ADVANCE MEN

Are Not What They Used to Be

Before the Days When Companies Were Syndicated.

There Was a Time When He Wore Checked Trousers, a Stripped Coat and Many Paste Diamonds---All Is Changed.

The evolution of the advance of man is one of the more interesting features of modern theatricals, according to Claxton Wilstach, who was in Akron a few days ago, and who is counted among the most prominent men in his line of business in this country. He is an Indianan, a veritable Hoosier, and takes considerable pride upon himself on this account. "The fact is," he said, "the fellow who is a downright Hoosier in a broader sense, is, after all, the most successful man in my line of business, and in many other lines for that matter. There are two essentials in my business: First, a man ought to be a Hoosier, and, second, he ought to be a newspaper man. I am both, and whatever poor success I may have achieved is due to these two essential things."

But he was speaking of the old-fashioned advance agent, before the railroad and telegraph and other modern innovations played such a conspicuous part in theatricals. The newspaper, he said, had been one of the most important factors in shifting the scenes on the advance man. The advance man of earlier times was a curious compact. He was flashy and chucked full of bombast. He appealed to the public in gaudy displays—displays that tantalized the fancy and stirred up the curious in human nature to the boiling pitch. But he was a good fellow with it all; in fact what one might call a rounder. He was a mixer in more than one sense of the word. He caught the heterogenities of human nature, as it were, and boiled them down into one harmonious essence. He sought to crystallize the public taste by making his appeal to the curious and the morbid in human nature. He was no unimportant factor, for heavy responsibilities weighed on his shoulders. His scope was much broader than the scope of the advance man of today. Booking plays and aranging contractual details fell to his lot. Plays are booked today at what might be called a common center. Putting it differently, they are syndicated.

Flaring posters are not the vogue now.

The billposter is still playing his part in the theatrical business, but he does not impress the public as he once did. "But I do not believe the people are so easily influenced in this way now as in former times," said Mr. Wilstach. "Really, the public look now for the more delicate thing in theatrical advertising. Certainly there are still gaudy pictures on the boards, and they still appeal to many persons. Otherwise they would drop out of use altogether. But these flaring, flaming pictorials utterly fail to reach the more refined people of the country. There is one class of pictures, of course, which will always appeal to the public, for even the most daintily aesthetic fellow in the world will stop to look at the billboard when art is bold enough to reveal that which the proprieties would conceal. But this more thoughtful among the play-goers method of reaching the public has lost much of its charm, and consequently there is a tendency to break away from it among the theatrical men of the country. The fellow with the brush, the paste bucket and the poster has, during recent years, played a conspicuous part but my judgment is that the public now demands something a trifle more refined than the old method all along the line."

But, getting back to the subject of the advance man in modern theatricals, he said that, while the scope of his authority had been squeezed into a narrow circle, the importance of the position had increased and broadened. The decadence of the circus poster in modern theatricals had refined the system of advertising, and the advance man had to be more skillful. He had to reach the press through channels of legitimate criticism. Bombast and the fulsome flatteries heaped upon actresses by some critics who would swoon under the influence of a tiny bit of lace daintily displayed, or who would fall in a fit of ecstacy because the outlines of a form had been silhouetted in some clever pose—those criticisms, he said, are not available, in the case of the advance man. He was forced to rely upon something more conservative. "The conservative newspaper criticism," he said, "does more to help a really meritorious show than any thing else. The public has been educated up to the importance of watching the papers, and they generally accept the papers' criticism as a fair estimate of the worth of the play.

One of the clever methods of serving notice on the public of the coming attraction has just been introduced by Mr. Wilstach. Handsomely engraved cards have been sent out to many of the theater patrons, carrying formal announcement of the time and place of the attraction and containing a polite but humorous and catchy reference to the romantic plot of the story to be unfolded behind the footlights.

"Thousands of these cards are sent out," he said, and while they cost about five cents a piece, we have found this a good medium, and more in harmony with the public taste in such matters."

Speaking of the cost of the cards, he said theatrical troupes were forced to spend more money now than in former times. The public is demanding something better. The playgoers wants a better play, finer costumes, better scenic effects and better things generally on the stage. The people will pay a good price for a good thing, and if the present tendency continues, he said, they would not accept the cheap thing on a free basis.

Comic opera is losing ground now. The people are demanding opera comique. They are demanding consistency in plot and betrayal. If a plot is laid in Turkey they want Turkish customs, Turkish manners, Turkish dress and all things in fact that will give the play a distinctly Turkish coloring.

"This is what they would get," he said, "in the legitimate thing—in the opera comique. But in the comic opera they would get grotesque and incongruous things, vulgar localisms, and there would be a total lack of consistency in plot and betrayal. Imagine one of the Dromios in "The Comedy of Errors" pausing long enough in his embarrassments to hurl a local gag at the audience, or Falstaff, or any other comical creation in dramatic literature. Would it not be shocking? And yet it is no more so than some of the ridiculous inconsisiencies which we find in the modern comic opera."

Returning to the province of the advance man, he said the position was one of growing importance, even among the plays which had not gone into the syndicate. "The advance man," he said, "does not have to tramp over the country several weeks in advance of his show for the purpose of booking the play. The play is booked for him. He simply goes ahead to look after the matter of fixing the prices with local managers, to arrange matters with the railroads, to dicker with hotels, and to secure whatever advertising may be needed under the circumstances. His duties are altogether different from the duties performed in the earlier history of the craft, and while he has lost much of his scope as a booster he has gained much in dignity and importance."

THE 25c. FAMILY DOCTOR.

CEDAR SPRINGS, MICH.—Mrs. Isaac Dunham, a well-known lady of that place, writes: "I cannot praise Dr. A. W. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills too much. They did for me what doctors and other medicines could not do. I was troubled with severe disorders of the kidneys and enlargement of the liver. My family doctor treated me the whole of last winter, but did not help me very much, so I gave him up and began using Dr. A. W. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills. The result was simply wonderful. I am now strong and healthy again, thanks to Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills."

SHENANDOAH, PA.—Sylvester Pappert of No. 117 South Main St., says: "For twenty years past I have been troubled with constipation and kidney trouble and during that time I have taken dozens of packages of different remedies but none of them did me any good. The secretions were irregular and unnatural. I got some of Dr. A. W. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills and since using them the action of the kidneys is normal and regular and their general cathartic effect is good."

DR. A. W. CHASE'S KIDNEY-LIVER PILLS.

Genuine bear portrait and signature of Dr. A. W. Chase. 25c. at all dealers or Dr. A. W. Chase Medicine Co., Buffalo, N. Y

SOLD IN AKRON BY JOHN LAMPARTER & CO.

Kodol Dyspepsia Cure

Digests what you eat.

This preparation contains all of the digestants and digests all kinds of food. It gives instant relief and never fails to cure. It allows you to eat all the food you want. The most sensitive stomachs can take it. By its use many thousands of dyspeptics have been cured after everything else failed. It is unequalled for all stomach troubles.

It can't help but do you good

Prepared only by E. C. DEWITT & Co., Chicago. The $1. bottle contains 2½ times the 50c. size.

The Blues

is one signal which foretells physical decay. Another is pale, lifeless skin.

The muscles shrink and become flabby; the body becomes emaciated, and there is an early tendency to round shoulders. The step lacks elasticity, the nerves become weak; mental and physical activity are a burden.

This condition is called *Nervous Debility;* it is cured by the use of

Sex-ine Pills

They feed the hungry nerves, revive the weakened organs and make life brighter and sweeter to any man or woman who has suffered from physical drains.

$1.00 per box; 6 boxes (with legal guarantee to cure or refund the money), $5.00. Book free. PEAL MEDICINE Co., Cleveland, Ohio.

A. Warner, Druggist, 208 E. Market.

SANTAL CAPSULES MIDY

Relieves Kidney & Bladder troubles at once. Cures in 48 Hours all URINARY DISCHARGES. Each Capsule bears the name MIDY. Beware of useless counterfeits.

Trade Mark. BIG G. CURES in 1 to 5 days. Guaranteed not to stricture. Prevents Contagion. THE EVANS CHEMICAL CO. CINCINNATI, O. U. S. A.

CURE YOURSELF! Use Big G for unnatural discharges, inflammations, irritations or ulcerations of mucous membranes. Painless, and not astringent or poisonous. Sold by Druggists, or sent in plain wrapper, by express, prepaid, for $1.00, or 3 bottles, $2.75. Circular sent on request.

RED IN THE BLOOD

is the sign of life, of vital force, of the force that life has, of the force that life is.

When the red is lacking, life is weak, the spirits are weak, the body is weak.

Scott's emulsion of cod-liver oil puts red in the blood and life in the body.

It's the food you can turn into muscle and bone and nerve. It gives you the mastery over your usual food—you want that. What is life worth if you've got to keep dosing yourself as an invalid?

Red in the blood! get red in the blood!

We'll send you a little to try, if you like. SCOTT & BOWNE, 409 Pearl street, New York.

Going South?

If so, you secure many advantages by going via Cincinnati, the Queen & Crescent Route and Southern Ry. Its fast trains penetrate every part of the Central South. 24 hour schedule Cincinnati to Jacksonville and New Orleans. 9 hours to Chattanooga. 28 hours to Shreveport. 36 hours to Port Tampa. Observation, parlor and cafe cars—free reclining chairs—Through Pullmans to all important Southern cities.

Our booklets tell you the advantages we offer over other routes, and are sent for the asking. Why not write us about it?

W. C. RINEARSON, G. P. A., CINCINNATI.

CONDITIONS

Among Akron's Poor, With No Relief Provided.

A Solution Suggested, And Recent Discoveries Indicate Something's Needed.

As in all other cities, there are found in Akron among the poorer classes conditions that serve more as a blot upon the fair name of this city than contributors to her general tone of prosperity and refinement. To eliminate these as far as possible by awakening among such unfortunate people a higher degree of self respect, and provide means for doing this, has lately become a prominent thought in the minds of a number of Akron people. But as yet the solution to this problem is very remote.

During a conversation with a Democrat reporter, one of Akron's prominent women who has had much experience with charity work, remarked that while this city is well equipped for taking care of her poor, it lacks effective means of building them up into substantial usefulness and independence. She suggested that from the number of people sent out of Akron to charitable institutions, it would seem that this city could found an institution here and maintain it to good advantage with the money given to those of other cities.

"I do not believe," she said, "that our obligation to society ends with imposing fines in Police Court upon those who appear regularly every week, and by payment of fine and costs, made penniless, only to begin over again with the same result in view. Had we an institution where these apparently moral wrecks could be taken and kept long enough to acquaint them with the advantages and enjoyment of proper living, I am sure the result would be good."

Apropos to this subject will be reference to the discoveries made earlier in the week by Poor Department authorities relating to the manner in which Mrs. Mary Dinan has been living. According to her own story she and her husband have been sleeping in the cellar of an old house near Lock 8. At other times, Mrs. Dinan said, she slept in box cars, and did all her cooking over a pile of wood in front of the house. Arrangements are being made to take Mrs. Dinan to the home of the Good Shepherds in Cleveland, where she will have a chance to spend her remaining days in a proper manner.

Officials of the Poor department say that the nearest approach to slum life found in this city is observed along the canal, and on portions of Furnace and Tallmadge sts. Single instances may be observed along many other streets. It is claimed also that several families have been living on canal boats and neglected to send their children to school, doubtless hoping to escape this necessity by claiming no particular place as their residence.

The Poor department has been giving particular attention to families that have shown a disposition to neglect their children, by giving them no moral training and devising every possible scheme to keep them home from school. It takes considerable extra money to send children to school—and money buys whiskey and beer. Lately a number of children have been taken away from their parents and placed in good homes where they receive the best of care.

DeMotte, the famous lecturer, once said: "It's a serious business starting a soul on its voyage to eternity." Every effort is being made in Akron to see that children are given proper care and attention, and it would be surprising to know how many good homes are being found for boys and girls, whose change of life by reason of such advantages is proving very satisfactory. Nearly all who are now dependant upon the city for help are those who are either too old or too young to work. There are on the books of the city Poor department the names of at least 80 people who can no longer earn their living, and receive help at their homes. There are many more at the Infirmary. The number of children being cared for is also large.

At any rate, the best that can be done under the circumstances is being done, but a number of people expect more, and it need not be surprising if an organized effort is made soon to provide Akron's poor with not only food enough to keep them alive, but also surroundings that will conduce to their moral welfare and stimulate them to "usefulness and independence."

S. & G.'s Silver Lake Java and Mocha Coffee (this week) 25c net. Schumacher & Gammeter.

MOGADORE.

Finger Cut Off by Automatic Machinery.

(Special Correspondence.)

Mogadore, April 29.—George Homer lost one of his fingers last week at the Akron Smoking Pipe Co.'s works by its getting fast in one of the automatic machines.

Owen Mellinger is home on a short visit to see his little sister who is very ill with typhoid fever.

The lecture given at the Disciple church was well attended.

The dance given at Eagle hall, Saturday night was well patronized.

Earnest Smith fell from the fence, while building a shed, Saturday afternoon with an open knife in his hand, which entered his leg, severing an artery. The wound is painful, but not serious.

Delbert Tickner has purchased the Robert Cartmill property on South st.

Carpenters are at work on the new hotel which is being erected by William Swope.

Two young gentlemen of this place while out seeing their best girls last week met a ghost on the bridge at Gates' mill. One of the gentlemen wanted to find out what the dark figure could be, but the other thought it safer for hm to stay with his girl and let the spooks take care of themselves.

Curt Fenton went to Chicago on busines last week.

Frank Martin and wife of Kent and Mrs. John Martin visited friends in Suffield, Sunday.

If people only knew what we know about Kodol Dyspepsia Cure, it would be used in nearly every household, as there are few people who do not suffer from a feeling of fullness after eating, belching, flatulence, sour stomach or water-brash, caused by indigestion or dyspepsia. A preparation, such as Kodol Dyspepsia Cure, which, with no aid from the stomach, will digest your food, certainly can't help but do you good.

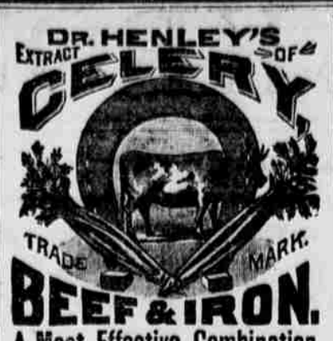
The Helfer property, corner of Prospect and Park streets. 66 by 240 feet, for sale by C. E. Helfer, Executor.

WANTED

Hammermen accustomed to drop forged work.

The Whitman & Barnes Mfg. Co. West Pullman, Ill.

DR. HENLEY'S EXTRACT OF CELERY



BEEF & IRON.

A Most Effective Combination.

A Tonic and Nervine of acknowledged supremacy. A cure for Debility, Dyspepsia and Nervous Disorders. Relieves languor and general debility; brightens thought and strengthens the great organs of the body, improving their functional activity; restores worn-out nerves; aids digestion promotes assimilation; restores the blood to its proper constitution and is wonderfully efficacious as a General Tonic, appetizer and promoter of physical activity. It is pleasant to the taste, and, used regularly, braces the system against the depressing influences of Malaria.

PRICE $1.00 PER BOTTLE.

If not to be had of your Druggist, we will upon receipt of money, send by Express prepaid.

THE CARROLLTON CHEMICAL CO., Sole Proprietors, BALTIMORE, MD.

FOR SALE BY E. STEINBACHER & CO. Akron, O.

Colorado

VIA THE Pueblo Gateway TO Colorado Springs, Manitou, Denver AND Glenwood Springs

SUPERIOR EQUIPMENT Consisting of Pullman Buffet Sleeping Cars, Reclining Chair Cars (seats free) and Comfortable Day Coaches OVER THE MISSOURI PACIFIC R'Y

C. G. WARNER, Second Vice-President. RUSSELL HARDING, Third Vice-President and Gen'l Mgr. R. E. TOWNSEND, Gen'l Pass'r and Tkt. Agent. ST. LOUIS.

J. R. JAMES, Central Passenger Agent, 905 Park Building, Pittsburg, Pa.

Chichester's English Diamond Brand. PENNYROYAL PILLS. Original and Only Genuine. Safe, always reliable. LADIES ask Druggist for Chichester's English Diamond Brand in Red and Gold metallic boxes, sealed with blue ribbon. Take no other. Refuse dangerous substitutions and imitations. At Druggists, or send 4c. in stamps for particulars, testimonials and "Relief for Ladies," in letter, by return Mail. 10,000 Testimonials. Name Paper. Chichester Chemical Co., Madison Square, PHILADA., PA. Sold by all Local Druggists.

PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM Cleanses and beautifies the hair. Promotes a luxuriant growth. Never Fails to Restore Gray Hair to its Youthful Color. Cures scalp diseases & hair falling. 50c, and $1.00 at Druggists.

California Oil.

We have a first-class proposition in which we are offering charter member stock at 10c. per share. The company owns 1280 acres situated in the very center of the great California oil belt, and has options on additional ground. We are offering treasury stock to raise money to put down wells as quickly as possible. The stock is non-assessable and carries no individual liability. We furnish the very highest references. Write for particulars.

THE KENDRICK PROMOTION CO., Denver, Colorado.

AKRON MARKETS.

WHOLESALE PRICES.

Grain.

Wheat, per bu., 75.
Rye, per bu., 55c.
Oats, per bu., 30c.
Corn, cracked $17.00 per ton.

Mill Feed—Chop.

Corn, oats and barley, per cwt., 95c
Corn and oats, per cwt., 90
Middelings, per cwt., No. 1, $1.00
Bran, per cwt. 90c

Hay.

Timothy, No. 1 baled per ton, $14.50—15.
Timothy, No. 1 bulk per ton 14—15
Clover and timothy, No. 1 baled per ton, 12 to $14.
Clover and timothy No. 1 bulk per ton, $12.00 to $14
Clover, No. 1 baled per ton, $11—13
Clover, No. 1 bulk per ton, $14

Straw.

Wheat, baled per ton, $9.00—$10.00
Wheat, bulk per ton $8—$9
Oats, baled per ton, $8.50—$9.50
Oats, bulk per ton, $7.50—$8.
Rye, per ton, $ 10—11
Rye, bundle, $15 per ton

Meats.

Beef, live per lb, 3 to 5c
Beef dressed per lb, 5 to 8c
Pork, live per lb 5to 5½c
Pork, dressed per lb. 6 to 7c.
Mutton, live per lb 3½ to 4½c
Mutton dressed per lb 7—7½c
Lamb, dressed per lb 9½c
Lamb, live per lb 5 to 6c
Veal, live per lb 4½ to 5
Veal, live per lb. 4 to 4½c.
Veal, dresed per lb 7 to 7½c.
Skinned Hams 11c
Shoulder, cured per lb 7¾ to 8c
Bacon, cured per lb 10½c to 11¾c
Beef, dried per lb 11 to 14c
Lard, country kettle, 8¾c.
Lard, simon pure, 9¼c.
Lard compound, 6½.

Hides.

Cured, beef No 1, per lb 7½c
Cured, beef No 2, per lb 6c
Green, beef No 1, per lb 6c
Green, beef No 2 per lb 5c
Cured, calf No 1, per lb 10c
Cured, calf No 2, per lb 9c
Green calf No 1, per lb 9c
Green, calf No 2, per lb 8c
Sheep pelts, 60c to $0.90
Tallow per lb, 4c

Farm Produce.

Butter, creamery per lb 19
Butter, country, per lb 16c.
Butter, cooking, per lb, 12½c
Lard, country, per lbc, 9
Lard compound 7c.
Lard, city, per lb 9c
Eggs, strictly fresh, per doz. 12½c.
Chickens, live, per lb 10c
Chickens, dressed, per lb 12
Potatoes, per bu 35c
Navy beans, per bu, $2.20
Marrowfat beans, per bu, $2.50
Turkey, 12c per lb.

RETAIL PRICES.

Butter, creamery, per lb, 25c
Butter, country, per lb. 20c
Butter, cooking, per lb, 15c
Oleomargerine, per lb, 18c
Lard, country, per lb, 12c
Lard, city, per lb, 12c
Lard, compound, per lb, 10c
Eggs, strictly fresh per doz 15c
Chickens, live per lb, 12½c
Chickens, dressed per lb, 15
Potatoes, per bu, 50c
Oats, per bu, 32 to 35c
Corn, ear, per bu, 25c
Corn, shelled, per bu, 55c
Corn, cracked per lb, 1c
Hay, baled, per cwt, 70—85c
Straw, baled, per cwt, 60c
Summer lettuce 18c lb.
Bermuda onions, per lb. 10c.

Flour.

Spring wheat, per sack, $1.25
City brands, per sack, $1.15
Rye flour, per sack, $1.00
Graham flour, per sack, 10-lb, 30c

Miscellaneous.

Salt, per bbl, Wadsworth $1.25, N Y. $1.35
Rock salt, per lb, 1c
Oil meal, per lb, 2c
Crushed oyster shells, 60c a cwt.
Crushed bone, per lb, 2½c
Linseed oil, boiled per gal, 74c
Linseed oil, boiled per gal, 75c.
Turpentine, per gal, 75c
White Lead per cwt, $6.50
Nails, 8d wire common per cwt, $2.70
Nails, 8d steel cut common per cwt $2.60.

Seeds

Timothy, per bu., $2.50 to $2.60
Clover seed, $7.00 to $7.50.

Cheese.

York State, per lb, 16c.
Swiss, per lb, 15c.
Full cream, per lb, 16c

Lumber.

Hemlock bill stuff, $17 per m.
Norway bill stuff, $21 per m.
Southern pine siding, $25 per m.
Southern pine siding, No. 1, common, $23 per m.
Southern pine siding, No. 2 common, $21 per m.
Southern pine flooring, $27 per m.
Southern pine flooring, No. 1, $21 per m.
Southern pine flooring, N. 2, $19 per m.
Southern pine ceiling, ⅞, $25 per m.
Southern pine ceiling, ⅝, $22 per m.
Southern pine ceiling, ½, common, $20 per m.
White pine lath, $4.40 per m.
White pine lath, No. 2, $4.00 per m.
White pine lath, No. 3, $3.60 per m.
Red cedar shingles, clear, $3.50 per m.
Red Cedar shingles, thin, $3.25 per m.
Clear Hemlock shingles, $2.60 per m.