

THE WEEK

There has been such a dearth of first-class theatrical offerings in Portland of late that the playgoers are fairly clamoring for something that will measure up to the high standard of some of the things seen earlier in the season.

The scarcity of bookings at the Marquam is due to several causes, and Manager Heilig is not keeping his house dark for a moment, but after the shabby treatment some of his best offerings were accorded by the local public it must be with some satisfaction that he notes the prevalent play-hunger.

Portland has recently been a bad show town, and it may be just as well that we are not getting our share of good pieces just now. Perhaps we shall appreciate them when they are again offered us. However, there is a good prospect for this week, when "Red Feather," with Grace Van Studdiford, will fill a three nights' engagement. This will be one of the big events of the theatrical year, and will no doubt be appreciated by those who are clamoring for something good.

The Columbia is now in the hands of carpenters and decorators, preparatory to its opening as the Belasco. All indications promise that the big up-town theater has at last got into the hands of a management that will make it a success from both a business and artistic standpoint. The company now being engaged to occupy its stage will be one of the best possible, and the plays underlined for early presentation are of the highest character.

During last week the 16-cent theaters seized their opportunity to monopolize business, and big houses were the rule at all of them. A. A. G.

"OUR BOYS" THIS AFTERNOON

Empire Stock Company Will Present Its First Comedy.

For the fifth week of its season the Empire Stock Company will present its first comedy, the well-known English farce entitled "Our Boys," which will start with the matinee this afternoon. The story of "Our Boys," briefly told, will be of interest to many.

Sir Geoffrey Champneys, an English Baronet, has sent his son, Talbot, abroad to be educated, and Percy Middlewick, a retired butlerman, has sent his only son, Charles, to a German university for the same purpose. The two young men meet and form a sincere friendship for each other. They make a tour of Europe together, and at the opening of the play their return to England, after an absence of several years, is anxiously awaited by their respective fathers. Sir Geoffrey is an aristocrat, proud, haughty and a great stickler for form and social conventionalities. Charles falls in love with Violet Melrose, an heiress, very much to the dissatisfaction of his father, who has taken a great dislike to the girl, because of her proud and haughty manner. "Talbot" loses his heart to Mary Melrose, Violet's poor cousin, and to this Sir Geoffrey strongly objects, as he wishes his son to make a wealthy marriage. The boys having dared to choose for themselves, and refusing to marry simply to please their parents, the angry fathers turn them out of doors, and they are thrown on their own resources.

The two fathers, fearing the result of their sternness, pay a secret visit to the lodgings of their sons. Charles, Sir Geoffrey's sister, does the same, and finally all ends happily, as all things should.

GRACE VAN STUDDIFORD.

Beautiful Soprano to Present "The Red Feather" at the Marquam.

"Red Feather," the new De Koven-Klein-Cook comic opera, in which Grace Van Studdiford has secured so signally, is voted by all who have witnessed it during its long run in New York as a superb production and a triumph for all concerned in its staging. It comes to the Marquam Grand for three nights, beginning next Thursday evening, May 11, with a special matinee Saturday, presenting the complete cast. Its beautiful women and its splendid chorus and ballet. As a spectacle, it is said there is a constant happening of the unexpected—now a military pageant, now the assembly of the order of the "Red Feather," in the secret room of the Countess of Draga's palace, and finally a sumptuous ballroom scene in the same palace, in which is shown a richness of costuming such as is rarely seen, even in these days of ultra-elegance in stage affairs.

The story is of a charming Countess in the Kingdom of Romania, who conspires under the disguise of "Red Feather," a noted and famous opera singer, to overthrow the throne. To further this purpose she steals the treasure of the rich to aid the Prince's cause. She is beloved by the Countess's son, the King's guard, and also by the Crown Prince whom she rejects. This Prince heads indignities on the young captain when he finds the latter to be his rival, and the captain in turn becomes the object of love and duty. He has been robbed of his horse by "Red Feather," and, swearing to capture the desperado, tracks him to the Countess's palace, where she is giving a ball. With the denouement comes happiness to the lovers and the capture of "Red Feather," in the bonds of love.

In the role of "the mysterious personage known to the country folk far and wide" only by certain daring deeds and by "cloak of gray and plume of red," Miss Van Studdiford is said to have an excellent part. Reginald de Koven's acquaintance with Miss Van Studdiford's splendid work as the prima donna of the Bostonians in his previous operas of "Robin Hood" and "Maid Marian" must have served him well while writing "The Merry Cavalier" and "The Garden of Dreams," which report says are gems surpassing anything in his previous operas. The advance sale of seats will open next Tuesday morning, May 9, at 10 o'clock, when not more than six seats will be sold to one person for any single performance.

STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE.

Rose Eyttinge Instructs According to Recognized Methods.

The great actors, lecturers and preachers of the world, who have left an imprint upon their generation, did not acquire their art through faddish methods. They learned in the school of experience that close adhesion to Nature is the only way to fasten and hold the attention of an audience. The art of elocution consists wholly in convincing an audience that every modulation of the voice, every movement, every gesture, is real—just such as would be expected if the passions and sentiments portrayed were actual and not merely imaginary. Recognizing this fact, Rose Eyttinge carefully avoids the artificial systems of elocution, taught by so-called modern "schools of expression," and instructs her pupils according to the standards through which her own successful career of 40 years before the footlights was accomplished.

This accounts for the marvelous progress made by pupils under her careful and judicious tutelage. A few many private and class students can be enrolled



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THE ROMANTIC OPERA
"THE RED FEATHER"
AT THE MARQUAM

by Rose Eyttinge, and those who seek her instruction may confidently look for the best possible development of their natural talents.

Nat Goodwin Shortly.

Nat Goodwin will soon be seen at the Marquam Grand Theater.

Chauncey Olcott Coming.

Chauncey Olcott will be an early attraction at the Marquam Grand Theater.

STAR'S VAUDEVILLE BILL.

Some Strong Attractions Are Offered for the Week.

Today the performances at the Star will be continuous from 2 till 11 P. M. Starting tomorrow with the matinee, the Star will offer a bill of vaudeville such as has seldom, if ever, been shown in this city. For the big feature, the management has secured D'Urban's Royal Italian Band, an organization of more than 200 artists. The band will render selections at every performance, and the big feature, on each occasion, this is considered one of the best bands in the country and will prove a strong addition to the Star's exceptionally attractive list of good things. "Jungle Town" is the name of a laughable sketch which the Brewers will present. They are monopolists of laughter and will keep you in high spirits during their turn. Kerrera has a novelty act with which he has more than an ordinary success in Europe. This is his first trip to the Pacific Coast. Kinzo is another foreigner on the bill. He comes from fair Japan and is one of the best jugglers that the Mikado ever had as a subject. Rose McIntyre, Fletcher and McIntyre are a trio of novelty dancers. Their act has always been in demand in the best houses of the country and they will add materially to the new Star bill. John is a lone monologist, who is really a funny chap and besides telling stories sings some and dances. Bunker Hill is the patriotic ballad which Rose Arbuckle will render, and the Starscope will have a treat in the way of animated pictures. A glance at this programme shows that it is strictly high-grade vaudeville.

GRAND'S ATTRACTIVE BILL.

"A Sage Brush Widow," the California Success, Will Be Given.

The Grand offers its patrons another strong bill for the coming week, headed by Joseph J. and Myra Davis Dowling, who have lately made their appearance on the vaudeville stage. The Dowlings will present Raymond A. Browne's charming little drama, "A Sagebrush Widow," in which they have made a grand success in California. The bill quartet is composed of splendid male voices that harmonize beautifully together. Besides sweet singing, they introduce the best of light comedy in their work. While comedy singers are often seen on the vaudeville stage, none occupies a more enviable position than Clever Conkey, who introduces many novel moves. Robert Edridge, colored, the most beautiful pictures with colored bands, using a piece of velvet as a base. His painting stands out in pretty contrasts and is executed in a remarkably short space of time. The James, who are accomplished musicians, present an act entirely different from that of the ordinary in their line. Many of their instruments are of their own invention and are capable of the sweetest music. Christopher as a necromancer and manipulator of cards, has not had an equal on the Coast in late seasons. Mr. Bonner will make a special effort with his new ballad, "Where the Sunset Turns the Ocean's Blue to Gold"; the pictures are the most beautiful imaginable. The Grandioso will repeat its success of the current week in "The Troubles of a Tramp," and will be among the best it has ever shown.

HEADLINE WEEK AT BAKER

Strongest Bill of Season at Popular Playhouse.

Scientists of two hemispheres have tried to solve the problem of Miss Annie Abbott, who appears at the Baker in the new headline bill, and have failed. Without apparent effort she can raise a weight of 300 pounds with the palms of her hands. Furthermore, an eggshell lying between her hand and the weight she lifts is not as much cracked, so perfect is the strange gift nature has given her. There are the Imperial Four, the comedy

sketch artists who force any audience to laugh; Little Anita, the dashing sou-brette, with her wiles and power of captivating all; five musical Lovelands, by far the highest-priced musical specialists in vaudeville; Emerson Duo, singers and comedians; Jean Wilson, the popular and talented singer of illustrated ballads, and the bookworms, which presents the very latest and very best life-motion pictures. The bill will continue throughout the week.

with death. They will be seen here when the Norris & Rowe greater circus exhibits at Multnomah field next Friday and Saturday, May 9 and 10, giving two performances daily.

STAGELAND.

Katie Berrymore fainted again from exhaustion at the close of the third act of "Sunday" in Chicago, Saturday night.

DARING ATHLETES.

Foofyhoary Feats of Athletics With Norris & Rowe Greater Circus.

In attempting hazardous and sensational feats in order to astound the public, the managers of the Norris & Rowe greater circus are liable to find themselves in serious difficulty with the law.

The performers in question who are creating so much trouble for the authorities are Nekotte, La Nole and Melnotte. Norris & Rowe brought them from Europe, where they had been the sensation for the Paris Hippodrome for three years.

John and Amy La Nole and Hugh Melnotte perform upon a slender silver wire high in the air over the heads of the audience and with no net to protect them in case they fall. These intrepid performers accomplish feats that require the most delicate balance. The young woman has placed upon a thin wire a table and two chairs of different heights. Carefully balancing herself and measuring the distance with her eye with a lightning leap, clear the barrier. There is a swish of silken skirts, a flash in the air and she lands safely upon the wire on the other side. A misstep would precipitate her to the ground, where she could hardly escape serious injury or death. Manager Rowe at first tried to persuade the young woman to omit this portion of her act, but finally seeing that her nerves were of steel, let her continue. As for Melnotte, La Nole and Melnotte, they simply laugh at danger, and say they will soon attempt an even more dangerous feat. With constant success they seem to forget they are daily trifling

Justice MacLean, of New York, last week denied the application of Fred C. Whitney for an injunction preventing Grace Cameron from singing "Since Dolly Dimples Made a Hit," which she sang originally in "Pitt. Post, Four," Miss Cameron is now in vaudeville.

Rose Eyttinge, the famous actress who has been a resident of Portland for the past year, has written her recollections of the stage, extending over a period of nearly 50 years. The book will be published next month by the Frederick A. Stokes Company, under the title of "Memories."

George Ade, after a short visit to the Orient, returned to San Francisco on the Korea April 26. He is under contract to write two comedies this Summer, but says he will do no

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