

THE DRAMA

The theatrical season of 1909-10, so far as Salt Lake is concerned, will begin in earnest the coming week.

By announcements that the Salt Lake Theatre and the Orpheum will open, it is not meant that this is a temporary arrangement as in previous seasons, when the doors have been opened to a passing show, but on the contrary, the season will actually begin.

Henry Miller's Associate Players will be here for an entire week, beginning Monday night, in "The Servant in the House," and the following week will see the return of Eugene Walter's "Paid in Full," and then the Savage production of "The Merry Widow" for an entire week, and so on through a season that gives every promise of being a record-breaker.

The Orpheum will, as usual, house advanced vaudeville until next June, and as Ogden and Logan have been added to the Beck circuit, it may be expected that the Orpheum season in Utah will eclipse even the fondest expectations of the management.

Manager Grant of the Colonial, will return shortly from the northwest, to open that popular house, a full list of bookings for the new season having been made. The Bungalow will open for the new stock company the latter part of August.

Blanche Douglas continues to draw crowds at the Grand, and it is probable that her company will alternate stock at that house with the shows which are said to be booked there this fall.

General housecleaning, together with the completing of numerous improvements, has been the order of things at all of the playhouses during the dark weeks, and everything will be spick and span at the openings, except that it will take several days more to perfect the scheme of comfort outlined for the Salt Lake Theatre, where thirty-six chairs have been removed in order to widen the side and centre aisles, and also make more room behind the dress circle. When completed the new arrangement will add greatly to the comfort of the audiences, though lessening slightly the capacity. It may result, however, in a division of some of the first nighters between the first and second nights.

The Orpheum has replaced the old carpets and draperies, and repainted the greater part of the interior of the house.

George Pyper, manager of the Theatre, seems to have made a ten-strike in landing "The Servant in the House," "Paid in Full" and "The Merry Widow" all in a row, and whether the weather is hot or not, should make little difference, for it is easy to remember how cool and comfortable the Theatre was during the hot weather of the "Polly of the Circus" engagement.

In "The Servant in the House" local theatre-goers will have an opportunity to see one of the most widely discussed plays on the American stage. This is the play which Harper's Magazine calls "the most remarkable drama in the Eng-

lish language;" which the New York Evening Post calls "the greatest drama of the generation;" and which the New York Sun says is "a dramatic masterpiece." The Chicago Record-Herald says the play is "a work for the world to see and ponder upon;" the Chicago Daily News calls it the "most beautiful play of all ages;" and the Chicago Tribune says it is "a work of art that is simple enough and true enough to touch the heart of the world." "The Servant in the House" was produced at the Savoy Theatre a year ago last March, and created a profound impression. The newspapers next day hailed it as one of the



CLAUDE GILLINGWATER
Headliner at the Orpheum.

greatest plays the modern stage had produced, and termed its central character a reincarnation of the Christ. It immediately settled down to a capacity run which lasted all that spring and through the summer, notwithstanding the intense heat—a feat which is only accomplished on Broadway by the lightest forms of frivolous musical comedy. The character which gives the play its name is a mysterious Hindoo, who comes from the ancient city of Benares and obtains a position as butler in his own brother's home, although his identity is unknown to the family. This stranger from the Far East, clad in Oriental costume, reads the thoughts of those about him as readily as they comprehend his spoken words, and calmly speaks of events he has observed which his auditors know occurred two thousand years ago. The big opposite role is the character called the Drain Man—an embittered socialistic English workman, almost an anarchist, who comes to the home in which the "Servant" has found employment, nursing schemes of vengeance against the master of the household. Under the subtle influence of the stranger from the Far East, this Drain Man is completely metamorphosed and proves himself the biggest man in a trying situation. At the end of the play he fearlessly faces a horrible death down in the darkness that his comrades up above may be saved. No less remarkable than the play is the all-star company which Henry Miller has assembled to present

Charles Rann Kennedy's masterpiece. The role of the Drain Man is played by Charles Dalton, former star of "The Sign of the Cross," and prior to that a London stage celebrity. The important role of the Bishop of Lancashire is played by George W. Wilson, the original King in "If I Were King" the former star of "The Old Homestead," so-star with James T. Powers in Hoyt's first success, "A Tin Soldier," and for many years the star of the George W. Wilson Company. The title role is played by Wilfred Roger, for many years leading man at the old Alcazar at San Francisco, later starred as Herod in Oscar Wilde's "Salome," and leading man for Henrietta Crossman prior to his engagement by Henry Miller for the Associate Players. The leading woman role is played by Lizzie Hudson Collier, William H. Crane's leading woman in the original production of "The Senator," and leading woman for Henry Miller, Otis Skinner, Nat C. Goodwin, Joseph Jefferson the elder, and other famous stars. The other members of the company are equally well known English players, who were selected from the London stage by Henry Miller to play the roles in which they will be seen in Salt Lake City next week.

The opening bill at the Orpheum looks like the goods, and the seat sale to date indicates that the vaudeville house will be packed with the old guard and a lot of new laughers.

Claude Gillingwater is the headliner in a one-act comedy called "A Strenuous Rehearsal," and is followed by Johnson and Wells and eight other entertainers in a medley called "The Sunny South."

Billy Van, that minstrel man, will shine through a new coat of burnt cork, and Lia Granon, formerly with Fritzi Scheff, is said to be a singing comedienne who is the real thing in captivators.

The acrobatics will be furnished by Luigi Brothers, comedy gymnasts, and the usual good music of the Orpheum orchestra will be supplemented by numerous new selections.

With all the theatres but two open and a circus on Monday besides, if your business interferes with your pleasure, forget your business.

Mr. Sonnenberger, a brother-in-law of Martin Beck, arrived here during the week and will probably remain here some time. Mr. Sonnenberger has been variously entertained during his visit, and is greatly charmed with Salt Lake.

FINE CAMPING PLACE.

A good many people would like to get out of town for a few weeks, but do not know where to go; that is, they do not know where they can go and have green grass and trees and a good place to camp without they select some expensive place.

Such people may be glad to know that right here in the valley, twelve miles from the city, a mile and a half below the mouth of Big Cottonwood, R. Knudsen has a park of fifty acres, with the Cottonwood running through it, lots of trees, lots of grass, cold water, which can be reached in two hours by team or forty minutes by automobile, where all the surroundings are pleasant, where all the usual necessities of life can be obtained cheaply—just a camping place—no beer there, no whiskey, no company except such as one pleases to select—all the comforts of a home—if you please to live in a tent and take your tent with you.

Until a railroad is built, people without teams cannot get there, and we suggest to people when they are out driving or out with their autos that they run up and see this place, because it is one of the most beautiful natural parks in the entire valley.