

# TENT PLAYS



MARIE ROSLYN AND J. EDWARD PIERCE IN THE SPECTACULAR SENSATION "THE NEW BLACK CROOK" AT THE HEILIG

IT WAS a mildly interesting week in local theatricals, possibly because the Lenten spirit has seized upon the purveyors of amusement, and again possibly because the aforesaid managers, being wise in their day and generation, concluded that the public was not sufficiently bored with the contrition of the time to break away from things earthly. The fact remains that the only dramatic offering that could possibly move one to enthusiasm was "The Three of Us," as presented by the Baker players, and which served to introduce Blanche Stoddard, a new leading woman who promises to fill a long-felt want at the Third-street theater. That talented young woman gave us a comprehensive and thoroughly satisfactory interpretation of the complex character of Rhy McChesney, a fine type of independent, right-minded, young Western woman who neither wore knee-length dresses nor toted a gun, but who defended her rights right manfully and mothered two brothers who were really hardly worth her trouble. This brings up the clever performance given by Howard Russell in the part of Clem, the elder of these two dependent brothers. The part is an elusive one and by no means an easy task for the best of actors. Mr. Russell scored most effectively as Clem. In fact it was next to Miss Stoddard's, the best achievement of the week and topped anything he has done during the current season.

At the Heilig Charles B. Hanford during the early part of the week appeared in a repertoire of Shakespearean plays. Blauvelt, in song recital with Albert Rosenthal, the cellist and Edith Kellogg, pianist, gave splendid satisfaction. I'm told, at the Heilig on Friday night. Otherwise the "syndicate" playhouse was dark.

The Marquam management certainly hit upon a happy idea in turning that theater into a moving pictureemporium, for the time being, and all through the week crowds of people streamed in and out of the big theater to see the merry films. It was a time of general prosperity for all concerned.

"A Royal Slave" raised the hair of the Empire patrons to just the most delightful attitude. "Our New Girl," a farce with no speed limit regulations, keep everybody in good humor at the Lyric, the Allen company putting ginger waltz into it. The French company made "Anita, the Singing Girl" well worth seeing and pleased the Star clientele immediately. Both the Grand and Pantages vied with each other in trying to break their former records and gave us excellent vaudeville.

The present week will proffer "The Black Crook" tonight and tomorrow night at the Heilig. On Tuesday night occurs the Kreisler-Bauer concert, which will be under the direction of Misses Stearn and Coman. Already there is a heavy advance sale and a large attendance is assured. It will be one of the big musical events of the year. Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights and Saturday matinee the popular San Francisco Opera company returns in "The Toyman" at the same theater. Later bookings are "Comin' Thro' the Ring," a musical comedy new to the Coast. James J. Corbett, former champion, in "The Lady and the Burglar"; "The Burgomaster"; "Moby Manning"; "Glorious Betsy"; and Mrs. Patrick Campbell in repertoire.

Tonight "Dream City," a Weber success which ran well on Broadway, comes to the Marquam for the week. In the cast are Mary Marble and a number of other well-known people. The week following Creston Clarke will present "The Power That Governs" at the same place.

The Baker bill for this afternoon and all week is "Zira," a new version of "Wilkie Collins' story, "The New Magdalen." It should be good. The Star will devote itself and the energies of the French company to a piece called "On Thanksgiving Day" this afternoon and all week. The Empire will present "Sis in New York," opening at the same time and extending for the same period. Tomorrow night "The Stowaway" will be seen at the Lyric, the Allen company playing it through the week. Tomorrow afternoon there will be new bills at the Grand and Pantages. A. A. G.

## "THE BLACK CROOK" TONIGHT

Famous Musical Extravaganza at Heilig Tonight and Tomorrow.

The attraction at the Heilig Theater, Fourteenth and Washington streets, tonight and tomorrow night will be the big spectacular production of the musical extravaganza, "The Black Crook." The story deals with the love of a youthful pair called Rudolph and Amina. Near them dwells an old necromancer named Hertzog, and popularly known as "The Black Crook." Hertzog has entered into an unholy pact to deliver to Zamel, the arch-fiend, a soul a year in return for an additional year's lease on life, and the evil choice of the old magician falls upon the lovers, possibly directed by the appeal of a wicked Count Wolfenstein, who asks Hertzog's aid in securing the lovely Amina for himself.

The theme affords unlimited latitude for scenic and spectacular effects, and it is said that with the aid of modern inventions and intricate electrical devices the producers have succeeded in constructing an unusually beautiful and pleasing entertainment. Instead of the old-fashioned ballet features the more modernized ones of a comedy chorus will be rendered, in conjunction with a strong vaudeville turn by the celebrated team, Pierce and Ross, presenting a quick-change costume singing act. The Donaseta family, a for-



MELBOURNE MACDONNELL, THE FAMOUS TRAGEDIAN AT PANTAGES

## "DREAM CITY" HERE TODAY

Lively Musical Play Opens at the Marquam Theater.

The Joseph Weber production of "Dream City," which enjoyed an all-season's run at Weber's home-like theater in New York all of the past year, opens at the Marquam at today's matinee. In "Dream City" the author, Edgar Smith, in accord with the splendid and catchy music by Victor Herbert, has awakened and found an avenue in a stage story entirely new and foreign to any previous effort of a builder of stage material, which accounts for its wonderful success. The story itself of "Dream City" is built in the imaginative slumbers of

one William Dingiebender, a Long Island truck farmer, who is lulled to a willing repose by the dulcet voice and hot air extravagance of a real estate boomer, who has pictured in such glowing terms the future of the Dingiebender farm at Maleria Center as a rival to Greater New York, that the susceptible old German, as though fed upon a Dequacy pill, snoozes away, soaring under the soporific spell to the realms of the unreal, where wealth, beauty, position, and all the allurements of a modern paradise become his own.

Of course there is an awakening, but it is arrived at pleasantly, there being no rough jar to the fun, and all the parties concerned finally alighting upon an air cushion of comedy that prevents any disagreeable rebound and makes both agreeable and plausible this return to earth.

On account of Mr. Weber's announced retirement from the stage, he has had the good fortune of being succeeded in the role of Dingiebender by

that clever and inimitable comedian, Little Chip. Little Chip has made a splendid record for himself the past few years through his excellent work in "The Babes in Toyland," "Wonderland" and other big successes. That clever and magnetic little comedienne, Miss Mary Marble, has also been exceptionally happily cast as Nancy, the daughter of Dingiebender. Of course one of the greatest features of "Dream City" is the celebrated bevy of female beauties for which a Weber show is noted, and in this case the chorus is

THE SHADY LANE GIRLS IN "DREAM CITY" AT THE MARQUAM GRAND



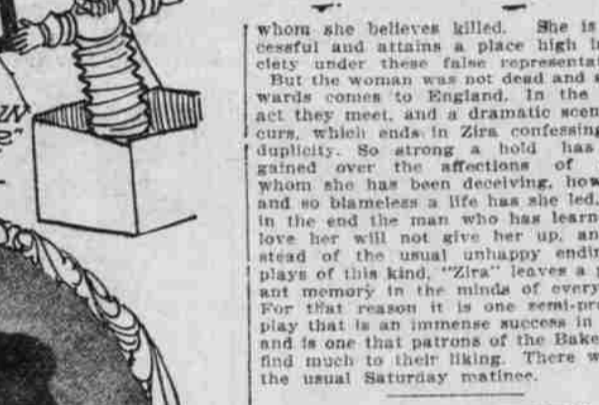
FREDA ROSLYN IN "SIS IN NEW YORK" AT THE EMPIRE



SCENE FROM 1ST ACT OF "ZIRA AT THE BAKER"



FRANK SEAWARD, AS ED WHIPPLE IN "ON THANKSGIVING DAY" AT THE STAR



DAPHNE POLLARD IN "THE TOYMAKER" AT THE HEILIG



DOROTHY DAVIS IN "ON THANKSGIVING DAY" AT THE STAR

Mr. Clarke comes in a brand new play, one of modern American life, written by Adelaide Prince. It is called "The Power That Governs."

## "ZIRA" AT BAKER THEATER

First Stock Production of Great Play in Portland This Week.

The production of the famous play "Zira" by the Baker Stock Company this week, starting with the matinee today, marks another milestone in the career of the popular organization in Portland. Since the first of the year one big high-class production after another has followed in rapid succession, and patrons of this theater and company have enjoyed a series of plays that are seldom seen outside of the high-priced houses all over the country. "Zira" was played here this season for the first time by Florence Roberts and was one of the principal plays in the repertoire of that well-known star. Miss Blanche Stoddard, who opened last week as leading woman with the Baker Stock Company, will play the title role, which is entirely different from that of Rhy McChesney, her first part in this city. The first act of "Zira" opens in South Africa, during the Boer War. She is a woman who is hiding from the mistake of her life and the disgrace of it, and acting as a nurse on the field of battle. She is recognized by a woman, who threatens to denounce her, but who is suddenly struck by a stray bullet, and Zira changes clothes with her and, believing her dead, impersonates her and goes to England, where that woman was bound, and passes herself off for the one

whom she believes killed. She is successful and attains a place high in society under these false representations. But the woman was not dead and afterwards comes to England. In the third act they meet, and a dramatic scene occurs, which ends in Zira confessing her duplicity. So strong a hold has she gained over the affections of those whom she has been deceiving, however, and so blameless a life has she led, that in the end the man who has learned to love her will not give her up, and instead of the usual unhappy ending of plays of this kind, "Zira" leaves a pleasant memory in the minds of every one. For that reason it is one semi-problem play that is an immense success in stock and is one that patrons of the Baker will find much to their liking. There will be the usual Saturday matinee.

## "SIS IN NEW YORK"

Laughable and Witty Farce to Open at the Empire This Afternoon.

"Sis in New York" is the title of the entirely new farce comedy which will open at the Empire this afternoon and run for the week with matinee Wednesday and Saturday.

There is always a feeling of rest, contentment and simplicity in the far-away country villages and cross-road hamlets far from the hum and bustle of city life. There is a trustfulness that admits of open doors and hospitable welcome. A newcomer is looked upon as a friend until proven otherwise. Each individual in the little town knows the movements of his friends and neighbors. Down in Indiana, in the south-west part of the state, is a little hamlet with its cross-roads, postoffice, blacksmith shop, old-fashioned tavern and the usual brick generous-hearted, frolicsome Hoosier girl who is forced by circumstances from romping the streets of her native village to tread the cemented sidewalks of New York City, where she becomes the butt of ridicule. Her sallies of wit, as she gets back at her tormentors, soon make it appear that she is outgrowing her provincialism, and as the woman merges from the child, she rapidly adapts herself to her surroundings and becomes a self-made woman. The tomboy returns to her Indiana home a lady of culture, when she replaces the old latching with an electric bell and the rag carpet gives way to rugs on hardwood floors. It's a pure, sweet play, brimming with fun.

## "THE STOWAWAY" AT LYRIC

Famous Scenic Comedy-Drama by the Allen Company Monday.

The red-letter event of the coming theatrical week will be the production of the famous scenic comedy-drama of "Life in London," "The Stowaway," which will be presented by the Allen Stock Company at the Lyric for the first time on Monday night. The five acts of this comedy play fairly bristle with excitement. There is something doing every minute, some of the situations being sensational in the extreme. In addition there are a couple of excellent comedy characters and the laughs alternate with the thrills. Also there is a vein of delightful sentiment, the romantic interest being beautifully maintained during the performance. The play has been one of the greatest successes of recent years at the high-priced theaters and the Lyric management is fully able to secure it for stock purposes. It is a piece that absolutely demands elaborate production and to provide scenery and effects to adequately present it has cost the Lyric management a large sum of money. One of the most realistic and effective scenes ever presented on the stage is that showing the deck of the sailing vessel Success at sea. The sensational blowing up of a real safe and the views of London streets at night will arouse the wildest enthusiasm. The first act occurs in the streets of London,