



## NEWS OF THE THEATERS



### BLANCHE WALSH IN NEW TOLSTOI PLAY



**BLANCHE  
WALSH**

Tolstoi's famous masterpiece, "The Resurrection," has been dramatized, and is to be produced in this country in magnificent style. Blanche Walsh has the leading role of Maslova. She will appear first in New York, afterward touring the country.

NEW YORK, Feb. 14.—The dramatic season in town is keeping up splendidly and other treats are promised.

Not the least interesting feature of it is the presence of many pretty and clever female stars at the leading theaters.

Under the management of Charles Frohman Annie Russell has returned to the Garrick, the scene of her first triumph, in a new play "Mice and Men," from the pen of Mrs. Madellen Ryley. It is a quaint, a dainty, a pretty play, and in it Miss Russell is all that she has been heretofore to theater-goers, and besides that she is something new. Her Peggy is an exquisite creation, perhaps more roguishly humorous and fuller of human jollity than any of her previous roles, but as true to life, as sweet and winsome and sympathy-compelling, and as strong emotionally as Miss Hobbs or Princess Ellendale, or any other of the types of the attractive womanhood she has given us. There is an exquisite blending of the best that has gone before with the charming phases of the present character, and every admirer of Miss Russell will declare it a most winsome addition to her successes. Mrs. Gilbert, as great a New York favorite as ever, has a role that gives scope to her well known comedy abilities. Orrin Johnson and John Mason, as the two lovers of Peggy, contribute notably to the interest and merit of the performance.

The Empire Theater company in "The Unforeseen" begins the sixth week of its greatest triumph Monday evening. This is positively the biggest success which the Empire theater has had. The run of the play began with overwhelming assurance that it was to be a record-breaker, and its history up to date confirms this prediction. Charles Richman, as the blind vicar who weds a girl whose face he does not see until science has restored his sight, and Margaret Anglin as that remarkably winsome heroine, sound every human and artistic note of their roles with such sweetness, strength and sincerity, that it is impossible to fail to be impressed and charmed.

Blanche Bates' fine and powerful performance of Yo-San in David Belasco

and John Luther Long's Japanese drama "The Darling of the Gods," is still attracting tremendous audiences to the Belasco theater. It is the artistic and sensational hit of the year. Mr. Belasco again pleads with his patrons to remember that the evening curtain rises at 8 o'clock.

"Mr. Blue Beard" at the Knickerbocker is proving just as enormous a success as was prophesied for it and we have to thank Klaw & Erlanger for one of the most amazing spectacular presentations ever made in any country.

"Mr. Blue Beard" is staged in fifteen massive scenes. In one of them seven complete changes are made in presenting the gorgeous ballet, "The Triumph of the Magic Fan." In "The Sleeping Beauty and the Beast" there was but one ballet, "The Four Seasons," which was the talk of New York. In "Mr. Blue Beard" there are two great ballets, "The Land of Ferns," at the finale of the first act, and "The Triumph of the Magic Fan" in the second act. In each of these ballets two hundred and fifty people appear.

Blanche Walsh will succeed Viola Allen at the Victoria on February 16 in "The Resurrection."

Mr. Hammerstein at first selected Ada Rehan to play the part of Maslova, but the idea was abandoned as Maslova is almost a child in the first act. William Faversham then wanted to play the leading role if Julie Opp would be Maslova. This might possibly have been done, but unfortunately Mr. Faversham could not close his season in time for the spring production.

At the Academy of Music "ceth netC succeeds "Ninetyand Nine" for a run of four weeks, after which the latter will again return to the Academy for a year. The popularity of this play has not waned any, but the booking of "Florodora" could not be changed.

The "Silver Slipper," by the authors of the latter, remains a great attraction at the Broadway, where it is booked for a long run.

"Jim Bludso" remains at the Fourteenth Street theater, where it has

proved as strong an attraction as anything seen there this season.

As so often occurs in real life a woman is at the bottom of the trouble in the other play. She is Jim's erring wife until she is obliging enough to die and leave him to marry pretty, well presented Kate Taggart, whom he courts with all the enterprise of a Clyde Fitch character while Mr. Jim is still alive and kicking. "Jim," of course, is so good and honorable that he can do this without seeming the least bit wrong.

Things happen with melodramatic recklessness throughout four acts, but the crudeness of the story is frequently forgotten in the wholesome picturesqueness of the types presented.

Robert Hilliard again proves his versatility and actual cleverness by transferring himself to the genuinely rough character of the hero "Jim." Elizabeth Tyree continues to charm large audiences in "Gretna Green" at the Madison Square theater during the last week of here engagement there.

"The Billionaire" at Daly's continues to fill the theater nightly. Although comic interest predominates the piece, there is so much in it that is a response to the artistic, especially in the scenery and costumes and in several of the more important musical numbers. Klaw & Erlanger display a very happy faculty for getting together a comic show that is artistic in the highest sense and humorous without resort to horseplay and low buffoonery. Their great success in this line of productions is unquestionably due to the fact that they appeal to refined people and present such attractions in a manner acceptable to them.

Julia Marlowe can stay only three weeks longer at the Criterion theater. She will take the "Cavaller" on a tour of the ten principal cities, closing in Chicago in May. Her season in New York has been eminently successful—in fact the most successful she has ever played.

Louis Mann is making a great success in his new comedy, "The Consul," at the Princess theater. The play is of an original character and contains a number of new and clever ideas excellently represented by the Shubert Bros.

The Herald Square theater is crowded nightly to see De Wolf Hopper in his successful attempt to portray "Mr. Pickwick." The transition of Mr. Hooper from comic opera to real comedy is an interesting one and his role fits him excellently.

Digby Bell portrays the Sam Weller of the Papers in an excellently accurate way.

Mr. Hopper is really a study in good comedy and carries out his part with an entire freedom from bombast or exaggerated methods. Louise Gunning is a

pretty and charming Arabella. She has a voice so pure in quality and sings so well that it is a genuine pleasure to listen to her.

The presentation is another Shubert success.

At the Manhattan Mrs. Fiske continues to lure by her magnificent acting.

"For Home and Honor," a new comedy drama by Lem. B. Parker, is the attraction at the American Theater stock company at the American. It is an exceptionally interesting play that deals with a tortured woman who falls under the wiles of a particularly despicable villain, who marries her, and deceives her into believing the marriage is not legal.

Heading the most attractive bill which Mr. Keith has offered in a long time is Papinta Papinta, with new and improved light effects and with yet more gorgeous costumes. Papinta, absent so long as to be almost a stranger in New York, returning to produce an even greater sensation than was won on her first appearance. Papinta, who has won the plaudits of the world and of whom Frank L. Stanton of the Atlanta Constitution wrote:

"This way she danced,  
That way she danced,  
And when her twinkling footsteps glanced  
The soul of music seemed entranced—  
And rosy May met Winter;  
And at the falling of her feet  
A chorus chimed, in music sweet,  
'Papinta!' still 'Papinta!'"

HERBERT E. CLAMP.

### Alpha Tau Chapter Beta Theta Pi

Beta Theta Phi is one of the oldest college fraternities, having been founded at Miami university, Ohio, in 1839. It is one of the progressive fraternities, and has had a steady growth from the time of its foundation. It now has sixty-five active chapters, scattered throughout twenty-eight states, with a membership of 12,727, placing it second in numbers in this country.

The Alpha Tau chapter of Beta Theta Pi was established in the University of Nebraska in 1888, there being only two fraternities located here at that time. The fraternity has had a very prosperous existence while here and is now pleasantly located at 1630 G street. A move is on foot to build a chapter house somewhere near the campus, and the chapter expects to be in a house of their own in the near future.

The following is the active membership: Frank A. Buckstaff, L. H. McKil-lup, Jeff. H. Broady, J. H. Bell, O. T. Swan, Clark E. Bell, Jesse Culbertson, Gray Norval, W. L. Green, Ben P. Bally, Guy Tinkum, Roy Q. Hazen, Fred Salisbury, Henry Eames, Ned Hutchins, G. E. Carpenter, W. L. Mudra, C. E. Taylor, Frank Dayton. Pledged: Bruce Montgomery and R. J. Abbott.

The members of the L. M. H. gave a bowling party Thursday evening. Eight couples were present. Punch and wafers were served. The club will meet with Miss Herminghaus, 412 South Tenth street, on Thursday, February twenty-sixth.

Church—Do you believe that misery loves company?

Gotham—Well, I believe it loves the New York Elevated Railroad Company.

Insurance Agent—Now that you have a wife, don't you think you ought to take out a life policy?

Newwed—Oh, I guess not. I don't think she is going to prove dangerous.

Jane—Charley Snow a dangerous character? Why, he wouldn't look at a woman?

Lydia—Not in the street-car, if he had a seat and she didn't have one.

A minister said to a policeman, "What a number of burglars there are about! Why don't you constables arrest them?" The policeman regarded the minister solemnly, "Sir," he replied, "there are thousands of people going to hell every day. Why don't you ministers stop them?"

### "BOB" HILLIARD SCORES TRIUMPH



Robert Hilliard, as "Jim Bludso," has scored a pronounced success in New York, which seems to point to the fact that the melodrama still retains its old-time popularity. Hilliard's acting, however, it may be said, is largely responsible for the success of the production.