



Luigi Cecchetti, Katherine Lynbrook,
Orchestra Conductor, Dramatic Soprano,
as Leonora, in 'Il Trovatore.'
at the Baker.

BY LEON CASE BAER.

DESCRIBED as distinctly human, ceaselessly interesting and intensely thrilling, George M. Cohan's mystery farce, "Seven Keys to Baldpate," will have its first presentation here tonight at the Heilig. This play ran all of last season in Chicago and New York and has met with instantaneous approval from every city where it has played since. It is coming to us from San Francisco and way points, with Cyril Scott leading an excellent cast. The engagement is for the entire week with matinee Wednesday and Saturday.

Following "Seven Keys to Baldpate" in the candy store delectable tid-bit, returning after a great hit in Chicago. Rock and Fulton and Daphne Pollard are among its important folk. After "The Candy Shop" comes "Folly Woman."

Latin voices are lifting melodiously in a season of grand opera within pocketbook reach of all of us at the Baker. This afternoon, and on Wednesday evening and again at next Saturday's matinee, Verdi's "Rigoletto" will be given. Tonight Verdi's "Rigoletto" is the bill, repeating on Wednesday at a matinee. Tomorrow evening, Monday, a repetition of "Aida," the opening bill of the Lambardi is to be given. On Tuesday evening and again on Friday evening the old favorite, "Il Trovatore," is the opera. Thursday evening will bring "Faust" and next Saturday evening "Aida" is again the bill.

Sylvester Schaeffer, who is ten vaudeville acts all rolled into one, big headliner, will be the main attraction at the Orpheum. Sylvester has been a sensation wherever he has appeared.

Maria Russell, a singer from the South, is the featured attraction at the Orpheum. Her particular instance south of the Mason-Dixon line—is to top the Empress bill. Most interesting is the added attraction at the house, Mary Edgett Baker, and Walter B. Gilbert, both favorites in the Baker stock, will present a sketch written by Mrs. Harold Sawyer and Mrs. Folger Johnson. The sketch is called "Even Up."

Pantages will give us Herbert Lloyd and company in a burlesque skit called "The King of the Beans."

Hayes and Reeves, novelty singers and impersonators, top the Lyric bill.

THRILLS FILL HELIG FARCE

"Seven Keys to Baldpate" is Story With Joke on Audience.

"Seven Keys to Baldpate," George M. Cohan's galloping farce, based on Earl Derr Biggers' novel, which will be seen at the Heilig, has a particularly high beginning tonight, including matinee Wednesday and Saturday. It is Cohan at his best. He has constructed something entirely different in stage offerings, a farce with tense, dramatic moments and without horseplay. In fact, the audience is the one upon whom the joke is played. Until Cohan brought his genius and his sense of timing, the comedy melodramatic situations have never been able to work in harmony with gales of laughter. But that is what "Seven Keys to Baldpate" exemplifies.

The story concerns the author of "best sellers," who makes a wager that he can write a 16-act farce in seven days, complete in every detail, in the span of 24 hours. Magee, the author, selects Baldpate Inn as the place for his labor because it is a summer hotel, set upon a lonely mountain. The time of action is in the dead of winter.

At the rise of the curtain following the prologue, the author's solution is found to be insecure. There is more than one key to Baldpate Inn, although Magee is told he has the sole key to the inn. As he sets to work on his story he hears a key grating in the door. A young man, armed and desperate, enters. He places \$200.000 in the safe, the first act in a thrilling twelve-act plot.

Immediately enters a charming young newspaper woman and her chaperon, the one trailing fruit and the other double-cross her confederates and steal the \$200,000. Next appears the "Hermit-ghost" of Baldpate Mountain, and in exciting succession the corrupt mayor, the ex-crozier who is to share the hoodlum and the franchise-buying capitalist.

How, in a deft manner, the author makes each and every one of the intruders do his bidding gives a thrill worth while.

"Seven Keys to Baldpate" played for more than a year to capacity at the houses at the Gaiety Theater, New York, and for six months at Cohan's Grand Opera-house, Chicago. The original cast and production will be seen here, including Cyril Scott, John O'Hara, Lee Stretcher, William L. Gibson, Spencer Charters,

Frank Monroe, Hooker Wright, Ethel Intropucci, Christine Mayo, Rita Harlan, Jean Shelby, Laura Bennett and Fannie Mackey.

"TRAVIATA" AT BAKER TODAY

Italian Grand Opera Season Now Is in Full Swing.

The Italian grand opera season at the Baker is now in full swing, and with the splendid productions of "Aida," "Traviata" and "Rigoletto," which already have been heard by many people, who might have been sceptical of the merit of the organization on account of the before-mentioned prices of admission, have become fully convinced that it is everything Manager Baker and Impresario Lambardi promised for it.

Those who went to criticize have gone away to praise, for they realize that we have with us a company of high-class artists singing and producing the noted grand opera of the world under the conductorship of one of the best orchestra directors Portland ever has welcomed, Luigi Cecchetti. These productions are complete in every detail, sung in manner faithful to the highest trained musical ear, with gorgeous scenic and stage effects; splendid choruses and rich costumes.

Many singers have distinguished themselves that it is difficult to express choice at this early day and in the opera to come in manner faithful to the highest trained musical ear, with gorgeous scenic and stage effects; splendid choruses and rich costumes.

At the first bargain matinee Wednesday "Rigoletto" will be repeated, followed by "Traviata" Wednesday night. On Thursday we will hear Gounod's "Faust," with Tina Schinetti as Marguerite, Edgar as Faust and Orlino Lambardi as Mephisto. Friday will be "Il Trovatore." Saturday matinee "Traviata," night "Aida," Sunday matinee "Il Trovatore," night "Faust," Monday "Cavalleria Rusticana" and "Pagliacci" and Tuesday, April 20, "Faust."

ACTOR IN 10 ACTS AT ORPHEUM

Sylvester Schaeffer to Headline Unusual Bill, Opening Today.

In reality 10 acts will be seen at the Orpheum today, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, although 10 of them will be performed in the remarkable German genius, Sylvester Schaeffer, whose astonishing versatility, tremendous energy and accomplishments mark him as the most wonderful actor ever brought to this city.

He draws a salary of \$5000 a week. He is the highest salaried personage in the vaudeville.

He is the most versatile man in the world. He can do anything that any other performer can do—and do it better.

Sylvester Schaeffer will begin today with coin and card manipulations, and for the following hour and 10 or 20 minutes will run through a series of performances touching Japanese jugglers, circus horsemanship with his two beautiful Arabian horses, with trained birds, and his remarkable German genius, Sylvester Schaeffer, whose astonishing versatility, tremendous energy and accomplishments mark him as the most wonderful actor ever brought to this city.

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LYRIC HAS ATTRACTIVE BILL

Photo Plays Combined With Vaudeville at Theater.

The new policy, that of vaudeville and photoplays combined, which has been in vogue in the New Lyric for the last eight weeks, has caught the public's fancy. Big houses have greeted each new bill, and on Sundays many have been turned away. There are nine acts of first-class vaudeville and photoplays in each programme, the time consumed for each performance being more than two hours.

Three days beginning this afternoon Hayes and Rives will present a novelty skit entitled "The Divinity and Her Escort." Gerald Griffin, late of the Irish theater and advertised as "Chauncey O'Leary's successor," will be heard and seen in typical Irish numbers. His skit will be entitled "A Night at an Irish Festival." Harrison and Chance will hold up the comedy end of the act. The musical part of the bill will be exceptional and will consist of "A Gentleman Burglar," a two-reef Selig, and four other excellent pieces. Com-

meencing tomorrow and for five days Charlie Chaplin, in an Essanay never before shown at this pop-up playhouse, will be presented, and in the near future he will be seen in "The Tramp," the latest release of the Essanay Company.

There are two amateur nights every week, these extra features being presented on Tuesdays and Fridays.

ORPHEUM STAR IS PRAISED

Will F. Lipman Leads Owners for Bringing Schaeffer to Portland.

When in New York a few weeks ago Will F. Lipman not only made a round of the theaters, but was fortunate in making the acquaintance of some of the stage folk who are from abroad.

Yesterday Mr. Lipman noticed a poster, announcing the appearance of Sylvester Schaeffer at the Orpheum today.

"There is the most wonderful artist in the world," declared Mr. Lipman, "and the introduction of that man to Portland is absolutely convincing of the fact that the Orpheum management is bringing the best performers in the profession to the local theater. When the theater does its part in that manner, it ought to be supported, and I am going to see to it that my people witness this remarkable performance."

"Schaeffer puts on a performance that is remarkable in every respect. He has the skill with which he does everything. He does cannon-ball juggling and puts forth tremendous strength in other feats, and then he wraps up his act with some remarkable feats of marksmanship with as steady a hand as a man could possibly have. It shows that Schaeffer is perfectly balanced both mentally and physically."

SOME FUNNY THINGS HAPPEN AT CITY HALL

Commissioner Dieck Sees Self Advertised in Connection With "The Jaws of Death"—Waitress Says, "I'm Fine," When Asked About Chicken.

COMMISSIONER DIECK was invited to speak to the residents of an East Side district on the subject of "Needed Improvements in This District." The meeting was arranged for 8:30 P. M. at a motion-picture theater in the district. Mr. Dieck looked at his maps and plans, took a spin through the district and got polished up on the actual needs and went to the district prepared to make a good talk. He supposed naturally that he was to be whole show for the evening. When he got to the theater one of the first things that caught his eye near the entrance were flaring posters of stirring scenes.

He read down the list. The headliner was "Diamond Dick and the Big Four Express." Next in order was "The Dash for Liberty." The third reel bore the glaring red caption, "In the Jaws of Death." On a card near the entrance Mr. Dieck read the words, "Special tonight at 8:30."

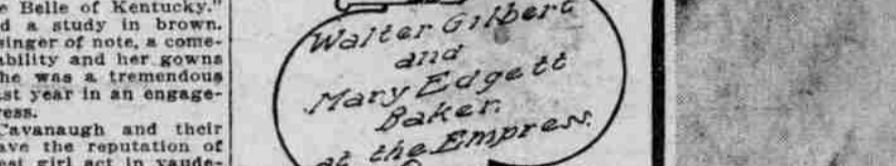
Old ones which are sprung unconsciously are sometimes good. William ("Bill") Warren, Mayor Albee's secretary, is known as a plunger when it comes to meals. Albee's secretary, instead of going home. He always patronizes the same place. Recently he sat down at his customary place for breakfast. He thought to get his order "Bill" was looking at the list of chicken dishes. "How's the chicken today?" he asked, looking up at the waitress. "Oh, I'm fine," replied the young woman.

Mayor Albee stopped in at a garage to look at a new type of automobile on which he saw advertised. The Mayor looked like a promising purchaser, so the dealer went into great details explaining the merits of the car. Of his remarks he explained that he had letters from men in all lines of business. "If you will tell me what line you're in," he said, "perhaps I can show you letters from men in the same line whom you may know."

"I'm afraid you couldn't do that," explained the Mayor. "Mine is a peculiar line. There are not many of us in this business."

The dealer gradually wormed out of the Mayor an admission as to his profession. Not to be outdone, the dealer, turned the tables by opening his book and showing letters from the Mayors of two other cities.

C. F. Wiegand, chief clerk in Commissioner Daly's office, took a party of friends out to see the beautiful growth of vines about a Summer cottage which he has on the banks of the Sandy River. When he got there he found that a flock of cows had beaten him to the place. He saw a peculiarly attractive vine and a bunch of attractive vines and a bunch of attractive vines and a bunch of attractive vines.



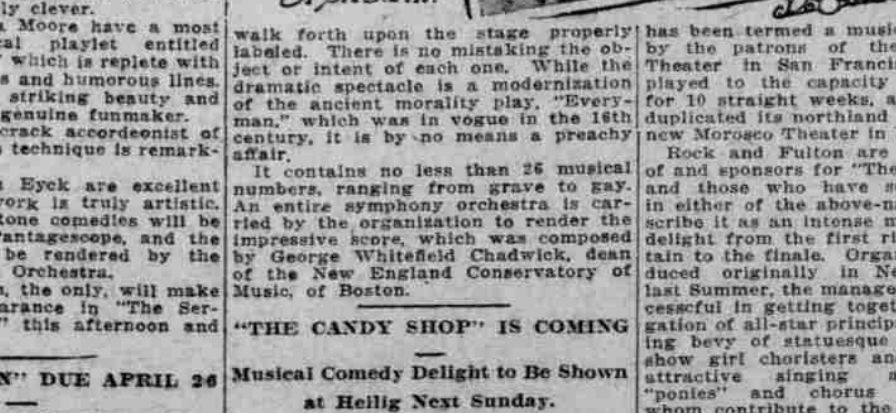
Walter Gilbert and Mary Edgett Baker at the Empress.



Sylvester Schaeffer at the Orpheum.



Henry Savage at the Heilig.



Mary Edgett Baker and Walter Gilbert at the Heilig.

MAN MAKES SNAKE RECORD

Goes Out and Kills Some 20 Reptiles Before Breakfast.

MUNCIE, Ind., April 6.—Israel Wakeman, a farmer living in the northern part of Delaware County, says that he has just had a most successful snake killing. He went out to his barn on his place

at dawn recently and reached into a buggy to obtain a hitching strap, his hand came in contact with something cold and caused him to investigate. With the result that he saw, by the light from his barn lantern, the gleaming eyes of a huge blacksnake. The man wrapped himself around the snake a little difficulty in killing it with a club. It measured 6 feet 2 inches long. Then on going into the stall where the snake was kept he saw that the snake had been herding her shivering with fright and in spite of the cool air she was sweating and her eyes gave every indication of being in a state of extreme nervousness. He found the manger fairly alive with a squirming mass of blacksnakes, all much smaller than the one found in the manger. They gave battle with him. Wakeman attacked them with a pitchfork. However, he killed 12 and thinks three or four escaped. One, in attempting to crawl back into the manger, struck his leg and struck at him viciously, but did no harm. Then an adjoining stall was a big gray mule and about its feet were five or six reptiles similar to those in the manger. One measured more than four feet long. The mule was getting extremely nervous, apparently not caring about his neighbors. Wakeman killed these snakes also and then proceeded to the house for breakfast. He thought the snakes were hibernating near the barn and the warm weather and thawing ground caused them to think Spring was here. He will have the skin of the largest snake stuffed and mounted.

LOVELY MAN IN TROUBLE

Wife Seeker to Be Met at Train by Bevy of Pretty Girls.

ELIZABETH N. J., April 4.—Just about half a second after Farmer Augustus J. Bryant—he of the "biggest, awfully lonesome heart," in St. Margaret, Md.—feels his eyes on Elizabeth's "daisy chain" of marriageable young women lined up on the bluestone plaza of city hall some day this week and "selects him the wife" for whom he advertised recently, Gus, for short, will probably be the most unpopular man this side of safety. He won't have time to ruminate even as much as his native state oyster on the whims and wherefore of his choice of a maid-in-Elizabeth wife.

Gus probably didn't appreciate the ivory green of Elizabeth's envy when he wrote to the Mayor asking him to pick him out a wife, and received a reply, saying, "Come and do your own picking." But right now all the Dolans and Baquins and Lullies that ever decolletted Elizabeth's youngest marrying set know that envy well. Said set will be out in mass to meet Gus' train. Gus probably won't have to worry about the one he selects, but, gracious! how will he ever placate the others?

Centralia to Hear Oil Benefit Talk.

CENTRALIA, Wash., April 16.—(Special.)—At a meeting in the Commercial Club rooms Monday night, representatives of oil companies drilling in this section will tell Centralia business men just what results have been accomplished to date. Owing to the proximity of this city to the fields, the discovery of oil in commercial quantities would result in manifold benefits. It is expected that every merchant will turn out to the meeting. Officers of the Crescent Oil Company declare that they expect to have their well in full operation by May 1.

Our yearling year, 1915, corresponds to the year 5775 in the Jewish calendar.