

AROUND-THE-WORLD VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT

Expected to Result from Affiliation of Alfred Butt of London and Martin Beck.

TO GET BARRASFORD HOUSES

Through Transfer of Stock European Circuit May Be Combined with Orpheum and United Interests.

Arrangements have practically been completed by which an affiliation of important vaudeville interests in America and Europe will be brought about that may eventually result in a 'round the world vaudeville circuit. Alfred Butt, an English music-hall director and manager of the Palace Theatre, London, and Martin Beck and M. Meyerfeld, Jr., General Manager and President, respectively, of the Orpheum circuit in America, are the principal parties to the arrangement.

Through a transfer of stock that will probably take place immediately upon Mr. Butt's arrival in England, Beck and Meyerfeld will gain control of a portion of the interests of the late Thomas Barrasford of London and Paris in what is called the Barrasford circuit. This circuit is to be combined with the "Affiliated Vaudeville Interests of America," that includes the Orpheum circuit, west of Chicago, the Kohl & Castle, Frank Tate, and Anderson and Ziegler theatres of the Middle West and the vaudeville houses of B. F. Keith, F. F. Proctor, Percy G. Williams, Hammerstein, Harry Davis, M. Shea, and others in the East. The Barrasford houses will include the Alhambra Music Hall, Paris, and a number of "hippodromes" in England, together with other important provincial houses.

Mr. Butt explained yesterday that he would still keep his connection with the Palace Theatre, London, but would act as European agent for the affiliation. Shareholders of the Palace, he said, would probably take shares in a holding company that is to be formed for the enlarged circuit. In time he expects that the Rickard interests in Australia and the important vaudeville circuits in South Africa will be included. The circuit of Europe and America would make it possible for an actor to play 200 weeks' time without retracing his route.

Mr. Bloom, General Manager for William Morris, Inc., whose circuit is not included in the combination, said last night that Morris's representative, George Leventritt, in England, had an option on the Barrasford circuit, and that this option had not yet been released. Until that is done, he says, the other vaudeville interests cannot acquire it. He intimated, however, that Mr. Leventritt considered the Barrasford property of not enough value to make it worth while holding the option.

Miss Talliaferro in Yeats's Play.

William Butler Yeats's one-act Irish idyl, "The Land of Heart's Desire," was presented as a curtain raiser to "Springtime" at the Grand Opera House last night. The piece has been given in New York several times, first in 1901, when Mabel Talliaferro appeared as the Fairy Child, the rôle she played last night. The character, a dancing elf, half serious and half mischievous, appears to be well suited to Miss Talliaferro's personality, and her performance was very well received. She was supported by the members of her company in "Springtime." Joseph Brennan played the priest, William Harrigan, Shawn Bruin, Sam Forrest, Marteen Bruin, Helen Lindsay, Bridget Bruin, and Mary Thurber, Maire Bruin. "The Land of Heart's Desire" will be continued as a curtain raiser to "Springtime" during the rest of Miss Talliaferro's engagement at the Grand Opera House.

Mrs. Batonyi's Divorce Confirmed.

Justice McCall, in the Supreme Court, confirmed yesterday an interlocutory judgment of divorce granted Nov. 9 in favor of Mrs. Francis Burke Roche Batonyi against Aurel Batonyi. The decree gives Mrs. Batonyi the right to resume her maiden name.