MAYOR THOMPSON SEES G. O. P. PEACE

Chicagoan Elected on Fusion Ticket Expects Moose Back in the Fold.

IS GUEST OF HENRY CLEWS

Mayor Thompson, fresh from capturing the next Republican national convention for Chicago, was the guest of honor at a luncheon given yesterday at the Bankers Club by Henry Clews. Mayor Mitchel, who was to have been on hand, was kept away by Senator Elon Brown's questions about the city spending money.

The Chicago Mayor, though tall like Mayor Mitchel, has breadth to match. Speaking in reply to Mr. Clews's welcome he declared his belief that the Republicans and Progressives will decide on fusion for the next national election, just as they joined to give him the big plurality of 147,000.

Mayor Thompson expressed his conviction that military preparedness is what the country needs most now. Afterward he said in conversation that he thought the time has come to help the railroads and rid them of some of the burdensome legislative restrictions that have been piled up of late years.

Sees Big G. O. P. Reunion.

"The Progressives and the Republicans united to elect Thompson Mayor," said Mayor Thompson, speaking in the third person, "and it is my hope and belief that the same hall in which came the unfortunate split of 1912 will see the reunion of the hosts in 1916. I believe it will.

"We are deeply interested in the same thing that you are—preparedness. That it might be possible for a foreign Power to capture New York was made clear to me by Hudson Maxim, whom I met not not so long ago in Kansas City. He said to me:

"'Imagine New York captured and held for ransom to be paid by the rest of the country!'

"Perhaps we feel somewhat more secure at home than do you in New York, but we are vitally interested in defence, and when the roll is called on the question of arming for defence Chicago will be there, just as she was present in Washington when the roll was called to pick the convention city."

William Allen Butler said that if Mayor Thompson would look north from the top of the Equitable Building he might see a greater crop of mortgages than could come within his ken at home.

Samuel W. Fairchild, president of the Union League Club, echoed Mayor Thompson's belief that Progressives and Republicans will be reunited and said that the Union League, "founded to uphold the hands of President Lincoln," stands for precisely the same things today as ever—Republican principles and a protective tariff among them.

Other Chicagoans Talk.

Other speakers were ex-Representative Frederick Lundin of Chicago, Alderman James H. Lawley of Chicago and George W. Burleigh, whose tale of Mayor Thompson's enforcement of the Sunday closing law brought applause. Other invited guests were President McAneny of the Board of Aldermen, Alexander J. Hemphill, president of the Guaranty Trust Company; A. B. Hepburn, president of the Chase National Bank; George T. Wilson of the Equitable Life, Robert C. Morris, Perley Morse, Andrew B. Humphrey, Frederick W. Upham, ex-president of the Union League Club of Chicago; Aldermen Hugh Norris and M. A. Michaelson of Chicago, A. Sheldon Clark, president of Callaghan & Co.; Charles R. Francis, Chicago City Attorney; Nelson N. Lampert, first vice-president of the Dearborn National Bank of Chicago; James H. Channon, president of H. Channon Company; Joseph M. Flanagan, president of Flanagan & Bredenweg; Public Service Commissioner Garner of Chicago and H. M. Sinclair and James A. Pugh of Chicago.

Mayor Thompson began his day's activities here with a call on Mayor Mitchel. The latter introduced the Chicago executive to President McAneny of the Board of Aldermen, to Comptroller Prendergast and to Borough Presidents Matheuson and Pounds. The visiting Mayor and his friends were then taken through the City Hall by Lieut. Kennel.

ALL FAVOR DEFENCE.

New York Men Give a Dinner for Mayor Thompson.

Mayor Thompson of Chicago was the guest of C. G. Beardsley, Stuart F. Douglass, Harry Harris and Harry Sommers at a dinner in the Hotel Biltmore last night. The trend of the speaking after compliments had been paid to the honor guest turned to national questions of preparedness. All spoke in favor of adequate defence.

Mayor Thompson denied that he ever was or would be a candidate for President. He said that the Illinois delegates would vote for Senator Sherman. Melville E. Stone was toastmaster. Commodore J. Stuart Blackton of the Motor Boat Club of America was a speaker. Members of the Motor Boat Club and of the Illinois Society of New York were the invited guests.

FIRE CAUSES HOSPITAL PANIC.

Jersey City Isolation Institution In Turmoil Over Blaze.

A slight fire in the Jersey City Isolation Hospital, on Tonnelle avenue near the Hackensack River, last night created a panic among the twenty-three inmates, principally children, and it was with the greatest difficulty that the physicians and nurses in the hospital were able to restore order.

The first started in the cellar of the building near the engine room. The superintendent smelled the smoke and after a quick investigation turned in an alarm and then marshalled the doctors and nurses together and tried to quell the excitement that had been caused by the patients.

One by one the twenty-three patients were carried to the large porch at the extreme end of the building from the fire. The firemen arrived and made short work of the flames, and after the smoke had been driven from the building the patients were returned to their rooms.

JOKING BROKERS FINED.

Five Must Pay $25 Each for Horseplay on Stock Exchange.

Five members of the Stock Exchange yesterday were fined $25 each for disorderly conduct on the floor of the exchange. The ringleaders were Clarkson Runyon, Jr., of Carlisle, Mellick & Co., 43 Exchange place; William H. Wallace of Kelly & Wallace, 2 Wall street, and Daniel A. Loring, Jr., of H. N. Whitney & Sons, Mills Building. The two other members were recently elected.

The specific offence that led to the fine was the annoying of H. S. Germond of Libaire & Cook, 25 Broad street. Mr. Germond is a specialist in Harvester stock and one of the oldest members of the exchange, having joined in 1868. For some time he has been the object of mild horseplay by younger members. These have been reprimanded several times.

On Tuesday the committee on arrangements, whose chief duty is to preserve order, summoned the five members mentioned. Yesterday they received notice that they had been fined.

OSBORNE WITNESSES TO GO ON THE STAND TO-DAY

Justice Morschauser Will Decide To-morrow if Charges Against Sing Sing Warden Will Be Made Public—Grand Jury Continues Inquiry.

WHITE PLAINS, Dec. 15.—Warden Osborne's witnesses are to be allowed to testify to-morrow before the Grand Jury regardless of whether the charges of immorality made against him by Assistant District Attorney Fallon are made public, as the Warden wishes. Justice Morschauser will decide that point on Friday.

After the warden had finished his testimony to-day District Attorney Weeks announced that he had notified all those named by Mr. Osborne in his petition as friends of his regime to appear within the next few days. It is expected that Richard M. Hurd, president of the Lawyers Mortgage Company, and a member of the prison commission; Dr. E. Stagg Whitin, a member of the Prison Reform Association, and Dean George W. Kirchwey of Columbia will testify to-morrow. Others who have been notified to appear at one time or another are George W. Wickersham, Warden Charles F. Rattigan of Auburn prison, Clifford B. Harmon, Herbert Carpenter, Miss M. Z. Doty and Miss Emily Seaman.

The decision to submit to Justice Morschauser the question of whether or not the Grand Jury minutes and affidavits of convicts accusing Warden Osborne of immorality should be made public, as Mr. Fallon offered to do in court on Monday, was arrived at after a conference between Mr. Fallon and Huntington W. Merchant, Mr. Osborne's counsel. Mr. Merchant then filed formal notice of acceptance with Justice Morschauser, who set Friday morning as the time of making a decision. Mr. Fallon and Mr. Weeks say they are willing to publish the minutes and affidavits as soon as the Judge consents.

The Grand Jury continued to-day its questioning of the warden on the score of his personal conduct, it was said, and asked him particularly about two occurrences of some years ago, long before he became warden of Sing Sing. Mr. Osborne had an explanation of both these occurrences which accounted for them.

It was said also that while in the Grand Jury room he was told that every convict who had testified before the Grand Jury had said that he would prefer a return to the old prison system to the more lenient rule of the Mutual Welfare League. The warden remarked later that that was natural, as practically all the convict witnesses had been found intractable and had been disciplined by the league or sent to other prisons.

Sidney L. Welsh, the convict whose affidavit is one of those accusing the warden of immorality, was in the District Attorney's office to-day in conference with William Willett, who has returned from Great Meadow. A woman said to be a relative of Paul Vogel, who also has made an affidavit, was in the office. She said she had visited Vogel often at the prison and never heard him accuse the warden. She had not been subpœnaed, she said.

It is generally believed that Mr. Weeks has about completed his case and that from now on the testimony taken will be "for the defence," an unusual proceeding in a Grand Jury inquiry. This testimony probably will take not more than a few days, when indictments or a presentment may be expected. It is said the Grand Jury considers seriously recommending alterations in the Mutual Welfare League.

OSBORNE PLAN UPHELD.

Prison Keepers and Ex-convicts Tell Experiences at Meeting.

A meeting on "Prisons and Prison Reform" was held at the Church of the Messiah, Thirty-fourth street and Park avenue, last evening at which the general sentiment appeared to be in favor of Warden Osborne and his work at Sing Sing.

Benjamin Legere, who served time in Auburn for disturbance in a strike riot, and was an inmate when Mr. Osborne established his Mutual Welfare League there, rather discounted the plan of self-government, saying that at Auburn it was a delusion, having become a government of stool pigeons instead of a government of prisoners.

He was promptly answered, however, by Philip Abbe, an alumnus of the Mutual Welfare League at Sing Sing, who said that self-government at Sing Sing was self-government, and that William J. Cummins, formerly of the Carnegie Trust Company, was the greatest stool pigeon that the prison had seen lately.

Frank Tannenbaum of I. W. W. fame gave it as his opinon that Sing Sing was the finest educational institution in the United States. A recent visit there, he said, had shown him the vast contrast between it and the prison on Blackwell's Island, where he passed six months. He further characterized Warden Osborne as the greatest social service worker in the country.

The other speakers were E. Kent Hubbard, head of the Connecticut Reformatory, and Louis E. Lawes, superintendent of the City Reformatory on Hart's Island, who described the system of partial self-government which he has established there. Mr. Hubbard described the attacks on Warden Osborne both personally and because of his system, citing his own experience in Connecticut as an example of the possible success of self-government in prisons.

MULLIGAN GUARDS SING THE OLD SONGS

Recall Jokes and Antics of Ned Harrigan, Who Played With Tony Hart.

NOTABLES BOYS AGAIN

Ned Harrigan is dead and gone but it will be many a year before the kids of old downtown New York (most of whom have grown up to be important persons) forget his kindly personality, his genius for transferring to the stage the fun and foolery of the Irish race in America and the songs he and Tony Hart used to sing.

More than 300 boys, still boys, though some of them have frosted hair and beards, got together in the back room of Eagleton's cafe at 73 Eighth avenue, Greenwich Village, last night, clapped green turbans upon their heads, tied big white aprons decorated with pictures of *Dan Mulligan* in the full regimentals of the Mulligan Guard around their waists and sang Ned Harrigan's old songs—"The Mulligan Guard," "My Dad's Dinner Pail," "Down in Gossip Row," "Maggie Murphy's Home," "Little Old Dudeen" and all the rest of them. There was scarcely one of the once famous songs, famous in the days when New York laughed with Harrigan in his "McSorley's Inflation," "The Mulligan Guards' Picnic," "The Mulligan Guards' Ball," "The Mulligan Guards' Chowder," that the Ned Harrigan Club, whose official title is The Mulligan Guards of Greenwich Village, forgot to sing at last night's celebration.

The party began about 9 P. M., when Joe B'Gee Humphreys, so earnestly a Mulligan that he consented even to desert the piano movers' the dansant at the Manhattan Opera House, announced boomingly that four of Ned Harrigan's old company were present. And while the members stood up and cheered and beat upon the tables with steins warranted to stand any amount of table tamping Joe B'Gee introduced Johnny Carroll, John Sparks, Harry Fisher and Dan Collyer, all of whom were with Ned Harrigan in many of his most hilarious farces. They all tried to make a speech, but somehow none of them managed to get much further than:

"Sure, and this would be a grand day for Harrigan if he were alive to hear it."

"And now," announced Mr. Humphreys in his best roar, 'the next event of the evening—I mean the next thing on the programme—is a song 'The Mulligan Guard.' Sing, ye terriers, sing!"

When 300 persons really go to a song they like and know to the last sound and syllable they make considerable commotion. The chromos on Eagleton's walls quaked and rattled as the 300 whooped:

When we get home at night, boys,
The divil a bite we'd ate,
We'd all set up and drink a sup
Of whiskey strong and nate.
Then we'd all march home together,
As slippery as lard,
The solid mile would all fall in,
And march with the Mulligan Guard.

Pretty soon many well known persons began to drop in—District Attorney-elect Edward F. Swann, Sheriff-elect Albert E. Smith, Magistrates Nolan and Freschi, Charles W. Culkin, leader of the Fifth Assembly district; Richard Fitzpatrick, Richard J. Delaney, Assemblyman Maurice McDonald, Alderman James J. Hannon, Senator James J. Walker, Inspector George F. Titus, James E. Lynch, John P. Hilly, John F. Fitzpatrick, John T. Eagleton and many more, and all of them got a first hand welcome from Jim Geagan, captain of the Mulligan Guards of Greenwich Village. But again one was aware of the roaring insistence of Joe B'Gee that one of the best of the old Harrigan songs was waiting to be sung—"The Buck Billy Goat," and this time Al Smith led the chorus:

Oh, I'm a lone widder, meself and me daughter,
I live in a house where there's welcome galore,
Me husband he formerly carried up mortar
From the ground to the third and fourth floor,
When he died he willed over his land and his shanty,
His pipe and his stick and his frieze overcoat,
The pigs and the goslins and the chickens so banty,
And his favorite pet, his buck billy goat.
Oh, oh, oh—oh, oh, oh,
Come back to me bosom, me own darling Willie,
Oh, oh, oh—oh, oh, oh,
Sure my favorite pet was my buck billy goat.

And thereafter until long after midnight, with occasional speeches from Judge Swann and Al Smith and Leader Culkin, they sang "The Regular Army O," "Paddy Duffy's Cart," "Mary Kelly's Beau," "Are You There, Moriarty?" "Never Take the Horseshoe From the Door" and "Miss Brady's Pianny-Fortay."

KILLS TWO AND HIMSELF.

Retired, Ill, Fireman Shoots Daughter and Mother-in-law.

Despairing at the prospect of spending his last days in an insane asylum Frederick Schaeffer, 37, a retired fireman living at 6 Forty-second street, Corona, Queens, ran amuck with a revolver in his home yesterday morning. He killed his daughter Anna, 11, and his mother-in-law, Mrs. Anna Bray, 53, besides dangerously wounding his wife, Mrs. Harriet Schaeffer, 32. An elder daughter, Harriet, 13, escaped death only by the heroism of her mother, who shielded the child with her body until she could reach a door leading from the room. Then Schaeffer fired a bullet into his own brain.

Schaeffer was a sufferer from a fracture of the skull received while on duty as a fireman in Manhattan. His mind became affected and his trouble was made worse by worry over his condition and his inability to earn a living. He and his family quarrelled bitterly and often. In a note he left Schaeffer declared he could not stand it to hear his wife praying nightly for his death.

Mrs. Schaeffer was taken to St. John's Hospital, Long Island City, where it was said she has a chance to live. The elder daughter, Harriet, is unhurt except for a blow that her father struck her with the revolver as she fled from him.

DIES IN CLUB MEETING.

John Everett, Secretary of the Pleiades, Stricken.

John Everett, 60 years old, living at 82 Washington place, was stricken with heart disease last night while attending a meeting of the Pleiades Club, of which he was secretary, at the Hotel Brevoort.

Mr. Everett, who was a public accountant, had gone to the gathering with his wife and two sons, Randall J. and Eric J. Everett. There was nothing the matter with him, so far as could be seen, until suddenly, half an hour after midnight, he collapsed in his chair.

The meeting broke up in confusion and a hurry call was sent to St. Vincent's Hospital. Dr. Mahoney came, but nothing could be done for Mr. Everett. He died within a few minutes.

McKELLAR WINS IN TENNESSEE.

Captures Democratic Nomination for the Senate.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 15.—Returns throughout the State late to-night indicate that Kenneth D. McKellar, Congressman from the Tenth district, has snowed under Malcom R. Patterson for the Democratic nomination for the Senate.

McKellar's majority already has reached 17,500, with promise that it will grow larger.

Plays and Players.

"The Boomerang," at the Belasco Theatre, will celebrate its 150th performance at the matinee this afternoon.

Alla Nazimova will present "War Brides" at the Palace Theatre next week. She has just returned from a tour of the country in this sketch.

"Stop! Look! Listen!" will open at the Globe Theatre on Christmas night, December 25, and not on Tuesday, December 21, as previously announced.

The Holiday Players is a new organization formed to present light opera at the Bandbox Theatre during holiday seasons. Its first production will begin on December 27 and last until January 1. Other productions will be given at Easter. The Drama League is interested in it.

James K. Hackett and George C. Tyler have formed a partnership for the production of plays and will be jointly interested in a theatrical firm to be known as Hackett & Tyler. Their first production will be a romantic comedy by Brandon Tynan. Mr. Tyler's affiliation with Mr. Hackett will interfere in no way with his present connection with Klaw & Erlanger.

MRS. GALT CHOOSES ROCHESTER PASTOR

Son of Rector of Her Girlhood Is Expected to Officiate at Wilson Wedding.

PLANS ARE KEPT SECRET

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—With President Wilson's marriage to Mrs. Norman Galt only three days off, the plans for the ceremony are still shrouded in secrecy. No announcement has been made as to the clergyman who will perform the ceremony and even the hour at which the wedding will be held has been guarded closely by the President and his fiancee.

In fact, all that is known officially of the wedding plans, was given out about ten days ago in a statement from the White House, merely announcing that the ceremony would take place on Saturday at the home of Mrs. Galt and that it would be witnessed by the President's daughters, his sister and brother and by the near relatives of Mrs. Galt. This was supplemented by the statement that the President would not have a best man.

Further than this the White House has refused to comment on any plans for the wedding or honeymoon. The President is said to be determined that the wedding shall be of a strictly private character and is doing everything possible to bring this about.

The wedding guests have already begun to gather in Washington, especially the relatives of Mrs. Galt.

Dr. Goodman to Officiate?

While no authoritative statement has been made in regard to the officiating clergyman, friends of Mrs. Galt said today that she had selected the Rev. W. A. J. Goodman of Rochester, N. Y. Mr. Goodman's father was rector of the Episcopal Church at Wytheville, Va., which Mrs. Galt attended when a girl.

The question of a clergyman has been agitating Washington for some time. There have been hints of possible embarrassments through the fact that Mrs. Galt recently changed her church in Washington and that her old as well as the new pastor might naturally expect to be invited to perform the ceremony. Apparently Mrs. Galt has tactfully settled the situation by calling on her girlhood friend.

Many gifts have been received both at the White House and at Mrs. Galt's home, but few of these are of an official character. The President made it known that he would be happier if no gifts were presented on the occasion of his wedding, and for the most part the diplomatic corps and the rest of officialdom have taken the hint.

For this reason it is expected that the array of wedding presents will be much less impressive than those which were seen at the White House when the President's two daughters were married.

Gift From Speaker Clark.

It is known, however, that some officials have sent gifts. Mrs. Galt received to-day a handsome compote for fruit or cake from the Speaker of the House of Representatives and Mrs. Clark. Yesterday she received a package of rare old lace from one of her coworkers in the Rector's Guild of St. Thomas's Church.

Another gift is the coat of arms of the Bolling family and their crest embossed on parchments done for her by Mrs. Wood, who presented a likeness of the Wilson coat of arms to Miss Jessie Wilson when she was married.

One of the most interesting gifts will be from the Pocahontas Association of which Mrs. Galt is a member. It is a statuette of Pocahontas about eighteen inches high. It is a replica of the statue now being made by William Ordway Partridge to be erected on Jamestown Island.

Most of the gifts are from strangers. They have come from all parts of the United States and have covered a wide range. There have been many pieces of needle work, cut glass, china and silver.

In the case of gifts from strangers the same rules have been applied which the President has enforced ever since he came to Washington. He and Mrs. Galt have accepted articles whose value is nothing and which obviously have been sent merely as a token of good wishes. Gifts that are of considerable value and that have come to the White House from strangers are returned.

Bride's Relatives Expected.

Mr. and Mrs. Rolfe E. Bolling, brother and sister-in-law of Mrs. Galt, will arrive in New York from Panama and come at once to Washington. Their daughter was Mrs. Galt's favorite niece and namesake, Miss Edith Bolling. She bears a strong likeness to the President's fiancee. She was to have spent the winter with her aunt here, but recently married a young Spaniard she met in Panama.

Dr. William Bolling of Louisville, Ky., another of Mrs. Galt's brothers, is too ill to leave his home. Mr. and Mrs. Sterling Galt of Emmitsburg, Md., brother and sister-in-law of the late Norman Galt, will come to Washington on Friday and be guests of the former's sister, Mrs. Reginald Fendall, at her home in Bancroft place. Mrs. Fendall will attend the wedding with them.

Mrs. Sayre, the President's daughter, has not arrived yet from Williamstown, Mass., but it is presumed that she and Mr. Sayre will get here on Friday and remain until after the ceremony. Mrs. Howe, sister of the President, is expected to-morrow and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Wilson, brother and sister-in-law of the President, will arrive on Friday. Their daughter, a debutante, Miss Alice Wilson, will come with them.

There is little doubt that the President will take his bride south for the wedding trip, as the clothes she has ordered packed for travelling are all such as would be worn in a warm climate. Many believe the honeymoon will be in Florida.

CALIFORNIANS MEET HERE.

Hold Luncheon in "One Thousand Members" Campaign.

The California Society of New York gave its first informal luncheon at the Hotel Biltmore yesterday afternoon. About 150 expatriated sons of the Golden Gate and a score of other exiles who are in New York because they have to be were present. The purpose of the luncheon was to inaugurate a campaign for "one thousand members and a headquarters."

Many nice things were said by the speakers laudatory of California and Californians in New York. John Hays Hammond, president of the society, acted in the capacity of toastmaster and also made a very interesting talk. Others who addressed the gathering included William R. Hearst, Dr. Horace Fletcher, Ralph S. Stubbs and Henry Varian, secretary of the society.

It was decided to make the luncheon a monthly affair, with the Hotel Biltmore as temporary headquarters.

CITY STREETS TO BE CLEANED UP TO-DAY

Railroads and Telegraph Lines Gradually Getting Into Normal Shape.

FREIGHT TRAINS STARTED

Weather forecast—Cloudy to-day; rain or snow and warmer to-morrow; moderate variable winds.

Commissioner J. T. Fetherston of the Street Cleaning Department announced yesterday that the work of removing the snow would be completed to-day. More than 20,000 men, working in three shifts on Monday and Tuesday, and 6,000 men working from 7 A. M. to 5 P. M. yesterday, have so far cleaned the streets that only carting away the snow remains to be done.

Celestin De Marco, contractor, had 1,145 carts and 2,300 men at work last night hauling away the snow piles. All of the main arteries of traffic and the principal side streets in Manhattan, Brooklyn and The Bronx are now opened, the Commissioner said, and with work to-day traffic should be almost normal again.

The Commissioner estimates that about a million and a half cubic yards of snow had to be moved, and the approximate cost of the storm to the department will be betwen $200,000 and $300,000. The payroll last night for the emergency force amounted to $46,000. Twenty-five paymasters at 103 stations paid off the volunteers.

Mr. Fetherston pointed out that his emergency system of snow fighters and snow removers had done the work in spite of the scarcity of labor and had cleared the streets as quickly as they have ever been cleared before under similar conditions. The pressure in the street cleaning department began to slacken yesterday after thirty-nine hours of almost continuous work.

The New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad yesterday was working bravely to recover from the worst blow in recent years, according to President Howard Elliott. Trains from New England were running from one to three hours late. Commutation trains on the New Haven were from three to thirty-five minutes behind their schedules.

At 4:15 o'clock in the afternoon the lines as far as Stamford were energized and trains from New York to Stamford were run by electricity. The first freight in two days, consisting of perishable goods for Boston, left last night. A vain attempt was made to handle freight for Boston and New England by water. The incoming trains from New England yesterday brought hundreds of school girls and boys on their way home for the holidays.

Suburban trains on the New York Central were running nearly on schedule time last night, but express trains were still badly delayed.

The American Telephone and Telegraph Company reported that communication has been restored in the suburbs and that long distance communication has been established throughout the country. The damage to the company's property will probably amount to $100,000.

JAR OF PUBLICITY AT WELL TOO OFTEN

Thus "a Certain Play Announced for a Certain Night Has Been Postponed."

STAGE NEWS AND GOSSIP

The important fact that a certain play which was announced for a certain night week after next has been postponed until the following night has been communicated to this office. Beginning somewhere after the middle of last August that same thing has happened with a regularity that gave the performance three times the publicity it would have received had it been set down for a certain time and then acted.

It is of course impossible to suspect the good faith of the publicity officials. But it is hereby agreed that in the future those shifting dates are to be treated as a matter of confidence in this department. Until there has been some decision in the matter which may be considered approximately accurate, not a word will ever be made public on the subject.

It is therefore more in sorrow than in anger that it is here set down that a certain play which is to be given in a certain theatre on a certain night will be performed on the following night instead.

There will be enough plays as it is next week. Monday night is open, but on Tuesday Gaby Deslys will appear at the Gaiety Theatre and Maude Adams at the Empire, while on Wednesday "Katinka" will be acted at the Forty-fourth Street Theatre. During the week Elisabeth Marbury will present "Very Good, Eddie," at the little Princess Theatre, and on Christmas night "Ruggles of Red Gap" will be given at the Fulton. During the following week there will be at least two important novelties acted for the first time here.

Ruth St. Denis, who has not danced in six years in New York, will be seen at four matinees at the Hudson Theatre in the week after Christmas. Miss St. Denis will have the assistance of Ted Shawn and a large corps of dancers. Hawaiian, Greek, Egyptian, Japanese and Indiana dances will be shown.

Wallace Irwin wrote the short story on which M. L. Landsman founded "What Became of Deegan Folk" which Robert Hilliard has been acting. The story concerns a young man whose father has one-sixteenth of negro blood in his veins. One of his ancestors had married a half negro. But the physicians assure him that there need be no danger in case he marries. So he picks a member of an old Southern family, which turns out to be the most unfortunate thing in the world under the circumstances, since when the baby is born he is a little pickaninny.

Of course the wife, being of a proud Southern family, cannot abide the idea of a negro in the family, especially under such intimate relations as must exist between a mother and son. So she retires from the household, father takes the black baby to Cuba and it grows up to be a useful member of society. How mother gets over the shock is not told in detail.

George Tyler and James K. Hackett have formed a partnership to produce for Brandon Tynan a play of his authorship. Mr. Tynan will be the star. Under the title "The Melody of Youth," the piece was acted with success in San Francisco last spring. Mr. Tyler will retain his business connection with Klaw & Erlanger.

"This skating feature of the Hippodrome and the idea of 'Flirting at St. Moritz' with its sensational ice ballet was not a sudden inspiration of mine," said Charles Dillingham, on the ice of the Hippodrome pool last Sunday. "I have been a real enthusiast over ice skating for years. It is the cleanest, most beautiful of our American winter sports. But we have not developed it here as we might have done and I thought it would provide a strikingly new feature as well as encourage wholesome outdoor sport.

"Berlin developed ice skating into a theatrical entertainment and it occurred to me to bring over its best exponents and give them the neutral, international environment of the prettiest Swiss village, St. Moritz. But I will admit that my most sanguine expectations have been exceeded by the vogue of this ice ballet. Every time I read, or hear somebody say, that the Hippodrome novelty has launched a new chapter in American outdoor life I laid the foundation for a renaissance of ice skating in this country. I wonder if my friends are overenthusiastic."

Be that as it may, in the words of George Monroe, there are many dancers now trying to change their art. They assemble every day at the St. Nicholas Rink. Of all those who are practising there, none is so expert as Lydia Lupokowa. But this talented Russian dancer is a graduate of the ballet school of the Marientheater and of course has the advantage of the classic training.

With the so-called modern dancers it is not so easy. Maurice has by no means shown the proficiency which was to be expected of one who performed so skilfully the skating waltz which none of his imitators can approach in grace and daring. Florence Walton is also at the rink daily, while there is scarcely a dancer in any of the cabarets who is not hard at work trying to learn to skate while the skating is good.

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