

The Stage



Max Figman, in "Nothing But the Truth," at the Heilig.

BY LEONIE CASS BAER.
MAX FIGMAN and Lolita Robertson are returning to Portland this week on their second across-country tour in "Nothing But the Truth," a comedy which delighted us early last Fall, in the beginning of the season.

Mr. Figman has an especial capacity for funmaking, for a delicate definition of character and a wholesome and unstudied appeal to the finer things of life.

In "Nothing But the Truth" he brings a play which is laughful to the limit. His engagement opens on Thursday evening and rounds out the week.

Following Mr. Figman, Cyril Maude, in "Grumpy," two names of international theatrical fame, are the leading stars that will call us to the Heilig on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, May 2, 3 and 4.

At the Baker, the Alcazar Players will present Cyril Maude's comedy, "A Pair of Silk Stockings," which is heralded as an uncommonly amusing play.

Ruth Gates will appear as Molly, a little wife who isn't a wife because she divorced her husband. She wants him back, and he wants to come back, and Molly's endeavor to make him return without compromising herself gets a lot of nice people into a mess.

Edwin Arden is not a player of fine achievements, but is an author of accomplishment.

Recently Mr. Arden appeared in plays whose casts were of the all-star variety. This is true of "Today" and the trio of Henri Bernstein's plays, "The Whirlwind," "The Thief" and "Israel," in which he was cast in the principal male role.

Two luminaries shine at the top of the Orpheum's new show to open at the Heilig this afternoon. They are Edwin Arden, one of our most distinguished actors, and Elizabeth M. Murray, dialectician and comedienne extraordinary, with successes to her credit that have made her famous the world over.

Elizabeth Murray was the predominate comedy role for several years past. More recently she was in "The Cohan Revue," "Watch Your Step" and "High Jinks." She has always originated roles and consequently when musical comedy successes have appeared on the road without her in the cast audiences have seen only an imitation of the real thing.

Pantages has a phenomenal offering this week, with Singer's Midgets, who were here last Fall. There are 30 tiny midgets in the group, and they present comic opera, vaudeville, musical comedy, athletics, gymnastic art and

methods of self-defense, a circus, a minstrel show, a Wild West act and a big military spectacle. They carry a pair of tiny elephants for the circus act, and a troupe of trained dogs. The act is truly sensational and will pack Pantages all week. Last Fall it was kept over a second week and played constantly to capacity business.

The Strand's new bill, opening today, offers Margie Carson, a genuine baritone; Tom Whiteside, a blackface comedian and eccentric dancer, as its top-line act.

MAX FIGMAN HERE THURSDAY
"Nothing but the Truth" Brim Full of Sparkling Comedy.

Max Figman, who comes to the Heilig Theater next Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, April 25, 26, 27, has more comedy roles to his credit than any artist on tour this season. Some have been fortunate enough to see him in each of the various engagements. As an entertainer, many remember him in each of the following comedies, if they all were comedies, for "Mary Jane's Pat" came pretty near being a comedy drama, though advertised as a comedy.

"Old Curiosity Shop" had a tear hidden between the laughs for many of us and there was an undertone in the character he played in "Fine Feathers," that was so real and human it made one think of "someone known intimately." "The Man on the Box" and "The Substitute" and one or two others make up a repertoire that is both varied and unusual.

The author of Mr. Figman's present success, James Montgomery, now has another play under construction that he thinks will "just fit" this well-known comedian, and he promises a hidden touch of pathos as unusual in comedies. "Nothing But the Truth" is a comedy of the purest type, no tears, no horseplay and no slapstick being resorted to to provoke a laugh. The complications are what are termed legitimate, that is, the sequence of scenes grow out of the scenes preceding and bring surprising "twists" to the play of the secret service, with the war as a background. It is, however, in no sense a war play, although the trapping of a spy is its theme.

The engagement of Elizabeth Murray at the Orpheum may recall the fact that this comedienne is given credit in many quarters for having conceived New York that it is not the birthplace of all stage successes.

New York has always considered that anything theatrical which was produced outside of its boundaries was not of sufficient merit for the entertainment of its citizens. In a degree, this feeling still obtains there, but it has been considerably shaken and Elizabeth Murray hammered in the opening wedge that is causing the theatrical structure to totter.

She was cast for the role of an Irish girl in "Miss Sherry," and despite the successes of the musical comedy during its original presentation in Chicago, the wisesacs declared that, when it reached New York, Broadway would find flaws in it, even if they never existed.

Elizabeth Murray was the predominate comedy hit of the show, and one can imagine the gnashing of teeth among the aristocracy of Broadway when they discovered that although the play was produced in another city the general public insisted that it was exceptionally good and went into raptures over the genuine talents that made Miss Murray so comically attractive. Her sparkle and Irish cheer were a revelation to the stay-at-home New Yorkers.

Since that time, Broadway has attempted to claim her for its own, and, in a measure, has succeeded, for she has originated many of the female comedy roles for several years past. More recently she was in "The Cohan Revue," "Watch Your Step" and "High Jinks." She has always originated roles and consequently when musical comedy successes have appeared on the road without her in the cast audiences have seen only an imitation of the real thing.

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Elizabeth M. Murray, Edwin Arden at the Orpheum.



"A Pair of Silk Stockings," Alcazar Players, at the Baker.



Some of Singer's Midgets...at Pantages.

affection, his resolution and helplessness, his shrewdness and solemnity, his quick energy and tired reaction, and 20 little traits and whimsies into a living, vivid and altogether plausible being of the theater.

BAKER WILL FEATURE FARCE
"A Pair of Silk Stockings" Full of Amusing Situations.

After several delays, the Alcazar Players will at last offer for the first time in the West Cyril Maude's unusual farce, "A Pair of Silk Stockings," starting this afternoon at the Baker. It was originally produced at the Little Theater in New York City and is described as one of the cleverest farces presented in years. Its setting is English, and it centers around the marital difficulties of a young married couple, or rather a couple recently married and still more recently divorced on account of some trifling difficulty.

The action takes place at a country home where the husband that was temporarily stopping and where they are rehearsing for amateur theatricals in the war cause. Molly, the wife, comes on the scene with the pretense of a motor accident and decides to stay all night. A former sweetheart has also been there and just left, so Molly is given his room. Missing his train he comes back at midnight, gets a ladder and climbs back into what he supposes is his empty room, only to find Molly comfortably located. Molly's ex-husband, Sam, is also hiding in a closet, and he is pleading for a reconciliation. From this highly strung situation arises a series of complications that are intensely amusing.

The play will be found original and amusing. Matinees will be given today, Wednesday and Saturday.

FIVE STAR ACTS AT ORPHEUM
Edwin Arden, New Play "Trapped," Will Headline New Show.

Only seven shows—four matinees and three nights—will be devoted to Orpheum vaudeville at the Heilig this week.

The show opening at the Heilig this afternoon is the first five-star Orpheum assemblage to be seen on the circuit for several months. In Seattle the show was praised as being one of the best-balanced bills of the Orpheum season.

The headliners are the distinguished actor, Edwin Arden, in a new play

entitled, "Trapped," and Elizabeth M. Murray, famous musical comedy star, in songs and stories. Mr. Arden's new vehicle is a tense and timely play of the secret service with the present war as the background.

Elizabeth Murray was a star with George M. Cohan in "The Revue of 1916" and one of the big stars in the stellar cast of "Watch Your Step," "High Jinks" and "Madame Sherry." A New York critic declared there are only four women in the world who can tell a story or sing a song as well as Elizabeth Murray.

The added attractions of the show are Billie Reeves, the famous comedienne known as "The Scream of the Screen," in an uproariously funny farce, "The Right Key, but the Wrong Flat," in which he is assisted by Amy Webb and Edwin Redding and Jack Clifford, dancing partner of Evelyn Nesbit and her co-star, who will offer a fantastic dance play called "A Country Side." Mr. Clifford is assisted by Agnes Dunn as "Miss Corn" and Gertrude Kerpen as "Miss Wheat."

The final big feature of the new show is the act of Percy Bronson and Winnie Baldwin, who present "A 1918 Song-cology." Bronson and Baldwin formerly were stars of the Oliver Morosco farce, "So Long Letty," and they are great Portland favorites.

Remaining acts are the four Haley sisters, America's greatest girl quartet, in popular melodies, and Miss Gwen Lewis, the English girl, who is making her American debut in songs and monologues at the piano.

Interesting moving-picture views of foreign lands will be shown by the Orpheum Travel Weekly, and the orchestra, under direction of George E. Jeffery, will give a 20-minute concert preceding every performance.

JAZZ BAND FEATURES AT HIPPODROME
Instrumentalists and Singer Furnish Headlines of Attractive Bill.

Jazz will come into its own at the Hippodrome today as a headline attraction in the shape of Miss Minnie Burke and the Four Kings of Jazzerpation, who will top the programme for the next few days. Miss Burke, with her good looks and fine gowns and her versatility as a singer and comedienne, sets a fast pace for the four instrumentalists to follow. The boys give some real jazz and they have a drummer who is said to outrival the con-tortions of a darkey drum major leading a white man's band. This attraction has been accorded one of the warmest receptions given an act on the circuit this winter.



Al Franks and Ben Dillon, Lyric Comedians, in "The Patriots."



Minnie Burke, at the Hippodrome.

attractive style by a young woman crowned with a wealth of Titian hair and a smart young chap, will be provided by Hickey and Cooper.

A slip of a girl and a good-looking young fellow, Santry and Norton, present an offering that consists entirely of dancing. They are both excellent performers and give a very diverting few minutes' entertainment.

Dancing, popular songs of late vintage, considerable chatter, these will comprise the number of Moore and White.

BOY DETECTIVE IS HERO
Alcazar Players to Present "The Dummy" at the Baker Next Week.

"The Dummy," which the Alcazar Players will offer for the first time here at the Baker for the week following "A Pair of Silk Stockings," is what

might be called the "boy detective play," as its hero is just a typical A. D. T. messenger boy kind, who has been reading wild stories and who longs for Hawkhaw's fame.

His opportunity comes when a band of kidnapers steal a little girl and Barney, who has the job of office boy at the detective agency, is trained to be deaf and dumb and permitted to be stolen also, the kidnapers being led to believe that he is the child of wealthy parents.

The play deals with his thrilling and comical adventures, for he is on the job from the moment he is stolen and the audience is right with him, tense.

The scenes change from a deserted gambling house to a lonely bungalow in the mountains, and it is here that he makes his big slip. He talks in his sleep. But after many of the most dramatic and startling complications he brings back the girl, wins the big reward and a life job as a real detective.

The play is the work of Harvey O'Higgins and Harriet Ford, authors of "The Argyll Case."

"THE PATRIOTS" AT THE LYRIC
"Mike and Ike" Will Be Seen in Side-Splitting Military Farce.

Dillon and Franks, with the Lyric Musical Comedy Company, will open this afternoon in a military burlesque entitled "The Patriots," which is heralded one of the funniest conglomerations ever concocted. The farce opens at the residence of old General Drake, and we find the General and his aristocratic better half on the verge of bankruptcy. He gets word that his old friend, Mike Dooley, is coming to visit him and somehow has the impression that Mike is rich and will save him. All is made ready and then Mike and Ike appear.

They are evidently a couple of bums, but have a new dodge, that of traveling from place to place organizing companies of volunteers for the war. Most of the incidents consist of their efforts to the benefit and they are exceedingly comical. Mike's son and the General's son are in the plot, as well as a swell girl from college and a down-and-out girl from the little love stories run merrily along with the two old reprobates, Mike and Ike, contributing their share in this as well as in the entertainment work.

"RED, RED HEART," AT STRAND
Several Clever Acts Feature Vaudeville Half of Programme.

Monroe Sallabury, whose interpretation of the role of Alessandro in the

Ticket Office Sale Opens Tomorrow

Heilig ^{THURS. FRI. SAT.} ^{THIS WEEK} Nights April 25-26-27

SPECIAL PRICE MATINEE SATURDAY

Portland's Favorite Comedian

MAX FIGMAN

SUPPORTED BY LOLITA ROBERTSON SPLENDID COMPANY

IN THE GREATEST OF ALL FARCES,

NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH

IF YOU DO NOT "GET" SEE A DOCTOR
A HUNDRED LAUGHS, SEE A DOCTOR

Floor\$1.50	Floor\$1
Balcony\$1.75, 50c	Balcony\$1.75, 50c
Gallery50c	Gallery50c

HEILIG THEATER, WED. EVE., MAY 1

IVAN DE MARCEL RUSIA'S SUPREME DANCING STAR OF IMPERIAL BALLET, MOSCOW AND PETROGRAD. Glenna Del Gado Danseuse Palais Royal.

LILLIAN TULANE, AS CLOPATRA—BALLET AND ENSEMBLE OF TWO HUNDRED—ORCHESTRA OF THIRTY.

IN A SPECTACULAR PANTOMIMIC DANCE DRAMA,

"LE BALLET EGYPTIEN"

PORTRAYING THE LIFE AND AFTER LIFE OF THE ANCIENT EGYPTIANS

PRICES—50c TO \$2.50 SEAT SALE OPENS MONDAY, APRIL 29th. MAIL ORDERS NOW.

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HEILIG NEXT WEEK THUR., FRI., SAT. NIGHTS MAY 2-3

MR. CYRIL MAUDE

IN HIS INTERNATIONAL SUCCESS, THE COMEDY "GRUMPY"

SPECIAL PRICE MAT. SAT.

EVE'S—Floor \$2; Bal., 5 rows \$1.50, 4 rows \$1, 5 rows 75c, 8 rows 50c; Gal., 50c. SAT. MAT.—Floor, \$1.50; Balcony, 5 rows \$1, 4 rows 75c, 13 rows 50c; Gallery, 50c.



MISCHA
ELMAN
HEILIG THEATER
APRIL 24
Seat Sale Tomorrow 10 A. M.
PRICES—Floor, \$1.50, \$2.00; Balcony, \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00; Gallery, reserved, \$1.00. Admission, 75c. Lower Box, \$2.50; Upper, \$2.00.