

# THE THEATRES



MOUNTS AND DELMAR AT THE EMPIRE.

IT WAS as good as sunshine to attend the delightful performances given at the Marquam by the Pollard Lilliputian Opera Company. The small actors and actresses are certainly talented, and their presentation of "The Belle of New York" is better than that of some adult professionals. Daphne Pollard made a bewitching Cura Angelique, a prima donna, who has had several husbands. Alice Rollard had the best part of the musical comedy in portraying Violet Gray, the Salvation Army lassie, and her solo, "Follow Me," rings in one's ears musically. Willie Thomas will be long remembered among the small folk who saw him for his skillful acting as Karl, the polite lunatic. The Pollards open tonight at the Grand Opera House, San Francisco.

People got enough laughter to last them for a long while in listening to Ezra Kendall, in his character study of Joe Miller, the devil-may-care, roaming Indiana peddler, in "The Vinegar Buyer." Kendall is easily one of our great American comedians, and after reading for years the very funny things he has written in books it was interesting to see the real man act. His speech before the curtain was a gem. C. H. Crosby, as a reformed drunkard, and John D. Garrick, as the village policeman, were admirable. Roy Fairchild, as a lawyer, would have been more effective had he been more deliberate. The play received good stage setting.

Attendance is keeping up at the Empire on a par with the best of high-class vaudeville presented. That bright little girl, Louise Ducre, monologist, is a shining example of the vaudeville that does not remain in the same old rut. She writes her own songs and sayings, and her act improves all the time in point of cleverness. The three Kuhns made a hit in their musical work, and Triak and Rogers are a pair of black-face singers and dancers that are well worth hearing.

It was a great comedy week at Shields' Park, and the resort is as popular as ever. Rose and Severn work hard to get up interest and they succeed. Rose is clever in his imitation of the German dialect, and he and his partner made next to a sensation with their song, "Bunch of Tubbernecks." Caston and Harvey are

two of the best exponents of comedy this season, and Zoyarra is particularly good at globe balancing.

### VAUDEVILLE FROM JAPAN. Clever Oriental Performers at the Empire This Week.

Vaudeville artists from far Japan will be the big attraction at the Empire Theater for the week beginning Monday, August 21. Six Japanese performers, known as the Tetsuwaris, have been engaged by Manager Baker, and the varied line of work presented by these subjects of the Mikado include many Oriental wonders. The troupe includes three Japanese maidens, who are expert tight and slack-wire walkers. Another performer spins at a high velocity tops, umbrellas, house-cats and even one of the girls, upon his feet. Others of the Tetsuwaris are magicians and jugglers of a dexterity known only to the people of the far East.

Not satisfied with presenting these Oriental novelties, the management of the Empire announces for the new programme the great woman shadowgraphist, Loa Derbyelle. Miss Derbyelle, with her bare hands, casts on a white curtain wonderful and ludicrous likenesses of every conceivable being from President Roosevelt to the loggy man.

Another new feature will be the work of Mounts and Delmar, the black-face sketch artists. These indigo-chasers never tire making people laugh, and their act is one long whirl of whimsicalities. "The Flexible Venus," known on the stage as Excelsa, the woman contortionist, will astonish the audiences by passing her sinuous and well-shaped body through a brass ring only nine inches in diameter. How she does it is interesting to watch. Louise Ducre, "the funny lady," will sing a song of her own composing, entitled "Hawatha," assisted by Lady Dolly.

The three Kuhns, the singers and mandolin and guitar players, are booked to introduce a number of new and pretty songs, among them being "Anna," an especially melodious selection. The Kuhns will also present a triple back and wing dance.

Truck and Rogers, the double-act comedians, will stir some of the latest coon songs published, and as the team has a reputation for once singing a song so new that the chorus wasn't quite finished, they ought to be good. "Maud Sitt," the perky acrobate, will do a new act, and will sing the new song hit, "Madam-oiselle New York." Lloyd Spencer, the refined dialect humorist, is also booked



PLEAU AND PLEAU AT SHIELDS' PARK.

big array of talent, which he has collected from the vaudeville hearts of the West. The troupe continues to stream toward the park and find therein all that they desire in the way of entertainment and summer amusement. The show which is arranged for the coming week is designed to meet every demand in the way of variety. There are new faces on the bill, and several of the acts which went big last week have been retained on the programme for seven days more because the people like them. Every one of the holdovers, however, will have something new to present and their turns will be as lively and refreshing as a glass of soda water on a warm day.

One of the big turns for the new bill will be the Bronsons. They require no introduction to pleasure-seekers of Portland as they have appeared here before in drama as well as in vaudeville. They will be remembered as making a most favorable impression during their vaudeville engagement at Cordray's some three months ago, at which time they presented one of their charming little plays. For the ensuing week the Bronsons have another pleasing sketch, and it will be as entertaining as a three-act play. Mr. Bronson is a clever comedian with a reputation from one end of the country to the other and his wife is no less talented.

Another new team will be Mackey and Corey, travesty stars. They give excellent lectures from familiar plays with all the skill and finish of genuine artists. Shields has never had an act of this kind on his stage before, and it will be a surprise to his many patrons. The travesty for tonight will be from a drama, and the team will give it with a vim and feeling not often witnessed upon park stages. Kalistratus, the man with the revolving globe, has been retained by general request. His act is one of the sensations of the season, and he does things which few men would dare to even attempt. As a sensational feature this could not be improved on.

Rose and Severn, the German dialect comedians, and his pretty partner, will have some new jokes and a new sketch. They were one of the hits of the show last week and will keep up the good work as long as they remain under the management of Mr. Shields.

Caston and Harvey, the Australian

farce comedies brought out in the East the past season. There is really a plot to "Cobb" not too deep, for then it would not be a farce—but just enough to make a consistent story. Louis Sagan, who wrote the piece, ought to understand what the people want in this line, for he was a member of the late Charles Hoyt's forces, the most successful of all the farce comedy writers. "Where Is Cobb?" was written with one idea in view—namely, to produce laughs, and the intention of the playwright has been more than carried out; it is a smile, a laugh, a scream, from curtain to curtain.

### Empire Audiences Hoar.

To see the way that audience is chased around the stage at the Empire Theater by Van Posen and McCandley, the black-face comedians, makes the audience roar with laughter. Only two more performances of the present programme—this afternoon and evening.

### SCHOOL OF DRAMATIC ART.

Adjunct of Baker Theater Will Open September 1.

The immediate popularity that attended the opening of the Baker Theater, and which it has since maintained, has suggested to Manager George L. Baker the advisability of founding in connection therewith a dramatic academy, one that would be in actual contact with the working methods of all first-class companies, theaters, and especially stock companies—with the same discipline in all principal details. The educational departments will be under the personal supervision of Leo Cooper, than whom there is no more competent instructor. Mr. Cooper's reputation both as actor and teacher is national, and his connection with the principal theatrical productions in San Francisco during the past 15 years is sufficient guarantee for the completeness and thoroughness of the instruction.

The purpose of the school is systematically to train and instruct young men and women who believe they have talent for the profession, and who are willing to devote their best energies to its development; to such persons the Baker Theater school engages to give instruction that will best fit them for the general duties of the dramatic profession. The school

for which they may demonstrate their fitness. The school will be inaugurated September 1. The studies taught are all of a practical nature, and include voice, pantomime, stage technique, characterization, rehearsals of modern and classical drama, and students' public performances. An interesting and notable feature of the season's course will be the afternoon performances to be given from time to time at the Baker Theater, when original and classical plays will be produced with every theatrical advantage. These occasions will also be made the opportunity for the production of new plays, in some instances from original manuscripts. This plan is adopted as well to improve the student player as to give incentive to young authors of dramatic literature. Ambitious writers having original plays of doubtful suitability for public performances can have them presented here experimentally for an opportunity of judging of their merits. During the course, Mr. Cooper will deliver a series of lectures on great modern dramatists, with critical comments and readings from the works of Macbeth, Ibsen, Hauptmann, Rodand, Phillips and Pinero, to the students and patrons of the school.

### STAGELAND.

Annie Myers, recently of the Tivoli, is contemplating a tour of the West in a well known comedy.

Lillian Collins, of the "Rogers Brothers in London" Company, by the death of an aunt has fallen heir to \$15,000.

Edgar Selwin has been commissioned to write for the Haymarket Theater, London, a play in which Cyril Maude will take a leading role.

Joseph Jefferson has purchased the Summer home of Edward A. Taft on Buzzard's Bay. Mr. Jefferson's holdings there now exceed 20 acres.

M. W. Hanley will direct a new play, "A Gentleman From Gascony" this season. Mr. Hanley is one of the oldest managers now in the business.

John Drew's new play is "Captain



SCENE FROM "THE HILLS OF CALIFORNIA," AT CORDRAY'S.

### NEW LEADING WOMAN OF THE BAKER THEATER



EDNA ARCHER CRAWFORD.

for a laugh-producing act, and some attractive new pictures for the bioscope have arrived. The programme for the coming week as a whole is well balanced, clever and is certain to amuse the large audiences which nightly assemble at this fashionable theater.

### CORDRAY'S OPENING TODAY.

Droll Comedian, Frank Bacon, Will Present His Latest Success.

The opening of the dramatic season at Cordray's Theater will be inaugurated this evening by that prince of droll comedians, Frank Bacon, in his latest comedy success, entitled "The Hills of California," which was written expressly for him and is on the same line as "Old Homestead" and "Way Down East." This is said to be one of the best comedy attractions of the year. Frank Bacon is a sterling and delightfully droll comedian, and supported by a superior company.

The play was originally written for this clever delineator of character, and has been produced by him many times, with uniform success, but never on so elaborate a scale as this season.

"The Hills of California" tells, in splendid fashion, a story of the lives and incidents surrounding such rural neighbors as all have met and known. The scenes of childhood are dear to us all, and the most blasé theatergoer can but feel a thrill of honest pleasure in the beautiful picture presented in this play. There is an idealistic farmyard scene, presenting a perfect reproduction of an old-fashioned country home, with its vine-covered outcrops surrounded by simple postea, sunflowers and hollyhocks, and near by an old well-weep and rustic seats, horses, ducks, chickens, the drone of bees in the air and the whole with waving fields of grain for a background.

In his portrayal of Amos Hill, the honest-hearted, lovable old farmer, Mr. Bacon is said to have attained the heights of greatness. His love for his daughter, whose shame has cast a shadow on their pure lives, his weary search for her amidst the snares of a big city, and the broad and kindly generosity with which he bears the burden of other people's transgressions are all presented in splendid fashion by this noted actor. The comedy throughout is natural and unforced and comes with a spontaneity that proves most contagious. Nothing has been spared to make this the most pretentious production ever visiting this city. The scenery was painted by famous artists especially for "The Hills of California," the effects are from the hands of master mechanics, and every member of the large cast has been carefully selected with a view of absolute fitness for the role portrayed.

The California quartet, which is a feature of the company, will render a number of musical gems. A number of specialties will also be seen, and the new coon song entitled "Don't Make Those Scandalous Eyes at Me" will be rendered by Gus Tate and Frances Slosson, for whom it was expressly written by Lee Johnson, author of "My Honolulu Lady," and other popular coon songs.

### GREAT WEEK AT SHIELDS' PARK.

Manager Shields Announces New Vaudeville Bill of Merit.

It will be a great week at Shields' Park commencing with the performance this evening. Manager Shields announces a

dancers, will do grotesque steps this week and among other things will give an imitation of a scarecrow doing the light, fantastic two-step. As dancers this couple has won medals enough to sink a ship. That they deserve them is testified to by everyone of the thousands of people who attended Shields during the past seven nights.

Edna Archer Crawford, the little lady with the big voice, will render two new illustrated songs and the moving pictures provided for the polycope will represent the circus parade of the Ringlings.

### BAKER'S NEW LEADING WOMAN.

Edna Archer Crawford Engaged for Stock Company.

Edna Archer Crawford, the new leading woman of the Baker Theater Company, is a beautiful and accomplished actress. She is gifted and experienced, and the indications are that she will prove extremely popular with the patrons of Manager George L. Baker's theater. Miss Crawford joins the noted stock company fresh from Eastern triumphs, and promises to win for herself a reputation as envied on the Pacific Coast as she now possesses in the East.

Miss Crawford was born in Pittsburg, Pa., not so many years ago. Her father was an oil speculator. As a girl Miss Crawford was sent to Mount St. Joseph Convent, at Dubuque, Ia., for an education. She was an exceptionally bright pupil, and graduated with high honors, being the valedictorian of the class. Leaving school, she entered the Chicago Musical College, and there secured the degree of B. M. Miss Crawford has rather an unusual mezzo-soprano voice, and appeared with much success in concert in Chicago. She was soprano soloist of the Jesuit church while at college.

The young woman made her debut upon the stage in August, 1898, under the direction of the late Augustin Daly, in "The Runaway Girl," at Daly's Theater, New York. Miss Crawford was transferred to "The Great Ruby," playing Brenda.

The two following seasons Miss Crawford was with E. H. Sothern, appearing in "The Song of the Sword," "The Sunken Bell," "The King's Musketeer," "Camille" and "Hamlet." She appeared as Miss Hill in "The King's Musketeer," the opposite role to Mr. Sothern, with success.

For the past two seasons Miss Crawford has been leading woman with the Proctor stock company, playing a variety of roles. It was while she was with that organization that Manager Baker secured her as leading woman for his own company. As the brief outline of her career shows, the new leading woman has appeared with some of the best people in the country, and is thoroughly skilled in her art. The press notices which she has received in the East are unanimous in according her praise for work of more than ordinary merit.

### "Where Is Cobb?"

"Where Is Cobb?" which comes to the Coast, and incidentally to the Marquam Grand Theater in early September, is heralded as one of the best of the many

will furnish opportunities to those who have determined to adopt the stage to demonstrate their ability for the work and to enable them within a reasonable time and under favorable circumstances to test their powers and prepare in an intelligent manner for that branch of dramatic art

Dispepe," a comedy by Anthony Hope and Harrison Rhodes. The locale of the play is Italy of the present day.

On account of the serious illness of Ralph Stuart's wife, he has delayed his opening until after January 1, when he

### NEW RESIDENT MANAGER MARQUAM THEATER



WILLIAM T. PANGLE.

The old truism that it pays to work hard and work well is seen in the career of William T. Pangle, who was recently promoted to the position of resident manager of the Marquam Theater. When Manager Heilig, of the Marquam, began to make his plans for the coming season, he found that his duties as president of the Northwestern Theatrical Association had grown to such proportions that the most of his time would be spent on the road, looking after the interests of 40-odd theaters. He therefore promoted Mr. Pangle from assistant manager to resident manager at the Marquam, and the choice is a popular one. Mr. Pangle has been in the theatrical business all his life, and has worked up from railway to manager. He was born in Lima, O., and after working at the business and of theaters in his native state, he came to the Pacific Coast, and began with Mr. Heilig, as a member of the orchestra. Mr. Pangle is an excellent xylophone and timpani player, is one of the principal members of the Portland Symphony Orchestra, and is also a good baseball player. He is noted for his tact, courtesy, and good-fellowship. His friends are many.