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## NEW YORK PLAY REHEARSALS

(By William S. Brewer.)

New York, Aug. 21.—If Queen Alexandra of England was given to airing her opinions in the columns of the press, a discussion between her Majesty and Margaret Hillington on woman's proper sphere would make interesting reading, for Alexandra is more than a queen, she is a woman who thinks for herself, and her ideas are not homespun, either. She does not favor stocking darning for great stage artists, nor does she believe in the martyr-and-settle-down-to-family-raising idea. In a letter received here recently her views have for the first time become public knowledge. The letter from her protegee, Adeline Genee, whose dancing so charmed the Queen that she brought her to the London social season closed. Genee danced and was made a great pet of. After that the Queen had a long talk with the danseuse, congratulated her upon her engagement to marry, and then—spoke her mind. "There is nobody who dances like you," she said. "For this reason I will not hear of your retiring from the stage upon the occasion of your marriage. You simply must not."

Now, Genee is a royal little Dane, and such an expression from the sister of her King she considers the equivalent of a command.

Genee is to be with us here in New York right soon when she begins rehearsals for "A Silver Star." She surely will not retire for three years having a contract for that period with Klaw & Erlanger.

Springer's Grand Opera House will open the season tomorrow evening. The attraction will be "The Girl from Rector's," Paul M. Potter's comedy. The original cast will be seen here during the engagement. The ensuing season marks Mr. Springer's tenth as manager of this play house.

In conjunction with this theatre he will also operate the Grand Opera House, Brooklyn, the opening of which will occur on August 29, with "The Round Top" as the attraction.

After two years away from the footlights, Adele Ritchie will resume her career as a Broadway musical comedy star in Planquette's "The Paradise of Mahomet," which will be produced early this season by the Shuberts. She is to have the part of Bengalina, young widow, the heroine of the piece.

Miss Ritchie's reappearance is an event of much theatrical importance, as she has been in retirement from the stage since her starring seasons, two years ago, in "The Social Whirl" and "Fascinating Flora," under the direction of the Shuberts. It was only after much persuasion that she was induced to return to the footlights.

"The Paradise of Mahomet" has the distinction of being the last score written by Planquette, the composer of "The Chimes of Normandy," and though it has never been done in English, enjoyed a great success in Paris. The American version of the book and the lyrics are by Harry B. Smith and Robert B. Smith. Work on the production is well under way, and the oriental scenery will be lavish. Ralph Herz is to be featured in the production.

"The Only Law," now playing at the Hackett Theatre, has established a precedent in theatricals. It is usual with the production of a new musical comedy to hear the theatre-going public whistling the various airs that have proved popular, but today one hears line after line quoted from "The Only Law." Some of these lines are so bright and witty that they should take a permanent place in the up-to-date metropolitan vernacular.

"The Ringmaster" is the title of the new four-act modern drama which the Messrs Shubert are presenting at Maxine Elliott's Theatre. The play is the work of Oliver Porter. In general terms the theme of "The Ringmaster" may be described as the conflict of new and old ideals of integrity in the business world, showing the contrast of the old idea merely to keep within the letter of the law, and the new idea of playing a fair and upright game even in the struggle of the stock market. Among the leading players in the cast are Laurette Taylor, Marion Ballou, Ora Waldorp, Arthur Byron, William Rosell, George Howell, Frederick Burton and Edward Emery.

Mrs. Leslie Carter is searching for a name for the new play which has been written for her by Edward Playe, author of "The Modern Chap." The play is one of modern life, a

departure for Mr. Mrs. Carter. Rehearsals have already begun, but the cast has not been finally determined. The play is to be elaborately staged and much is promised for it.

Mrs. Carter has written a version of her own of "Camille" and will present it at special matinees during the coming season. "Kassa," the John Carter Long play which cost Mrs. Carter so considerable a sum last year is also in rehearsal, as Mrs. Carter has changed her mind.

In addition to the plays named above, Mrs. Carter hopes to be able to present "Macbeth" this season. Ever since she became her own manager it has been her ambition to enact the role of Lady Macbeth, and in selecting her company this year she has chosen players competent to appear in Shakespearean production.

Curiously enough, Mrs. Leslie Carter has never witnessed a performance of "Macbeth," a fact that she does not deplore, as she believes it will enable her to play the role unhampered by tradition. Mrs. Carter's production of "Macbeth" will probably be made out of town, but it is her firm intention to present it during her New York engagement.

Chas. Frohman has completed the cast of players that will appear in the new naval comedy, "The Flag Lieutenant," which will be produced in Atlantic City, August 23, and then come to the Criterion Theatre, New York.

Bruce McRae, Isabel Irving, Lumsden Hare, Vera McCord, Frank Carlyle, Helen Freeman, George Probert, Rosa Rame, Basil Hallam, Mrs. Wheatcroft, C. Leslie Allen, Dudley Digges, Herbert Budd, W. H. Gilmore, John May, Wallace Jackson, Frank Shannon, Richard Garrick and others are in the cast.

Mr. Frohman has also selected August 26, at the Lyceum Theatre, as the date for the first American performance of "Arsene Lupin," a new play of detective life, by Messrs. Francis de Croisset and Maurice Le Blanc. Important roles will be played by Messrs. William Courtenay and Sidney Herbert and the Misses Doris Keane and Virginia Hammond.

Henry Miller will sail for London tomorrow where he will appear in "The Great Divide" at the Adelphi Theatre, under the management of Charles Frohman. The following company will assist Mr. Miller: Edith Wynne Matthison, Laura Hope Crews, Isabel Waldron, J. Harry Benrino, Charles F. Gorhoff, Frederic Burt, William J. Butler, Henry B. Walthall, Frank Boyne and James Hagan.

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