

The Stage



Lyric Rosebuds 1st Bits of 1923 At The Baker.



Busse Toy Terriers At The Hippodrome.



Walter C. Kelly "The Virginian Judge" And John B. Hymer At The Orpheum.



Cecil Cunningham At Pantages.

VAUDEVILLE artist who writes all his own acts and still has time to do acts and entire plays for other actors is John B. Hymer, who, with his company, is presenting "Tom Walker in Dixie," one of the headline numbers on the Orpheum vaudeville programme which closes its Portland engagement at the Heilig theater this evening.

Hymer has a summer home in Maine. Throughout the season of his work in vaudeville he maps out his work and when he gets to the summer retreat he starts in on it. Hymer insists that there is nothing so good as dictation to keep one's writing within reasonable limits. Merely hearing a phrase from one's own tongue will frequently be sufficient to cause it to be discarded.

"By dictating a writer gets dramatic construction—he sets the voice, the gestures and the picture. My present act, "Tom Walker in Dixie," was written in just this manner."

Charles S. Gilpin in the Drama "The Emperor Jones" At The Heilig Theater.

You utter up a fervent prayer for the opportunity to push him in front of a freight train.

"Yet, with all this caustic criticism, I feel honor bound to pay tribute to that army of fun lovers, the theater-going public, the echo of whose laughter and applause will be to me the sweetest symphony of declining years."

R. H. Burnside, general director of the New York Hippodrome, gives credit to the old village choir for the training of capable singers. Eleven of the 16 principal singers in "Better Times" at the New York Hippodrome began their careers as choir singers, and one, Miss Sarah Edwards, still retains her church soloist's position in addition to appearing at the Hippodrome.

Anne Nichols, whose "Able's Irish Rose" is still doing business at the Heilig theater, and a company of which also played Portland, and Sidney Howard have been elected to membership in the ranks of the American Dramatists. Mr. Howard's last effort was "Swords," presented by Brock Pemberton a year ago.

The films have lost another actress, for the time being at least, in the person of Virginia Magee, leading woman with Richard Barthelme in his recent picture, "The Bond Boy."

Miss Magee is making her debut on the stage in "The Little Kangaroo," the Oliver Morosco musical comedy, which will come to New York on December 20. James T. Powers and Marjorie Gatenon have the leading roles.

John Barrymore has been generally acclaimed as the best Hamlet since the actor's death. His performance, coupled with Arthur Hopkins' production of the Shakespearean tragedy, is selling out the Sam H. Harris theater at every performance in New York.

"Bits of 1923" comprises the main attraction for the 11th week of the lyric musical comedy company. Its reign of fun at the Baker theater. Cleverly conceived by Lou Davis, this new offering is full of the sparkling wit which makes for enjoyable entertainment.

All of the various well-known lyric fun-makers appear in varied ensembles and features who for a long time have rarely have an opportunity of seeing in a high-class revue. Marie Rich, prima donna of the company, whose clever work has occasioned much comment this season in the various lyric productions, is to be featured in a novel jazz number, "Crazy Blues." Assisting will be the Pacific Pear, the Lyric quartet who have proved so popular at that shrine of musical comedy this season, and the little-ladies-of-the-theater, which theatergoers know best as the Rosebud chorus.

Life appears to be divided into two distinct classes—those who form the great majority, and the others who are outstanding by their possession of an outstanding ability and personality. One of these is Cecil Cunningham, whose name has been scintillated to the eyes of millions by the incandescent lights of the Broadway White Way, who for the past several seasons has been the dominating cause of the success of the Greenwich Village Follies. Miss Cunningham, after playing for three successive years with only Sunday as a night of rest, has signed a Pantages circuit contract and will be headline feature of the new bill opening tomorrow. As a mimic of other performers, as a singer of unique songs, Miss Cunningham is justifiably spoken of as "in a class by herself."

This year's expenditure for costumes at Oberammergau is said to have totaled more than 90,000 marks. While this sum is not so huge as it sounds, by reason of the deplorable state of the village, and represents only a part of the great expense of producing the Passion Play.

Owing to the great scarcity of material dyes and so forth, much that did duty in 1910 is being used this summer. Probably few in the vast audience noted the difference, however, and certainly the costumes were one of the marvels of the wonderful performances. No two garments seemed alike, and elaborate as they all were, there was nothing in the least degree bizarre or unsuitable. The amount mentioned is said to have been contributed in one sum by a generous friend

played at the Princess theater, New York, where it ran an entire season. Extended engagements in Philadelphia, Boston and Chicago followed the New York run, and the attraction created a furore in each city. The play is said to be novel in conception and construction. Its like has never before been seen on any stage, and the producer has provided a background of superb scenic settings, like nothing ever shown before the footlights.

Acting like Gilpin's is seen only once in a decade or more, and it is doubtful if any other player of our time could successfully play the difficult role, as it calls for expressions of all the human emotions, from mirth gradually changing to slight alarm, to fright and to the depths of despair. Through it all there is a touch of realism which almost convinces the spectator that he or she is witnessing scenes from real life and not acting.

"LADY BILLY" IS MEDIEVAL

Mitzi's Musical Comedy Haunting Love Story of Roumania.

An old Roumanian castle, with its haunting love story of the long ago, is the setting for "Lady Billy," the new musical comedy in which Henry W. Savage is now presenting Mitzi on tour. She comes to the Heilig theater December 28, 29 and 30, with a special matinee Saturday.

Mitzi's singular charm, sprightliness and drollery, which have captured American audiences in "Sari," "Pom Pom" and "Head-over-Heels," are intensified in her new-est character conception—the irresistible "Lady Billy," a young Roumanian countess whose adventures take her from an old-world castle to American city life, in an amusing and amusing series of guises and disguises.

"Lady Billy" which is Mr. Savage's most pretentious musical offering for the season, is an original story by Zella Sears, who is also the author of the lyrics. The composer, Harold Levey, a young American and the protégé of Victor Herbert, may also be hailed as a "Savage discovery." The sumptuous staging of "Lady Billy" is the achievement of John McKee, remembered for his novel staging of "Madame X," "See Saw" and "Shavings." In the arrangement of dance numbers for "Lady Billy" he was aided by Julian Alfred.

A novelty of "Lady Billy" is the absence of a chorus. According to the new Savage experiment, the "chorus girls" are superseded by an octet of young women who qualify as actresses, dancers and singers, and a quintet of special dancers.

HEILIG BILLS GREAT PLAY

Charles S. Gilpin Will Appear in "The Emperor Jones."

The biggest dramatic novelty of the season, Eugene O'Neill's unusual play, "The Emperor Jones," is announced for the Heilig theater next Thursday for an engagement of three nights, with a special matinee Saturday.

Charles S. Gilpin is starred in the role of emperor, and the presentation is under the management of Adolph Klauber. Both play and star achieved instantaneous success the first night the piece was

LIGHT OPERA TO RETURN

Engagement for Week of December 31 is Announced.

Much interest is being shown in musical and theatrical circles over the week's return engagement at

the public auditorium of the American light opera company, beginning Sunday, December 31. The company, which virtually took Portland by storm with a repertoire of light and comic operas, many of which had not been heard here for years, will include, in addition to the operas presented before, two of the popular grand operas.

The company will bring with it all the stars who made such a pronounced hit during the November engagement, including Paula Ayers, Theo Pennington, Edward Andrews, George Olson and the others. While the repertoire for the return engagement has not been definitely settled, the operas given before will be repeated and the list will be increased to take in the entire repertoire of the company.

ROMANTIC SOUTH FEATURED

New Orpheum Show Offers Fine Vaudeville Attractions.

Something savoring of the romantic south marks the headline features of the Orpheum vaudeville programme, which opens its Portland engagement at the Heilig theater with the matinee this afternoon. There are two distinctive headline numbers, with

Orpheum

ORPHEUM CIRCUIT VAUDEVILLE

AT HEILIG THEATER

3 Matinees, 3 Nights, Commencing Sunday Matinee, December 17th

2:10	Orchestra, George E. Jeffery, Director	8:10
2:15	Aesop's Fables and Topics of the Day	8:15
2:30	ELLY, The Little Marvel	8:30
2:40	FRANK WARD & DOLLIES	8:40
2:51	JOHN B. HYMER & CO.	8:51
3:09	Presenting "TOM WALKER IN DIXIE" A Fantastic Comedy Novelty	
3:21	Written and Produced under the Personal Direction of Mr. Hymer, co-author of "East is West"	
3:39	SCANLON, DENNO BROS. & SCANLON	9:09
3:47	Chas. B.-MIDDLETON & SPELLMEYER—Leora	9:21
3:57	WALTER C. KELLY	9:57
	THE VIRGINIAN JUDGE	
4:17	Guy and Pearl MAGLEY	10:17
4:37	Pathe News	10:37

3 Mat. Sun., Mon., Tues. 10c-25c-50c
100 Choice Seats 50c
Sundays and Holidays 15c to 75c

Gallery Always 15c

3 Nights Sun. - Mon. - Tues. 15c-25c-50c-75c-81c
700 Choice Seats \$1
Sundays and Holidays 15c to \$1.25

with his droll humor and his quaint philosophies.

Hymer, superfine delineator of negro character, is featured in the second headline act. Press and public have been unstinted in their praise of his present sketch, which was written and produced under the personal direction of Hymer, who is co-author of the famous stage play, "East is West." Novelty is the keynote of Hymer's work as an author and an actor and the present sketch contains the full measure of novelty, with a distinct Dixie flavor, is the promise made in advance of the opening performance.

ROTARY MINSTRELS BOOKED

Club to Give Benefit for Portland Dental Clinic.

The snappy jokes and antics of the good old-fashioned end men, the luring music made popular by the colored gentlemen of the south, and dances from bunk and wing to Primrose style will feature the minstrel show to be put on by the Portland Rotary club at the Municipal auditorium February 19. At that time the club will stage its show to aid in financing the work of the Portland Dental clinic in correcting and caring for the teeth of the school children of the city.

Clarence De Fries, Portland photographer and an expert in things dramatic, has been chosen to direct the show. It was under his direction that the Rotary club minstrel of two years ago went over with such big success. Mr. De Fries has announced that the show this year will surpass anything of the kind attempted by the club previously.

More than 200 specialty men belong to the Rotary club and each one is pledged to sell ten tickets. With 2000 assured sales, the dental clinic as a consequence will receive a worthy contribution to its cause.

BEAUTY TOPS PANTAGES BILL

Cecil Cunningham of Greenwich Follies is Headliner.

Alexander Pantages, head of the vaudeville circuit drama that bears his name, has scored another notable "scop" in the theatrical world. Miss Cecil Cunningham, the beautiful star of the Greenwich Village Follies of last season, has signed a Pantages contract and will be financing the work of the Port-

TICKET SALE OPENS TOMORROW

HEILIG THIS WEEK **THUR-FRI-SAT**

SPECIAL PRICE MATINEE SATURDAY

ADOLPH KLAUBER PRESENTS

THE MOST REMARKABLE PLAY OF THE CENTURY

EUGENE O'NEILL'S

THE EMPEROR JONES

with the amazing actor

CHARLES S. GILPIN

originally produced by the Provincetown players COMING HERE AFTER AN ENTIRE SEASON AT THE PRINCESS THEATRE - NEW YORK AND LONG RUNS IN BOSTON - CHICAGO AND PHILADELPHIA

PRICES, INCLUDING W.A.T. TAX:

Floor—\$2.75-\$2.20; Bal. \$1.65-\$1.10; Gal. 85c-55c
Sat. Mat.—Floor \$2.20-\$1.65; Bal. \$1.10; Gal. 55c