house and leaned over the gate for awhile. Then he entered and asked:

"Has the doctor been here yet?"

"Why no," replied Mrs. Bowser.

"Nor the ambulance or police?"

"Of course not. The baby is a little darling. He hasn't even sniffled."

"But it will come—it will come, and when it does you must take care of the row. I wash my hands of the whole thing. You had better get a photo handy for the reporters."

"Mr. Bowser, you've just got to look at this baby."

"Never! Never in this world!" he exclaimed, as he left the house again.

This time he went over to the shop of his family butcher to call him a scoundrel and say that he and all his kind ought to be in jail. He couldn't get up a row there. The butcher acknowledged that he was a first-class villain and deserve dany sort of punishment, and he even said that if he could have his way about things he would make the public pay 40 cents a pound for beef bones alone. Mrs. Bowser was tossing the crowing baby in her arms when the door opepned and Mr. Bowser appeared.

"I thought you had gone to your club?" she said.

"I may go after a bit. I'm waiting to see the fun."

"What fun?"

"When the hypocritical young villain starts in with his song and dance."

"But he won't start. Oh, but I wish you'd make friends with him. Let him grab at your nose. Come, do."

"If he did I'd grab at his throat! It's curious how you can let a kid like that deceive you. I can see villainy in every line of his face. Better throw him out doors and get rid of him."

Then he went out for the third time. This time he would go to his club for sure. It was eight blocks away. He had walked four of them when he stopped, turned about and walked home.

"For the land's sake, but what is it?" was his greeting as he entered.

"Perhaps—perhaps I've done that kid an injustice," he sheepishly answered.

"You surely have, and maybe he knows it, for he looked after you with a sad look."

"Bring him here."

The baby was placed in his arms.

"Not so bad looking, after all."

"He's a treasure."

"Got a good smile on him. Playful little cuss, too. Guess I was a little too hard on him. If he should have the colic—"

"But he won't."

"But if he shoud I'd go to the drug store on the gallop. See him pulling my nose!"

And 19 minuets later, when Mrs. Thompson came hurrying in, it was to find Mr. Bowser tossing and kissing the kid, and to hear him say:

"You needn't have hurried at all. We'd like to keep the little shaver all night—a week—a month."—(Copyrighted, 1910, by Associated Literary Press.)

BEST POULTRY SHOW.

That at Topeka This Winter Will Have National Scope.

Secretary Palmer said this morning the prospects for the big midwinter poultry exhibit which will be held in the Auditorium the entire week following New Year's, are the best he ever saw for any fancy poultry exhibit this far in advance of the show. Mr. Palmer has been connected with the Nebraska state show and the Omaha show for a number of years. These shows have always been considered the greatest in the Missouri valley, where he says the lay of the hen is more than equal to the entire gold production of America.

The exhibition at Topeka this winter will be the first held by the Topeka Show association, as this association was only organized last May. It is on a broader scope than that of any other poultry show association held west of Chicago. The stockholders make up some of Topeka's best citizens, besides the leading poultry breeders of the entire United States.

The list of judges, Mr. Palmer says, is the greatest ever secured by any poultry exhibit. Twelve judges in all have been secured, two coming from Massachusetts, two from Wisconsin, two from Indiana, two from Missouri and the balance from Nebraska and Kansas.

The Kansas City millionaire, Ernest Kellerstrass, who became famous in the poultry world four years ago by his winnings on his Crystal White Orpington at New York, Chicago, London, Paris and in every English speaking foreign country and later by selling five of his best fowls to Madam Pederewski, the wife of the great musician, for 7,500 and at the same time refused a cash offer of $10,000 for "Peggy," the hen that damed the five sold, has signed a contract with the officers at Topeka to place his hen "Peggy" and 10 of her sons, grandsons, daughters and granddaughters on exhibit in large special cages in the Auditorium during the show week. "Peggy" is now getting old but experts still judge her to be the best chicken ever produced or living today in the world. Mr. Kellenstrass never sells any of the eggs Peggy lays but sets them all. Eggs laid by daughters of Peggy bring Mr. Kellerstrass $10 each or $150 a setting.

Entries for competition have been reaching Secretary Palmer every day. Over 2,000 fowls are now entered and it looks as though the full capacity of the Auditorium will be more than reached. After 3,500 fowls are entered all other entries must be returned, as the management is determined the show at Topeka this winter will be of a class to draw interest from the best society of Topeka as is the case in Chicago, New York, Boston and London. To do this they have secured the Spratts Patent Cooping company of New York city to furnish uniform coops, all to be one size, type and color and no more than one fowl will be placed in a coop. The Spratts company will send their show room experts to Topeka and all the feeding, watering and bedding of the fowls will be done by these experts. The show room will present as wholesome an appearance as the best of high class bird stores in the large cities.

UNION LABEL CONVENTION.

It Will Be followed Next Week by A. F. L. Annual.

St. Louis, Nov. 12.—The third annual convention of the Union Label trades section of the American Federation of Labor is in session here with 100 delegates. Methods for obtaining publicity for the union labol will be discussed for two days.

Samuel Gompers, president of the federation, has arrived to begin preparations for the annual convention which begins next week. He was accompanied by William Brazee, member of the British parliament, and Benjamin Turner of Yorkshire, England. Both are labor leaders in England.

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