

Gotham Has Moods

Clings to Sex Drama but Gives Head Also to Much That Is Just Incompetence

By PERCY HAMMOND.

New York, Sept. 20. You may have learned through the newspapers and the drama that among the most important phases of life in New York city is the battle between what is known as "the sexes."

Included in the skirmishes which form that conflict are those wherein rich, anonymous and metropolitan men come to grips with unassuming young ladies who hail from the provinces. The result is always anguish of one sort or another.

An account of one of these Broadway sex-gymkhanas is given in Mr. Willard Mack's new study, "High Stakes." That play relates with considerable violence how Wilton Lackaye, as a susceptible New York rubber merchant, is worsted in a competition with Miss Phoebe Foster, as an ambitious gold digger from Bloomington. He marries her, believing her to be a fragrant prairie flower, and she turns out to be a sprig of poison ivy. He is of the type defined in Broadway's glossary of love as a "Big Sugar Baby." She is just one of those girls who men do not forget.

Mr. Lowell Sherman, a seductive actor, officiates expertly as referee of the match. Impersonating a New York dramatist, the dissipated brother of Mr. Lackaye, he sees through the naughty girl from Bloomington, and exposes her schemes. She wishes, it appears, to acquire the rubber man's wealth and bestow it upon her paramour, a handsome parlor snake. . . . The elderly husband's frustrated desire to have a child by his evil bride inspires the author to finish his play with one of the most cynical "tags" that ever clouded a happy ending. "Adopt a baby," says Mr. Sherman consolingly to Mr. Lackaye, "and then you'll be sure it's your own!"

I'm sorry that I have to report such an obnoxious remark.

Other farcuses, besides those of sex, are occurring in the Broadway drama. Mr. Sherman, the star of "High Stakes," and Mr. Woolcott, the critic of the New York Sun, are now engaged in a brutal shindy over me, your innocent correspondent. Mr. Woolcott in last week's Sun referred to Mr. Sherman as "infectious" and a cause of anxiety to his manager, Mr. Woods. He had been, Mr. Woolcott said, denouncing me, "the amiable Percy Hammond," between the second and third acts of "High Stakes," freeing his mind of many years' accumulated distaste.

Mr. Sherman, a forthright and unafraid opponent, refused to stand for that cruel attack upon his good taste in dramatic critics, and he declared himself as follows:

"Sir: Alexander Woolcott, in the Evening Sun, has said that I have been making some harsh statements from the stage about the amiable Percy Hammond. This is characteristic of Alexander Woolcott. It is in line with his judgment, his reports and his personal reactions. In good Anglo-Saxon, it is a lie. I said most emphatically that I was not referring to Mr. Hammond, Mr. Dale, Mr. Burns Mantle, or any other reviewer of plays in New York. I referred to a so-called critic and I described 'a little, round person,' and I meant Mr. Alexander Woolcott. He was pleased to make a deliberate misinterpretation of my description. I could not let this thing stand without laying the truth before you. I am most appreciative of your attitude toward me and I assure you of my highest personal regard and professional respect. Sincerely,
"LOWELL SHERMAN."

These hostilities between Mr. Woolcott and Mr. Sherman contain symptoms of more normal relations in future among actors and critics. I believe that it is an unwholesome condition for artists of the theater to be upstaged when disappointed of by the reviewers. They should fight back, instead of retreating to their dressing rooms to lick their wounds in sullen silence. Now that Mr. Sherman has at a critic's throat, in an absorbing western drama, "The Eagle's Feather," I speak, of course, with the safe bravery of a non-combatant, having seldom if ever offended an artist.

William Faversham seems to be ill-disposed in his new comedy, "The Mask and Face," a timid version by Chester Bailey Fernald of an audacious Italian satire by Luigi Chiarelli. In it Mr. Faversham, as a noble count, pretends to have murdered his countess on grounds of infidelity, though, indeed, he has but hidden her in London. His counterfeit crime causes him to become the hero of all Lombardy. One of the devices of the play is a burlesque funeral in which the supposed corpse, in disguise, hovers around the obsequies, making love to the chief mourner. The comedy might have been amusing, but its awkward strutting, old-fashioned adaptation and stage direct-

AT THE THEATERS



Pauline Lord AT THE ORPHEUM



Maybelle LaCouver AT THE EMPRESS



Edna Wallace Hopper AT THE WORLD



Gertrude Beck AT THE GAYETY

Edna Wallace Hopper to Tell Her Secrets Before Women Only

One of the features of the engagement of Edna Wallace Hopper at the World this week is a special matinee for ladies only, to be held Friday morning, beginning at 11.

At this special performance Miss Hopper gives a performance lasting almost two hours, in which she reveals the secret of her seeming perpetual youth.

Every detail of Miss Hopper's morning routine is presented upon the stage. She tells how women should sleep, how they should bathe, how they should exercise and how they should dress, illustrating all these things by actually presenting them upon the stage. A lingerie display upon living models will be an added feature to the morning performance.

For the convenience of patrons the World management has placed seats on sale in advance so as to avoid as much as possible the congestion in line at the box office on the morning of the show.

These morning matinees, as presented by Miss Hopper, are said to be one of the biggest special attractions of the season, and reports from other cities on the circuit say that big turn-away business has been the rule.

Eternal Edna Leads Six-Act Vaudeville Bill at the World

Edna Wallace Hopper, famous beauty and musical comedy star of years ago, headlines the six-act vaudeville bill at the World this week.

Known as "The Eternal Flapper," Miss Hopper tells in an act written especially for her by Raymond Hitchcock, how she cheated "Father Time" and why at 62 she still looks and acts like a girl of 19.

Featuring the supporting bill is Janet Adler's Syncopators, a real vaudeville novelty, inasmuch as this symphonic band is composed entirely of women. The 11 young ladies in this act offer a brilliant program, embellished with attractive scenic investiture.

One of the hits of the bill is sure to be scored by "Traps," the youthful drum wonder, late a feature of the "Greenwich Village Follies." Some remarkable trap playing in addition to comedy make this act quite out of the ordinary. Leighton, Pettit and Josephine offer one of the season's funniest acts under the caption of "The Elixir of Life," full of surprising elements. The Great Maurice, said to be the most expert of all card manipulators, combines clever comedy with some extraordinary tricks. Goslar and Lusby, presenting a story in song and steps, offer a brilliant dancing act, exquisitely staged.

The Cunningham and Bennett Revue, a pretentious attraction which includes the "Beau Brummell orchestra," is the headline feature of the bill starting next Saturday.

Mystery Play for Week-End Stay at Brandeis Theater

"On the Stairs," mystery play, written by William Hurtburt, will be presented at the Brandeis theater.

Its local premiere at the Brandeis theater next Thursday, Friday and Saturday with a popular priced Saturday matinee. "On the Stairs" receives its title from the many mysterious and terrifying things which occur on the landing of a stairway in a long vacant house. The owner of the house was found murdered on this particular landing, and, according to tradition, anyone who essays to cross it is made subject of terrible experiences. The house, with its reputation for being haunted, is made the scene of operations of persons of sinister motives, who play upon their victims, not only with the more common superstitions, but also bring into action the highest forms of far eastern occultism and necromancy to terrify and confound their victims, the chief operators in this latter form of terrorism being a Hindu swami and his assistant. The story revolves about an aspiring young man, a wealthy young woman and the theft of jewels. The presenting company will include James Spottswood, Harold de Becker, Jack Motts, George H. Keenan, John Driscoll, John Hanney, Charles Kenyon, Mignon McClintock, Annie Sherman and Carrie LeMoyné.

Pauline Lord Plays Her Two-a-Day Visit Like a Million Dollars

Pauline Lord, internationally known star, heads an unusually strong bill at the Orpheum this week in "For Five Thousand Dollars," a heart-rending American actress is the star of "Anna Christie," the Pulitzer prize play in 1921, in which she won lasting fame in this country and in England. As the distressed wife of a money-loving detective in "For Five Thousand Dollars," Miss Lord scores a success equal to her legitimate triumphs. She is supported by an excellent cast including Henry W. Pemberton, Gertrude Fowler and Robert Harrison.

Lou Holtz, one of the funniest blackface comedians behind the footlights brings a new collection of keen and witty lyrics. Holtz has returned to the vaudeville stage this season after several years spent in revue. Another feature of this great bill is William Seabury, clever eccentric dancer, who is presenting his new 1924 edition of "Frivolities," assisted by Miss Dorothy Hathaway, who is known for her lovely figure and alluring grace. Sylvia Clark, "That Krazy Little Kiowa," comes in a song buffoon of the artistic sort. A unique musical offering features Walter Davidson, the pianist director, and his Louisville Loons, an original comedy band. Alexandria, "The Question Mark of Vaudeville," offers a sensational surprise performance that will baffle the keenest of minds. The Le Grohs are pantomimic contortionists. They present a spectacular novelty that is full of all sorts of twists.

As "sandpaper treatment" to take off the rough edges, Vera Reynolds had a session in Christie and Bennett comedies before she got her chance as leading lady in Cecal B. DeMille's "Feet of Clay."

"Into the Net" Written by Gotham Police Head



When Richard E. Enright, commissioner of police of New York city, wrote the story for "Into the Net," the serial picture, the first episode of which will be shown at the Empress this week in conjunction with the feature film, he gave the screen one of the most interesting mystery stories ever filmed.

Edna Murphy and Jack Mulhall have the title roles in this thrilling story of society crooks.

RADIO

Program for September 21. (Courtesy of Radio Digest.) By Associated Press. WBB, Atlanta Journal (429): 11 a. m. church service, 8 p. m., musical; 7:30 church service. WJAW, Cincinnati (423): 8:10 a. m., Sunday school; 10, sermon; 8:45, sermon, 7:45, concert. WJAL, Cincinnati (308): 2, sermonette; 2:10, sacred chimes. WJRC, Cleveland (285): 7, chapel service; 8, concert. WPKA, Dallas News (474): 8-9:30, song; 10-11, orchestra. WOC, Davenport (454): 8, church service; 8:30, musical. WFTO, Des Moines (456): 7:30-8, orchestra. WWJ, Detroit News (317): 6:30, St. Paul Episcopal cathedral. WJAN, St. Paul (286): 7:15-12:30, orchestra. WJOS, Jefferson City (443): 7:30, Dist. Christian church. WJAF, Kansas City Star (413): 6:30-8:30, theater. WJRH, Kansas City (411): 8:10 a. m., Christian Church service; 8, p. m., service. KPFI, Los Angeles (488): 8:45, theater concert; 10, concert; 11, vocal, musical; 12, orchestra. CHYC, Montreal (241): 8, church service. WJAP, New York (492): 2, church singing; 5:30-7:15, Capitol theater; 7:30, opera. WJGO, Oakland (321): 9:45, Tenth avenue Baptist church. WJAT, Oak Park (385): 6:45, artists. WJFI, Philadelphia (295): 5:30, service. KGW, Portland (492): 8, church service. WJAR, Providence (260): 5:20-7:15, Capitol theater; 7:15, organ recital from New York. KPQ, San Francisco (423): 10:30, concert. WGY, Schenectady (389): 5:30, church service. KPNP, Shenandoah (256): 6:30, sacred songs.

Frank Urson, who assisted Cecil B. DeMille in the production of "Feet of Clay," is a graduate engineer.



NEW EMPRESS GREATLY ENLARGED THIRD GREAT WEEK EMPRESS PLAYERS

in the musical comedy that outlaugh them all—

"HIRAM"



A rural play that is a humdinger, with star cast of 32, including— Pat Patterson, Mae Kennis, Olga Brooks, Joe Marion, Dick Butler, Helen Burke, Maybelle LaCouver, Southern Four, Bobby Whalen, Fred Wilson and

BIG BEAUTY CHORUS

Two Extraordinary Screen Features, LAURA LA PLANTE in "Young Ideas"

And opening story of the greatest chapter play ever filmed—

"Into the Net"

What became of 20 New York society girls? You'll be thrilled and entertained as never before.



Orpheum Week Starting Today's Mat.

A PROGRAM OF SUPREME QUALITY THE DISTINGUISHED INTERNATIONAL STAR

PAULINE LORD

And Her Associate Players in "FOR FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS"

By Willard Booth Staged by Robert T. Haines WALTER DAVISON and His LOUISVILLE LOONS.

ALEXANDRIA? WM. SEABURY SYLVIA CLARK

Assisted by Dorothy Hathaway and Richard Cunn, at the piano, in a new 1924 edition of "FRIVOLITIES" By Blanche Merrill

THE LE GROHS—A PANTOMIMIC NOVELTY LOU HOLTZ

OR-SOLO-SIO Patho News — Topics of the Day — Acopy's Fables

Matinees: 1:30, 2:30, 5:00—Nights: 1:00, 2:00, 7:00, 8:00 (Except Sundays and Holidays)

Clean Columbia Twice Daily ALL WEEK Ladies' 25c Bargain Mat. 2:15 Wk Days

'STEP THIS WAY' With I. B. HAMP

and a Cast Worth While, including GERTRUDE BECK 6 - ROCKETS - 6

and FRED (FALLS) BINDER A CHORUS WITH A KICK

Today's Bargain Matinee at 3: SEATS 50c More customers should be turned away than can get in.

Tuesday Musical Club Starts Its Concert Season Early This Year

The Tuesday Musical club will begin its winter season of recitals and concerts at the Brandeis theater on Wednesday evening, October 22. Tito Schipa, premier lyric tenor of the Chicago opera, will be the artist on the opening bill.

Schipa will be followed at the Brandeis on the evening of November 13 by Elena Gerhardt, famouslieder singer. On Sunday afternoon, January 4, Gulomar Noveas, the illustrious South American pianist, will be heard, and on February 26 the London String Quartet will be presented.

One more number, to be announced as soon as negotiations are complete, will conclude the winter's program. Mr. A. D. Denn is chairman of the program committee.

Memberships are still being received in the grades. Student members are especially interested in the club's program, and are coming forward in encouraging numbers. Mrs. Forest Richardson, 5215 Webster street, is treasurer, and all membership checks should be made payable to her order.



Tito Schipa.

NEW MUSIC HALL WILL BE BUILT

It has been announced by S. S. Oakford, president of the Oakford Music company, that plans are now formulated for the building of a recital hall in the Webster-Sunderland building at Sixteenth and Howard streets.

The entire third floor will be devoted to studios for music teachers. "This plan will give Omaha a real studio building," says Mr. Oakford, "and, should the demand justify, other floors will be turned into studios and recital halls also."

Completed architect's blue prints of all the changes are in Mr. Oakford's hands, and show a seating capacity of 300 for the recital hall, which will be at the disposal of teachers free of cost for the advancement of music. In this recital hall Mr. Oakford plans to install a concert grand piano.

DANCE TONIGHT CINDERELLA ROOF

Omaha's Largest Dance Place. Unobstructed Dance Floor. Music by Cinderella Entertainers. Admission 50c Always a Place to Park Your Car



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BENSON'S Blue Jackets Orchestra of Chicago

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Special Table D'Hote Dinners and a La Carte

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