

The Plays



David Walters and Company in "The Devil and Tom Walker" at the Empress.



Mrs. Wiggs of "The Cabbage Patch" Baker Stock Company at the Baker.

Maad Beam Stover and Ursula St. George in "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm" at the Heilig.



BY LEONE CASS BAKER. SOMETIMES, somewhere, says the billing, "in your life you may have known a girl, say, about 14 years old, who, with her bright air, sunny smile and cheerful way of looking at things, made the little world you both lived in much happier, and left an impression in your heart you never can forget. If you ever did, you should by all means renew your acquaintance with this girl in "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm."



Ursula St. George in "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm" at the Heilig.

Certainly the character of Rebecca is lovable and the story one of ineffable charm. Kate Douglas Wiggin wrote the play in collaboration with Charlotte Thompson, from the famous "Vaseen" books which have gone by the thousands all over the world. Klaw & Erlanger are sponsors for the production, and have sent to this Coast a charming young Rebecca in Ursula St. George.

The engagement seems strikingly appropriate for the Easter week. There will be the usual matinees on Wednesday and Saturday. The Rotary Club of Portland has bought the house out for Monday night, profits going toward the Athletic Club fund of the Washington High School, who are sending their team to the California Spring meet at Berkeley.

April 15, 16 and 17 comes that much-heralded young person, Elsie Janis, on her first visit to Portland. George H. Murray, who has been coming to Portland for the past 25 years ahead of theatrical productions and who was here not long since with Montgomery & Stone, is in the city heralding the claims of Miss Janis in "The Slim Princess." The comedy is a delightful compound of fun, gaiety and music which George Ade, Henry Blossom and Leslie Stuart put together last season for the young star's special use and benefit.

William Faversham and his helpmate Julie Opp, arrive on the 18, 19 and 20 in "The Faun."

The season of stock at the Baker was successfully launched last week with "The Fourth Estate" as the first offering. Today the new members will be given opportunity to display their versatility as individuals and their work as an organization in that great comedy, "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch."

J. Frank Burke, character actor of distinction, will have the comedy role of Mr. Stubbins in "Mrs. Wiggs" at the Baker, while Fanchon Everett, a new player from the Belasco Stock Company, is to be Mrs. Haaz.

Next week the Baker players will present "The Spoilers."

loving its Eastern engagement; having played in New York, Chicago and Boston for the last two years. Its atmosphere "Rebecca" is so illusive that one must see the play to feel its charm. Ursula St. George, who plays the character of Rebecca, is a girl with beauty and charm. The cast presenting "Rebecca" is said to be one of Klaw & Erlanger's best, and the types presented are those seen every day. The scenery is elaborate and beautiful. One of the properties used in the production is the old stage coach in which Rebecca makes her entrance with Jeremiah Cobb, the tender-hearted old philosopher of Riverboro. He drives his two trusty horses to this coach, which was driven during the period of its active service by Harry Seavey, between Trout's Neck and Scarborough Beach. However, automobiles and the building of railroads put the old coach out of commission, and it had been for many years in its barn at Prout's Neck when Kate Douglas Wiggin, author of "Rebecca," found it there, and coveted it for use in her comedy. It had a history of its own. After years of valued service, it had been exhibited at ten county fairs. Now, in



DODE PHELPS, WITH NEWHOFF AND PHELPS, BLUE-RIBBON ENTERTAINERS AT PANTAGES WEEK BEGINNING APRIL 8.

spite of its 66 years of age, it is still in splendid condition, with its traces of leather, a brake in good working order, and a hurricane deck on top. Mrs. Wiggins longed to buy it. Timidly she wrote to Mr. Brooks, explaining the advantage of having this actual stage coach for use in the play. She expected to hear from a most expensive rumble of a stage in the wings would do very well for an author with her first play, and that Miss Rebecca would come in on her own feet. He telegraphed, "Get the stage by all means at any figure you consider reasonable." The cost was \$300.

Then the Gertrude Van Dyck Trio will entertain with songs, dances and mimicry. Miss Van Dyck is billed as "the girl with the double voice." She will warble the soprano and baritone parts of a difficult grand opera aria to prove she possesses the unique gift Harry L. Webb, blackface comedian, who is posted as "the man who talks and sings," will be seen and heard in his dapper patter. She Smith, singing comedienne, who has a hit on an Orpheum bill last year, will return to win hearts anew, and Carl Grees will paint two landscapes made more realistic than noted canvases by the use of electric lights projected through them. Lucy Weston, dainty English comedienne, and the Seumas McManus playmates will close their engagements at the Orpheum tonight.

Children are especially delighted for they can understand it all. Baker stock company gives matinees Sunday and Saturday, and a bargain performance every Monday night, which is a new innovation here that will doubtless become highly popular. Nothing but praise is heard about the new company from all sides.



Eugenie Le Blanc, Ingenue, at the Lyric.

in "The Last Day," a most laughable sketch, in which the creator of the "Country Bumpkin" and "Reuben" shows his fetching comedy to the best advantage. Next comes the Mankichi Company, composed of Japanese tumbler and gymnasts, who are heralded as appearing in the most elaborate vaudeville production of the kind on the stage today. Among the "Yankoes of the Far East" is a Japanese comedian who is said to inject creditable fun throughout the performance. From the Lew Fields' show "The Hen-Pecks," come Louise Carver and Tom Murry. The specialty that Carver and Murry present is a mixture of oddities and ends calculated to drive away care and wreath every face with smiles. Talking comedians are Mumford and Thompson, who have been playing the East. They have a line of patter and songs that is said to make the act a winner. Zimmerman offers whistling impersonations, ranging from birds to animals and also he whistles popular airs. Sunday's performances will be the last of the show that has been at the Empress the past week. "The Card Party," Waterbury Brothers and Tenny and Josie Flynn are on the bill.

"PARADISE IN PARIS" AT LYRIC Rice and Cady to Be Seen in Brand New Comedy. "Paradise in Paris," a brand new comedy to this city, will be the bill presented at the Lyric Theater next week, commencing tomorrow matinee.

"The Faun," a most interesting and equally fortunate in securing one of the phases of the life of Christ, entitled "Illumination." This picture is in striking contrast to the Passion Play. While the thought of Christ is continually suggested, the Christ never appears, whereas in the Passion Play he appears in all the scenes. A number of other features are on the bill, but "Illumination" is the leading number. The Arcade Theater, newly opened, possesses peculiar attractiveness in its program, featuring "Punishment," a most thrilling film. Five other pictures, Mr. Elwell and an entire change of offering on the part of the four

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the final performances this afternoon and evening.

COMEDY ON EMPRESS BILL

Varied Assortment of Fun Makers Is Scheduled to Appear. Much comedy is being set by Sullivan & Condit for the new bill which opens Monday afternoon at the Empress. There is a varied assortment of funmakers. The particular comedians announced is "The Devil and Tom Walker." This is a musical travesty, which is filled with surprising effects and merriment. There are 10 people in the act and they represent familiar types. Tom Walker is a negro who shoots the chute into the infernal region and takes possession of hades when his satanic majesty starts on a vacation. Once in command of the establishment, Tom Walker makes things lively for his friends. This is declared to be one of the biggest spectacular acts making a tour of the circuit.

From Italy comes the Apollo Trio. They are making their first tour of the United States on the Sullivan & Condit circuit. The trio are athletes who give plastic poses and reproductions of famous bronze statues after they have gone through an acrobatic performance. In pantomime form is given "A Soldier's Dream," by Joe Spissi and his comedians. This act is a mixture of acrobatic and gymnastic performance, with plenty of comedy. It is different from ordinary gymnastic specialties.

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FAMOUS ACTOR TELLS OF THE THEATER'S MISSION

William Faversham Declares Entertainment Is First Thing to Be Sought, and Afterward Add All Art Possible to Work.

"IT HAS always been my text in discussing the purpose of the theater to 'entertain,' then tack on all the art you can while you are entertaining, and eventually the best art will be accepted as entertainment. Thus does William Faversham, one of the foremost figures upon the American stage, in his latest comedy success, "The Faun," define the mission of the theater and the high aims of the conscientious people who are engaged in the work of the drama. "I appreciate all the modern, realistic works," he continues, "America has been prolific in plays dealing with its captains of industry—in taking the modern, sordid, truthful, photographic conditions of life and putting them on the stage. Some of them are very fine, some of them bring very big lessons, some accomplish a great deal of good, but there is a great danger that away, or should away the mind—the spiritual mind—of the man. "I would rather see burned every manuscript in the world that treated only of the modern realistic drama, than that we should lose our heritage of the imaginative gifts that can be ours. "All of the modern plays that have been done are not worth the last act of Othello. We can't always have Shakespeare, but we can have works that help us to cultivate the imagination, that remember the graces, beauty, wit, fantasy. It never has been an easy thing, either in our time or in any time, to do great things greatly,



William Faversham, Who Is to Appear Here in "The Faun."

and to find a large public. Perhaps that is the reason it is so fascinating. It is the privilege of the actor, in his relation to the public, to feel the stimulus of illuminating and making acceptable a great play that in the beginning only a few really appreciate and desire. One can always do the obvious and the easy work and get a good recompense, but it is the striving after the best that is the joy of every artist."