

## PATRIOTS READY TO GRAB SPOILS

Van Guard of the Office Seeking Army Has Arrived At the Capitol.

## THIRSTING FOR PLUNDER

PROBABLE THAT TAFT WILL UNDO ROOSEVELT DIPLOMATIC PLAN AND OFFER UP SOME NICE, RICH JOBS.

Washington, Feb. 17.—The van guard of office seekers is beginning to arrive at the national capital. The country seems pretty generally to have gotten the impression that Mr. Taft proposed to make a clean sweep of offices not in the classified service, and there will be from two to twenty jangling patriots to fill each job.

President Roosevelt has inaugurated the merit system in the consular service and has made a beginning toward having diplomatic promotions made on merit. It is not likely that Mr. Taft will throw the consular service wide open to the place hunters, but the higher paid and more desirable jobs are likely to have new incumbents. He will not feel in any way bound to retain Mr. Roosevelt's appointees in the diplomatic service.

### Idea Not Popular.

While most countries have a permanent diplomatic corps, the idea has never been overpopular in the United States. Sentiment, in fact, always has been against the creation of any sort of a permanent office holding class except as relates to the lower-salaried employees in the classified service. Diplomatic plums therefore, will be in great demand, and a good many of them will fall into the laps of those who have a right to expect things of the new administration.

### The Jobs Demanded.

Diplomatic appointments, however, are not sought so openly as are the other good paying places under the government. The jobs really gunned for are the places in Washington paying from \$4,000 to \$10,000 a year and the long list of postmasterhips, customs and internal revenue collectorships, district attorneyships, and marshals. These are the places generally used for the payment of political debts, and while moralists and political purists have long preached against such regarding them, no very great progress has been made toward doing away with the practice.

Mr. Taft has never posed as one of those public men who have professed to regard the holding of office or the desire to hold office as a reproach, and he is not likely to snub any valiant party worker merely because the worker has an ambition to connect with the payroll. Office seeking, therefore, will be a booming industry in Washington after March 4, and believing in the old adage that it is the early bird that gets the work, a considerable number of the desirous ones already are here; some in the most expensive hotels, others in boarding houses on side streets.

Consul Charles M. Freeman, of Durango City, Mexico, writes that nearly all of the engineers, conductors, master mechanics, station agents and chief officers of Mexican railroads are Americans. Few openings exist, though, for Americans in the mercantile line.

## HONOR TO DARWIN PAID AT EARLHAM

Declared That He Ranked Next to Christ.

Prof. Edwin Morrison of Earlham college delivered an address on Charles Darwin, the 100th anniversary of whose birth was celebrated in many parts of the world Friday, at the chapel exercises yesterday. Tribute was paid the famous scientist by the speaker who said that Darwinism was the basis of all thought in regard to literary work in certain subjects. He ranks next to Christ as an influence to the world's thought, declared the speaker.

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## THE THEATER

### THEATRICAL CALENDAR. GENNETT.

Feb. 17.—Madam Butterfly.  
Feb. 18.—The Royal Chef.  
Feb. 19.—The Top O' Th' World.  
NEW PHILLIPS.  
All Week—High Class Vaudeville.

"Madam Butterfly." It is with pleasure that the announcement is made by the local theater management that this great production will visit this city for a single performance on Wednesday evening, when the success of two continents will be presented in the same splendor and gorgeousness that has characterized its great success both in Europe and in America.

"Madam Butterfly" is an opera and a form of entertainment seldom, if ever seen here before. It is in three acts with music by Giacomo Puccini, the most famous composer of the day, based on the works of John Luther Long and David Belasco, whose names are famous for dramatic ingenuity and acceptable plays which the American public relish.

The company to be seen here in this opera comprises the most notable in the music world, Miss Adelaide Norwood, Miss Louie Collier, Miss Myrtle Thornburg, Miss Ellen James and Miss Ryan; Master Clarence Wheeler, Orlan Cranston, Harry Taylor, Thomas J. Conkey, Charles E. Locke and others, comprising an organization of seventy-five people and an orchestra of thirty pieces.

### "The Royal Chef."

The genuine merit of the delightful musical comedy "The Royal Chef" is widely known to Richmond theatergoers. This sprightly and effervescent work was witnessed by a large audience when it was played here last season, and it was generally regarded as an entertainment of the most thoroughly enjoyable quality. Its comedy, while wholesome and clean-cut, is of the rapid fire kind, which keeps an audience constantly convulsed with laughter, except when some well known effective musical number makes merriment give way for the moment to hearty applause.

### "The Fascinating Widow."

One of the features of the engagement of the popular comedian Otis B. Thayer, in his latest success "The Fascinating Widow" which is announced for a short engagement at the Gennett theatre on Feb. 20, matinee and night will be "The Fascinating Widow" matinee at which time every widow which passes the committee of three well known beauty judges whose names will be announced in these columns in a later issue, will be admitted free to the performance.

Otis B. Thayer is too well known to need any mention to the amusement seeking public of Richmond. His wonderfully strong performance in "Sweet Clover" still lingers in the memory of those who had the pleasure of witnessing the performance.

In "The Fascinating Widow" Mr. Thayer has a part which has been pronounced by the dramatic authorities, to be even better than his role in "Sweet Clover." It is that of a Wall Street broker who has not had a good time in twenty years, that being the length of time he has been married. A little flirtation in a railway station is the cause of the numerous humorous complications which follow one another in rapid succession. Interspersed throughout the action, but in no wise interfering with the action of the plot are a number of bright and catchy musical selections. Mr. Thayer is supported by an exceptionally strong cast and as the star is well known his engagement is bound to prove a successful one.

### The New Phillips.

Jerge, Aleene and Hamilton, the polite vaudeville entertainers will close their engagement with tonight's performance at the New Phillips. This act has created a good impression during its run in Richmond. The team of the Herman Trio also offers its last exhibition tonight. Burton, the monologist and singing comedian, who has furnished so many ripples of laughter to the theater's patrons will also make his last appearance.

Beginning with tomorrow afternoon's performance a new bill will be given to the audience for the remainder of the week. The headliners will be Hickman Willis and company in an entertaining and comic playlet which has met with success this season.

The Holloways in their intricate and adroit equilibristic act will furnish some of the best tricks in this line of entertainment seen at the theater this year.

G. Cacum, the Caruso of vaudeville comes to the playhouse with a good reputation. Although he devotes his offering wholly to operatic selections the beauty of his singing is agreeable to all.

### "The Top O' Th' World."

The fact that there is no "number two" company in "The Top O' Th' World" is not generally known, as the extravaganza has been sufficiently successful to justify its managers in putting several companies on the road according to the custom almost universal today. So much of the success of "The Top O' Th' World," however, was due to the unique personalities and eccentric talents of the principal performers that its managers have always held that it would be impossible to give a satisfactory performance with any but the original cast. The methods of Bailey and Austin are entirely their own. The work of no other performers at all resemble theirs. Miss Kathleen Clifford is a sort of pocket dynamo for energy, and Miss Alice Hegeman is by far the most eccentric character woman playing in musical comedy. It has been

concluded that an effort to duplicate the effect of the performance of this unique quartet would be useless. At the Gennett Friday night.

### WAS STRONG PLAY.

"The Thief" Pleases a Fair Sized Audience.

Strong in plot and not burdened by too melo-dramatic climaxes, "The Thief," as presented at the Gennett last evening was the best acted drama that has been offered to the local theater going public this season. The lines are heavy, the dialogues unusually difficult and the action requires such force and dramatic ability that a less competent company than that offering the production would find itself stalled.

The story is of the modern age. A woman is so deeply in love with her husband that she steals from her dearest friend in order to get money with which to buy apparel to make herself look beautiful in the eyes of her husband. A nineteen year old youth, the step son of her friend, led on by her flirting with him, has fallen desperately in love with her. When the thefts are noticed, a detective is employed by the husband of the friend. The accusation is placed upon the son. He has seen his beloved in the apartments of his step mother and suspects her. But out of his love for her, he spares the truth and accepts the responsibility by confessing to the theft. He is ordered by his father to go to Brazil for two years as a punishment. The husband has discovered the double dealing of his wife and denounces her and upon learning of the relations with the young man charges her with being unfaithful. The husband's love returns upon his wife's confession and he tells the boy's father the true story. He and his wife take the trip to Brazil and the son remains with his father in happiness.

The stage settings were first class. It was a finished production in every detail. A success on the road equal to that met at New York is to be expected. "The Thief" was written by Henri Bernstein and is presented by Charles Frohman.

The cast of characters:  
Richard Voysin ..... Clifford Bruce  
Marie-Louise, his wife, Helene Wilson  
Raymond Legardes ..... Stephen Cornelius  
Isabel Legardes, his second wife ..... Helene Sullivan  
Fernande Legardes, his son ..... Charles Walton  
Mons. Gondoin, known as Mons. Zembault ..... Frank B. Hersome  
Servant ..... Frank B. Hersome

Mrs. Austin's famous pancakes make a hearty, wholesome breakfast. Fresh supply now at your grocer's.

## WILL OBSERVE THE ORDER'S FOUNDING

Three Local K. of P. Lodges Plan Big Celebration at Hall, Friday Eve.

## ARRANGE A GOOD PROGRAM

BROTHERHOOD WAS ORGANIZED FORTY-FIVE YEARS AGO IN WASHINGTON BY FIVE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

The three local lodges, Knights of Pythias, will observe the anniversary of the 45th period of the order Friday evening at the temple, South Eighth street, in an appropriate manner. An excellent program has been prepared by members from each order formed into a committee. The program is as follows:

Music—Orchestra.  
Vocal selection—Miss Carolyn Karl.  
Address—Judge W. C. Converse.  
Music—Orchestra.  
Address—Hon. Clarence C. Dearth, of Muncie.  
Music—Orchestra.

Expect Large Crowd.  
Invitations have been extended to every Pythian in the city to attend with his family and also to invite any friends whom he may desire. The committee in charge expects that a very large crowd will be in attendance, including both members and visitors.

Instead of each order of the local Knights of Pythias separately celebrating, the three, including Couer de Lion, Iola and Triumph, have banded together to celebrate the anniversary.

The founder of the order was Justus Henry Rathbone of Deerfield, N. Y. He with four clerks of the government service in Washington organized themselves into a society at Washington February 15, 1864. After securing several recruits, Washington Lodge No. 1 was organized October 19.

Turkey is to have a new national bank on the credit foncier system, with headquarters at Constantinople. Its starting capital is to be \$15,000,000 with the right to increase to \$50,000,000. The capital, \$15,000,000, of the present Credit Foncier, may be increased to \$100,000,000. The concession for the new bank is for ninety-nine years, and it will have branches in all the large cities of the empire.

## ..GENNETT THEATRE..

Some Attractions You Can't Afford to Miss.

Tonight at 8:15

The English Grand Opera Company in  
**MADAM BUTTERFLY**  
SOME GOOD SEATS LEFT

Tomorrow Night

The Merry Musical Comedy  
**THE ROYAL CHEF**  
SPECIAL PRICES—25, 50, 75, \$1.00

Friday Night

Original Cast and Production **Top o' th' World**  
WITH BAILEY AND AUSTIN  
Seats now selling. Prices: 25, 50, 75, \$1.00, \$1.50.

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## Phillips Theatre.

## VAUDEVILLE.

Week End Feb. 18

Entire change of program Monday Thursday

**Hickman, Willis & Co.**  
Comedy Playlet

7 Other Big Acts.

Admission 10 cents to all parts of the house.

# THE STARR MINUM GRAND

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**Miss Adelaide Norwood**  
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ADELAIDE NORWOOD.

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Miss Norwood will be seen here in

**"Madam Butterfly"**  
at the Gennett Theatre, Tonight.

**STARR PIANO COMPANY.**  
CORNER TENTH AND MAIN STREETS.

