

the first car he built, and it now has a place in the Smithsonian Institution at Washington.

What's Doing Among Motor Car Owners

America's automobile industry is in its tenth year.

A taxicab company has been formed to operate taxicabs in Memphis, Tenn.

A new motor transfer company, with \$100,000 capitalization, has been formed in Boston.

A large eight-story building is planned by a wholesale and retail automobile firm in Minneapolis.

It is estimated that there are now more than 200,000 active users of automobiles in the United States.

The number of automobile registrations in London amounts to 34,908—only 2,000 less than the estimated total for the whole of France.

Cleveland has taken to taxicabs with a rush. Three concerns are now operating them and thirty-five more cabs are being installed.

A maker of commercial auto trucks is now offering a vehicle with a carrying capacity of ten tons. It is the largest capacity single vehicle in the world.

A fear has actually arisen among selling agents in several sections of the country that the supply of high-grade cars this season will run short.

More and more motorists are appreciating the fact that the absence of an oil bill is a sure sign of a repair bill, and they also know that the oil bill is the least of the evils.

A peculiar feature of the automobile bill before the West Virginia Legislature is that it makes it obligatory to use a fire chain or "other contrivance" when the roads are slippery.

The Automobile Club of Syracuse, N. Y., has grown in membership from seventy-five to 217 in the first year of its existence, and a determined effort is being made to reach 300 before 1910.

See that the storage batteries are always held tightly in their box, and that all connections are tight. Rubber sheeting is a good material for packing the batteries and deaden vibrators to a large extent.

L. W. K. Vanderbilt Jr., donor of the world-famous Vanderbilt Cup, believes that a grand prize race should be held at Savannah yearly. He recently drove over the course there and was delighted with it.

In connection with the Northern games in Stockholm in 1909 are to be automobile races from Feb. 7 to 14. The first event will be a race from Gothenburg to Stockholm for the Winter Cup and the Gothenburg Cup.

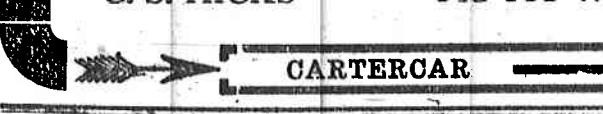
By far the best and handiest thing to clean the lens mirrors is a mixture of equal parts of alcohol and water; a 50 per cent solution evaporates more slowly than pure alcohol, and giving time to wipe the glass clean.

Ralph de Palma, whose fast laps in the Savannah grand prize race gave him a standard among the great racing drivers, is to be a star attraction at the New Orleans Mardi Gras carnival, Feb. 20, 21 and 22.

If in selecting leather for upholstering a car the material is hand-buffed it will show it, not only in appearance, but in pliability. If it looks flaky, and if it is not firm, then it is a sign that the leather is not of a desirable grade.

It is estimated that largely on account of the unimproved state of the roads the mere hauling to market and to shipping points of the farm products of the United States costs the farmers of the country \$662,000,000 a year.

Col. F. M. Joyce, president of the Minnesota State Automobile Association, will visit Milwaukee shortly to confer with the Milwaukee Club officials and to cooperate with them in making arrangements for the handling of the "Gilded army."



Gotham Play Lovers See Three Novelties

BY BURTON T. BEACH.

NEW YORK, Feb. 18.—This week has brought three novelties, and not one of them tainted with a suspicion of such unwholesomeness as Charles Burnham, president of the Theatrical Managers' Association, reinforcing Archbishop Farley, attributes to "certain dramas and an opera now running in this city." They are Jerome K. Jerome's English comedy, "The New Lady Bantock," the London Gaiety Theater success, "Havana," and the American debut of the German actor, Konrad Dreher, a comedian who enjoys the favor of William II and of the whole playgoing public of the Fatherland.

"Havana," presented by the Messrs. Shubert at the Casino on Thursday evening, is doubly apropos in this country at a moment when Cuba is entering upon her new career as an independent state, though the piece has come with the endorsement of a long London engagement. It is a musical creation in three acts, the score of which was composed by Leslie Stuart, who composed "Florodora," of deathless memory, and the libretto was written by George Grossmith Jr., in the first instance, with lyrics by Adrian Ross and George Arthur.

So far as "Havana" has a special personal interest for our people grows out of the fact that James T. Powers returns in it to the region of many triumphs. Mr. Powers had been missed—missed sadly and deeply. He belongs in a class by himself; is an original and inventive comedian not easy to "fit" into the dramatic entertainments of the day and enjoys a large popularity among good judges of stage work.

All the atmosphere, scenes, songs, effects of the play are Havanaese, Cuban, Caribbean, tropical. There are pretty cigar girls, handsome cigarette girls, lovely nicotine girls, ravishing tobacco girls, and every one of the bewildering boys up to snuff. Sixteen musical numbers, including the extremely clever "Hello, People" telephone girl song, are "high points" in the production, which owes much of its special interest for our public to the discreet and skill adaptations traceable to Mr. Powers himself.

German Comedian Makes Good.

Herr Konrad Dreher's appearance at the New German Theater is keenly relished by the Germans of the metropolis and by all of the non-German element capable of interpreting the finished art of a master of his craft, irrespective of an accurate understanding of what he says in the play. "It is not necessary to know German to enjoy a German, thank goodness," exclaimed a young wagn, a descendant from the Puritans, who saw Dreher's debut in the title role of "Mathias Gollinger."

It is the role of an old Bavarian brewer, honest, simple, sweet and good as the bear he brews in Munich. His daughter falls in love with a Berlin architect, and old Gollinger, having given the pair his blessing, starts for the Kaiser's capital to open a beer hall. In the contrast between the unsophistication of the Bavarian and the artificial, formal, etiquette-loving folk Gollinger meets in Berlin, particularly the fashionable inmates of the household of his son-in-law's father, lie the fun, pathos and charm of the drama.

In makeup Dreher is wonderfully expert, suggesting Richard Mansfield, John E. Dodson, Wilton Lackaye—not in appearance, of course, but in resourcefulness and in the air of truth he gives to a stage portrait. The man is lost in the role—lost physically as well as intellectually and spiritually. You see nothing but the character the dramatist had in mind.

Beyond this he has a comic unctuousness that affects the observer, as does

Automobile Plants in Various States

Michigan	39	Missouri	12
Illinois	39	Wisconsin	6
Indiana	30	Minnesota	6
Ohio	30	Kansas	1
Iowa	7	Nebraska	2
New York	20	Colorado	1
Pennsylvania	18	California	4
New Jersey	4	Nevada	1
Maryland	2	Texas	1
Massachusetts	16		
Connecticut	4		
Rhode Island	1	Total	253

OLD BATTLE FLAG BACK IN ANNAPOLIS AT LAST

Banner Carried by Battery and Captured by Union Troops Returned to Maryland.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., Feb. 13.—The flag which is understood to have been carried by the First Maryland (Dement's) Battery (Confederate) during the civil war, which was captured by the One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio Infantry at the battle of Hatcher's Run, has arrived in Annapolis and is being cared for at the office of the adjutant general pending its placing in the flagroom of the State House, which will be done with appropriate ceremony.

The flag was returned through a special act of the Ohio Legislature, recommended by former Governor Harris of that state, upon the suggestion of Governor Warfield of Maryland, made when the latter visited Ohio, shortly before the conclusion of his term of office.

Among the Players by Pneumatic Rhymer

Oh, come in my Thomas Flyer, I do not care to stay. "The Devil" take the vapid joys That lurk along Broadway.

"The Crisis" long is over, And "Girls" are on the wane, "The Fighting Hope" is full of dope, "The Question" calls in vain.

"The Yankee Prince" is a frightful quince, "The Witching Hour" draws near When "Little Nemo" tells the tale Of "Mr. Crewe's Career."

When "Lady Frederick" heard the news "What Every Woman Knows," "Miss Innocence" fell off the fence And badly tore her clothes.

Then "Fluffy Ruffles" passing by Observed "The Man From Home," The famous "Music Master," From the gorgeous "Hippodrome."

Oh! ho! he cried, "The Great Divide," "The Squaw Man," fattered she; He was "The Thief," who made my friend "Salome" climb a tree.

Get busy, "Samson," "Kassa" cried, You "Grand Old Army Man," The "Wolf" upon a hill I see; Oh save me if you can.

He carried her to the "Moulin Rouge," "The Round Up" there was gay; "The Warrens of Virginia" said It was "The Only Way."

And not a kiss to pay for this, Then I have lost my pull. "The Girl Behind the Counter" said Nay, nay, you're "Paid in Full."

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"Little Nemo" Buys an Auto, but Not in His Dreams.