

THE PLAYERS



JOHN DREW
FAMOUS AMERICAN ACTOR,
IN THE COMEDY
"MY WIFE" AT THE
HELLIG



BILLIE BURKE
HANDSOME LEADING
LADY WITH
JOHN DREW,
IN THE COMEDY
"MY WIFE"
AT THE
HELLIG-THEATER



VERNA FELTON
AS CIGARETTE
IN
"UNDER TWO FLAGS"
AT THE LYRIC



GEORGE
ALLISON
IN
"WHY SMITH
LEFT
HOME"
AT THE
BAKER

other shows and is bolstered up with more and better musical numbers, not to say possessing a greater amount of comedy.

Every member of the company will have a part in "Sweethearts and Wives," for even the chorus can live up to the title good-humoredly. This chorus, while not so large as those carried by some of the traveling companies, makes up in energy and enthusiasm what it lacks in numbers, and as for looks, there is not a high-priced musical show coming to Portland that can boast of a handsomer set of chorus maidens. There will be new costumes and scenery and "Sweethearts and Wives" is a certain success.

Now that the Star theater has been recognized as the home of musical comedy, at popular rates, it is drawing to itself a patronage different from that of the past. The people who attend the Star now are those who want a cheerful time at a theater. They want fun and music and these are found at the Star, because that is the exclusive policy of the place. Then, besides the regular bill, there are vaudeville features, Sullivan & Consideine always sending some clever turns. With "Sweethearts and Wives," for instance, there will be as added vaudeville numbers, Sheehan & Monahan, an Australian musical act, and Wilfred & Lotie. These acts open tomorrow afternoon. A daily matinee and two nightly per-



MISS MAGDALINE
HOLLY, IN
"SWEETHEARTS AND
WIVES"
AT THE
STAR

THE appearance here of Francis Wilson in a "straight" role after an absence of many years, was the theatrical event of the past few weeks. In "When Knights Were Bold" the distinguished comedian has a delightful vehicle, and one which affords him opportunities to display his talent to the very best advantage. The engagement was well patronized and was considerable of a social event.

John Drew and Billie Burke in "My Wife" will be seen at the Hellig next Friday and Saturday nights, the only attraction for the week at the uptown theater.

"Why Smith Left Home" at the Baker will be the stock company's bill, a very funny farce, containing a number of good characterizations.

"Sweethearts and Wives" will be presented by the Armstrong company at the Star.

The Allen company will close its engagement at the Lyric this week, offering "Under Two Flags." The company has been a popular one here, and its departure will be regretted by a large number of theater patrons.

The vaudeville bills will change tomorrow afternoon.

"WHY SMITH LEFT HOME"
Farce-Comedy Opens at the Baker This Afternoon.

George Broadhurst has given theatergoers some of America's best plays, notable among his farces being "What Happened to Jones," "The Man From Mexico" and "Why Smith Left Home," the latter being the one which the Baker Stock Company will offer its thousands of patrons for the week opening with today's matinee. It is one of the standard farces on the stage today, and after several years still preserves its strong originality and freshness, and never fails to cause the greatest merriment. It was written for the purpose of making people laugh only, and faithfully fulfills its intent.

One reason why it appeals to everyone is the fact that it is a domestic comedy, dealing with the trials and tribulations of a young married couple, and depicts events that all are more or less familiar with. The Smiths are happily married, have a nice home, servants, etc., and love each other dearly. The

"SWEETHEARTS AND WIVES"
Distinguished Actor Will Present Delightful Comedy, "My Wife."

Charles Frohman will present John Drew at the Hellig theater, Fourteenth and Washington streets, next Friday and Saturday nights in a new four-act comedy entitled "My Wife." This play ran at the Empire theater, in New York, for four months, and comes here with the original cast. The comedy is from the French of Gavault and Charnay, in which it is known as "Mademoiselle Josette, Ma Femme," and the present adaptation has been made by Michael Morton. In Paris it has had nine-months' run at the Gymnase theater, and in London, where it is playing at the Haymarket, it is now in its second season.

The comedy is of a lighter and brighter order than the Pinero play "His Home in Order," in which Mr. Drew appeared

last season. Indeed, it is said that "My Wife" has restored the favorite comedian to the vein and style of work with which his fame is more closely allied and in which his admirers like best to see him. He will have for his leading lady Miss Billie Burke, who comes here from the Vaudeville theater, London, where she has just made two successes in straight comedy, after five years of conspicuous success on the musical comedy stage.

Ferdinand Gottschalk, who was last seen here as a member of Mr. Drew's company during the run of "The Duke of Killcrankie," will have a quantity comic role exactly suited to his style of characterization. Miss Dorothy Tennant will complete the quartet of comedians who will, it is expected, be supplied with several highly-amusing scenes similar to those in which the famous "Duke of Killcrankie" quartet figured.

Other members of Mr. Drew's organi-

JOHN DREW AT THE HELDIG
Distinguished Actor Will Present Delightful Comedy, "My Wife."

zation are Walter Boderling, Morton Selten, Albert Roccardi, Mario Majoroni, Axel Brun, Herbert Budd, Rex McDougall, E. Seldene Powell, Frank Goldsmith, L. C. Howard, Ida Greeley Smith, Hope Latham, Mrs. Kate Pattison Selten and Mary Lorraine.

MUSICAL BILL AT THE STAR
"Sweethearts and Wives" Attraction for This Afternoon.

This afternoon the Armstrong company, at the Star theater, will change its programme and present another of its musical comedies, "Sweethearts and Wives" will be the name given this new bill. The idea of the entertainment is taken from the old toast: "Sweethearts and wives—may they never meet."

According to Mr. Armstrong, this week's attraction at the Star theater will exceed in humor and melody any of those which have gone before it. Manager Armstrong takes particular pride in "Sweethearts and Wives," for it is more pretentious than some of the



SEVEN SAMOOS, ARABIAN WHIRLWIND AEROBATS AT THE GRAND

formation is the policy at the Star theater.

"UNDER TWO FLAGS" AT CLOSE
Monday Marks Opening of Last Week of Allen Company at Lyric.

Tomorrow night the Allen company will inaugurate its last week at the Lyric by reviving that ever popular dramatic sensation, "Under Two Flags." It is the favorite bill of the Allen company, the best performance it has ever given, and one of the greatest plays ever written. It is a dramatization of Ouida's familiar novel, and it provides some of the most distinct character drawing of any drama of modern times.

In the role of Cigarette, the dashing little daughter of the regiment, Verna Felton scored her first big success, and is admitted to be the logical successor to Blanche Bates in the role. She will appear at her very best and it is most agreeable to both the company and house management that the Allen farce will be under such favorable circumstances.

After almost two years in Portland, the

the Panisses attraction for the coming week the best in the city.

Hardeen has an act that is recognized by critics as one of the most mystifying and wonderful ever presented before the footlights. He permits himself to be locked into any sort of handcuffs that were ever made, then in less time than it requires to tell it he frees himself from the shackles, presenting them to the view of the audience unlocked, open and uninjured, regardless of the fact that the keys are kept beyond his possible reach. One of his most remarkable feats is his escape from the strait-jacket and muffs used so effectively upon the most desperate and powerful maniacs. It takes Hardeen but 1 1/2 minutes to perform this seemingly impossible feat. He guarantees to escape from any box or crate which mechanical ingenuity can contrive, without breaking or injuring the crate. "How does he do it?" This is the question that is asked by everyone who sees his performance. And it is a question that has mystified the police and lock experts of the world.

In Seattle and Spokane the playhouses were not able to accommodate



THE TYROLEAN SINGERS AND DANCERS AT THE OAKS THIS WEEK.

the large crowds that poured out to see the wizard of locks.

Among the other attractions for the coming week are Zarro trio, comedy bicyclists; Blondie Robinson Co., comedians and vocalists; Chick, Piper, Gray & Co., comedy sketch artists in a skit entitled "Tank Town on Christmas Eve"; Jean Wilson, illustrated song; the biograph, latest moving pictures.

The show for the week just closing with the Bell trio as the feature act has proven itself a big drawing card.

LEW DOCKSTADER COMING

Famous American Minstrel and His Company at Hellig June 6-7.

The famous American minstrel, Lew Dockstader, and his excellent company of black-face artists, will be the attraction at the Hellig theater, Fourteenth and Washington streets, June 6-7.

New Stock Company at Lyric.

The Allen stock company, which will close a long engagement at the Lyric next Sunday, will be succeeded on Monday, June 1, by the Blunkall-Atwood Company, in "The Bushranger." Manager Flood has secured the new organization for an indefinite season and promises an interesting array of productions. The Blunkall-Atwood Company comes here from St. Louis, where it was tremendously popular, and it ranks among the most famous stock companies of America. The personnel of the company contains the names of many popular favorites, including Lillian Atwood, a beautiful and talented leading woman, whose fame reaches from the Atlantic to the Pacific Coast. Mr. Blunkall, the leading man, has a high standing on the Coast, and is known here, where he played an engagement with the Bacon company at Cordray's. He also distinguished himself in "The College Widow." Miss Atwood also made a big Pacific Coast hit when leading woman at the Alcazar, in San Francisco. Other members of the company are on the same high plane.

SEVEN SAMOOS AT THE GRAND

Many Good Features on Bill for This Week.

In the new list of features which Sullivan & Consideine are sending to the Grand this week, commencing tomorrow afternoon, it is no easy matter to select the headliner. This is because there are so many excellent vaudeville acts from which to choose. It has been decided, however, to designate the Seven Samoos as the top of the bill. The Seven Samoos are Arabian acrobats in a whirlwind gymnastic exhibition, introducing American and their own native feats. This is one of the best Arab acts now touring the United States.

By way of special added attraction there will be a Down-East playlet which will be a complete New England pastoral play boiled down to vaudeville limits. This will be interpreted by Macka, Hart & La Marr. It bears the title "Cynthia's Visit" and will be found a novel vaudeville offering. The character sketches drawn in this playlet are worthy of a four-act drama.

"THE HALFBREED" COMING

Rose Festival Week at the Baker Opens Sunday.

Special arrangements have been made with Oliver Morosco for the Baker Stock Company to present his big success, "The Halfbreed," for the Rose Festival week in Portland. "The Halfbreed" is a heavy drama with scenes laid in the Indian Territory country and plot, scenery and characters are details of an unusually interesting nature.

Special efforts are to be made to get a production which will be even better than the average Baker offering for this play, and a large number of extra people are required, as well as startling effects in lights, scenery and properties. "The Halfbreed" will open at the Baker next Sunday matinee, May 31.

VAUDEVILLE AT THE MARQUAM

Hardeen, Wizard of Locks, Heads New Bill This Week.

Hardeen, the world famous wizard of locks, the man who can unfasten and free himself from any sort of handcuffs or straitjackets ever invented, will be the star attraction at the Marquam Grand Theater for the week of Monday, May 25. A strong bill of other high-class acts will make

CROWDS GOING TO THE OAKS

Fair Weather Drives Throngs to the Out-of-Doors Amusement Resort.

The weather man says that the sun will shine, and with this prophecy the tide of playgoers in search of amusement has turned towards the Oaks in droves. Even during the inclement weather the patrons of the resort could not resist taking a trip to the place just to see how things were looking, and as a consequence hundreds of people dodged the showers and saw the sights.

Harry Breton, the flying automobile, and the Tyrolean stagers, with their long and varied repertoire, have been the two main attractions during the past week. Breton will be for the coming week. Breton, after making a number of successful leaps in his automobile, had a narrow escape from serious injury, or possible death, Friday afternoon. Stopping to make a second inspection of his machine just before making the leap, he found the front one of the wheels so badly cracked that it would surely have given way during the dash down the incline. He has had the wheel repaired, and will appear for the greater part of the week.

The Tyroleans will also appear during the entire week in an entirely new programme of songs and dances. With the coming of good weather the amusement hunters of the city will find the entire machinery of the Oaks in full motion, giving a bigger and better programme of entertainment than ever before.

SEALS BECOMING EXTINCT

Wise Women Buy Now Before Furts Are Costly as Diamonds.

LONDON, May 23.—(Special).—Wise women are buying their furs now. Sealskin, which is one of the most valued furs, has steadily been increasing in price during the last few years. Experts agree that the supply is so limited this season that the cost will be almost prohibitive.

"The Alaska and Northwest seal is becoming extinct," a member of the firm of fur experts in Bond street said recently. "In a few years it will be impossible to buy sealskin at all. As an example, it is interesting to compare the figures of the last 15 years:

| Year | Alaska Seal— | Skins sold |
|------|--------------|------------|
| 1892 | | 32,527 |
| 1893 | | 32,527 |
| 1894 | | 27,629 |
| 1895 | | 27,629 |
| 1896 | | 33,900 |
| 1897 | | 33,900 |
| 1898 | | 33,900 |
| 1899 | | 33,900 |

"The difference is not so great in the case of the Northwest seals. In 1898 47,963 skins were sold. Last year this number had decreased to 33,655. The price of an Alaska seal in 1898 was \$3.50. It is impossible to buy a good skin under \$4.50 today."

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