

NEW BILLS OPEN AT PORTLAND THEATERS

Orpheum. BY LEONE CASS BAER. If a meal is good and you had your fill and enjoyed all the courses, tell me—I'm asking for information—how are you going to say which special dish contributed most to your well-being and satisfaction? Maybe it was the ice cream, or it might have been the soup. Maybe your dinner partner, beside you partaking of the same viands, thought the soup was sick and passed up the chance to devote all his attention to the gravy and potatoes. Life and dinners and Orpheum shows are like that, you know. For instance, there's the headline act, "White Coupons," a sort of morality playlet, with love as a shopping selling various of our best little emotions across her counter. Broadway, a gay dog, wants to buy some of the worth-while things, like happiness, loyalty, virtue and similar commodities, only to find the purchaser must have white coupons with which to buy. He has only red coupons which have been given him by Vice Broadway becomes regenerated, in the playlet, of course, and buys Happiness. Love forsakes the shop and goes along. Some of it was very obscure to me, but that is wholly due to my personal lack of enthusiasm over plays that point lessons. Emily Ann Wellman wrote the book for White Coupons, someone else wrote the story, some one else the lyrics and the music, and the music, it should be said, in fitting and tuneful. Barrett Greenwood plays Broadway nicely and a dainty girl, Dorothy Quintette, is Love. Musical numbers interpolate the philosophical dialogue and the lighting effects are half the story. Bert Baker is a favorite, and so are the Four Harmony Kings and Burns and Frabito. There's absolutely no variance of opinion about these three acts—they're all good. Burns and Frabito are a pair of street-singing, mandolin and guitar-playing wags, given to lengthy arguments and sudden bursts of war of affection. Their comedy, much of it in pantomime, is delightful and carries the suggestion of spontaneity. Four Harmony Kings sing a symphony in ebou, each blessed with a rich, natural, unspoiled singing voice. One rolly-polly King sings in a deep, sonorous voice, vibrant with a wealth of feeling. One thin, little King is an exceptional tenor and the two others have voices of wonderful range. Their clear harmony has the quality of big organ music. Their selections are chosen for popular appeal. The only way to beat the Four Kings is with Four Aces, and the aces are all in Europe. Bert Baker's sketch, "Reverberation," is the same humorous accounting he brought us last season about the man who experimented and found that one he made not only to his own kind, but to the mess of others with complications. Mr. Baker is an excellent comedian and his methods are unique. He seems to be just acting, and is on terms of intimacy with his audience, which follows his antics and every word with laughter. Annie D. Mullen gives a delightful characterization of a wife, jealous of forgiving by turns, according to whether her husband has been given her. A pretty girl, Eddy Baker and Billy Howland complete the capable cast. The play is of the farce order, and replete with fun and foolishness. Hector is a woolly, white little dog who minds his master to the extent that he promades in the aisles and even visits the boxes and smiles at the delighted audience. Hector does this, not the master, but the audience, and the tracts and rolls over apparently all of it by the process of thinking. Hector's son, a 20-months-old Bolshevik pup, creates a rough-house and occasions great hilarity. Hector is a smart dog and he is mighty entertaining, and so is Hector's master, who entertains to the opening act in an unusual dance offering in which Bessie and William Ramsdell and Muriel Deyo present original ideas in classic and eccentric terpsichore. Mr. Ramsdell's toe maneuvers are amazing. The Lunette sisters whirl and gyrate at a great rate, suspended by their teeth and faith. Strand. A REAL cowboy, who is incidentally a millionaire cattle king, transplanted to the "Broadway" atmosphere of New York, is depicted in "Roped," the film at the Strand Theater in the bill opening yesterday. Harry Carey, often seen in Western characterizations, is the cowboy who takes his gang to New York and finally wins the girl he wants. After engineering the wedding of her daughter to the cowboy king, Mrs. Judson-Brown estranges the couple in favor of a "lounge lizard," whom she has picked as a husband for her daughter. Harry sees through the plan, comes back to New York and carries off to the West his wife, who really loves him. Laughter, thrills and other attributes of a good picture abound. Including in the movie bill are pictures of an American doughboy during his spare moments on the Western front. Character sketches that range from the Hebrew who declares "interest is the greatest invention" to ex-convict Dago Joe, who rescues the daughter of the judge who sent him up, are the forte of Lee Barth, comedian, who proves the most popular of the vaudeville acts. His range of tracts is large and his work is finished. Juggling Miller shows some new stunts in an act that pleases. Ringing bells in time with music while juggling them is an unusual feature. The dancing and other variations with change specialties are given by Lee and Newell, two attractive girls. Goodhue and Oliver appear in several songs and carry their act with occasional comedy. Lyric. THREE love affairs that persisted in getting mixed, finally straightened themselves out and all were happy in the grand finale of color and music at "The Mardi Gras," which is the name selected for the musical comedy at the Lyric this week. Some good songs are interspersed with clever comedy that kept Sunday's audience well entertained. Mike, already "conclusively married," woes most of the "mizing," while Ike also keeps things moving during the unwinding of the various plots. A Paris "vamp" and a bogus duke, a few relatives of the principals and others help in the riot of song, dance and merriment. "So Long, Betty," in which most of the company join, is the big song hit. Ben Broderick, a favorite, has the leading part in the song. Another act that makes a go with the audience is "Would you rather be a Colonel with the eagle on your shoulder or a private with a chicken on your knee?" "When You Come Home" is an appealing song illustrated by moving pictures of soldiers marching down Portland's streets. "Dancing Down in Dixie Land" is the final song, which also serves to introduce several variety dancers. While Dillon and Franks do most of the real work, Billy Bagham, Jewell LaVelle and others go strong with the audience. The "bonanza kings" were James C. Flood, A. S. O'Brien, John W. Mackay and James C. Fair, four men of Irish parentage who acquired vast fortunes from the gold and silver mines on the Pacific Coast.

Alcazar. "BROADWAY and Buttermilk," which opened yesterday afternoon at the Alcazar Theater, proved to be a three-act comedy filled with good-natured, wholesome fun and leading up to an epilogue. The plot is laid in the boarding-house kept by Mrs. Denby in the little town of Killmuck, and which Madame Nadine, owner of New York millinery shop, visits each Summer. With the village barber, editor, opera-house manager, a number of young and pretty half boys, romance is bound to creep in and in the comedy "Broadway and Buttermilk" there is no exception. So Mrs. Denby, her daughter, Ruth, and their Summer boarder, Madame Nadine, each lead to the altar their future spouse. But in so doing the audience chuckled through a tw and a half hours of farce, song, dance and comedy. Madame Nadine, the central figure about whom the whole little community revolves, is played by Miss Alice Fleming. The part is unusually well chosen for it calls for an attractive woman of kindly personality, a role that Miss Fleming portrays with genuineness and ease. Working hand and hand with Miss Fleming is Miss Jessie Brink, in the character role of the boarding-house keeper. To Miss Brink usually falls the part of the hard-working and sacrificing mother and her portrayal receives hearty applause as she makes evident the sharp-witted, deep call of mother-love. She does not let her work fall into the emotional except as the real mother in her care for those she loves, and she brings smiles and laughter in abundance. Each masculine role in "Broadway and Buttermilk" calls for character work, which did better than Alvin A. Baird as Asa Denby, small son of the boarding-house keeper, who is "property man." Whether in knees pants helping his mother "clear the table," or sneaking down in the middle of the night clad in a ridiculous night robe to look after his beloved "props," Asa was a real source of enjoyment. Even small boys in the audience realized that the absurd individual was of their own kind. "Broadway and Buttermilk" is not a musical comedy, yet several song hits were successfully introduced. Louis Leon Hall, which starred and typical of the rural "opera-house" manager, gave a song and dance descriptive of himself called "The Old Man of the Snows." Miss Fleming showed herself the possessor of a sweet and pleasing voice as she sang Cadman's "At Dawning." A duet in which Edward Everett Horton shares honors merited applause. Best of all was the little dance and song executed by Miss Fleming in which she showed the "latest Broadway steps." The cast of "Broadway and Buttermilk" follows: Madame Nadine.....Alice Fleming Mrs. Kate Denby.....Jessie Brink Hank Denby.....Ann Winston Hank Westmore.....Louis Leon Hall Major Hawes.....Smith Davies Madam Prokes.....James Graham Harry White.....H. E. Baker Tom Burroughs.....Edward Everett Horton Asa Denby.....Alvin A. Baird Mrs. Hodges.....Marie Curtis Leon Loefer.....Kathryn Graham Franklin Abbott.....Vaughn Morgan

Hippodrome. LAUGHTER and joy prevailed at the Hippodrome this week, every act on the new bill which opened yesterday serving as a champion "gloom chaser." Florence Bell and Jack Belgrave win first honors in excellent portrayal of troubles, common in every home, of husband and wife racing against time in an effort to dress for a dinner engagement. The usual run of things is reversed, due to the enthusiasm and forgetfulness of friend husband, and the climax comes as an entertaining surprise. The troubles of a discharged Swedish cook and a college student serve as the vehicle for Rose and Thorne, whose run of entertaining chatter was enthusiastically received by the large audience at the opening show yesterday. The antics of Inez Kema, who seeks her fourth husband, and George A. Bird, who successfully plays the role of a "small town hick," won favor yesterday. Miss Kema proves herself to be a songster as well as a comedienne. W. J. Langer, billed in an act, "Ripples on a Rope," won favor as he tossed himself carelessly about on a loosely stretched rope, sometimes landing on his feet and sometimes not, but always keeping the spectators on their toes in anticipation of a fall which never occurs. The Royal Hawaiian Troupe, an aggregation of musicians and dancers, who interpret in rhythmic steps the soft music from the island in mid-Pacific, and Taylor and Howard round out the vaudeville bill. Carmel Myers stars in "All Night," a five-reel comedy filled with peculiar situations. President Wilson's arrival in London is shown in Gaumont's weekly, together with other interesting news features filmed in distant parts of the world.

Brothers Meet in France. JOSEPH AND E. P. HAMMOND HAVE JOYFUL REUNION. Letter Tells of Great Difficulties Encountered at Front Because of Muddy Roads. Goulache a la Hongroise (goulash), escalopes de veau (scaloped veal) and puree d'epinards (soup) is the menu for dinner for which Corporal E. P. Hammond, son of Winthrop Hammond, of Portland, paid \$2.25 at the Grand Hotel.

DEFENSE ARGUMENTS DUE ALBERS TRIAL EXPECTED TO REACH JURY TUESDAY. Desire to Hear Judge McGinn Already Manifested in Attempts to Make Reservations. The curtain will rise at 2 o'clock this afternoon on the last scene of the drama that has been in progress at the United States District Court the past week, when John McCourt and Henry E. McGinn will make their arguments on behalf of J. Henry Albers, the wealthy miller, accused of sedition. There remains, then, but the closing argument in rebuttal of United States Attorney, the summing up of Federal Judge W. A. Norton, and the case will go to the jury. While it has been impossible for many to secure seats in the court while the trial has been in progress, so keen has the interest been, yet the desire to hear Judge McGinn speak has already manifested itself in attempts to make reservations. It is barely possible the case will go to the jury tonight, although attaches of the court believe that Mr. McGinn will speak during the entire afternoon, which would cause the jury to retire early Tuesday. Eight days already have been occupied by the trial, which has attracted more attention than any previous hearing in Portland for many years. Mr. Albers is charged with having on many occasions made remarks alleged to be in violation of the espionage act. These remarks, Mr. Albers denied, as a result of which the prosecution introduced other testimony with the attempt to attack Mr. Albers' credibility as a witness. There are seven counts in the indictment. Each count, in case of conviction, carries a maximum penalty of 20 years in the Federal Penitentiary and a fine of \$10,000.

MILK PRICE DROPS LITTLE Jobbers Playing Waiting Game in Hope Market Will Tumble. CHEHALIS, Wash., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—The price quoted for whole milk at the Chehalis condenser today is \$2.50 per hundred. During the past week the price reached \$2.70 per cental, which was a record price locally. It is understood that the condensed milk market is off at this time, and that there is but little demand. The jobbers are apparently playing a waiting game, in the hope that the price will decline. However, with the condensers paying \$3.50 to \$3.70 for milk the question is raised as to just how a possible decline will be met. Bridge Being Rebuilt. CENTRALIA, Wash., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—The St. Helens-street bridge over Bill Creek in Toledo, which collapsed a few days ago after the supporting it had been washed away by high water, is being rebuilt, the old timbers having been salvaged. The structure collapsed shortly after men who had been working under the bridge all day quit their work. Check Thief Uncaught. CENTRALIA, Wash., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—During the past several months letters containing checks have disappeared from mail boxes in the Pe Ell postoffice. Two of these checks have been cashed. John Berry, Lewis County Sheriff, and a postoffice inspector were in Pe Ell during the past week investigating. They attribute the thefts to children. Several arrests are expected.

Washington Solons Dined. SEATTLE, Feb. 2.—Members of Washington's Legislature last night were guests at a banquet given at the Seattle Chamber of Commerce and Commercial Club. During the day the legislators viewed Seattle's port properties.

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