#### Ibsen Again; and a Hit

Willie Howard Treads Boards Without His Brother and Success Tags at His Heels

By PERCY HAMMOND. New York, March 7. HE local wiseacres who have

been deriding the Actors' (Equity) theater for its many blunders were disposed to regard the ennouncement of Ibsen's "The Wild Duck" as another foolish maneuver An old, weird and gloomy masterpiece, full, as its author said, of crazy tricks," it was considered too bizarre for these jazbo days. All of us were surprised, therefore, as performed by the Actors' theater, it proved to be a thrilling play.

Many theatergoers are now having pleasant time watching the miserles of Ibsen's distraught Scandinavians amid the clustered woes. The pathetic imbecility of old Ekdal as he shoots rabbits in his garret; the suicide of little Hedvig; the sufferings of Gina for her innocent sins; the shallow roarings of Hialmar the chatty photographer; the sepulchral drunkenness of Molvik the parson, and the other accumulated disasters, all are catering to our enjoyment. I have seen "The Wild Duck" twice and I'm going to see it again and

"Why," it is being asked in the local salons and forums, "why is 'The Wild Duck' so popular?" Well, for one reason, this is an age of impatience with "reformers." We wilful Americans resent interference with our habits of life, and we hate those who try to debar us from our pleasures. Gregers Werle in "The wfid Duck" is the most obnoxious of the meddlers. A satirlo symbol of lbsen himself, he insists on changing the lives of others to fit his own ideals. As played by Mr. Tom Powers this intruder is completely odious. Everything he is and does enables us righteously to abhor him. Death and destruction follow in his evangelical path; and when at the end he bows out, having raised the devil with everybody including himsels we hiss him as vehemently as we ever hissed the villain of a play.

solitary star of "Sky High," a large Miss Barriscale has won international musical romance imported from Lonwhom it is said that he was once Tully's play "The Bird of Paradise. engaged to Miss Ethel Barrymore, or In her present playlet "Scrubby," she at least that he wanted to be. Re. portrays a ragged little walf, an arranged considerably for American prototype of the French purposes by Harold Atteridge, the show is one of the best displays of musical comedy dancing I have ever Edward Tallman.

American prototype of the French "Kiki." Besides Mr. Hickman, the cast includes Willard Barton and Edward Tallman.

Harry Steppe Comes

From the bare-legged and exotic chorean novelty called "Dancing Les-Miss Vanessi to the humblest member sons." She is assisted by Martin of the chorus, many graceful move. Young, Mack Davis, Jerry Smith and plays a comic man-servant. In the ters of the dance, exercises. This is named "Let It the fine feathers that are so frequent-Rain," and in it is to be found much | ly misconstrued as gentility. Their

someone, "what did the fortune teller Days." and "Virginia Melody." may after she had read your mind?" esked the time of day, consults his the grown-ups. needle. . . . Miss Barbour, by the way, was the principal actress in "Havoc," a London war drama which Bid not prosper in America.

ISS JANIS' new revue is almost M ISS JANIS' new revue is almost a midget in comparison with its large sisters, striving to please by methods of a simpler nature. Where the big show producers employ acores of figurantes, Miss Janis is content with half dozens. Where they LAW STUDENT fill the stage with tons of scenery, she uses ounces. Yet her play is a satisfactory and pictorial intertainment-a vaudeville de luxe, with pretty music, pretty girls and Elsie Janis. It hasn't the quality of the Charlot revue before that little miracle was decimated, but it is smart, swift and prosperous. Miss Jania calls it "a bird's-eye revue," though its real name is "Puzzles of 1925."

The star's facility for reproducing he works of others is undiminished. When she imitates Will Rogers, Leonore Ulrich and Beatrice Lillie she makes you feel that they are like sisting Miss Janis are "Jimmy" roles in Brady, Shubert and Broad reputations." Hussey, an insidious clown, and Miss hurst productions. Helen Broderick, a quiet comedienne who is funny without half trying. Since Miss Janis herself wrote a good deal of the play, and since the expenses of its upkeep are inconsiderable, this should be a sesson of rich harvest for Miss Janis. In my spinion, she earns every million she

While filling his role in "Recom-pense" for Warner Bros., Monte Blue and his bride, the former Tova Jenlife in a new home in Beverly Hills. Mr. and Mrs. Blue intend to establish a permanent residence in the beautiful town adjoining Hollywood.

# The Theaters\*



to Gayety in What He Calls "His Big Show"

Eileen Schofield presents a terpsi-

steps are executed on a slender piece

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"My Winter in

An Illustrated Lecture by .

Donald B. MacMillan

North Greenland"

Harry Stepke and his big show at ments come, inspiring, as Mr. Gard-her would say, one's fretful "dogs" to hoofers and songsters. Miss Schofield the Gayety theater, starting today at rhythmic adventures. Mr. Howard and her associates are all past mas- 2, engages to fill every advance promise. This attraction is a comedy course of that impersonation he de-livers himself of the "song-hit" of the travesty on gentility, or rather on tractions. Harry Steppe has long good wet weather advice and a re-travesty is a patchwork of fun and extravaganza as a delineator i the Joe Dracey, the ebony-hued singing comedian, is the originator of the This year he has been provided with that Miss Joyce Barbour, the English popular "mammy songs." Joe sings material which gives him one of the prima donna, is an important addi- his songs with fervor and warmth, most humorous characterizations in tion to Broadway's better charms. for having written them he best which he has ever been seen. Harry time may be taken to repeat a few of knows what they're meant to exthe enjoyable remarks made by Mr. press. Mr. Darcey is the author of the fun both fast and furous. Vic someone, "what did the fortune teller Days." and "Virginia Melody." acter bits; Rube Willman, the whist-Bostock's Riding school introduces "She said." answers Mr. Howard, some comic circus riding in which ler; George Rose, the sparkling "that she enjoyed her vacation." At another time Mr. Howard, having been appeals to the kiddies as well as to solly Hite, are found in his supportant appeals to the kiddies as well as to last to last the grown ups timepiece. "It is a wonder watch," Harry Holbrook, the singing and girlish ingenus, will be sure to find a renewal of the favor of her whenever I look at it." The wheeze I liked the best was that in which Mr. Howard, discussing a talkative brook is a baritone of unusual beauty lady, surmises that she must have lady, surmises that sie must have been vaccinated with a phonograph needle. . . Miss Barbour, by the understudy for Thorp Bates, the Eng. lish baritone, in "The Yankee Prin-will be supplied Tuesday, "surprise Most dancers are content to per- nite." Friday will be "hosiery form upon the floor, but not so with nite." Don Valerio, Italy's premier wire

dancer. His intricate and graceful Players Work Heads Off in Minor League Shows

"Tris Speaker once said that base-The legal fraternity lost a promising young lawyer when John Bowers, one of the featured players of "Chick," which John Francis Dillon is shown at the Gayety theater. It has been my observation that the majors, said Harry O'Neil, one of the featured players with Harry Steppe and his big show at the Gayety theater. It has been my observation that the majors, said Harry O'Neil, one of the featured players with Harry Steppe and his big show at the Gayety theater. It has been my observation that the is directing, decided on the stage as same idea would apply to minor a career. Bowers, who was born in Indiana, ed. Take the young actors, and in no entered the University of Indiana to matter what setting you place them, study law. A year at college was they are usually found to be filled study law. A year at college was sufficient to change his mind, and he deserted law school for the stage.

It was a happy change for Bowers, of them. They will work their heads of them. for after a comparatively short time off, figuratively speaking, in order to her as much as she is like them. As he was on Broadway playing leading get another step up on the rungs of

Cain & Davenpert bring you the show selected for the summer run, Columbia Theater, Broadway, N. Y. City, with THE BANANA KING, MONDAY, MARCH 16TH Afternoon and Evening 2:15 8:15 Technical High School Auditorium **HIS BIG SHOW** 

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Opera Company Will



The Roston Opera company artists. who are appearing at the Rialto theater this week, will not present socalled "highbrow" music, but will sing popular grand opera and selections well-known to the public.

Some grand opera selections will be duet from Il Trovatore, but such numbers as "Mother Machree." 'Sweet and Low" and the "Blue Danube Waltz," will also be featured. This company is composed of Hazel Harry Steppe's Show Eden, formerly of the Chicago Civic Opera company and a prima donna soprano; William Mitchell, tenor, forof New York and the Boston English Gayety theater, has been selected for Grand Opera company; Grace the coveted summer run at the Co-Bischoff, prima donna contralto, and umbia theater on Broadway, New Virgil Bryan, baritone. Jacob Hanne- York. Steppe will open in New York mann is accompanist.

Natalie Joyce is playing the lead opcomedy, as yet unnamed.

the versatile star

YORKE & LORD

Two Gentlemen Nevertheless"

DON VALERIO

ORPHEUM CIRCUIT VAUDEVILLE

### to Omaha

Beautiful Artists' Models to Reveal Charms on Brandeis Theater Stage.

"Artists and Models," Messrs. Shuert's famous girl and music revue, which ran all last season in New York, has been booked at the Brandels for March 19, 20, 21, stopping off here en route to San Francisco and Los Angeles. This is one of the olggest productions on tour this seaon, and travels via a nine-car spe-

f the greatest box office attractions ever produced, this gay revel of the studio played to gross receipts of over \$1,000,000 in New York, New ongs, scenes and costumes have been added for this season's tour of the principal cities. Over 750 perform- Love Story of 2 Girls nces have already been given, and bookings continue solid for another

There are two acts and 24 elaborate scenes, designed and written by James Montgomery Flagg, Harold Atteridge, Harry Wagstaff Gribble, Watson Barratt, and other well known authors and illustrators. The score is by Jean Schwartz, and con-

tains many song hits. Prominent in the cast are Ben Bard and Jack Pearl, the comedians; George Rosener, Arthur Hadley, the cartoonist; Helen Low, Thelma Carlon, Veronica, Lester Dorr, Loraine Welmar, Constance Evans, Georgie Stone, Ray and Rose Lyte, Grace Bowman, Bob Long, Helen Claire, June Rogers, Marion Mooney, Nan Chapman and Victor Bozart.

An outstanding feature of the show is the beauty chorus of 50 artists' models, recruited from the studios of Greenwich village. These girls appear in a dazzling array of costumes, imported from the Folies Bergere, in Paris.

#### **EVERY LAUGH**

Husbands," and "Forty Winks," has reated a sensation in motion picture girl. Miss Sebastian's role is a jazzy. circles with his flare for comedy. which, for some reason or other has of adventure, while Miss Terry plays seen hidden under the proverbial her level-headed sister. The story sushel for a long time, and now peo- goes on to show how Joan (Miss Ter ple are beginning to ask: "How does ry) tries to straighten things out for

disaster," explained Tuttle. "He al-ways has the sword of Damocles hanging over his head. He builds up a situation to get happiness for him-self or someone else and then disaster From Magazine Cover Sing Popular Music self or someone else and then disaster overtakes him, which makes the augh. He is never satisfied with just a fall or a smash in the jaw to get a laugh, but he takes time to put something in front of the gag.'

It Was a Long, Slow Pull, but Joe Made the Grade

was singing down in Dallas, Tex., 30 or 40 songs a cay, in the "variety" rafes of the town. He was well liked there. It was his home, and then his songs about "mammies" and "Dixle" struck the popular fancy. That was the Joe Darcey, blackface songster, who is at the Orpheum theater this Then Joe hied himself to New York,

etermined to become as popular here as he had been in Dallas. But sailing was hard and so Joe got a job as newsboy. He organized a newsboys' quartet, and as material used the songs he had written down in Texas. The quartet became popular-so popular that eventually they left the dissemination of the world's news to younger hands. Then they trousers; they weren't boys any longer; so they called themselves the "National quartet." Joe's rise was not meteoric, but rather slow. Among the featured players who steady and consistent, Today he is adorn the cast of "The Top of the one of the few vaudeville artists so World," which begins its local enpopular in the metropolis that he can gagement at the Rialto theater next two-a-day in New York city alone.

merly of the Century Opera company is this week's attraction at the on May 2.

Walter Hiers' current comedy is posite Neal Burns in a new two-reel "Roarin' Romeo." His next, "Tender Feet," has just been placed in work 

Week Starting

Comedy Playlet

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EILEEN SCHOFIELD

With Martin Young, Mack Davis, Jerry Smith, Jack Boyce

AESOP'S FABLES TOPICS OF THE DAY PATRE NEWS

## From Studios Daring Drama of Africa Is Gordon's "White Cargo"

tention of a Kalem director, who prac-

tically picked her from the cover of

of Company Which Will

of Mozart's "Marriage of Figaro"

which is to be sung in this city on

A singer who can claim to have

Sing Mozart Opera Here

"Top of the World."

Eminent Basso Is Star

"White Cargo," written and staged among native African surroundings, by the author, Leon Gordon, will be but failed. In time he also fell from presented at the Brandels theater on as his predecessors did, and "White March 16, 17 and 18, with matinee Cargo," the supply ship, eventually on Wednesday, by Harry Cort and took him back home, a human wreck Barney Klawans, by arrangement due to the customs and moral stand-

ards in that sun-parched land on the It tells the story of attempts west coast of Africa. It is a power

'white' men have made to conquer ful, gripping play in three acts and the jungle. It is a daring play and six scenes and runs the gamut of all boldly deals with the inter-relation- human emotions. The dialogue i ship of the "white" man and the swift and strong with stirring dradusky native women, but in the un- matic climaxes. The settings are folding of the story the author has gorgeous and picturesque. An entire taken pains not to offend even the electrical equipment is carried to semost sensitive. The plot is built cure the correct atmosphere of the around a young Englishman, who sweltering African climate. "White boasted he would overthrow all customs and live a normal life. Time York, one in Chicago and one in Lonand again men have tried to do so don, England. sally acknowledged as one of the ablest cinemo artists. Years ago she



LITTLE DRAMA and Scarlet," directed by Henry King and in practically all the principal from the novel by George Gibbs, opera houses of Italy and South and Scarlet," directed by Henry King and in practically all the principal ries off the count's adventures and Every laugh is a little drama in it comes to the Strand theater for a America, not to omit his tour with ful savoir faire and aplomb. self, is Raymond Griffith's comedy week's engagement commencing next technique, according to Frank Tut- Saturday. Alice Terry is featured in pany, must have rare qualifications In addition to Betty le, who recently directed Griffith in the production, which tells of the love as an operatic artist. happy-go-lucky type, always in search "Griffith has a mervelous sense of cost of her own happiness. Orville

to Leading Film Role



play 30 weeks continuously in the Saturday, is Anna Q. Nilsson, one of Chosen for Summer Run Miss Nilsson never had a day's ex-Harry Steppe's "Big Show," which perience on the stage or in amateur



the Mickel Bros. Company

New Canine Addition to Staff at Rialto



A new addition has been made to he staff of the Rialto theater.

His real name is "Ernie" but the management hasn't quite decided just was a model for such noted artists as what title the newcomer will carry, to Be Shown at Strand was a model for such noted artists as although the names of "office property tector," "official rat trapper," or just and Charles Dana Gibson. It was her classic beauty that attracted the at-

Ernie is a fox terrier. Mr. Herman a magazine to play the leading role of the Rialto secured the dog from in "Molly Pitcher." Above she is seen the Humane society and when Ernie with Sheldon Lewis in a scene from first entered upon his new duties in the Rialto office he didn't quite seem to know what it was all about,

During a screening of a coming pie ture in the basement of the theater several days ago, a duck was in the cast. Ernie had been following the plot closely, and when Mr. Duck appeared, Ernie became quite interested, if not flustered. Sitting up on his hind legs, he lifted one ear and then s possessed by Alfredo Valenti, who the other and made a nose dive for has been specially engaged by Wil- the fowl. The scene falshed off and liam Wade Hinshaw to sing the role Ernie found himself duckless and in of Count Almaviva in his production somebody's front room.

Puzzled, he wandered back of the screen and into the remete corners March 13 at the Brandels theater. of the basement in search of the bird, but without avail.

oung leading roles at the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, London; at the Century Grand Opera, New York; with The Paramount picture, "Sackcloth the Boston Grand Opera company, dignified, virile and graceful, and caroccasional misadventures with delight-

Miss Bluebeard, which was shown at story of two girls, direct opposites in Mr. Valenti is particularly well suit- the cast of "Are Parents People?" incharacter. Dorothy Sebastian, red to the part of the amorous count cludes Herbert Rawlingson, Lawrence cently with the "Follies" and "Scanin "The Marriage of Figaro," for he Gray, Mary Beth Milford, William dals" in New York City, is the other is not merely a splendid singer and Courtright and Emily Fitzroy.

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CONTENTS OF PROGRAM

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