

Western Farce

William Collier at The Moore Tonight in "Caught in the Rain," a Comedy of Montana.

"Fra Diavolo," "When We Were Twenty-One," and "A Runaway Match" at the Other Houses.

CHARLES FROHMAN will present William Collier, among the foremost comedians of the day, at the Moore Theatre this evening in "Caught in the Rain," which is said to be the funniest farce comedy in which he has ever appeared. Mr. Collier's engagement at the Moore is for one week, with a matinee on Saturday only. Mr. Collier, who is especially popular with the theatre-going public of Seattle, returns after an absence of two years with a play, written by himself and Grnul Stewart, which is said to afford him greater opportunities for his fun-making proclivities than "On the Quiet," "The Dictator," or "The Man from Mexico," his previous successes. "Caught in the Rain" had the remarkable run of over eight months at the Garrick Theatre in New York last season, where it was a notable comedy hit of the year. Its clean, wholesome fun was especially commended. The play has been aptly characterized as "a cloudburst of laughter."

The scenes of the three acts of "Caught in the Rain" are laid in and about Helena, Montana, at the present day. "Dick Crawford," the character enacted by Mr. Collier, is a young mining engineer who thinks nothing of risking his life to save a fellow-miner, but runs away at the sight of a pretty girl. One day he is driven by a terrific thunder storm to seek the shelter of a friendly awning. There to his dismay he meets "Muriel Mason," the most attractive girl he has ever seen. The rain comes down in torrents. The situation is painfully embarrassing for the young engineer, but nevertheless it is plainly a case of love at first sight. "Crawford" does not learn her name until late in the play, and in the meantime the complications involve her father's financial standing and a wealthy mine owning suitor for her hand. In the end "Crawford" is made aware of the true state of affairs, all difficulties are happily adjusted, and "Muriel Mason" becomes "Mrs. Dick Crawford." With all its fun-making there is plenty of heart interest as well as laughter in "Caught in the Rain."