



BEN-HUR SCORES A DISTINCT HIT

Spectacular Pantomime for Charity Is Received with Favor.

DELIGHTED A LARGE AUDIENCE

In Its Presentation a Large Amount of Excellent Scenery Is Used and Every Attention Was Given to Those Details Which Conspire to the Success of Such Performances--Its Lesson Is Inspiring and Elevating.

Scranton has had its "Ben-Hur." Last night, for over three hours, a large audience was treated to a successive rhythm of tableaux, pantomime, dancing and scenic effects that is seldom excelled by standard professional spectacles. Those who expected to see something that smacked of kirkness were, in a measure, disappointed, agreeably disappointed, for "Ben-Hur" evidenced the portrayal in music, color and beauty of a story that may be immortal, and displayed little or none of the kirkness details, though an exception might be made of the dancing.

Never before had the Frothingham stage contained so large a quantity of

ful preparation and won for her a long burst of applause. Miss Grace Spencer, the leader of the dance of the Priestesses of Apollo, and Miss Clara Simpson, who danced the solo of the Nymphs of Daphne, were especially clever.

The hit of the evening, as far as the dancing is concerned, was made by Ruth Macchett, a little tot of many summers, who danced the Sprites Fantasia with three little five years old. Utterly indifferent to the gaze of many eyes or whether she would do well or poorly, she at once danced herself into popular favor.

The lower boxes were sold to Dr. R. H. Throp, O. S. Johnson, A. D. Blackington and E. L. Fuller and T. H. Watkins, the orchestra leader to Major Everett Warren, E. R. Sturges, Henry Bell, Jr., and Judge E. N. Willard, and two of the balcony boxes to H. P. Simpson and W. T. Smith.

Nearly \$200.00 is represented by the value of the scenery, the work of Moses, the scenic artist, whose specialty in the oriental line is known throughout the theater. Its beauty contributes largely to "Ben-Hur's" success. During each performance Mr. Clark remains before a portable electric signal apparatus located in the wings at a rear corner. A system of bells, buttons and switches carries the orders which time and direct the music, calcium, electric and in fact everything which, as was shown last night, conspires to carry along the



THE TENT OF ILDEREM.

special scenery. A vast amount of material was necessary for the twenty-four scenes and the accompanying tableaux, yet there was no duplication, excepting in one or two instances where the theme required it.

Leaving aside the question of charity and the Men's Guild of St. Luke's church, whose Summer Home for Convalescent Women and Children will reap the financial benefit, the production is eminently entitled to approbation on its merits. In its presentation the personality of the dancers and character ones are almost forgotten and one constantly experiences a thrilling reminder of General Lew Wallace's entrancing "Tale of the Christ."

The impression made upon the audience was suggestive of elevating thought. Certainly there was little or none of the jingling, jangling dancing festival in it. The verdict of the spectators will probably insure full houses tonight and tomorrow afternoon and evening, for which performances there were many good seats unsold last night.

A GREAT SPECTACLE. "Ben-Hur" is essentially a spectacular pantomime, and in its scenes and tableaux covers all the vital situations in General Wallace's novel. Walter C. Clark, under whose management it is presented, holds the exclusive rights from the author, and Harper Bros., the publishers of the work. He was present at yesterday's scenic rehearsal and last night, and personally directed the large and well-trained corps of assistants necessary to a proper production. An important part of the directing was by Palmer Kellogg, who has been here for several weeks drilling the performers.

In the pantomime the important roles are assumed as follows: E. B. Jernyn, as Ben-Hur; J. E. Duvelle, as Messala; Frederick H. Kingsbury, as Esther; Miss May E. Steele, as Irit; Mrs. L. G. LaBar, as the mother of Ben-Hur; Mrs. W. A. Kemmerer, as Tirzah; Miss Florence G. Finch, as Amrah; Miss Ethel Frothingham, as Mary. During an exceptionally long wait necessary

many details without hitch or jar. Mr. Clark and Mr. Kellogg are assisted by J. E. McDoie, stage carpenter; E. O. Marvin, electrician, and M. H. Burke, calcium operator. Each of these has a corps of assistants. Four lens lights and as many calciums are used in making the ever-changing colored light that beautify the performance.

THE MUSIC A FEATURE. A splendid feature in the music. Prof. W. A. Swift, the Scranton pianist, who has played at all the rehearsals and has become thoroughly in touch with the sentiment of each part of the performance, conducts the orchestra, whose music does not cease except during the reading of the chariot race.

SAMUEL DAVIDOW KILLED.

Supposed to Be a Relative of the Davidow Brothers of Scranton. Word was received in this city last night of the killing of Samuel Davidow by a Pennsylvania railroad engine at Sunbury.

He is thought to be a relative of Edward, Morris and Myer Davidow, of this city.

None of them could be found by a Tribune reporter at an early hour this morning.

A United Press dispatch was received at The Tribune office at 1:30 o'clock as follows:

Sunbury, Pa., Jan. 21.—S. Davidow, a clothing salesman of Scranton, was killed here today by a shifting engine.

THE THREE WATSON SISTERS.

They Give a Startling Performance on the Triangul-Giratorio.

The Watson Sisters company is the attraction for the last half of the week at Davis' theater. It is one of the best shows seen at that popular show house in some time. The three Watson sisters, May, Leona and Josie, assisted by Juan De Zamora, do a startling act on



MEETING OF THE THREE WISE MEN.

for the arrangement for the chariot race tableaux, the story of that stirring event was creditably read by H. G. Colburn, a brother of A. J. Colburn, who was originally selected for that duty and who will be the reader at the remaining performances.

To make any special and favorable mention of any of the twenty-four scenes, themselves divided into other scenes, the tableaux or the dances would be a reference to all of them. From the time of the meeting of the three wise men in the desert and along through the course of events to the time that the Har family through the medium of Christ is united there is experienced a rapid succession of beautiful pictures that appeal particularly to those who are familiar with the story and which attract others who are not so fortunate.

There are two marches and six dances presented by one company of men and seven of young ladies and their girls. The latter are chaperoned as follows: Mrs. J. H. Dimmick, Mrs. James Hosie, Miss Reynolds, Mrs. W. W. Scranton and Mrs. C. S. Weston, chaperones of the Priestesses of Apollo; Mrs. H. W. Kingsbury and Mrs. Everett Warren, chaperones of Arabian Girls' Follies; Mrs. H. P. Simpson and Mrs. A. H. Sturges, chaperones of the Butterflies; Mrs. W. T. Smith, Mrs. R. W. Archbold and Mrs. Henry Bell, Jr., chaperones of the Nymphs of Daphne; Mrs. Frank Jernyn and Mrs. Charles R. Parke, chaperones of the Sprites Fantasia; Mrs. G. M. Hallstead and Mrs. H. B. Ware, chaperones of the Naiads.

In the dance of the Butterflies, a solo, was danced by Eloise Phelps, a little miss whose grace and execution of many intricate figures evidenced a care-

CHEAP TELEPHONES ARE PROMISED

Lackawanna Telephone Company Asks a Franchise of Councils.

CONCESSIONS THAT IT WILL MAKE

Agrees to Give the City a Number of Free Telephones Not to Exceed Ten, and Also to Allow the City to Place a Cable in the Conduits It Will Lay--Routine Business of Select Council That Received Attention Last Night.

At last night's meeting of the Select council an ordinance was introduced granting permission to the Lackawanna Telephone company to construct a telephone plant in this city. Robert Robinson, the select councilman from the Eleventh ward, introduced the ordinance and asked that it be reported forthwith from committee. Such action was not taken, however, Mr. Robinson later in the meeting moved that when council adjourn it be to meet next Thursday night. Mr. Finn amended that the next meeting of council be Wednesday evening when the committee may have something to report on the ordinance. A highly interesting fight is promised between those who favor the new company and those who oppose it.

The ordinance is a typewritten document of three pages and asks that the Lackawanna Telephone company be granted permission to erect and maintain poles and string wires and operate lines of telephone in the several streets, avenues, courts and places of the city, and to lay conduits, ducts, mains or pipes, with the necessary manholes, etc., for laying telephone wires underground. The conduits are to be laid under the supervision of the city engineer, and at least 2,500 feet of conduit is to be put in place within one year after the granting of the franchise.

THE MAXIMUM RATE.

The maximum rate for the service to be furnished by the company is stated to be \$3.50 per month for business houses and \$2.50 for private residences. Within a year from the time the franchise is granted the company binds itself to put into effect a telephone system with not less than three hundred subscribers. A bond is also to be furnished in the sum of \$5,000 as a guarantee that the streets will be properly repaved after the laying of the conduits for the underground wires. In case a franchise is granted it is not to become operative unless the company within thirty days of the ordinance's passage files with the city clerk a written acceptance of the conditions of the ordinance.

The Lackawanna Telephone company applied for a charter to the state department at Harrisburg on January 4 and it was granted some time later. The incorporators are Conrad Schroeder, Mrs. Mina Robinson, George W. Barnard, W. B. Boland and George W. Horn. Those interested in the new company say that it is a company organized in good faith and not for speculative purposes and that if they are granted a franchise they will in less than a year be able to give the city a reliable telephone service.

Communications from the mayor were read appointing James White inspector of the erection of the stone culvert over Leach Creek on Bloom avenue, and Michael Davitt inspector of the lateral sewer being constructed on Schultz court between O'Brien and Green streets. They were referred to committees. The appointments of Hon. F. W. Gunster, Rev. P. J. McManus and Henry Bell, Jr., for the term of five years as directors of the public library, and Rev. C. M. Glenn, D. D., and Rev. Joseph K. Dixon, D. D., to fill the unexpired terms of Rev. W. H. Pearce, D. D., and Rev. D. C. Hughes, D. D., as directors of the same institution were read and confirmed forthwith.

BRILL WAS CONFIRMED.

The appointment of Joseph Brill, who inspected the work of the Money avenue sewer was also confirmed. City Engineer Phillips having certified that Brill acted as inspector during the construction of the sewer.

On motion of Councilman McCann, the report of the city controller was referred to the estimates committee without being read. On the recommendation of the fire department committee, Hunt & Connell was awarded the contract for furnishing a heating apparatus for the Nay Aug engine house. The company's bid was \$650. The city clerk provides that contracts for the Nay Aug house.

In accordance with the suggestion of Chief of the Fire Department Hickey a common council resolution was approved which provides that every fire engine shall be taken out and used for at least one hour every two weeks.

Mr. Wagner introduced an ordinance for five additional electric lights in the Tenth ward, which was referred to a committee. Mr. Robinson introduced a resolution to ascertain by what authority the Scranton Traction company laid its tracks on Pittston avenue, between Hickory and Birch streets, and make a report at the next meeting. The resolution was referred to the city solicitor in conjunction with the streets and bridges committee. Mr. Durr introduced an ordinance for the erection of four additional fire hydrants in the Eighth ward, which was approved.

An ordinance for the other permanent resolution for the Eagle Engine company was killed and one providing for laying flagstone sidewalks and setting curbstones on Pine street, between Monroe and Quincy avenues, passed on third reading.

NEWSBOYS AT THE POULTRY SHOW.

They Enjoyed the Treat Given Them by Alex. Dunn.

About one hundred and fifty news boys, between the ages of eight and 12, availed themselves of Alex. Dunn, the Wyoming avenue hatter's kind offer of free admission tickets to the poultry show. At 1 o'clock the boys began to gather in front of the store and at 2 o'clock they were formed into a procession.

They executed several unique manoeuvres while en route, that puzzled or discomfited pedestrians. On their return to the store they were given a hearty welcome, the march to the City Guard armory was begun.

The boys thoroughly enjoyed the show, and while few of them appreciated the fowls after the fashion of connoisseurs, they were delighted to watch the many curious birds and oc-

HELPS IN ECONOMY.

HOW TO MAKE A FEW DIMES SAVE A GREAT MANY DOLLARS.

THIS EVENING'S LECTURE.

Hon. M. T. Corcoran Will Speak on "Cloister and Studio."

This evening in College hall on Wyoming avenue, Hon. M. T. Corcoran, of Cincinnati, O., will deliver his lecture on "Cloister and Studio," under the auspices of John Boyle O'Reilly Council of the Young Men's Institute.

The lecture will be illustrated by beautiful stereoscopic views, which will reproduce many of the most magnificent works of art. At appropriate places during the representation of the most perfect of the views, a quartette composed of Mrs. Brundage, soprano; Miss Maggie Jones, alto; Thomas Beynon, tenor; Richard Thomas (Clew Herbert), bass, conducted by Professor Haydn Evans, will sing selections from the great Catholic composers.

AGREED TO DISAGREE.

Miss Nellie De Graw and Harry Freas Furnish Food for the North End Gossips.

The disappearance of a groom on the eve of his marriage to a charming young woman was the choice morsel that North End gossips gathered in knots to discuss yesterday. As the gossips had it Miss Nellie De Graw, a beautiful young woman who resides at 537 Deacon street, was to be married last night to Harry Freas, and that yesterday morning the aforesaid Harry suddenly disappeared from Chicago, leaving nothing but a casual letter to acquaint his bride that was-to-be of the fact that he had flown. This made a very tellable story, but hardly accords with the facts in the case.

Miss De Graw was seen at her home last evening by a Tribune reporter. She was far from being the depressed, heart broken person she had been painted. In response to the reporter's query about the case she smilingly replied:

"Oh, there's a great deal of falsehood about the rumors that are afloat. Mr. Freas called on me a few nights ago and by mutual consent we broke the engagement. We had a quarrel that night and were not to be married for some time yet."

Miss De Graw continued with her statement of the affair by saying that Mr. Freas was to a large extent the cause of the rumors. She said he left for Florida yesterday morning and that she believed he had fabricated a great deal about the affair to the young men in a barbershop in Providence. She said he had been the cause of her falling out with a young man with whom she had been going for over a year and a half prior to her receiving attention from Freas. She said that he prejudiced her mind against her first suitor by telling her falsehoods and thereby caused her to drop number one.

Mr. Freas' name was handled without gloves and the whole family of De Graws united in expressions of relief at being rid themselves of the prospect of receiving Freas into the family circle.

Several friends of Mr. Freas were seen in Providence last evening and stated that he left for Florida on business. He was not the kind of a man, they said, to go about making his love affairs and much less would he tell them untruthfully.

NEW MEAT CONCERN.

Post & St. Annad Establishing a Cold Storage on Sixth Street.

A grain elevator of Post & St. Annad on Sixth street is undergoing extensive changes preparatory to the establishment of a cold storage plant for meats. The firm will use the place exclusively for their business as agents of the Cudahy dressed meat and packing company of Omaha, and Chicago.

The agency will be ready for business on or about February 15. A force of workmen are now building the cold storage plant for the Ridgeway Refrigerator company, of Philadelphia.

Coal, Coal, Coal.

REDUCED. REDUCED. REDUCED.

Nay Aug Park Colliery, Canavan & Stokes, Coal Operators. Egg, Stone and the Nut.

AT MINES, \$2.00, DELIVERED, \$2.50.

TELEPHONE, 3712.

Colliery, Gibson St. Tenth ward. Office, 130 Wyoming avenue. Strict attention given to orders by mail.

BEST SETS OF TEETH, \$8.

Including the painless extracting of teeth by an entirely new process.

S. C. SNYDER, D. D. S., 321 Spruce St. Opp. Hotel Jersey.

W. W. BERRY, JEWELER

423 Lackawanna Avenue.

Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, Sterling Silver and Cut Glass.

Great Reductions in All These Goods. Watches and Clocks Repaired on short notice.

Retiring From Business

Our entire stock of CLOTHING, HATS AND FURNISHING GOODS

In both our stores, 412 Spruce St., and 265 Lackawanna Ave., will be closed out at PRICES EXTRAORDINARILY LOW

to facilitate a speedy wind-up of our business.

W. R. BLACK, 132 Wyoming Avenue.

SAWYER'S MILLINERY STORE

MAMMOTH CLEARING SALE

As we are going to make a number of changes in several of our departments we have decided to hold a mammoth Clearing Sale, to start

MONDAY MORNING, JAN. 11 AT 8 O'CLOCK A. M.

You cannot afford to miss it, as it will be the greatest opportunity this year to buy goods at prices never heard of before.

CLARKE BROTHERS

Sohmar Piano Stands at the Head

AND J. W. GUERNSEY Stands at the Head in the Music track. You can always get a better bargain at his beautiful warerooms than at any other place in the city.

205 Washington Avenue, SCRANTON, PA. J. W. GUERNSEY, Prop.

W. H. PIERCE, PENN AVE. MARKET

MT. PLEASANT COAL AT RETAIL.

Coal of the best quality for domestic use and of all sizes, including Buckwheat and Birdseye, delivered in any part of the city at the lowest price.

Orders received at the Office, first floor, Commonwealth building, room No. 32, telephone No. 2624, or at the mine, telephone No. 172, will be promptly attended to. Dealers supplied at the mine.

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WM. T. SMITH.

GREATEST MARK-DOWN SALE

Ever took place in Men's and Boys'

FINE OVERCOATS, SUITS, ULSTERS and HATS,

at almost half their value. Come early and get the best selections.

KRAMER BRO.'S, THE POPULAR CLOTHIERS.

Norrman & Moore FIRE INSURANCE, 120 Wyoming Ave.

LACKAWANNA, THE LEADER IN CORRECT LAUNDRING

308 Penn Avenue. A. B. WARMAN.

CARPETS.

Here is a chance for you if you are in need of a carpet.

A Few Patterns of BRUSSELS Closing at 45c. Per Yard.

Williams & M'Anulty

Carpets, Draperies and Wall Papers.

127 WYOMING AVE.

CITY NOTES.

Miss Helene Barnes has returned from New York city.

That highly interesting story, "The Man Who Looked Like the King," will be concluded in Saturday's Tribune.

Ladies' circle, No. 15, Grand Army of the Republic, will meet at the home of Mrs. Groff, on Eighth street, this evening.

The street department has completed the building of a sewer basin at Franklin avenue and Page court for the Nay Aug engine house.

Andro Bonhouski, of Mayfield, and Mary Stefanski, of Scranton; Louis L. Munson and Mary Gonsauls, of Carbondale, were yesterday granted marriage licenses.

John Eisenbach fell from a plank at the sand pits, in Moscow, yesterday, and sustained a compound fracture of the left leg. He was taken to the Lackawanna hospital.

A. E. Sloan delivered an address last night in the Penn Avenue Baptist church on the coal mines, which was profusely illustrated with stereoscopic views. Mr. Sloan was listened to by a good-sized audience.

A lecture on Catholic literature by Rev. Father O'Neill will be delivered Sunday evening beginning at 7:30 o'clock in St. Paul's church, Green Ridge. The Green Ridge Young Men's Institute will attend. Seats will be free.

A meeting of the committee of arrangements of the local military order of the Medal of Honor of the United States will be held tomorrow afternoon at 4 o'clock in the mayor's office. This committee is composed of thirty-four members, with Colonel Boles as chairman, and Alderman Miller as secretary.

Among the resolutions of council signed by Mayor Bailey yesterday were resolutions directing the city clerk not to advertise for bids to lay sidewalks on certain streets in the Seventh ward, providing for the laying of sidewalks at grade on Broadway, between First and Second streets; providing for repairs on the Fourth district main sewer, directing the city engineer to make plans for a retaining wall on Palm street.

Great preparations are in progress for the visit to be made on Feb. 22, by Camp No. 8, Sons of Veterans, of this city to the Sons of Veterans in Shikshiny. The Sons of Veterans in that town are going to celebrate the birthday of Washington on that day in a dazzling manner and the Scranton boys will help them to do it. Special cars have been chartered and the excursion will consist of many Union Veterans' Union men and their families.

The Catholic Benevolent League which closed its session at Erie on Wednesday, adjourned to meet in Scranton on the third Tuesday in August. The order has 42,200 members. Following were the officers elected at Erie: Joseph Mesolek, of Chester, president; H. L. Spiesman, Corby, vice-president; W. B. Kearney, Oil City, secretary; Dr. F. J. Burge, Philadelphia, treasurer; George Schmitt, Philadelphia, marshal; J. W. Spockman, Philadelphia, representative of the Supreme court; Rev. M. A. Bruce, March Chuk, spiritual adviser.

Goldsmith's Bazaar today advertises a novel proposition. They propose next Saturday to place on special sale, their entire stock of ladies' and misses' jackets. Your choice at the first hour, to 10 to 11 a. m. at \$7.00 and each succeeding hour the price for choice will be one dollar less. Read their ad in this issue.

Are You Looking?

Persons interested in ladies' or children's coats, will find it to their advantage to visit our coat department before they purchased. We are giving surprising values in stylish garments. Messrs. Hagen.

25 XX White Envelopes for 17c. at 3c. 50c, 523 Lacka. ave.