

"PLAYHOUSE" FIRST FLOATING THEATRE IS NOW PRACTICALLY ALL COMPLETED

First Boat of Kind Ever Constructed on Atlantic Coast. Operating Performance Next Monday. Built By Mr. James Adams, Experienced Showman at a Cost of \$25,000. Theatre Has Seating Capacity of 850. Has Living Rooms For 25 People.

The first show ever given on water will be afforded the citizens of Washington next Monday evening. The "Playhouse," which has been under construction at the W. M. Chaney marine railways since September last is now practically completed and is the first enterprise of the kind ever built on the Atlantic coast. The "Playhouse" or rather floating theatre, as some choose to call it, is the scheme and plan of the owner, Mr. James Adams who for many years has been in the show business. He gave the first carnival show here in 1902, when the Hatch Adams attraction spent a week in the city. Mr. Adams states that his first performance on his boat will be presented at Fowlie's wharf and the opening bill will be, "Under the Western Skies," a four act melodrama with specialties by the members of the company between acts. For this performance reserved seat tickets will be on sale at the boat from two to five o'clock Friday and Saturday. A Daily News representative paid a visit to the "Playhouse" this morning and was amused and agreeably surprised at the uniqueness of the craft, its appointments and conveniences. Not only is the craft a modern and up-to-date theater but it is a model home as well. No expense or pains has been spared and the owner Mr. Adams, surely has adopted a scheme certainly novel and catchy. For months the boat has been steadily advancing towards completion and while the citizens of the city have doubtless watched the work in progress few have no conception of what the boat really is until they pay a visit and inspect for themselves. The "Playhouse" is well worth an inspection. Not only is the floating theater a credit to Mr. Adams but also to the builder, Mr. Chaney. At an outlay of \$25,000 the "Playhouse" is now practically finished and will next week begin to have up-to-date attractions aboard nightly. Mr. Adams proposes to visit all the water towns in Eastern Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, going as far north as the Susquehanna river above Baltimore. The boat is 155 feet long; 24 feet beam and draws only 13 inches of water. The house dimensions are as follows: 125 feet long; 31 feet wide, with a depth of 20 feet. To the rear of the stage is situated a comfortable and convenient living room for the performers; underneath the stage is located a spacious and sunny dining room, also the cook room, which is sanitary and airy. In this section of the boat is to be found the electric plant for the entire boat. Mr. Adams has also on board his own water plant. At the front end of the "Playhouse" is seen two offices, one being a ticket office and the other the private office of the owner. Between these two rooms is the main entrance to the theater proper which is eight feet wide. Above the main entrance Mr. and Mrs. Adams have their living quarters, which are convenient and attractive, being furnished in style and durable. There are three large rooms, besides closets, bathroom, etc. These quarters are finished in Beaver board. The boat is provided with a telephone system running all over the boat. The main attraction to the visitor, of course, is the main auditorium. This room is 30x28 feet, with a balcony running all the way round the room. The first floor is provided with steel folding self-righting opera chairs and has a seating capacity for 850 people. To the right and left of the stage is installed two boxes, having accommodations for two persons each. The second floor or balcony is reserved for colored people exclusively and will seat 150 persons. Two boxes are also on this floor. The main auditorium is attractively finished with steel ceiling and the color scheme is surety

"TOP SOIL" METHOD IS SUCCESSFUL

Washington, D. C., Feb. 23. It is a great mistake to put off working roads until August or September, according to road experts of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The roads should be worked when the soil is damp so as to make the soil bake when it dries out. If the roads are worked when they are dry, it takes more power to draw the machine and besides dry earth and dust retain moisture and quickly rot after rains. The use of clove, soda, weeds or vegetable matter in building earth roads should be avoided because they also retain moisture. If the working of the road is deferred until the latter part of the summer when the surface is baked dry and hard, they are not only difficult to work, but the work is unsatisfactory when done. Earth which is loose and dry will remain dusty as long as the dry weather lasts, and then turn to mud as the begin. By using the road machine in the spring while the soil is soft and damp, the surface is more easily shaped and soon packs down into a dry hard crust which is less liable to become dusty and muddy in winter.

Repairs to roads should be made when needed and not once a year after crops are laid by. Because of its simplicity, efficiency, and cheapness, the split-log drag or some similar device is destined to come in to more and more general use. With the drag properly built and its use well understood, the maintenance of earth and gravel roads become a simple and inexpensive matter. Care should be taken to make the log so light that one man can lift it with ease, as a light drag can be drawn by two medium sized horses and responds more readily to various methods of hitching and the shifting position of the operator than a heavier one. The best material for the drag is a dry cedar log, though elm, walnut, box elder or soft maple are excellent. Oak, hickory or ash are too heavy. The log should be from seven to ten feet long, and from eight to ten inches in diameter. It should be split carefully as seen the center as possible and the heavy left and the best slab for the front. When the soil is moist, but not sticky, the drag does the best work. As the soil in the field will be plowed wet. If the roadway is full of holes or badly rutted the drag should be used once when the road is soft and slushy.

The earth road can be cut or crowned and ditched with a road machine and not with picks and shovels, scoops and plows. One road machine with a suitable power and operator will do the work of many men with picks and shovels, and in addition will do it better. If the road is composed of fine clay or soil it will sometimes pay to resurface it with top soil from adjacent field, which has sand or gravel mixed with it. This method, called the "top soil method," is now in successful use in Clark County, Georgia.

It is successful in Washington Park. POLITICS AND POLITICIANS. Pittsburg is considering the establishment of "manless" saloons for women. It is predicted that within the next four months 55,000 ex-Grecian warriors will arrive in the United States. J. Benjamin Dimmick, former mayor of Scranton, announces himself as a candidate for the Republican nomination to succeed United States Senator Hoar Penrose of Pennsylvania. Murdock clubs are springing up all over Kansas and Representative Murdock has already set the political pot to boiling. His friends say it will be a hard fight, but they believe he can land the Senatorial seat. The czar of Russia has recently declared himself against drink. Drunkenness has increased to an alarming extent in Russia within recent years and Nicholas II. warns his people that nothing will sooner result in the destruction of a nation than for its men to be habitual drinkers. The Kaiser's pet hobby is the col-

THERE WERE TWO ALARMS FIRE TODAY

There were two alarms of fire this morning, the first proved to be the colored Graded School located on Respers street. It was extinguished before the department reached the scene. The blaze originated in the stove flue. The second alarm proved to be the kitchen at the residence of Mr. W. B. Morton on East Main street. No damage was done. TAXES MUST BE PAID THIS WEEK. The office of the City Tax Collector will be open at night until February 23th for the convenience of the tax payers of the city. After the above date costs will be added. W. C. AYERS, City Clerk, 2-21-14.



Noted Tenor Appears At The New Theatre Thursday In Faust

Chavali Salvatore Giordano, the brilliant and handsome tenor, known to the music world as Caruso's distinguished protege, first attracted public attention in this country while he was making a concert tour with Nordica and with whom he shared all the honors, however, this splendid singer, who appears as "Faust" in Gounod's masterpiece, which will be offered by the New York Grand Opera Company, at the New Theatre next Thursday night, had previously sung the leading tenor roles with the Constantine Grand Opera Company in New Orleans, with this organization he was likewise identified during a long Havana engagement. Only recently Giordano, gave a concert at Aeolian Hall, New York city, which was attended by high musical society and the Metropolitan press with one accord, proclaimed his voice fully the equal in range and quality, to that of his famous master, besides crediting Giordano with a very decided advantage over Caruso in personal appearance and magnetism.

Indeed, one of the leading New York dailies asserts that Giordano presents the ideal picture of the sort of lover that every girl is bound to fall in love with. Many persons have been curious to know by what right Giordano provides the title of Chevalier to his name and in answer to that the tenor proudly shows a decoration conferred upon him by the King of Italy, for bravery in the Italian army. Giordano however, bestows more tender affection upon orders granted him by the Sultan of Turkey, the Czar of Russia, and other potentates, due to the enchanting powers of his golden voice, for he is completely absorbed in his devotion to music. To his many other accomplishments, Giordano adds a fine reputation as an expert with sword, foils or rapier, and it is in the character of "Faust" that he is afforded ample opportunity to exhibit his skill in a duel with Valentin, Margarita's brother, who meets "Faust" in deadly combat, and who is always under a distressing strain for fear that the tenor might become too earnest in his thrusts, and is relieved when the same favor and he falls a victim to Mephisto's cunning instead. Salvatore Giordano comes to us with an established record as a tenor of great dramatic ability, as well as the possessor of a wonderful expressive voice of absolute purity and evenness. In the role of "Faust" he is said to be admirable especially in the garden scene where the love duet between "Faust" and Margarita brings out the tenor's noblest ecstasies of interpretation of Gounod's most delightful work.

104 POUND DOLL THAT NO MAN CAN LIFT

An unusual act is that offered at the New Theatre for Friday's engagement when the management booked the "Ward Sisters" or the doll girl of Vaudiville. Previous advance matter that has given this act speaks for itself. The New York Journal has regarding one of their engagements at the Marcus Lewis house that it was one of the most sensational acts at the Mozart, and gives the following heading, "Ward sisters, French Girls, Create Much Interest and Genuine Sensation when They Pass Their Mysterious Human Doll Through the Audience—Folks Don't Know What to Make of it—Whole Show is Great." The Ward sisters will be the offering at the New Theatre for Friday and Saturday following the New York Grand Opera Company. Today's engagement closes the engagement of the present artists who have played the first half of the week. Those who have not seen the New Theatre bill during the present one's engagement should see them tonight, as it is a bill unequal to the majority of acts.

ARE ANTICIPATING.

The skaters of the city are anticipating some sport on the ice if the present cold weather continues. From the present outlook it looks as if their anticipation will become a realization. The czar of Russia has recently declared himself against drink. Drunkenness has increased to an alarming extent in Russia within recent years and Nicholas II. warns his people that nothing will sooner result in the destruction of a nation than for its men to be habitual drinkers. The Kaiser's pet hobby is the col-

THE SCHOONER JENNIE BELL BRINGS CORN

The three-masted schooner Jennie D Bell arrived in port this morning from Laurel, Delaware, having on board eighteen thousand bushels of corn and is now discharging her cargo at the Havens Grain Mill on Water street. This is one of the largest consignments of corn ever brought to Washington. The Havens Grain Mill is now doing an enormous business in this section and their product is shipped to all parts of the state.

PRAYER MEETING

There will be prayer meeting services in all the different churches of the city this evening at the usual hour, eight o'clock, to which the general public has a cordial invitation to be present.

MISS VIRGINIA BONNER NOW CONVALESCENT FROM RECENT ILLNESS

The friends of Miss Virginia Bonner head of the Kindergarten department of the Washington Public Schools, will be pleased to learn of her convalescence. She has been ill at the home of Judge and Mrs. C. H. Brown on Van Norden street for the past ten days.

CONDUCTOR HIT ON FACE WITH AN AXE

Capt. C. S. Whichard, the popular conductor on the Washington and Vandevoere Railroad, came near meeting with a serious accident on the yard of the Atlantic Coast Line this morning. He was engaged in superintending the switching of some freight cars and in some way the switch became clogged so a colored man with an axe was ordered to knock it back in place. While trying to clear the switch the axe flew off and Captain Whichard was struck on the face and mouth. One of his teeth was knocked out and several painful bruises inflicted on the face. He was carried at once to the Washington Hospital where he received surgical attention. The news of the accident to Captain Whichard will be known with regret by his friends here and throughout the county and this paper joins his many friends in wishing him a speedy recovery.

GOOD BYE TO WINTER MILLINERY. \$1.98 now buys any hat you see in the window and former prices were up to \$10.00 J. K. Hoyt.

TWO CASES TRIED BY THE MAYOR

Notwithstanding the extreme cold weather of yesterday and today the offenders of the law don't seem to mind it so His Worship, Mayor Frank Kugler had two cases before him this morning at the city hall. William Bryant, colored, was charged with being drunk and also disorderly. He was attached with the coat. Joseph Swain was before the court under indictment for being drunk. The judgment of the court was that he pay a fine of \$2.00 and cost.

MR. J. P. CAIRNES IS RECOVERING FROM HIS RECENT ACCIDENT. It will be gratifying to the many friends of Mr. J. P. Cairnes to learn that he is now recovering from his recent accident. Saturday last he met with the misfortune to have his collar bone broken by being hit with an iron bar. Unless something unforeseen happens he will be able to resume his duties at the Mutual Machine Company plant within a few days.

Southern Railway Company Inaugurates Another Scheme

Washington, D. C., Feb. 24.—Fairfax Harrison, president of the Southern Railway Company, said today: "Southern Railway Company, believing in the continued prosperity and growth of the territory it serves, and recognizing the necessity of enlarging its facilities to keep pace with that growth, has, pending the improvement of the market for long term securities, sold ten million dollars of five per cent three year notes secured by pledge of development and general mortgage four per cent bonds of the company, which for some time past have been held in the treasury of the company available for sale. This new capital is to be applied by the Southern Railway Company in carrying through to completion plans for improvements and betterment to and upon the property of the Southern Railway Company which were included in the general plan for the future of the railroad made at the time the development and general mortgage was created in 1906. The particular improvements now to be undertaken are chiefly additional and enlarged shops, yards and other freight terminals which have been greatly desired and have been earnestly recommended for several years past to facilitate economical operation and to enlarge the opportunity of the company for securing competitive freight traffic as well as for taking care of local business. These improvements will be undertaken at once and pushed to completion as rapidly as possible. In addition to the improvements provided for as above stated, the Southern Railway Company has also arranged to finance, through a ten-year equipment trust, the acquisition of additional modern rolling stock, largely of steel construction, representing an aggregate cost of more than five million dollars. Bids for this additional rolling stock are now being received from manufacturers and the orders for immediate construction will be placed promptly."

Will Ask General Assembly to Protect the Public Morals

At a recent meeting of the North Carolina Conference for Social Service it was unanimously voted that a movement should be started to have the next legislature make statewide the present Guilford county law "for the protection of public morals." The law is briefly explained by Mr. A. W. McAllister as follows: "1. The enforcement of this law, as in the Stadium case, makes it impossible for a property owner to rent his property for immoral purposes. A recent newspaper article states that in such cases, where the renter for immoral purposes is persisted in, the property is forfeited to the city; but this is an inaccuracy. It is not forfeited to the city, but the owner, besides being subject to the heavy penalties imposed by law, has to give bond that the house will not be used for such purposes within twelve months, and unless he can give acceptable bond, the house is placarded and must remain vacant for a period of twelve months. The enforcement of this law subjects any man who knowingly rents his property for immoral purposes to what amounts to almost confiscation, and therefore renders it impossible for him to do it. "2. It makes it unlawful for any keeper of a house of prostitution to permit any unmarried female under the age of 18 years to remain in such house. "3. It provides a minute code regulating the dealing in cocaine, opium and all similar drugs by wholesale, retailers, doctors and others. "4. The statute then provides that the county attorney shall secure from the internal revenue col-

Lyric Theatre Tonight

THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY. MONTE CARLO DUO. Accordion Musical Genus. Having obtained the services of these great musical comedians and realizing the public are anxious to hear something out of the ordinary which we have succeeded in obtaining, it becomes necessary to charge a slightly increased price which will be in effect beginning Thursday night of this week, and in addition to this on Monday night following we will put on a higher class picture service, which will be worth more than the price of admission charged. We guarantee to give a better show than you have ever seen at twice the price. Prices 10c and 15c.