



Scene from 'Leah Kleschna' Baker Players at the Baker

BY LEONE CASS BAER. UNTIL David Warfield comes for the week of December 25, in 'The Auctioneer,' the Heilig will continue to house the European war pictures which have been showing there for the past week.

Today at the Baker 'Leah Kleschna' opens, with Irene Oslier playing the role made famous by Mrs. Fiske. This invariably proves an excellent bill for stock, since its characters are all big, strong ones, and the story has a gripping plot and vivid action.

A family of nine brothers, the Bells, all musicians, head the Orpheum bill. Walter F. Howe in a sketch called 'In and Out' by Porter Emerson Brown, tops Pantages' bill, and at the Marcus Loew Empress there is E. E. Clive in an English sketch entitled 'One Good Turn.' The lyric musical stock offers 'Mike and Izzy in Mexico' for its attraction.

WAR FILM HERE ALL WEEK

The attraction at the Heilig Theater, Broadway at Taylor street, this week, running continuously from 13 noon until 11 P. M., will be the famous first authentic motion picture of the European war. These wonderfully impressive pictures were taken by Edwin P. Weigle, staff photographer of the Chicago Tribune at the battlefield.

This paper secured the exclusive privilege to take these motion pictures on condition that 50 per cent of its profits be given to the Belgian Red Cross. The burning of Antwerp, the battle of Aershot, the destruction of Termonde, the battle of Ypres, the fall of Liege, the battle of Malines, together with the effect of the bombardment on cities of 50,000 to 60,000 inhabitants, wrecked by shells, showing soldiers and civilians as they fell, are pictured.

'LEAH KLESCHNA' AT BAKER

Leah Kleschna, the remarkable story of a girl burglar, in which America's foremost actress, Mrs. Fiske, achieved such wonderful success, will be the Christmas week offering at the Baker Players beginning this afternoon. It is one of the few really great American plays and besides the greatest acting role for the star, there are half a dozen others that require exceptional ability. This makes it especially strong for a first-class stock company.

Leah is the daughter of Kleschna, one of the most noted burglars of his time. He has a young daughter, a girl the art of which he is master and of which he is proud. She knows nothing else and glories in her success until the fatal night when they have planned to rob a house of a noted man. The plot leads up to this point with a succession of intensely interesting events.

Schram is a young burglar who has long been associated with Kleschna and who poses as his servant. He watches over Leah with an affection that amounts to worship. This night of the robbery she is discovered, but the man, who is a member of the Chamber of Deputies, instead of handing her over to the police is struck by her appearance and talks to her with a view of awaking in her heart a sense of her degradation.

The role of Bertson (played by George Arliss in the original production) is a young degenerate who shadows Leah, and this is an unusual acting role. The third act shows the home of Kleschna, where he and Schram have been waiting long for the return of Leah, her coming and the terrific scenes that follow.

Her final decision to return to the lettuce fields where her mother lived, determined that she will live in love and happiness in the end. Besides all the regular Baker performance during the week, there will be a special Christmas day matinee Friday at regular matinee prices.

MUSICIANS FEATURE ORPHEUM

Good Bill New to City With Exception of Avon Comedy Four. Lacking a personal acquaintance with vaudeville acts, the public must make up its mind by what other cities seem to think of a bill. Viewed from that angle, the attractions which open at the Orpheum this afternoon are sure to make a splendid impression. Tracing their route back as far as Omaha



Miss Beba Smalley Kitch, Baker's 'Leah Kleschna' at the Baker

and Kansas City reveals nothing but praise. With one exception, the bill is new to this city. It is headed by the Bell Family of musicians, an organization that is a worthy successor to the White Hussars of last week. The Bells are Mexicans of the highest social prominence, and who had the nerve to go to work at the thing they knew best after their estates had been confiscated.

The Avon Comedy Four are the only old friends, but a season without the Avons would compare with an oasisless desert. George McKay and Ottilie Ardine will present a patterning songfest of the kind that is so popular these days, while Florence Kolb and Adelaide Harland have something entirely new in 'Evolution'—1869 to 1920.

The orchestral concerts begin at 2 P. M. and 8 P. M., the curtain rising one-half hour later. E. E. CLIVE AT EMPRESS

London Favorite Opens Tomorrow in English Sketch.

A London sketch, with English talent in the star role, will be the top-line attraction on the bill that opens tomorrow afternoon at Marcus Loew's Empress. E. E. Clive, the London favorite, who was brought to this country by Charles Frohman and who played with Billie Burke in 'The Sunshine Girl,' will present 'One Good Turn,' a new sketch with a strong British atmosphere. Leonard Booker, who plays the original 'Tammas' in 'Bunty Pulls the Strings,' will assist Clive and the act is said to be a decided novelty in its line.

Ed Ford's Dance Review, with Ford himself, who is a remarkable dancer, and four pretty girls in the act, is an attraction that will be popular. Besides offering a number of dancing novelties, Ford has arranged some startling scenic effects and the act is one of the big hits of the season all along the Loew circuit.

Charles Delmore and Ben Light, both well known and popular on the Pacific Coast, will be back again with a repertoire of new songs, clever comedy tricks and a pianologue. Claude and Marion Cleveland, another pair of Coast favorites, will reappear with a new act, in which their peculiar talents are given effective scope.

Roubie Sims, the eccentric cartoonist, and Landry brothers, aerial acrobats, will add variety to the bill, and there will be a selection of first-run photographs for those who like the 'movies.'

MIRTHFUL PLAY IS FEATURE

Arab Troupe Coming to Pantages Is Praised Highly. Love plays hide and seek with adventure in the delightful comedy, 'In and Out,' in which Walter S. Howe will star with his company as the bantered feature at Pantages for the week commencing with the matinee tomorrow.

Edwin Ford & Co. Ag Marcus Loew's Empress

some day revive a better and greater 'Auctioneer' theater-goers are given the opportunity to see Mr. Warfield in this great character study at a time when his art and powers are at their fullness.

In Mr. Warfield's support will be found all the living members who shared in his triumph when this comedy was first brought out at the Bijou Theater, New York, 13 years ago, and of the 50 players included in the cast some of the most prominent names are Marie Bates, Lola Clifton, Harry Lewellyn, Guy Milham, Louis Hendricks, Eva Randolph, Frank Nelson, Harry Rogers, Esther Sacheroff, Richard Lembeck, Alice Avery, Leonard Doyle, Giles Low and Tony Bevan.

LYRIC HAS BIG COMEDY

'Mike and Izzy in Mexico' Is Sure to Win Many Laughs. Starting with tomorrow's matinee, the Lyric will present one of its big shows of the year. It was written by Al. Franks, the Hebrew comedian, and will be produced under his direction. 'Mike and Izzy in Mexico' deals with

the troubles of two American tourists who have been kidnaped and held for ransom by bandits. Lew Dunbar and Al. Franks will be seen as the tourists and in their ever hard-working way will furnish the brunt of the comedy. Charming Jeanne Mal will be seen in a role suited to her talents and will render a number of pleasing solos. Lillie Sutherland, the cyclone character, will be to the front in her usual vivacious manner and will be in one the comedy situations. Jack Curtis and Joe Kemper have roles that will keep Franks and Dunbar busy to hold up their ends, and Marie Celestine the comedienne, will render one of her comedy character songs, assisted by the chorus.

There will be many extra attractions during the week, the first being Santa Claus matinee, for the children, on Tuesday afternoon. Every child attending the matinee on that day will be presented with a Christmas present. Amateurs will be given a chance Tuesday night. The chorus girls will hold

like rapidly as they are needed. The plot has to do with a young man who starts to call on his fiancée, the fiancée's brother, society burglar and a policeman, in which Mr. Howe plays the principal role with excellent grace. The action is fast and the incidental courtship is hilariously mixed up with the adventures of the burglar and the other characters. Direct from a most successful Eastern tour, where they were the special feature of the Eva Tanguay road show, the ten Bon Amor Arabs will be seen for the first time in Portland as a special feature on the programme. The feats accomplished by the members of this remarkable troupe are nothing short of marvellous. Their human pyramid work, their wall scaling, their whirling dances and their juggling make up an act that has rightfully been called vaudeville's latest sensation.

WARFIELD'S RETURN IS NEAR

Great Actor to Appear in Revival of 'The Auctioneer.' David Warfield's appearance in this city is always one of the season's most important events and this year his engagement at Taylor, the Heilig Theater, Broadway at Taylor, for six nights, beginning Monday, December 28, with matinees Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, is made significant because he returns with his brilliant revival of 'The Auctioneer,' the comedy in which he first revealed his remarkable powers for swaying an audience from laughter to tears.

'The Auctioneer' is described as a comedy of characterization in three acts, and was written by Lee Arthur and Charles Klein, but Mr. Belasco has taken hold of it and made some changes which are said to add immeasurably to its value as a means of displaying the art and finesse of Mr. Warfield's creation of the kindly old Hebrew merchant, Simon Levi, whose success and misfortunes alternately call forth smiles and tears as he moves through this play.

Mr. Warfield, by contributing a series of creations to the American stage, of which Simon Levi in 'The Auctioneer,' Herr von Barwig in 'The Music Master' and Peter Grimm in 'The Return of Peter Grimm' are regarded as masterpieces of art, has attained a position on the American stage that is unique, and now that Mr. Belasco has fulfilled a promise made years ago to the effect that he would

News Gossip for Plays and Players

Edited by Leone Cass Baer.

IN the Pacific Hospital, Los Angeles, Victor Moore is recovering from a serious operation performed upon him three weeks ago. He has canceled his engagements on the Orpheum circuit and will remain on the Pacific Coast recuperating until April 1.

It will interest at least a dozen budding dramatists and almost-playwrights to learn that for the first time in the history of the American drama, so far as the records disclose, there has been established a professional play reading bureau. This department will be in full swing in Los Angeles on January 1 under the direction of Oliver Morosco.

A regular staff will be employed, in charge of which, elected to exercise the option he will give the author an advance royalty of \$500, and a contract stipulating that if the play is returned, he will receive receipts on a scale graded from 5 to 10 per cent.

Some of the rules of the bureau are as follows: 'All plays are to be addressed to the Burbank Theater, Los Angeles, Cal. 'All plays will receive attention, no matter whether the author is experienced or a novice. 'Plays from New York will be read and returned within a period of three weeks. Every play that is returned will be accompanied by an honest criticism. There will be no perfunctory notes of regret. If accepted, the author will be notified at once. 'By this arrangement I expect to get good plays first hand,' says Mr. Morosco in explaining his scheme. 'Many a promising author has lost his opportunity by having his manuscript repose on a shelf for two or three years only to be returned subsequently, to expect to be deluged with new plays, but every one will receive instant attention, and I believe my new department will solve a problem that has been harassing

FURTH VERDICT QUASHED

Supreme Court Finds Late Banker Was Not Liable for Failure.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Dec. 19.—The State Supreme Court today set aside the conviction of the late Jacob Furth, chairman of the board of directors of the Seattle National Bank, in the Superior Court of Whatcom County, on the charge of aiding and abetting W. S. Schrickler, a banker of La Conner, Wash., to receive deposits when the latter bank was about to fail. Furth was sentenced to pay a fine of \$10,000 and costs.

The Supreme Court held that the death of Furth in itself dismissed the case. The court reversed the verdict also on the ground that Furth was not owner, officer, agent or employe of the La Conner bank and, therefore, not liable. Today's decision quashes the indictment against other officials of the Seattle National Bank.

COINMAKING CHARGE FAILS

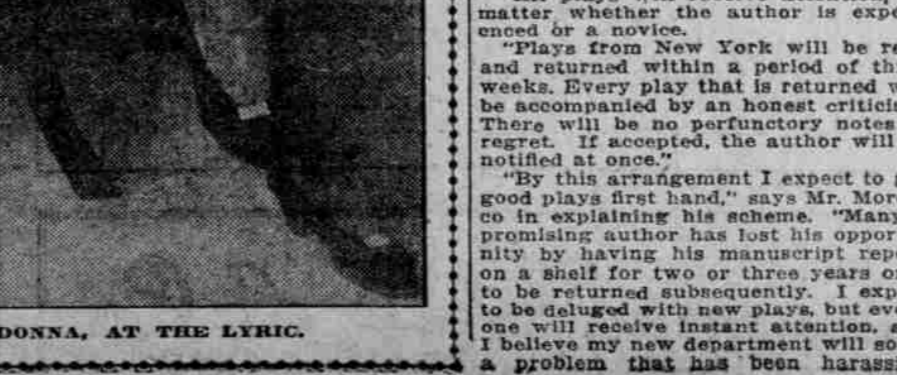
Joe Gould Back in Oregon City to Face Forgery Complaint.

OREGON CITY, Or., Dec. 19.—(Special.)—Joe Gould, arrested last Saturday by W. H. Glover, secret service operative; Constable Frost and Sheriff Mass on a charge of counterfeiting, was released by the Federal authorities in Portland Friday and returned to Oregon City, where he will face a charge of forgery in the Clackamas County courts. Gould and his brother-in-law, Charles A. Rogers, are now in the County Jail, both held on a forgery charge. County officials say the two passed a number of checks in Gladstone and Parkplace early in the Fall. The checks, they believe, were signed by Mrs. Rogers. Rogers is said to have told the officers of the alleged counterfeiting operations of his relative, but investigation failed to confirm the report.

THE REJUVENATION OF AUNT MARY

Brim Full of Amusement. 'The Rejuvenation of Aunt Mary,' in which May Robson starred so long and so successfully, will be the New Year's week offering of the Baker Players, beginning Sunday matinee. Aunt Mary is a star role and was chosen especially for Florence Roberts, the most popular character woman who has ever played in stock here.

In Miss Roberts' hands the role of the whimsical middle-aged woman, whose ideas of life are so entirely rejuvenated by a crowd of daredevil young people, will be a rare treat for Baker patrons. For Aunt Mary is a small town aunt, with narrow ideas of how people should proceed to make life merry for her, at first greatly against her will, but later gradually bringing her around to their ways of doing things, with a highly amusing result of incidents. 'The Rejuvenation of Aunt Mary' is a most charming comedy. There will be an extra matinee Friday, New Year's day.



JEANNE MAL, PRIMA DONNA, AT THE LYRIC.