

THEATERS.

BILLS OF THE WEEK

"Hearts of Oak," at the Met. "A Brass Monkey," at the Bijou. "Butterfly Extravaganza Co., at the Dewey.

Beginning to-morrow night, "Hearts of Oak," one of the most successful plays that James A. Herne ever wrote, will hold the stage at the Metropolitan...

Caine's novels have been dramatized but, until "The Christian," none by himself. The most popular entertainment in these days is the fun-show, the amusement that makes one laugh and forget the cares of life.

brooke and a company of fifty people, in "The Rounders." "Arizona" will be the attraction at the Metropolitan for the entire week, commencing Sunday, March 10.

COLONEL HENRY G. SHARPE.



Lieutenant Colonel Henry G. Sharpe of the subsistence department, who is to be made colonel under the new army bill just passed, is at present assistant to General John F. Weston, the commissary general of the United States army.



ACT V, "HEARTS OF OAK," AT THE METROPOLITAN NEXT WEEK.

ers. In after years the folly of this course is apparent, when the truth is finally disclosed. There is no villain in "Hearts of Oak"; in fact, it was one of the first plays to be written without one, and created much comment at the time on that account.

To the thousands of Americans who were in Europe last summer, the presence there of Sousa and his band was somewhat in the nature of a blessing. Sousa being so thoroughly a national character, every American traveler regarded him in the light of a personal friend.

part of "Baggage." As a dancer, she has few equals on the American stage. Mr. Wesley's "Jonah" is a splendid portrayal of a difficult role. The piece is interspersed with numerous specialties and furnishes three hours of a lively entertainment as one can possibly desire.

A BUILDING BOOM

Signs All Point Strongly in That Direction.

ARCHITECTS ARE OVER-CROWDED

Contractors Already Have Much Work on Their Books—Peculiar Conditions.

Croakers, pessimists and disgruntled people generally, who have refused to join the local prosperity procession, should drop in and chat with the architects and contractors these days. These chats will be brief, for the architects, the contractors, the builders and the people who work for them, are so busy that they have no time to talk. In fact, they are up to their ears in work.

An Unprecedented Condition.

A prominent real estate man who has unlimited capital behind him is surprised at the building activity of the high prices for labor and material. He says the condition is unprecedented in this city. "We do not expect to put up any more buildings for awhile," said he, "because we are convinced that prices are too high. There is a sort of trust scheme running through everything that discourages investors. Take the plumbers; they have a trust that beats the Standard Oil outfit. A man is absolutely at their mercy. They control all plumbing materials and the labor of plumbers, and if they are not in a position to command things, I would like to know what set of men is. Suppose a man should try to buy plumbing materials in the open market and then hire plumbers by the day to do his work. Could he do it? No, not to save his skin. Suppose a man who sell the material would refuse to deal with him. If a man should be fortunate enough to get his supplies he could not get a plumber to work for him. It is all 'association,' 'master plumbers' and so on. There's no way to beat it."

The Views of the Contractors.

The contractors admit that the plumbers have a cinch, but they declare that prices are no higher than they would be if a man could exercise a little individuality in having a job performed. They say the plumbers were compelled to get together because the real estate men and investment concerns, who formerly conducted building operations for eastern owners, had plumbing jobs done at reasonable prices and then submitted extraordinary bills for the work. They paid the plumbers in that instance, but now the plumbers propose to pay themselves and to see that the paying is done in accordance with the generally accepted notions regarding the vocation of plumbing.

Never So Rosy.

H. N. Leighton, one of the representative contractors of Minneapolis, says the outlook for a fine season's business was never so rosy. His firm has a great deal of contract work in sight, and expects to have more than it can handle if present indications count for anything. "As to prices," said Mr. Leighton, "I am inclined to think that general prosperity and continued good times will keep them where they are. I do not anticipate any reduction. Lumber, which can see the limit of its supply in this territory, will not come down, and I think wages will remain about as they are. Those who think prices are high should remember that they are no higher than they were in 1892. The bottom fell out of all prices during the panicky years, of course, but we are just getting back on dry land."

Mr. Leighton adds that most of the architects were busy, and that his firm would erect a number of warehouses and business blocks this season.

The Price of Labor.

As to the price of labor, a union bricklayer said the men of his craft would not ask any increase this year. Their price is 50 cents an hour, and they are satisfied



MAZIE TRUMBULL, As Baggage in "A Brass Monkey," at the Bijou next week.

than a few casual remarks or a batch of irrelevant comparisons with our own military bands. Mr. Sousa whose only business is with the artistic success of his concert. This has been earned, not only by his personality, but by the industry of his assistants, who have been brought by repeated rehearsals to a degree of artistic perfection, such as musicians and conductors here declare is to be found in no other existing band.

"The Christian," which will be seen at the Metropolitan for four nights and matinee, beginning Sunday, March 3, will be mounted with the equipment used in the original production. In addition to the speaking members of the cast, upwards of thirty auxiliaries are carried whose only business is to form the tableaux of the great mob scene. This is one of the most dramatic pictures ever put upon the stage. It is estimated that Herne's novel has been read by over seven million people, hence the story is well known. Several of Hall

The next attraction at the Dewey Theater, commencing with a matinee to-morrow, will be the Gay Butterfly Extravaganza Company, consisting of thirty people, picked from the leading vaudeville houses of America and Europe. The company carries all its own scenery, calcium, mechanical and electrical effects, making one of the most complete productions on the road this season. All the wardrobe worn by the members of this company was specially imported and designed from plates by Mme. Lavelle, the well-known Parisian costumier. An exchange, speaking of the Butterflies, says: "The curtain rose on a very beautiful set and the eye was charmed with beautiful ladies dressed in dazzling and bewitching costumes. The music of the pieces is bright and catchy and the songs the boys are already whistling on the street. The comedians are very funny and the chorus very strong with very pretty faces. Take the show all in all, it is the brightest, cleanest and funniest show that has visited us this season."

Footlight Flashes.

The bill at the Metropolitan for three nights, beginning Saturday, commencing Thursday, March 7, will be Thomas Q. De-

PROF. LUGGER'S 'HOPPER POSTER

Good Advice Given to the Farmer, Together With a Bit of Fine Art —The Grasshopper in Blue, Black and Yellow.

Some time ago Professor Lugger of the state school of agriculture caught the poster craze, and the attack was so severe he did not recover until, with the aid of a newspaper artist friend, he had produced a glowing sheet on his favorite topic, the grasshopper. The poster is done in blue, black and yellow. A large, jubilant hopper sits on a fence near a golden wheat field, hard by a farmhouse, playing a tune on an accordion. The refrain is in the words at the top, "In This Wheat By-and-Bye."

Professor Lugger had method in his madness. If by means of a flaring poster, distributed along the lines of railroad in the sections likely to be infested this summer and sent out also to the farmers of the region, he could attract and hold the attention of the farmers, he would do much good. The body of the poster contains a

GRASSHOPPERS



clear statement of the things to be done in case the dreaded locust eggs are anywhere to be found in Minnesota soil. The professor, in his poster, says that all sorts of machines are good to reduce the number of grasshoppers during the early summer, but the only adequate remedy is to prevent the eggs from hatching. By plowing the fields containing the eggs either in the fall or spring, though the former is better, the eggs are removed from near the surface and covered with considerable dirt, while, at the same time, the eggs are turned over so that, should the young insects hatch, their heads would be turned downward instead of upward, and they would never see the light.

So, if the farmers of Minnesota in whose soil there are locust eggs, did not plow them under last fall, they will find it to their advantage to follow closely the instructions of Professor Lugger's poster, and plow them under this spring. He calls attention to the fact that where stubble fields are left unplowed enough grasshoppers can be raised in each hundred acres to destroy the crops of many thousands of acres.

In conversation the other day, Professor Lugger said that every precaution should be taken by the farmers, for while there might be no general grasshopper visitation this coming spring, yet in the regions where they have heretofore shown themselves in small quantities the eggs are undoubtedly deposited and these eggs are among the deadliest enemies of the farmer.

with it. The carpenters ask to have their wages raised from 31 1/2 cents to 32 1/2 cents per hour. The plasterers, who are asking for an increase of 7 cents per hour—from 42 to 50 cents—will doubtless meet with strong opposition. The contractors have lately placed considerable work outside of the boss plasterers' association, and it is said they will continue to ignore the association if it persists in its demands. The result will be, the contractors say, that they will hire outside men and get the work done at 43 cents. The stone masons, who are getting 40 cents per hour, are sat-

isfied and will not ask for an increase. The painters want 35 cents and the boss painters have offered 30 cents. A committee is now working with the painters in the hope of settling the matter by arbitration.

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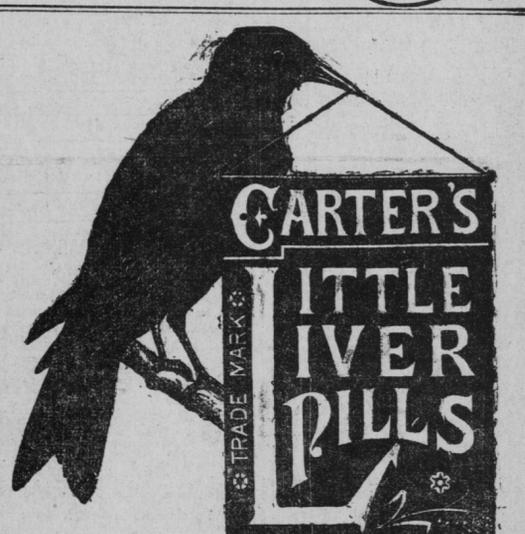


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