# SKATING ASTOUNDS EASTERN MAN HERE

## Guilds Lake Changes Mind of Stranger, Who Thought He Had Reached Tropics.

## TICKLING CHILL MISSED

**Crowds Enjoying Sport on Icy Surface Remind Tourist of Home and Expertness of Gliders Amazes Him—Boys Are Amusing.**

The stranger from the North was surprised yesterday afternoon when he saw a young man wearing a "stocking cap," carrying a pair of skates over his arm, and running for a streetcar.

"I thought I was in the tropics," he muttered. He sniffed the air vigorously, but didn't feel the tickling in the nose that goes with extremely cold weather.

Looking again down the street he saw another man with skates. Then came another, and later a group of pretty girls appeared, each carrying a pair of skates. It reminded the stranger of Winter in his own country, though he was overcoatless and didn't feel cold.

"Where do you do it?" he inquired when two boys came down the street with skates.

"Guild's lake," was the answer. "Get off the car at the Forestry building and walk down Cornell road until you come to it.

**Stranger Drawn to Scene.**

The stranger looked at his watch and decided he had time. So he boarded the proper car, rode out to Twenty-sixth and Thurman streets, and alighted.

Right away he saw more persons with skates, all of whom were huddled up in overcoats and sweaters and heavy gloves. The stranger was surprised. He didn't feel cold at all.

"I wonder if they can really skate?" he soliloquized. "I'll bet they haven't had any skating here for years."

The stranger rounded a turn in Cornell road and the lake, nearly a mile away, suddenly burst into view. It covered a vast stretch of ground and was thickly dotted with moving figures. The stranger quickened his pace. He could smell the ice.

"Yes, Guild's Lake is the best," volunteered a voluable one. "I've tried all the others and the ice is better here. Smith's Lake is pretty good and there's fair ice on all the other lakes around Columbia Slough. Looks like there's more than a thousand on this lake. Down here it's all right except the Northern Pacific trains come by and the cinders settle on the ice and it grinds your skates dull.

**Non-Skaters Dot Shore.**

Eventually the pair arrived at the lake. The shore was dotted with persons who weren't skating, because they couldn't or because they had forgotten how or because they didn't have any skates or because they were too fat, or for other reasons.

In a lagoon 10 or 15 boys were playing "shinny" with an old tin can. Further on, right at the edge of the ice, two men with a girl between them were trying to show her how to stand up on skates. She sank weakly to the ice, and patiently they half dragged, half carried her along.

The stranger remembered his rubber heels and walked out on the ice. As far as he could see there were skaters. It lookd more than half a mile to the other shore, but some had skated over there, and many were gliding about in both arms of the lake.

**Crowd Remindful of East.**

The crowd was just such as he would expect to see in his own state, including small boys, who chased one another over the lake and furnished most of the comedy for the crowds when they fell and slid on their necks.

There were lots of persons who couldn't skate, decided the stranger, but not nearly as many as one would expect to find in a "tropical" climate.

Pretty soon the sun went down, and the stranger without an overcoat on the ice began to get chilly, so he walked back to the carline, rode to his hotel and met a man whom he had a vague recollection of meeting the night before, and told him what he had seen.

"I thought I was going to pick oranges here, but I guess I'll go skating tomorrow instead," the stranger said.

## PUPILS FORM MUTS CLUB

**Society at Shattuck School Will Aid Destitute Children.**

The pupils of the Shattuck School have organized a Muts Society for the benefit of destitute children. This organization was perfected last week.

It has been a custom for the children to buy the teachers a Christmas present, but the teachers announced that, owing to the great necessity to provide for the poor, the money will be turned over to some charitable institution.

An elaborate Christmas entertainment has been arranged by the pupils of the school. There will be four playlets staged, Wednesday, December 23, in which the pupils will take part. The following are the plays to be given: "The Forum," scene from "Julius Caesar"; "The Birds' Christmas Carol," "The Snow Witch," a Russian folk play, and Dickens' "Christmas Carol." Miss Conner, Miss Himes and Miss Cartmell are the teachers who have charge of directing the plays.

## MURDER INQUIRY SHIFTED

**Grand Jury Instead of Court to Investigate Hotel Case.**

The preliminary hearing of Theodore M. Ellinger in the Municipal Court on a second-degree charge of murder, scheduled for this morning, will be waived by his attorneys and the case will come before the grand jury at 9:30 o'clock this morning.

In the language of the Coroner's jury that sat on the case, Ellinger "escorted" Thomas Russell, an aged man, from the rooming-house where Ellinger was night clerk, a week ago. Russell fell or was shoved to the pavement, sustaining a fractured skull, from which he died the next day without regaining consciousness.

**Bishop Cooke to Speak.**

Bishop R. J. Cooke will attend a meeting at 10:30 o'clock this morning of the Methodist preachers of Portland at the First Methodist Episcopal Church. It is planned to give the full time of the meeting to the bishop, who will report his observations on his recent official visit in the East. The Rev. A. R. MacLean, who was to have read a paper on "A Twentieth Century Study of John Wesley," has been ill, and will not be able to take his place on the programme.

RARE WINTER SCENES IN PORTLAND MADE POSSIBLE BY RECENT COLD SNAP, WHICH PROMISES TO CONTINUE FEW DAYS.

1—THE ICEBOAT WHICH ATTRACTED MUCH ATTENION ON GUILD'S LAKE. 2—A GAME OF "SHINNY." 3—THE OTHER SEX WAS WELL REPRESENTED. 4—SLEDDING WAS ALSO POPULAR.

# NEW MOVIES BRIGHT

## Dog Hero of "The Barrier of Flames" at Sunset.

## PEOPLE'S CHANGES TODAY

**"False Colors," Stage-Life Film, at Star, Cathrine Countiss, Majestic Feature, Shows at National and Columbia Great.**

There is something better than an animal show at the Sunset Theater, in "The Barrier of Flames." The hero is a dog, a big Scotch collie. The heroine is a little curly-haired girl, Helen Badgley. Together they are making one of the most attractive pictures that has been at the Sunset for a long time.

The dog, realizing his little mistress' danger in a burning building, goes up the ladder, through the flames, and leads the firemen to the baby.

Sunset patrons yesterday were delighted with the offering. Two other dramas of merit are "In the Conservatory," a snappy detective play featuring Boyd Marshall and Mayre Hall, and "The Silent Way," the story of how an Indian abducted a white girl for her own good.

A Keystone comedy, "Fatty's Magic Pants," and the Mutual Weekly conclude the offering.

## CATHRINE COUNTISS FILMED

**Portland Favorite in "The Idler," Feature at Majestic.**

That "Satan finds mischief still for idle hands to do" is portrayed in "The Idler," another of the William Fox attractions at the Majestic Theater.

The fact that Cathrine Countiss, a Portland favorite, is appearing in one of the leading roles makes the picture particularly interesting in Portland.

The story is centered about two women and one man on one side and two men and one woman on the other.

How the good woman, portrayed by Miss Countiss, shames the two men for allowing the evil sides of their natures to get the better of them, makes the climax of the play intensely human.

Claire Whitney and Stewart Holmes also appear in the play.

Sidney Drew, the Vitagraph comedian, is in "Who's Who in Hogg's Hollow," and the Hearst-Selig News Pictorial shows interesting bits of current news.

## SNOW DELAYS GREAT FILM

**"Sign of the Cross," Big Feature, to Be at Peoples Today.**

Snow in the Cascade Mountains caused disappointment to the many persons who had expected to see the picturized version of Wilson Barrett's sublime drama, "The Sign of the Cross," described by the critics as probably the grandest photo spectacle ever produced, at the Peoples Theater yesterday.

Late Saturday night word was received by John F. Cordray, manager of the Peoples Amusement Company, from the Paramount picture booking office in Seattle, that "The Sign of the Cross" film could not arrive in time for Sunday's performance because of railroad delays.

"False Colors," the Paramount picture billed to open at the Star Theater yesterday, was transferred to the Peoples by Mr. Cordray. However, "The Sign of the Cross" will arrive here early this morning. It will be the attraction at the Peoples, beginning today, through Christmas week. A story of the early days of Christianity in the time of Nero, played by a cast of 500 persons, headed by William Farnum, it is especially fitted for Christmas.

## ORIENTAL ROMANCE THRILLS

**"The Marked Woman" at Columbia Is Great Production.**

Barbara Tenannt, a beautiful and talented actress, is featured in a Shubert film, "The Marked Woman," at the Columbia.

It is a story of the Boxer uprising in China in 1900. The heroine is a Russian girl and the hero is an American naval Lieutenant, who rescues her from the castle of a Boxer Prince. The feature of the story is the stirring capture of the castle by Lieutenant Dare and his dauntless bluejackets, who scale real walls and perform marvelous feats.

The role of Olga, the Russian girl, is taken by Miss Tennant. Olga, a Nihilist, falls into the hands of the Russian Ambassalor and barely escapes being sentenced to Siberia. She meets Lieutenant Dare, who rescues her from death. Then she falls into the hands of a powerful Prince, whom she is forced to marry to save the life of Lieutenant Dare. After years Lieutenant Dare learns of the whereabouts of Olga and heads the attack upon the castle of the Boxer Prince. In the fight Olga's child and her Boxer husband are slain and the lovers are reunited.

## STAGE PICTURE REMARKABLE

**Star to Show "False Colors" Featuring Three Noted Thespians.**

"False Colors," an absorbing four-act Paramount picture of stage life, with Lois Weber, Adele Farrington and Phillips Smalley in the star roles, which was to have opened a four-day run at the Star Theater yesterday, was transferred for the one day only to the Peoples, when the film of "The Sign of the Cross" was delayed by snow storms.

A good bill of drama and comedy attractions was run in its place at the Star. "False Colors" will be transferred back to the Star today and will run today, Tuesday and Wednesday.

It isn't often that one has a chance of seeing three such accomplished actors as Phillips Smalley, Lois Weber and Adele Farrington in one photoplay. The result in "False Colors," a photoplay of many strong situations, is distinctly satisfying.

Two "sets" in "False Colors" depict opening nights of a new play in a Broadway theater. In the first one it is Lloyd Phillips who stars, in the second, 19 years later, the applause is for his daughter, whom he had lost long before.

## FASCINATOR AT NATIONAL

**"The Greyhound," Showing Types of People, Is Gripping Film.**

For variety of types of people, perhaps few pictures ever shown in the city have more than "The Greyhound" at the National Theater. There are at least five types, each forceful and distinct in characterization. From the "greyhound" himself to the deserted wife and the man who befriends her, every character is symbolic of some phase of life.

The picture created a profound stir in the National all day yesterday. There are only a few touches of humor to lighten the production. They are subtle. The drama itself is subtle. Every action is guided by an undersurface motive. Treachery and deceit appear throughout the play on one side, and they are offset by tenacious love and trust on the other.

The picture is more than interesting; it is fascinating. A Keystone comedy completes the bill.

**Released Foe Accures French.**

BERLIN, Dec. 20.—(By Wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—The German War Office announces that a German Lieutenant aviator who has been liberated from captivity by the French says under oath that the French repeatedly fettered him and that similar treatment is meted out to other officers.

# PLAY'S MORAL HIGH

## Baker Offers Strong Feature for Holiday Week.

## FINE ROLES INTERPRETED

**Story of "Leah Kleshna" Is of Girl Brought Up to Life of Crime Who Sees Light and Wins Reward of Virtue.**

**"LEAH KLESHNA."**

CAST:

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|---|---|
| Paul Sylcain | Robert Gleckler |
| Kleshna | Brandon Evans |
| Schram | Clarke Silvernail |
| Gen. Berton | William Lloyd |
| Raoul Berton | William H. Powell |
| Valentine Favre | Walter Gilbert |
| Anton Pfaff | Clinton Lancaster |
| Johann | Walter Gilbert |
| Reichman | Walter Siegfried |
| Herr Linder | William Lloyd |
| Baptiste | Walter Siegfried |
| Sergeant | Clifton Lancaster |
| Madam Berton | Florence Roberts |
| Claire | Mary Edgett Baker |
| Sophie Chaponniere | Eileen Wilson |
| Charlotte | Florence Roberts |
| Frieda | Eileen Wilson |
| Leah Kleshna | Irene Oshier |

BY LEONE CASS BAER.

Contrary to the nice little rule laid down by the first managers of stock theaters in the time of Adam, to put on the weakest or least interesting in a season of plays during the Christmas week, because business is duller and the actors have extra matinees and no more inclination to work than others, Manager Baker has gone. He picked out one of the strongest and best plays in the list and is giving it to the Christmas week patrons.

The play is "Leah Kleshna," which was one of the big successes of Mrs. Fiske, and one of the forerunners of criminology plays.

A somber role throughout is Leah, with only two quick flashes of humor, and that humor is of the sardonic. Leah is the only child of a notorious thief, Kleshna. He has taught the motherless girl since her tenderest years the art of which he is master and of which he is proud. She has known no other men save her father's accomplices and no other life than the one he offers. A face in her memory haunts her, the face of a man who rowed her and a boatload of people to safety in a wreck. She sees his portrait in a shop window and buys it. Her father and Schram, his pal, who acts as Kleshna's servant, discover that Leah is growing dissatisfied with her life. They are to make one great haul and then plan to quit.

Leah is sent to rob Paul Sylvain of jewels he is to give to his betrothed. Sylvain is a member of the Chamber of Deputies and his fiancee is the daughter of General Berton, of the French army. Leah enters the rooms after midnight and, with the jewels in her hands, is confronted by Sylvain. She recognizes him as the original of the portrait. The scene between them is a tremendous sermon on the right of the under dog. Leah sees the light, looks up and is a thief no more. Her regeneration is quick and genuine. But her evil past follows. We see her, at the last, working in the lettuce fields with the peasants. To her here comes Sylvain, jilted by Mademoiselle Berton, and asking Leah to walk with him always "in the light, looking upward."

Irene Oshier plays Leah in a subdued key, bursting into fiery denunciatory speeches and lending the character a fine vigor and appeal. Robert Gleckler has a lovable role, that of the noble Sylvain. To the part Gleckler brings a personal charm and quiet method that casts a spell.

Brandon Evans has the best and biggest role of his career with the Baker Players—that of the hot-headed, scheming thief, Kleshna, and Mr. Evans plays it most convincingly. Clarke Silvernail, an excellent portrayer of character, is admirable as Schram. William Lloyd, who was given an ovation on his returning, is excellent as General Berton, and William F. Powell adds another fine feather to his big collection as the dissolute young Berton. Walter Gilbert, as a young journalist, and Eileen Wilson, as his fiancee, add a sparkle of comedy. Mary Edgett Baker is the betrothed of Sylvain, not much of a role, but one Miss Baker gives excellent accounting for, and Florence Roberts is the invalid Madame Berton. The play is beautifully put on.



# CUPID IN CHANCE VISIT

**DITCHBURN WEDDING FOLLOWS SUDDEN MEETING OF STUDENTS.**

**Portland Friends Learn That Young Couple Affianced Here Two Years Ago Disregard Parents' "Nay."**

Their friends in Portland have just learned of the romantic circumstances under which John Ditchburn, Jr., son of the Portland attorney of the same name and a student at Princeton, and Miss Helen M. Ketcham, of Mendota, Mo., were married in Chicago December 8.

The romance began two years ago, when Miss Ketcham was a student at St. Helen's Hall, but the young woman's family objected to a wedding because of the youth of herself and fiance.

Young John Ditchburn and Miss Ketcham had not seen each other in nearly two years. There was a chance meeting in Chicago, and, withouut acquainting either of their families of their intentions, they were married.

The bride is a daughter of William D. Ketcham, of Mendota, Mo., who is at the head of large coal mining properties. She is a niece of Mrs. Edward O. Burden, of Portland, and Mrs. Charles H. Farrell, of Seattle, and a granddaughter of Mrs. F. H. Ketcham, of Seattle. Frank H. Ketcham, her grandfather, passed away a few months ago in Seattle, where he had lately taken up his residence, coming from Burlington, Ia.

The sister of the bridegroom is well known as Ann Swinburne, light opera star.

**St. Paul Has Snow.**

ST. PAUL, Or., Dec. 20.—(Special.)—Two inches of snow fell here this morning, the first for some years. The thermometer dropped to 19 above Thursday morning, freezing the lakes and sloughs, affording fine skating. This is the coldest period experienced here for five years.