

OPERA HOUSE.

Vaudeville runs merrier and brisker than ever at the Opera House, a pot pourri of items being served by the Fuller-Brennan management. Heading the bill is Piquo, the French clown, whose offering consists of a programme in itself and caused a riot of laughter on Monday night. Sandwiched in between a unique entry and a unique exit was a turn covering sensational acrobatic feats, mystifying conjuring tricks and original grotesquities, and the audience were loth to let him go at the finish. George F. Ford also makes his initial bow, displaying his ventriloquial powers by the aid of a lay figure. So well is his "Valentine Vox" gift developed that he can exhale clouds of smoke from a cigarette while his mechanical assistant seemingly sings, coughs or talks in natural fashion. Jock Thomson scored well with his fine baritone voice and a happy selection of numbers which evoked an insistent recall. William Sumner was in good favour for his ragtime songs and dances, meeting with a hearty reception from his old friends. Carl Merlyn again enlightened the audience as to the methods of his "magic" and caused plenty of merriment. Rose Lee Ivy had another uproarious reception that should make her farewell appearances pleasant to remember, and she was obliged to grant numerous encores. Mons. Poincaire again led his audience to believe he was an aviary and cattle farm, his realistic imitations bringing down the house. Sattley and His Nibs combined sensation with comedy in their slack wire act.

IN PERSONAL TOUCH.

Auckland can hold its own with regard to pretty little children, is Mr. Frank Talbot's opinion, expressed after selecting a number for the Nellie Stewart season of "Du Barry." "In fact," said Mr. Talbot, "it was quite an embarrassment of riches having to make a choice. They were all so remarkably pretty."

At the seventh benefit given by Pollard's Pictures in Greymouth for the Belgian Fund the proceeds amounted to £37 10s.

The "Babes in the Wood" pantomime abounds in patriotic references. Hardly a gag but has some reference to the international situation. The songs are all cast in the same mould. The finale to the first act is a sensational scene, in which the flags and portraits of the heads of the Allied nations are represented by means of coloured lights.

A wire from Mr Maurice Ralph states that the "Seven Little Australians" opened to two packed houses in Wellington on Saturday. Little Cecil Haines received an ovation.

Mr. J. Griffiths is business manager for the Florence Young Company, and is having a hearty welcome from his Auckland friends while in town.

Sir James Matthew Barrie, while in America recently, saw Miss Maude Adams act in his play "The Legend of Leonora," and expressed the belief that he then for the first time saw the part acted as he conceived it. It is not a secret that the play was a failure in London. Miss Adams made a fortune for Barrie by her performance in "The Little Minister," "Quality Street," and "What Every Woman Knows."

Miss Emma Branton, a member of the old Brough-Boucicault company, died at Home recently at the age of 52. She was a native of Melbourne.

Wilton Welch and Louise Carbasse, recently with Fuller-Brennan, have secured an engagement on the Orpheus Circuit in Western America.

When Sarah Bernhardt was 65 she made her eighth tour of America, giving 268 performances in 206 days, and visiting 103 towns.

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THREE NIGHTS ONLY.

The Ever Welcome Play,
SWEET NELL OF OLD DRURY.

THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY,
MARCH 11, 12 AND 13.

NELLIE STEWART.

"Miss Stewart showed that all her famous power of charm and coquetry remains unimpaired. Gay, girlish and happy, she was Jeanette to the life."—
"Sydney Sun."

"Miss Nellie Stewart has returned to the same theatrical field which but a short time ago she traversed so triumphantly. She emerges to eclipse all her former success."—
"Daily Telegraph" (Sydney)

Box Plans for the Entire Season at
Wildman and Arey's.
PRICES: 6s. 3s. and 1s.
Early Doors 1s. Extra.

Tour under the Direction of
GEORGE MUSGROVE.

The term vaudeville, which is now understood in the old meaning of the variety show, originally meant a short, light dramatic piece in which songs set to familiar tunes were introduced. It took the name from the village of Vaudeville, in Normandy, the birth-place of the Poet Olivier Basselin, who was the first to compose such songs. He died in 1418.

When Nellie Stewart played the principal boy in "Jack and the Beanstalk" at Drury Lane, the famous humourist, Dan Leno, was in the cast, and had to fight a duel with Miss Stewart. As is well known, Miss Stewart is an expert fencer, which Leno did not fail to humorously mention. His own fencing, however, was of the Vincent Crummins school, the broadsword. But he diligently rehearsed the passes, and pronounced himself equal to the exigencies of the encounter. When, however, the first night came he had a new and entirely original version of the duel. It resulted in Nellie Stewart collapsing in a chair, helpless with laughter, and the house in convulsions.

James Teddy, the champion jumper of the world, is due to appear at the Auckland Opera House shortly. He is the holder of the following records:—High jump, feet together, without dumb bells, 6ft. 4in.; long jump, feet together, with dumb bells, 8ft. Jump over a horse, feet together, without dumb bells, 5ft.; long jump over a French match billiard table, feet together, without dumb bells; and jump from pedestal 17ft. high and course of 36, feet together, with dumb bells; leap over circle of nine chairs, feet together, one at a time, without dumb bells and without stop; a total of 84 jumps. His act strikes a new note in vaudeville entertainment, and should appeal to athletes and those interested in physical culture.

Mr. W. Norman Kerr, of the Garryowen Institute, Symond Street, has numerous testimonials from clients setting forth the efficacy of his expert treatment in health, strength and physical development. The Cherniavskys (the talented Russian musicians) have written to Mr. Kerr acknowledging the benefit derived from the respiratory exercises prescribed by him, which have had the effect of strengthening them generally and assisting them to attain a mastery over the muscles brought into play by their music. "I can sincerely recommend your system," the letter concluded, "as its mobility and adaptability lends itself to the physical requirements of the artist who wishes to cultivate staying power and endurance."

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MATINEES WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAYS
TO-NIGHT—AT 8—TO-NIGHT
FIGUO, the French Clown.
GEO. F. FORD, Ventriloquist.
JOCK THOMPSON, Scottish Baritone.
WILLIAM SUMNER, Ragtime Singer.
SATTLEY AND HIS NIBS,
MONS. POINCAIRE,
Bird and Animal Imitator.
FRED. DYER, The Singing Boxer.
Last Night.
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NEW ZEALAND RAILWAYS

TE AROHA RACES, MARCH 6 AND 8, 1915.

HOLIDAY EXCURSION TICKETS will be issued from Auckland, Onehunga, Cambridge, Thames, Waihi, and intermediate stations to Te Aroha on 5th, 6th, and 8th March available for return up to 13th March, 1915.

These tickets will NOT be available by the Wellington-Auckland and Auckland-Wellington Express trains.

SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1915.

MONDAY, MARCH 8, 1915.

A Special Train will leave Auckland for Te Aroha at 6.25 a.m., arriving Te Aroha 11.31 a.m., returning Te Aroha depart 6.15 p.m.

DAY EXCURSION TICKETS AT THE RATE OF 12s. First Class, 7s. 3d. Second Class (available on day of issue only) will be issued for 6.25 a.m. Special from Auckland, Onehunga, and stations at which Special stops.

For further particulars see Posters and Handbills.

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CAMBRIDGE SHOW, MARCH 4 AND 5, 1915.

HOLIDAY EXCURSION TICKETS WILL BE ISSUED from Te Kuiti and all stations North thereof to Cambridge on March 3, 4, and 5, available for return up to March 12, 1915.

Excursion Tickets to Cambridge will not be available by the Auckland-Wellington or Wellington-Auckland Express trains.

FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 1915.

A train will leave Auckland for Cambridge at 6.37 a.m., returning leaving Cambridge at 4.36 p.m.

For further particulars see Posters and Handbills.

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