

IN THE MIMIC WORLD



THE FAMOUS BEAUTY CHORUS IN JOHN CORT'S COMIC OPERA "THE ALASKAN" AT THE HELIG THEATER.

THERE was nothing of unusual importance on view at the local theaters during the past week, although the attractions offered were all worthy of the consideration of the various audiences to which they catered.

At the Helig there were two absolutely new shows, so far as the local public is concerned. "The Vanderbilt Cup" opened the week, and Isabel Irving in "The Girl Who Has Everything" closed.

At the Marquam the San Francisco Opera Company held the boards at the outset in a creditable performance of "The Wedding Day," giving way later to the latest company which has played "The Hair to the Hiorrah" on the road.

The Baker players gave an excellent performance of Anthony Hope's pretty play, "The Adventure of Lady Ureasia." Our old friend, "Human Hearts," was at the Empire, "Deadwood Dick" at the Star, "The Heroes of '88" at the Lyric and vaudeville at the Grand and Pantages.

Tonight the Helig will offer John Cort's new comic opera, "The Alaskan," with Teddy Webb, Mrs. Anne Beatrice Sheldon and other favorites, the engagement continuing until and including Wednesday.

The Marquam will hold forth the San Francisco Opera Company as an inducement in "When Johnny Comes Marching Home" tonight and all week. The Baker will open this afternoon in "The Pit," Wilton Lackaye's great success, The Empire, this afternoon and all week will indulge in "A Wife's Secret," and the Star in "Dancers of Working Girls" at the same time.

Today the Lyric stock company will give its last performance in "The Heroes of '88," and will give way tomorrow night to the Allen stock company, which returns in "A Stranger in a Strange Land." Vaudeville continues at the Grand and Pantages.

"THE ALASKAN" TONIGHT.

John Cort's Big Comic Opera Will Begin Engagement at Helig.

A young and enthusiastic advance agent has come to town to tell us that at least some one has dared to get up a new kind of comic opera, and that it has been produced with great success and will be presented by John Cort, the producer, at the Helig Theater for four days, beginning tonight, with a special price Wednesday matinee. This bold theatrical enterprise is "The Alaskan," an entirely Western product, with scenes laid in and about Nome, and humorous characters such as circulate about mining communities, instead of those that dally in the atmosphere of ancient kingdoms.

In accepting "The Alaskan" from its authors, beyond the fundamental merits of the novel book, lyrics and music, we are told that Mr. Cort saw rare opportunities for entirely new characters, and new, unusually brilliant stage pictures. Novel situations and scenes galore were suggested to the manager, and he set to work to give the long-suffering, comic-opera admirer something refreshing to see and listen to.

The result was "The Alaskan," which comes to Portland direct from a successful Summer engagement in New York, at the Knickerbocker Theater, and a triumphant week's engagement in Denver, at the Broadway Theater. It has Nome for its playground, and prospectors, miners, Nome show girls and the motley crew of other adventurers of the rough-and-ready days of the Alaskan gold country, for its people. Joseph Blothen, a young Seattle newspaper man, who scored success in the Northwest with "The Chinkook" and other plays, is the author of the book and lyrics. The score is by Harry Girard, a well-known baritone, who appears in the leading male role.



SCENE FROM "WHEN JOHNNY COMES MARCHING HOME" AT THE MARQUAM GRAND



GERTRUDE HUTCHESON, PRINCESS TETO, IN THE MUSICAL COMEDY, "THE ROYAL CHEF" AT THE HELIG



SCENE FROM "THE DANGERS OF A WORKING GIRL" AT THE STAR



THE GREAT CHICAGO WHEAT PIT SCENE IN "THE PIT" AT THE BAKER



GRACE BAGLEY IN "A WIFE'S SECRET" AT THE EMPIRE

Richard Atwater, a prospector, Harry Girard, Totem Pole Pete, foreman of "Discovery Claim," Edward Martindell, Smallberry Strander, a Broadway favorite, and Teddy Webb, Mendocino Blazes, Ph. D. of the Metropolitan Museum, Harold Vizard, Teddy Beag, the real thing, William Fables, C. E. mail driver, M. V. L. Smith, Arnie Easton, an heiress, Agnes Cain Brown, Mrs. Good-Better-Best, the chaperone.

She detects the plan and introduces her chaperone as the heiress, Atwater, arriving on the scene, passes of the actor for himself, and makes love to Miss Easton as the foreman of the miners. This pleasant little play at cross purposes requires two acts to disentangle, but it finally adjusts as it should be.

ing the ensuing week, as the San Francisco opera company will again hold the boards and in one of their greatest operas—"When Johnny Comes Marching Home." The book by Stanislaus Stango and the music by Julian Edwards, is the best thing done by these clever writers, not even excepting "Dolly Varden."

happily cast in the present revival, Arthur Cunningham will, of course, be the Colonel John Graham. His stinging of the part had much to do with the several long runs of the opera at the Pivoli Opera House, and Portland theater-goers pleasantly remember his splendid work last Summer. It is worth the price of admission to hear Cunningham sing "My Own United States."

Aida Hemmi will be Kate Pemberton, and the beautiful songs, "Fairland," "Love's Night," as well as the duet with Cunningham, "Kate, My Southern Rose," falls to the soprano, Maude Beatty will be Constance, Eugene Wiener the Major, William Blaisdell will have the part of Johnathan Phoenix, George Kunkel will play General Allen, Daphne Pollard, Cordelia, daughter of General Allen, Browning, Uncle Tom, the old negro; Lillian Raymond, Robert Pemberton, the spy.

clever leading man has a world of yet unused power and artistic ability. He has not had a part before this season that has called for half the force and intense acting qualities this one does, and it is reasonably expected he will rise to the occasion in a manner that will surprise even his most ardent admirers.

The first act shows the lobby of the Auditorium Theater, Chicago, on the last

"The Sunny Side of Broadway." Murray and Mack in their latest musical success, "The Sunny Side of Broadway."

will appear at the Marquam Grand all next week. Novelty and newness are abundantly promised in this concoction of mirth and music, and specific stress is laid upon the fact that "The Sunny Side of Broadway" is the greatest starting vehicle ever used by Murray and Mack.

"THE PIT" AT BAKER THEATER

Biggest of All Productions of the Year to Open Today. After several weeks of preparation, the Baker Company is ready to give a great production of Wilton Lackaye's famous play of modern financial conditions, "The Pit," which will open the week with today's matinee. This is the first Portland production of the piece at popular prices, and the demand for seats has been unprecedented all week, showing how quick the public is to appreciate Manager Baker's efforts to give them the biggest and best New York plays at his popular theater. Everyone knows about this play, and much is expected from Austin Webb in the powerful role of Curtis Jadin, as there has always been a feeling amongst patrons of the Baker company that this