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The Wichita Sunday Eagle.

THE WICHITA EAGLE, WICHITA KANSAS, SUNDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 3, 1922.

OPENING BILL AT ORPHEUM A REAL SCREAM

Every Imitation Known to Musicians Can Be Produced on the Specially Made Instrument

ALL LATEST EQUIPMENTS ARE ATTACHED

OPENING bill of the Orpheum theater for Monday consists of five of the best numbers that are obtainable for any vaudeville theater any place, at this season of the year, according to the Orpheum management.

Dave Ferguson, in the "Rounder of Old Broadway," is a musical comedy, character comedian, is an actor who can sing and specialize in the portrayal of character roles. The "Rounder of Old Broadway" is a classic of the night life of New York City. A street corner incident brings into a few minutes all of the humor pathos and all of the emotion that could be expected. Every bit of sentiment is rounded out with a laugh.

Dave Ferguson cast his lot two years ago with vaudeville after many successes in the legitimate, including engagements with "Very Good Eddie," "The Kiss Burglar," and others.

Henry's Melody Sextette, in a harmonious offering of songs and music, is a group of six clever, charming girls. The sextette is not an ensemble but a company of six pretty, stylish, attractive girls each of whom is a soloist.

Ned Northworth and Co., is a popular number. Northworth is a popular young composer who presents his latest laugh festival. He is a singing comedian and composer.

Baxley & Porter, comedy characters, will present "Neighbors," with singing, dancing and character acting.

DAVE FERGUSON

Feature on Orpheum First Bill in the "Rounder of Old Broadway"

Jack Baxley portrays the character of an old man in his apple orchard in the spring. Lillian Porter is the pretty and attractive Miss who proves to be the neighbor. They become acquainted and indulge in dances and humorous conversations.

Jack Baxley is the writer of the skit. He is the writer also of many popular song successes among them being "You Can't Get Loving Where There Ain't Any Love," "Never Let No One Man Worry Your Mind," and others.

Will and Harold Brown, presenting rag art, create pictures. By a judicious assembling of cardinal and shaded colors they create an effect resembling oil painting. When finished it is difficult to tell that the picture is not an oil painting.

The opening bill will be played Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and a new bill will be presented for the latter half of the week.

While Wichitans are watching the moving picture on the screen at the opening of the Orpheum theater Monday, an audience at the Strand theater in New York City will be for the first time in that city viewing the same picture. The picture, "Three Must Get Theirs," will be released in New York and in Wichita at the same time.

The picture is a five reel burlesque on the "Three Musketeers" in which Douglas Fairbanks plays "D'Artigan." In the picture to be shown here tomorrow, "Three Must Get Theirs" Max Linder plays the character "Dart In Again."

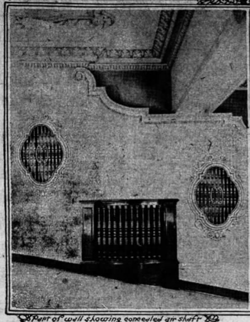
WESTERN SHEET METAL WORKS

The ventilating system which carries the cool air throughout the Orpheum theater, was installed by the Western Sheet Metal Works, 441 North Main street. This company had the contract for the vents, ducts, dampers, the reflectors which proportion the quantity of air and other parts of the system.

The Western Sheet Meta Works installed ventilating systems in four Wichita school buildings and also has had numerous out of town contracts, having installed ventilating systems in school buildings at Anthony, Augusta, Cedarvale and other places.

O. B. Cloud and H. F. Dobson are the proprietors of the Western Sheet Metal Works, which handles all kinds of sheet iron and tin work, cornice, sky lights, steel ceilings and slate roofing.

BEAUTY SPOTS IN INTERIOR OF NEW ORPHEUM THEATER



Part of wall showing concealed air shaft

Red Tile Roof and Spanish house in Balcony

This charming exit represents an old Monastery Door

POURING ASPHALT PROVES HAZARDOUS

Men Tie Themselves Together and Build Safety Fences on Orpheum Roof

Placing the asphalt roof on the theater portion of the new Orpheum building at the corner of Lawrence avenue and First street proved to be a hazardous job; one involving a great deal of care and many precautions due to the unusual pitch of the big roof. Men worked in laying the four layers of asphalt by tieing themselves together and by having safety fences built around the outer edge of the building. Portable ladders were also used to assist the workmen.

The asphalt roof cost approximately $3,000 and covers about 21,000 square feet of surface, according to G. L. Mahaney, vice-president of the Charles E. Mahaney roofing company of this city. The Mahaney bid on the roof was the only one considered by the theater builders.

From the asphalt lake in tropical Trinidad to the roof of a Wichita skyscraper is a long cry but in the case of the roof of the Orpheum building it was almost a necessity. For many untold centuries the chemical action over an area of about 114 acres have caused a vast deposit of pure asphalt to be formed. While dynasties were rising and tumbling and religions were propounded and destroyed this lake of asphalt was forming, destined in the end to assist Wichitans in having a sure leakproof roof over a great playhouse.

The small portion of asphalt removed by the Asphalt company to serve the new Orpheum would cause amusement to any of the sages of the ages. The lake of 114 acres is deep, so deep that the bottom has never been found and the drills of the company have gone down nearly 200 feet. Today the work of the company in removing enought asphalt to supply the world for a week will be obliterated by the time the end of the next week comes around. The holes in the top of the lake from a depth of three to four feet are level with the surrounding surface in less than a week's time. It would seem that fresh asphalt must come to the top from underground sources but scientists hold to the contrary and insist that the level of the lake is slowly settling but that so slow that for centuries the world will be able to secure its supply of asphalt from Trinidad.

Digging asphalt is a quite simple operation. Negroes armed with mattocks break the surface crust into large chunks of porus asphalt and carry the material to small cars which run a light railway from the lake to the refinery and to the loading piers. The cars are operated by an endless cable. The railway describes a loop and on one side of the loop the buckets that form the body of the cars are taken off and hooked onto a pulley which operates on a cable. From there the asphalt goes down hill. Some of the buckets are switched off and into the refinery which boils the natural water out of the product. This refined asphalt is then run into barrels and shipped to the different parts of the world.

The roofing on the new Orpheum building came from Trinidad, being manufactured by the Barber Asphalt company of New York. It was sold in Wichita by the Mahaney Roofing company and laid by them.

The Mahaney company has been in business in the city since 1888. It has laid roofs of all kinds in the city and of the late large jobs it has handled the following are among the most prominent: New Orpheum Building Broadview Hotel, Eagle building, First National bank building and Miller Theater building. The firm has in addion secured the contract for the new million dollar high school to be constructed on the McKnight tract. This is the largest roofing contract let in the city during the past score of years. It will cover approximately 100,000 square feet of surface and cost $9,083.

The Mahaney company represents three of the large roofing firms in the country; the Barber Asphalt company, Trinidad Lake built-up roofing; H. W. Johns-Manville asbestos built-up roofing and the Barrett company with its 20 year bonded roofs. The company handles asbestos and asphalt composition shingles, prepared roofing, asphalt cement, roofing paint and general roofing supplies. The new offices of the firm are at 501 Orpheum building. Their warehouse is still at Tenth street and the Missouri Pacific tracks. The new offices were opened when the company enlarged its territory and general line of business.

G. L. Mahaney is running the business during the absence of his father, C. E. Mahaney, who it at present in California.

M'NEAL PRAISES ORPHEUM BUILDING

Booster Since Keno Corner Was Here Thinks Orpheum Best Theater

The Orpheum is one of the finest theaters in the Southwest and worthy of the patrons who attend it, according to George McNeal, Wichita's oldest barber shop proprietor. He says through watching male theatergoers groom themselves just before going to a theater party he is sure that the theater will be in harmony with the residents of the great Southwest who depend on Wichita as their center of amusements.

And not a few Wichitans but realize that Mr. McNeal knows whereof he speaks, for he has served as a citizen and booster of the city since Keno corner was more than a name, when it depleted bank accounts and broke business men. His shop was in one corner of the building and it was there that the pioneers would gather before and after their visits to the gambling hall upstairs. The Keno hall was then as popular as the Orpheum circuit is now. The wonderful show house is a great improvement over the pioneer form of amusement.

Tragedy has also stalked in the McNeal shop during the years he has dealt in the tonsorial arts in the city. Mothers have watched with tear-dimmed eyes as the scissors snipped the curls from the heads of their little boys, who were aspiring to be big men like their fathers. Such happenings that mean much in the life of the individual are but the common occurrence in the McNeal shop. With the greatest tact Mr. McNeal has handled each incident and through his thoughtfulness has built up a clientele of the best residents of the city, many men with grandchildren today patronize his shop and remember their first visit there when those abhorred curls dropped to the floor.

The present shop of Mr. McNeal's is located at 119 East Douglas avenue. The present force is made up of: C. W. Furry, Charles O'Hara, Walt Hatfield, Clyde Clark, Guy Madison, Martin Wolf and Charles Dickson.

METZ LUMBER COMPANY

Lumber for the Orpheum building was supplied by the J. W. Metz Lumber Co., 401 North Main street. Material supplied by the Metz company consisted of lumber for floors and rough lumber used in construction of the $750,000 building.

The J. W. Metz Lumber company operates a retail and a wholesale business. The general offices are in Wichita and the company operates 25 line yards in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. Officers are J. W. Metz, president; L. A. Heckard vice president; D. O. Metz, secretary-treasurer.

PIPE ORGAN SPECIAL MAKE FOR ORPHEUM

Dave Ferguson in "Rounder of Old Broadway" Exceptionally Fine Musical Comedy

SIX REAL BEAUTIES IN SONG AND MUSIC

PERSONS who attend the opening of the Orpheum theater Monday will have the pleasure of enjoying music from a pipe organ which was made specially for the Orpheum. The organ, which is said to be the highest degree of modern perfection in operating facilities and in tone, was installed in the theater at a cost of $12,000.

This organ, which was manufactured and installed by George Kilgen and Sons, St. Louis, was designed to produce real music, sweet toned and pure, according to George Kilgen, Jr., who supervised the work of installing and testing it.

"Imitation of cow-bells, engine whistels and the like is a thing of the past in pipe organs," said he. "The public wants pure music which expresses the feelings of the heart and mind—the human emotions, and that is what we have provided in constructing this new organ for the Orpheum theater of Wichita."

The Orpheum organ produces the vox humana and also Normandy chimes, and it has a wonderful range of expression from the faint, sweet trill of the flute to the highest, strongest pitch. It is designed to produce music which expresses emotions of screen actors in the moving picture program and help the orchestra on big numbers.

The organ is divided in two sections, one being on each side of the stage and being screened by the Spanish grill work over each box. The organist operates both sections of the instrument from the console located in the orchestra pit. It is operated and controlled by an electric system which is as perfect as modern development of electricity can produce. It is equipped with the Spencer blower and generator which furnish the key action and drives fans which furnish the air pressure. The organ, a large two manual, has twenty-six stops and couplers. Pipes in the organ range from one half inch to sixteen feet in length.

Lloyd Hutson, organist, who arrived last week from Dallas, Texas, to act as organist at the Orpheum, will preside at the organ.

The Kilgen pipe organ has been manufactured by George Kilgen and Sons, pioneers in the west in their line, for 7[illegible] years. The business, started by the ancestors of the present management, in 1859, has always been operated by the Kilgens. Each generation has been reared [illegible] trained in the business of manufacturing pipe organs.

During the summer the Kilgen house has installed $100,000 worth of pipe organs for the United States government, in chapels in various federal institutions. A total of $2[illegible] worth of organs has been recently installed in theaters at San Anton[illegible], Houston, Fort Worth and other Texas cities by this same concern.

Supervision of the work [illegible] securing contracts and installing pipe organs in this territory is in charge of George Kilgen, Jr., who is in Wichita after completing the installation of the Orpheum organ. He has [illegible] to make Wichita his home and will move his family here in the near future, because he has formed a liking for this city and desires to make it his business headquarters.

Mr. Kilgen will install a pipe organ in a Catholic church at Hutchinson, starting the work next week. He has contracts for installing $100,000 worth of pipe organs during the remaining months of this year. George Kilgen and Sons specialize in the manufacture of pipe organs for theaters and Catholic churches.

DAFFODIL SHOP WELL LOCATED

Candies and Light Lunches Prepared Especially for Show Going People

The Daffodil shop, 145 North Lawrence avenue, right in the heart of the theater district on Lawrence avenue, has already won a place in the hearts of the Wichita amusement public. Candies and light lunches served in the clean, dainty little shop have won it a place in the hearts of those out for a pleasant evening.

Mrs. Florence J. Banta has charge of the small shop. She employs five girls to assist in the preparation of the homemade delicies and in serving them to the public. She has decorated the shop in black and orange with the daffodil flowers in prominence. The furniture is finished ivory and is kept spotlessly clean.

The shop has been in its present location for almost a month. Before it was under the Innes Tea room. Mrs. Banta has been operating the quaint little place since Novmber.

EMPLOYES FOR ORPHEUM

Among the employes selected by Manager Ed Raymond to operate the Orpheum theater are: Harvey Spencer, stage manager; G. C. Reedy, stage electrician; P. N. Branson, property master; A. N. McClain, projectionist; L. S. Jett, doorman; Mrs. Peggy Hall and Miss Elkins, cashiers.

Jess Feidler, who is assistant to Manager Raymond, has also been given the title of treasurer.

Spencer, Reedy, Branson and McClain are well known in Wichita in their various lines of work, having operated at Wichita theaters for years. McClain, a Wichita product, returned recently from Hollywood, Cal., where he was projectionist at moving picture studios.

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for the

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Every contract entrusted to us is executed by our own organization of experts, under the direct supervision of our own electrical superintendent. Not only do we execute our work to pass a satisfactory city inspection, but with a high regard for the safety element. A Central job is as near right as expert workmen can make it.

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