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Another Political Shuffle Rumored

Ottawa, May 7.—(Special)—An interesting rumor in political circles is that Sir Elzear Taschereau, former chief justice of Canada, is to receive the appointment as lieutenant-governor of Quebec.

Sir Alexander Lacoste, it is stated, is to retire on account of the law debarbing judges from receiving incomes from corporations, and will return to the practice of law as consulting counsel.

It has already been taken for granted

that Hon. Charles Fitzpatrick, who has purchased a residence here, is to succeed to the chief justiceship of the supreme court at the end of the session.

J. D. McArthur, of Winnipeg, who has been awarded the contract for the Winnipeg section of the Transcontinental railway, is here and expects to sign the contract tomorrow. A deposit of more than \$1,000,000 is required.

Mr. Gatchus, chief engineer of the C. P. R., was examined at the special committee on Mr. Lancaster's bill today. He said that to adopt Mr. Lancaster's safeguards of protection at crossings would entail an expenditure of more than \$24,000,000 for watchmen and gates, and \$1,000,000 for bells.

PLAYS AND PLAYERS

There was a large and representative audience at the Opera House last night, when Dr. Pauline, the hypnotist opened a week's engagement. Before beginning the entertainment he gave a short address in the course of which he outlined the principles of mind reading or mental telepathy and hypnosis, and told his hearers that it was quite possible for them to control other people's minds as well as himself. He then asked for a committee from the audience and four gentlemen volunteered. Dr. Pauline was blindfolded and one of the committee changed the hats of two ladies in the audience. He then passed through the auditorium closely followed by the gentleman who changed the hats and leaving both, placed them on the heads of their owners.

The other three members of the committee each located a ring on a lady's finger. While this was being done Pauline was off the stage, accompanied by a member of the committee. He located the rings blindfolded, placed them on his own fingers and again retired. The ladies changed their seats and he again located them and returned the rings.

The committee then resumed their places in the house and after several young men had volunteered as subjects, the doctor demonstrated rigid and bending catalepsy and facial expression, besides lighter and more amusing experiments of the hypnotic influence, which were much enjoyed by the large audience.

Dr. Pauline explained that it was not always possible to give as good an entertainment on the opening night as on a second or third, and announced that the programme for this evening would be quite different from that of last night.

Le Domino Rouge appeared unmasked at Webster's Music Hall in New York on Monday evening. She is Dazie, an American dancer. The story of her masquerade.



"Dazie" Le Domino Rouge.
Photo by White.

ing told in her own way is as follows:—"The whole idea came about in a very peculiar way. I had returned to St. Petersburg after an engagement with Buster Brown, which was my first part in America. When I reached Russia I was troubled a great deal with my eyes and was told by a prominent oculist that all engagements must be cancelled, as the footlights would destroy my eyes. The idea of screening my eyes in some way occurred to me, not with the intention of using it as a medium of publicity, but in order to continue my contracts. From St. Petersburg I was to appear at the Folies Berger, in Paris, and it was here that I first appeared veiled. The French papers took the matter up and made it a mystery, something that was never intended. With the year of masked dancing my eyes have recovered and I can without danger appear behind the footlights as just myself."

New York, May 6.—Miss May Irwin has been offered more than \$2,000 a week by



Miss May Irwin.
Photo by Collins.

Proctor. She will probably appear in his New York houses only for four weeks.

It is rumored that a theatrical business combination of extraordinary strength and magnitude was formed in Chicago last week by the affiliation of Messrs. Klaw & Erlanger, Messrs. K. & C. Castle, Messrs. Stair & Hawlin, B. F. Keith and their subsidiary enterprises, which include the most important attractions and houses in all the departments of the theatre—first-class vaudeville and popular priced.

It is further asserted that the movement will also embrace very important theatrical interest in America including those of the Messrs. Shubert and Sullivan & Considine. It is said that the plans for this gigantic theatrical combination originated in the Western Vaudeville Managers' Association office, Chicago.

Measured by the box office receipts the late return engagement, in Chicago of Sarah Bernhardt was more profitable than the other. At popular prices and in the largest theatre in the city enabled the curious to see the divinity of the tragic actress. The eight performances in the Auditorium netted \$35,000, comparing with ten performances in the Grand in November with an aggregate of \$32,000. On the basis of prices 22,000 persons attended the Auditorium productions, with the 16,000 in November making a grand total of 38,000 persons patronizing the actress. Of course, the figures do not compare favorably with the week of grand opera, largely the result of smaller prices, but on the ultimate profit it is safe to say that Bernhardt's personal share in her recent engagement was \$15,000 and in November \$12,000. Chicago's contribution of \$27,000 will go a long way in repairing the fortunes of the actress.

The pink lemonade and peanut season was inaugurated on April 28, when most of the big circuses opened for the summer.

New York, May 7.—Henry B. Hartis, in casting Charles Klein's new play, engaged yesterday Herbert Kaley, Miss Effie Shannon and Miss Dorothy Donnelly.



Miss Effie Shannon.
Photo by Hare.

Negotiations are pending with several other actors for the production, which is being prepared for a run at the Hudson Theatre next season. The play will deal with socialism and the labor problem.

"One of the sharp contrasts between the actors of the present time and those of my earlier years in the profession," said Etienne Girardot recently, "is usually brought vividly before me whenever I see a group of Theopians gathered for their first rehearsal of a new play, every man with his part before him, carefully transcribed by a typewriter, with all of his cues and much of his business clearly set forth. What a boon that would have been to the actors of some companies in which I played when a youth in the English provinces. In those days a single copy of a play in manu-



Etienne Girardot.
Photo by Ye Rose Studio.

script was sometimes handed to us at the conclusion of a performance, and by next morning we were expected to appear for rehearsal, every man with his part duly copied. That meant that during the night each man copied his part, acting as his own amanuensis. We usually visited a specific time to each man in regular order, so that the play passed from hand to hand

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CZAR CRIPPLES HIS PARLIAMENT AT THE START

St. Petersburg, May 8.—4.30 a. m.—Another of the kaleidoscopic changes in the political situation to which Russia is becoming accustomed occurred late last night when, with utter unexpectedness the draft of the fundamental law which was supposed to have perished with the Witte regime was officially promulgated and made the permanent basis of the Russian state, unalterable except on the initiative of Emperor Nicholas or his successors.

Though the draft of the fundamental law has undergone considerable changes, in essence it remains the same. With the project telegraphed to the Associated Press on April 24, which evoked a storm of anger and condemnation by the dominant Liberal party. Published at the present instant when the people had been led to believe that the unpopular draft had been dropped and while the dismissal of the old cabinet was accepted as an indication of the desire on the part of the government to join hands with the national parliament, the news will arouse greater indignation and threatens to undo all the work of Professor Milukoff and the constitution of Democratic leaders in the case of moderation.

The new fundamental law of the empire, signed May 5, contains eighty-two articles dealing with the nature of the imperial power, the rights and duties of citizens, the methods of legislation, the rights and limitations of the National Assembly and council of the empire and the composition and responsibilities of the council of ministers.

The only modification in the "constitution" as published which meets with favor is the elimination of the provision empowering the emperor to fix salaries and pensions of officials, thereby subjecting even the judiciary to the possibility of undue financial influence. All the other changes in the direction of further buttressing the imperial power, protecting the crown lands and properties from interference by the parliament and giving the emperor power to conclude loans independently should the parliament refuse to pass the budget.

The retirement of seven members of Count Witte's cabinet and the appointment of their successors are gazetted this morning. Ministers Shipoff, Nemechaff, Nikolsky, Quolensky and Tolstoy.

Senator Domville was registered at the Canadian office, London, April 25. Mrs. B. E. Dean is very ill at her home, Wall street.

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