

GRIDIRON CLUB'S WINTER DINNER IS A GREAT SUCCESS

President Wilson's Plea for Neutrality Keeps War Out of Discussions.

HUMOR IS HELD IN BORDERS OF THE U. S.

Uncle Sam's Gards Given a Chance to Air Their Grievances.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Members of the cabinet, congressmen, diplomats and leaders of all activities of the nation's life gathered round the board here tonight at the Gridiron club's winter dinner.

President Wilson's earnest injunction to the American people to refrain from public discussion of war issues was strictly regarded and the location of every one of the many witticisms and dramatic skits was always within the shore lines of the two oceans which bound the Americas.

There was an old delegate, his name was Uncle Ned. He went to conventions whenever he was bid.

And that's how he lived, long ago. When he lay down the shovel and the hoe, and hung up the fiddle and the bow.

There's no more work for poor Uncle Ned. The primaries laid him low.

The farmer was another ward with a complaint; he wanted a bunch of greenbacks. Up home he had a shed full of squashes and wanted the treasury to issue circulating notes on them.

Two other wards were Colonel Watson and Colonel Harvey. They had no grievances, but expressed their contentment in a song, the refrain of which was:

"I've come back, come back. I've come back Dear Leader to thee, to thee. I've come back, come back. I've come back Dear Leader to thee."

Among other wards Alaska wanted to be shielded from exploitation of capitalists; Hawaii called attention to Queen Liliuokalani's lack of pension; Porto Rico wanted more government jobs and a duty on sugar, and Filipino wanted to know when he would grow up and be independent.

When the actor was chided and told that he must not get hasty, he replied: "Hasty? I'm getting rusty."

The comedian of Texas had been laid on business pasters, chewing gum, billiard rooms and cigarettes, while whiskey had gone free, because the bill had been passed in October and the election was in November, and in a burst of satire he sang:

"If you have to lay a tax, Don't put it onto rye; Put it onto luxuries, But keep it off of rye. Stick it onto chewing gum, Or billiard cues, says I; But, for the love of Mike, I beg you, Keep it off of rye."

A realistic prize fight was staged in the center of the dining hall and the spectators were treated to a lively fight. The stake was a large house located at 1600 Pennsylvania avenue, and the principals were "Kid Democoy" and Old G. O. P., the referee being "Bull Moose," who announced his ability to lick both of the two old parties. His decisions had never been questioned, "even when overruled by the Supreme court."

A moving picture show outlined the proceedings, representing "the greatest deliberative body on earth; the United States senate" in session, but the general effect was greatly lessened first, by a strenuous objection to such an undignified encroachment upon the body and when that had been removed by the insertion of his name into the advertisement, by the fact that Senator Ollie James persisted in standing up and thereby shutting out the remainder of the picture.

Brigham Initiated. Following its invariable rule, the Gridiron club initiated, in the presence of its many guests a new member—William E. Brigham, Washington correspondent of the Boston Transcript, who was described as "a journalist who would like to get into an association of newspaper men."

Answering questions he said that he was "in pretty good standing in Secretary Bryan's ante-room."

A Roosevelt song, to the tune of "On My Way to Mandalay" followed with this chorus: "On my way to Oyster Bay, Beneath my sheltering roof I've got to stay."

Being a song. Of things gone wrong: "I'm no longer trusted. They have got me flustered—And the Big Stick's busted. That's why I'm on the way to Oyster Bay, I've come to say goodbye." "Old Home Week" brought to the fore some old spirited—under the kindly eye of the Goddess of Liberty again elevated perch, who had come



MAUDE ADAMS Who will be seen in "The Legend of Leonora," at the Auditorium early in January.

BLANCH SWEET SIGNED BY LASKY FOR LASKY-BELASCO PRODUCTIONS

Miss Blanche Sweet, the charming film favorite who is known to literally millions of photo-play patrons throughout this country and Europe, has signed a contract with the Jesse Lasky Feature Play company by the terms of which she will appear as the star in the various Jesse Lasky and David Belasco joint productions which are now being prepared for the screen. It is already definitely announced that Blanche Sweet will star in "The Warrens of Virginia," first, and then "The Woman" and "Sweet Kitty Bellairs." After a study of all the young stars now appearing in photo-dramatic offerings of the superior grade, Mr. Belasco and Mr. Cecil B. De Mille decided that Blanche Sweet was absolutely the one artist best suited to the pictorializations of the Belasco dramatic successes.

Up to the present time, Blanche Sweet's artistic career has been closely linked to that of D. W. Griffith, the noted producer, who used her as the star for such productions as "Judith of Bethulia" and "The Escape." In her new association, under the direction of Cecil De Mille, she will naturally have far greater opportunities because of the exceptional nature of the Belasco offerings in which it is to be her good fortune to appear. Miss Sweet is the first distinctly "screen star" to be engaged by the Lasky firm. She thus becomes a member of the Lasky star family, including such famous Broadway stars as Dustin Farnum, Robert Edison, Edith Taliaferro, Edmund Breese, Charles Richmond, Edna Goodrich, Theodore Roberts, H. B. Warner and Harry Woodruff.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—A show designed to give inventors a show, and known as the International Exposition of Inventions, opened here today at the New Grand Central palace. The American institute gold, silver and bronze medals and diplomas will be awarded by a qualified jury to those inventors whose products may be adjudged to combine the greatest measure of novelty and utility to the world, with commercial and mechanical practicability. An attractive exhibit of inventions

that apply to the production and manufacture of cotton, was opened as a show by itself. From several associations of inventors and patentees in America, it is planned to recruit representative men of ability to organize a congress of inventors which can put on record the needs of their class and achieve publicity for inventions. Besides the proceedings at the meeting of inventors, a series of lectures is planned. The inventors' show will continue all next week, and it is already attracting many visitors.



Elsie St. Leon As Polly, in "Polly of the Circus," Auditorium, matinee and night, Saturday, December 19th.

to welcome them from her station on the dome of the capitol. Uncle Joe Cannon was among the first arrivals, and when asked how long he was going to stay, replied: "No Return Ticket." "Well, I didn't buy no return ticket." By Sulloway, another returning congressman, announced that up his way "The hunting is poor, all the bull moose have been killed off." When Nicholas Longworth appeared, Cannon inquired: "How's the family, Nick? Bring 'em all to the celebration?" Longworth—"All except father-in-law." Cannon—"Why don't you persuade him to stay in some of those lonesome places he writes about?" Longworth—"There ain't no lonesome place than Oyster Bay right now." When told that Secretary Daniels

had abolished the wine mess on warships during his absence from Washington, Sulloway exclaimed: "That means no more inspection cruises by the naval committee." When Cannon learned that the American troops had been withdrawn from Vera Cruz November 23, he exclaimed: "I thought I heard firing on that day. It must have been that salute to the flag." Other skits portrayed the adequacy of the United States army as viewed by Representative Gardner; the federal reserve board in full action trying to "ambuscate" the newspaper reporters and a mook rehearsal of the Gridiron club itself. And emulating the publications of the European chancelleries, the club caused to be placed at each plate "The Blue Paper" correspondence relating to the campaign preceding the outbreak of hostilities on November 3, 1914, and the fatalities incident thereto.

ASHEVILLE PEOPLE IN MOVING PICTURES

"Across the Burning Trestle" to Be Shown at the Galax Tomorrow—Other Pictures.

Asheville patrons of the moving picture theaters will have an opportunity tomorrow of seeing familiar Asheville faces thrown on the canvas at the Galax theater in a motion picture when "Across the Burning Trestle" is shown at that playhouse. This picture, with Herbert Prior, Biglow Cooper, Mabel Trunelle and Yale Bonner in the leading roles, was produced by the Edison players who conducted a studio in Asheville last summer. The scenes of the picture were reproduced in the vicinity of Asheville and Hendersonville last July. Some of the pictures were taken from the roof of the Southern railway passenger station and on the streets of this city. Several well known people living in this city took parts in them and most of these will be curious to see themselves thrown upon the canvas. The film depicts the thrilling adventures in the life of a plucky young girl.

"The Circus Man" will be shown at the Galax Tuesday. This is purely an American photo-play with Theodore Roberts in the principal part. "The Perils of Pauline" will be shown in the eighth installment at the Princess Wednesday.

Thursday at the Galax a return engagement of "Paid in Full" will be played. This picture has been brought back to Asheville at the urgent request of many theatergoers of this city. The second installment of "The Master Key" will be shown at the Galax Saturday.

The latest Bosworth release, "The Country Mouse," in four reels, will be shown at the Princess Friday and Saturday at the same theater the fourth series of "Zingo's" adventures will be shown.

OFFICIAL LOCAL WEATHER REPORT

U. S. Department of Agriculture Weather Bureau Local Weather Data for Dec. 12, 1914. State of the weather at 4 a. m. clear. State of the weather at 8 p. m. cloudy. Relative humidity at 8 a. m., 86 per cent. Relative humidity at 8 p. m., 65 per cent. Wind direction at 8 a. m., northwest. Wind direction at 8 p. m., southwest. Time of sunrise 7:32 a. m. Time of sunset 5:16 p. m. Local Temperature Data. 8 a. m. 38 3 p. m. 39 9 a. m. 33 4 p. m. 40 10 a. m. 28 5 p. m. 39 11 a. m. 26 6 p. m. 36 12 noon 23 7 p. m. 34 1 p. m. 35 8 p. m. 32 2 p. m. 37 Highest 40; one year ago, 55. Lowest 22; one year ago, 31. Absolute maximum 59 in 1911. Absolute minimum 13 in 1912. Average temperature today 31. Annual 39. Local Precipitation for This Month Normal 4.68 inches. Greatest amount, 6.36 in 1905. Least amount, 0.89 in 1902. For last 24 hours ending at 8 p. m., none.

MATTERS OF RECORD

Yesterday the following deeds were filed at the office of the registrar of deeds: J. B. Sams and wife to A. Matthews, agent, lands on the west side of the French Broad river; consideration \$10. R. Y. and H. G. White to S. F. Moore, tracts of land in Fairview township; consideration \$100. H. C. Lanford and wife to W. M. Robertson and wife, certain lands in Avery's Creek township; consideration \$400. R. L. Spurling and wife to J. L. Brown and wife, lands on the waters of New Found creek; consideration \$1. J. L. Hawkins and wife to W. A. Hawkins, tracts of land in Hazel ward; consideration \$757.50. Edith S. Vanderbilt to W. B. Blankenship, tracts of land in Avery's Creek township; consideration \$500. H. A. Brown et al. to Henry Knoblauch and wife, property on Arlington street; consideration \$10. C. H. Knoblauch and wife to E. W. Beacham and wife, pieces of property on Arlington street; consideration \$10. Marriage Licenses. Eugene Morgan to Alice McElrath. Velpe Carter to Mary Moffit. O. G. Cox to Virbie Baker. A. D. Hess to Lillie Capps. T. C. Clark to Otte Giles. Summons and Complaints. N. H. Walker et al. against William St. George Walker. J. M. Thrash against Southern Railway company.

Have you ever looked into the Multigraph? It accomplishes more than merely turning out circular letters. Call in and take a look. Office Supply Co., phone 2931.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

+++++ Saturday, December 19. Matinee and night, Elsie St. Leon in "Polly of the Circus." +++++ Coming Soon—Maude Adams and company of Metropolitan + Stars in "The Legend of Leonora." +++++ "Polly of the Circus." A conflict of emotions, wherein all that is hateful is strayed against all that is good; is the theme of the de-

Majestic Theatre Re-Opens Tomorrow

KEITH SUPERIOR VAUDEVILLE OFFERING MONDAY, TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY.

Eva Wescott and Company Presenting Her Sensational Society Playlet

"A BUTTERFLY WIFE"

DON CARNEY Presents "PIANOSENSE" Clever Songs—Artistic Nonsense. GEORGE STANLEY BLACKFACE COMEDIAN. LOFTIN AND BATES "THOSE NIFTY GIRLS" ELKINS, FAY AND ELKINS HARMONY SINGERS AND DANCERS

COMPLETE CHANGE OF ACTS THURSDAY Matinee Daily, 3:15 10, 20 and 30c Two Night Performances 7:15 and 9:15 Night Prices 20, 30 and 50c

Princess Tomorrow The Favorite Edison Players MABEL TRUNELLE, YALE BENNER, HERBERT PRIOR and BIGELOW COOPER "ACROSS THE BURNING TRESTLE" Made in Asheville ROMANCE AND ADVENTURE WITH FAMILIAR SCENES—ALSO 2 REEL UNIVERSAL PICTURE. 5c And 10c 5c And 10c

Galax Tuesday PARAMOUNT JESSE L. LASKY Present—America's Foremost Character Actor Theodore Roberts In the Atmospheric Drama "THE CIRCUS MAN" FROM THE NOVEL "THE HORSE IN THE RING,"—By George Barr McCutcheon Five Reels 10 And 20c

Princess Wednesday 16th INSTALLMENT OF THE PERILS OF PAULINE Romance and Adventure—Plots and Counter-Plots 5c AND 10c

GALAX THURSDAY—"Paid in Full"—With Tully Marshall. PRINCESS FRIDAY—"The Country Mouse"—With Hobart Bosworth. Galax Saturday—"Master Key" Princess Saturday—"Zingo."

lightful comedy-drama, "Polly of the Circus," Frederic Thompson's original massive production with Miss Elsie St. Leon in the title role, which comes to the Auditorium, matinee and night, on next Saturday, circus life is depicted, three scenes showing a first performance with a regulation size ring, the outside of the tent, known as the "pad" room where the actors lumber up and the rear of the tent showing the circus going away at night after the performance while the other scenes are laid in the paragonage of the Rev. John Douglass, the village person, who falls in love with Polly, to the amusement and detestation of the village people. The gossip starts when Polly is taken to the Rev. Douglass' home suffering from an injury received during a performance of the circus. Deacon Strong, a pillar of the church, is the villain and does all he can to hurt Polly in the eyes of Douglass. All that is done in opposition makes Douglass all the more determined to marry the little circus rider. The last scene shows the circus winding its way over the hills in the distance, while Polly and the ministers are left alone together, she content to give up the circus life for her love for her preacher. Seats for both performances will go on sale Thursday morning.

"Within the Law." Bayard Veiller, author of the successful new American play, "Within the Law," which Selwyn and company announces for presentation here at the Auditorium began his writing career as a reporter for one of the New York dailies. At the time Theodore Roosevelt was police commissioner in the metropolis, Veiller was detailed at detective headquarters and while there secured the material for the exciting scenes in "Within the Law" that depict so illuminatively certain questionable practices of the authorities in their endeavor to fasten guilt for crime on suspected persons. "Maude Adams." Charles Frohman will present Maude Adams at the Auditorium early in January when her chief offering will be J. M. Barrie's new comedy, "The Legend of Leonora." This is the Scotch drama artist's first long play since "What Every Woman Knows" and the popular actress is credited with having found it very

AUDITORIUM Saturday December 19 SCHLOSS THEATRE CIRCUIT MATINEE AND NIGHT Annual Tour of the Original Frederic Thompson Production of POLLY of The CIRCUS —WITH— ELSIE ST. LEON AS POLLY THIS IS THE ONLY COMPANY PRESENTING THIS FASCINATING AMERICAN PLAY, AFTER ONE YEAR AT THE LIBERTY THEATRE, NEW YORK. A REAL CIRCUS ON THE STAGE JUGGLING CLOWNS BARE-BACK RIDERS TRAINED HORSES ACROBATS SEE POLLY RIDE BINGO PRICES—Matinee, 50c and 75c; children, 25c—Night: 50c, 75c and \$1.00. First Nine Rows \$1.50. Seats at Allison's Thursday.

much to the liking of her numerous admirers. Its success is pronounced. The work differs very much from those which have gone before it from the same pen. For instance the heroine is a murderer and the humor is developed in the efforts of men who try to turn themselves inside out in the desire to prove that she never committed the rash act to which she has so innocently confessed. Barrie proves that man's boasted strength and courage in face of loving woman's charms is all a myth. He has made Lenora old fashioned because he feels that it is the old-fashioned girl who was really loved. She had no clubs, societies and "rights," but she did lay claim to the right