Blog # 69 Just One More Day and the Chautauqua Will Begin

In 1918 there was no TV or radio to listen, so when the Chautauqua came to town in was a big social event. I could find no mention of how many people attended the 2018 Chautauqua, which was billed as a "Brilliant and Patriotic Program."

Music was one of the main attractions. Besides the Major Marr Entertainers mentioned in Post #68, other musical presentations were enjoyed. The Ladies Regimental Orchestra consisted of eight women usually kicked off the Chautauqua with lively songs and readings. The eight members



LUCILE KEMP, of the Ladies' Regimental Orchestra.

played the piano, violin, drums, cornet, flute, clarinet, and sang. One can imagine the tent filling with the sound of the 25 piece Cimera Band playing patriotic marches, classical and popular music. The band leader, Jerroslav (Jerry) Cimera, was a well-known trombonist who also composed music, especially for the trombone. The band provided the music for Madame Helene Cafarelli, an Italian prima donna soprano, and Thurlow W. Lieurance.



<u>Mr. Lieurance</u> was an American composer who grew up in SE Kansas and was particularly wellknown for his songs inspired by Native American culture. His wife, Edna Woolley, traveled with him and performed his songs. Pehaps his most popular, "By the Waters of Minnetonka" has been recorded by many artists over the years. Here is a link to a <u>1920 version</u>, which probably sounds much like it did in Kinsley 100 years ago. The modern ear might recognize and enjoy more <u>Nelson</u> <u>Eddy's rendition</u>. You may even remember the song in a Lucile Ball and Desi Arnaz routine.

