

Flo Busts on Plot

Ziegfeld's Follies Still Run Wild—Some Peeps Behind Scenes Show Snappy Work

By PERCY HAMMOND.

New York, June 28.—R. ZIEGFELD'S ambition to put a plot into this summer's "Follies," has come to nothing. He and his librettist, M. William Anthony McGuire, planned to make the present revue more credible than usual by causing the soprano to fall in love with one of the tenors. There were to follow the customary difficulties and misunderstandings, and then at the end all was to be rainbow. But, though romance is rife among the "Follies," off the stage, it seems that it does not belong in the public performance. So, after a night or two in Atlantic City, Mr. McGuire's sentimental idyll was dumped into the sea and was replaced by "gags" and girls. No doubt it is just as well. Few things are more horrible than the plot of a musical show.

The date of these dispatches forbids a report of the tardy premier of the "Follies." Your correspondent, however, caught a glimpse of a dress rehearsal at an early hour the other morning, and he suspected it to be big, beautiful, and if not funny, at least funnier. He learned also that the rumors of violence and bloodshed in the Atlantic City preliminaries were exaggerations. It has been said that Mr. Walter Catlett, that sunny wag, becoming miffed by changes in his role, struck Mr. Ziegfeld an angry blow, and in return was set upon and beaten by the outraged impresario. It was also announced that Miss Lane Pennington, who is to be the human kneecap what Miss Mary Pickford is to the human heart, exchanged ugly words with Mr. Lupino Lane, a British artist. Mr. Lane's alien humor, it was said, found itself detained upon Miss Pennington's Ellis Island, and she was loath to let it enter. "If that," she exclaimed according to the telegram, "is that in an entertainer, than I am not!" Whereupon she smote the visiting Lupino and sent him, astonished, to his dressing rooms. In the theater, small oaks from smaller acorns grow. It is true, I am told, that Miss Pennington, a 100 per cent American danseuse, was mystified by Mr. Lane's transatlantic gestures and joundities. Being what she is—candid, U. S. and temperamental—she demanded of Mr. Lane a solution of his humor. This he gave her during several patient lessons, and now that he has explained his jokes to her, she and he are friendly.

Swell dressers, if no one else, may find pleasure in Mr. Sidney Blackmer's new amusement, "The Blue Bandanna." This is a routine mystery play by Hubert Osborns, full of stolen pearl necklaces and those who steal them. Ludicrous as a drama, it is not bad as a clothes show. Mr. Blackmer, as you know, is a comedy artist. The style and modes look well draped upon his symmetrical person. He is not, like Mr. Lowell Sherman, of the peacock type. His brilliance in dress incline more to the stately and the august. Even when his dressing gowns offer opportunities to be flung he is content with mere richness. He seems to believe, with Mr. Michael Arlen, that restraint is the highest pleasure if not of "la volonte," then at least of men's tailoring. All of this may seem trivial, but it really is not—to those who know the theater and its customers. A distinguished and widely read New York editor said in his column the other day that he believed that any delegate to the Democratic National Convention would trade his seat in Madison Square Garden for an orchestra chair at the new Amsterdam. The "Follies"

AT THE THEATERS.



Maggie Wallace at the World. Pearl Mack at the Empress.

is perhaps an institution more national than is statesmanship, glorifying as it does the American girl. White arms are more than McAdoo and red lips superior to Carter Glass. But I am forgetting to tell you why Mr. Walter Catlett absconded in dismay from the "Follies." In Atlantic City, it seems that he had contrived a witticism of which he was rather fond "I know a man," he wished to say, "who was so stingy that he fired a gun on Christmas Eve and told his children that Santa Claus was dead." This interpolation evoked no laughter from Mr. Ziegfeld, the librettist or the members of the cast.

"Sporting Life" Bids for Popular Favor With Action



Reginald Denny and his mechanic in their racer, and Laura La Plante, "the girl."

It's been a wild race between producers as to who could complete the snappiest picture. Universal offers Reginald Denny, big and handsome, in the same sort of a sporting story as the famous Reid used to make—in fact the scenario was written by the same author. "Sporting Life" has auto races, bathing parties and all things that go to make action in a movie. It opens at the Sun theater next week.

WORLD Giant Cooling System. Insured Summer Comfort.

A Record Breaking 6-Act Bill In Addition to a Remarkable Photoplay **JOE JACKSON** The One and Original Pantomimic Comedian

SCHAFFER, WAGNER and BERNICE In "The Salesman" **THE CONNOR TWINS** Queens of Comedy

Wallace & May --- Torino --- Marie Wiedman The Love and Thrills of Gay New York **Elaine Hammerstein and Elliott Dexter in "BROADWAY GOLD"**

EMPIRESS ENORMOUS TYPHOON COOLING SYSTEM. This Week—Ends Friday **BERT SMITH COMEDY PLAYERS** with **BILLY VAN ALLEN** And Cast of 28 Broadway Success

Present the Famous **"STOP THIEF"** A crook play that out-crooks them all and is a riot of fun and cleverly staged musical numbers.

Company of 28, Including **PEARL MACK RUDY WINTNER PACIFIC 4** **STELLA WATSON HELEN CURTIS**

Two Smashing Screen Attractions **Elliot Dexter in "By Divine Right"** And the Second Laughable Story of the **"TELEPHONE GIRL" SERIES**

blue, brown and black, with girdles and without, to suit the occasion. Faultless evening attire is not appropriate to the plot of the play, but as a substitute Mr. Blackmer has something in a tuxedo that is very satisfying. And his trousers! Mr. Blackmer's mood in trousers, to paraphrase Beaumont, "finds no dissentients among the best-turned-out men at any place where smart people congregate. You will notice that his trousers are of middling width, with no hint of flare or bell; nor do they ripple over the instep in a manner that suggests the need of a hoist to one's braces, as the Englishman terms suspenders."

The entertainment in which Mr. Blackmer and his garments appear is a daffy little melodrama afflicted with mental and physical ailments. In it Mr. Blackmer performs dual roles; that is, he comes in at one door as Richard Haskell, the Boston bon vivant, and exits through it a moment or two later as Gentleman Jim Delano, the King of the Jewel Thieves. As Mr. Haskell he is lyric of utterances; as Gentleman Jim he is rough and gauche, using such words as "swag," and "girlie." Yet the characters in the play find it difficult to distinguish one from the other. The Haskell pearls are at stake, and so are papers involving their owner's good name. You will be amazed when I tell you where these treasures are secluded. They are hidden in a wall safe behind a Veris-Martin panel in Mr. Haskell's living room, just outside of Boston.

Miss Vivienne Osborne vies with Mr. Blackmer in the decor of the event, impersonating a seraphic lady, who needs only the love of a good man to persuade her to go straight. She is good to look upon, and so is Mr. Blackmer. The rest is booby-hatch.

Busy Time at Sand Point.

Sand Point Beach, which boasts one of the finest sand beaches in the middle west is entertaining thousands of swimmers. A complete renovation of the beach equipment was completed early this spring and quarters were enlarged. The auto road leading to the beach has stood up well under the rainy weather and motorists are finding no difficulty in reaching the beach. The big bus which meets the street cars is in daily operation.

Veteran Screen Actor at Rialto



House Peters, who is the star in the Rialto's picture opening the first of July, "Don't Marry for Money" is one of the veterans among the screen actors. He was for years a familiar figure on the old World lot—in the days when the World and the General Film companies supplied a heavy percentage of the films that were shown.

At the Grand.

Cullen Landis and Alice Calhoun in "The Man Next Door" from the story of the late Emerson Hough is the feature at the Grand today with a Sunshine comedy, "The Roaring Lion" also included. Marjorie Daw, Marguerite de La Motte and Pat O'Malley in "Wandering Daughters," a story of music and jazz will be shown Monday and Tuesday. "The Eternal Three," an emotional drama with Claire Windsor, Raymond Griffith and Bessie Love in the cast is featured the next two days and the final chapters of Jack Mulhall's "The Social Buccaneer" is also showing. The final two days Colleen Moore and Wheeler Oakman in "Slippery McGee," the Pathe review, Aesop's Fables and a comedy makes up the program.

At the Boulevard.

"Lilies of the Field," a frank portrayal of society life and of the evils of divorce opens the program at the Boulevard with a showing today and Monday. Conway Tearle and Corinne

World Bill Holds Much to Interest Vaudeville Lovers

Joe Jackson, pantomimic comedian, headlines the six-act vaudeville bill at the World this week. Jackson, the original hobo cyclist, has the science of laugh producing down to a fine point. With Jackson it is not so much what he does but how he does it that results in the cyclone of mirth sure to greet his antics. As one Los Angeles critic put it: "Any bill that offers Joe Jackson as the headliner is sure to be a great bill."

Bob Schaffer, William Wagner, and Bernice Fowler, all well known vaudevillians, offer one of the funniest bills of the season, "The Salesman." The attraction and talented Connor Twins offer a series of comedy songs and dances sure to place them high in audience approval. "Bird Seed" is the caption of the snappy laughing act to be introduced by Marie Wallace and Marty May. May is selling bird seed and this gives him an opportunity to dispense more than the average quota of laughs.

Torino, master entertainer, offers an innovation in the art of juggling. A pupil of Cinquevali, Torino has evolved something that is really new in his particular field of amusement. A little girl from Hollywood, Marie Weidman, offers a series of snappy steps and clever songs sure to make her a favorite. Arthur Hays, as usual, can be depended upon to furnish something new in the way of an originality for the organ solo of the week.

Dexter's First Feature.

Elliott Dexter blossoms forth as a producer in his own right with the feature offered at the Empress this week "By Divine Right." For a number of years a well known featured player and later a star, Dexter was given an opportunity to produce for himself this season.

Griffith carry the leading roles. Constance Talmadge is back in farce comedy in "The Goldfish," featured the following three days of the week. As Miss Talmadge has remarked about the picture, it's foolish, but it's funny. She has three husbands, but finally finds that love is more than money or a title. Friday and Saturday there is offered the regular vaudeville booking and also on the screen Ethel Clayton in an emotional part, "Can a Woman Love Twice?"

At the Lothrop.

"Reno," the divorce drama from the pen of Rupert Hughes is offered as the attraction at the Lothrop today and Monday. The picture covers more territory than a travelogue, for the divorced and rewed couples hove from state to state trying to evade divorce laws. Clara Kimball Young in "The Hands of Nara," a fantastical story with Miss Young as an artist with healing powers will be presented Tuesday and Wednesday. Guy Bates Post in "Gold Madness," an action melodrama, is featured Thursday and Friday. Herbert Rawlinson closes the week in "Stolen Secrets."

Joe Jackson Made Hobo Comedy Figure Well Known on Stage

Long before Coxey's army marched in ragged dignity to the White House, the genus hobo, had been a comedy figure upon the stage. Some of them were trimmed with heroics so that it would give the author a chance to emphasize the fact that under the ragged shirt there beat a heart of gold or some such declaration, all of which was a certain formula for applause. But it remained for Joe Jackson to make the hobo a stage figure of national prominence. Joe had different ideas on the subject and he proceeded to arm himself with a comedy bicycle and set forth on his merry mission. Joseph had about as much business riding a bicycle as he had trying to ride a hard hulled Missouri mule.

Accordingly he proceeded to get all tangled up with the bills. His wearing apparel, his hands, his hat, his feet, all set into the way and from this start Joe Jackson, hobo cyclist, began his vaudeville career. Years have perfected the Jacksonian art of fun-making. His every move has been studied with as much care and attention to detail as a Belasco would put upon a play for Warfield. Joe Jackson and his unruly bicycle headline the current bill at the World theater.

Crook Farce to Entertain Empress Patrons This Week

Cohan and Harris' farce comedy, "Stop Thief," is offered at the Empress theater by the Bert Smith Players, starting on the fifth month of their long engagement here. The story of stolen jewels on the eve of a wedding ceremony forms the basis of this fast moving farce. The play is replete with situations of the most amusing sort and the dialogue is brilliant. Billy Van Allen is seen in the role of "William Carr," an absent-minded man. "Jack Dugan," a clever crook, is in the hands of Rudy Wintner, a light comedian of reputation, who makes his first appearance with the company in the current bill. Pearl Mack plays the part of the housemaid who is a confederate of the crook. Other members of the cast are seen to excellent advantage.

Among the song interpolations are "Oh Baby," by Pearl Mack and girls; "There's a Little Bungalow Waiting," by Warren Fabian and Helen Curtis; "Everybody Else's Girl But Mine," by Billy Van Allen; "Mother Machree," by Stella Watson, and harmony numbers by the Pacific Four, a quartet that have established themselves in popular favor. Starting next Saturday the Smith Players offer the story of the mountain country, "Hal O' the Hills," a tale of love and moonshine. Helene Chadwick, Alan Simpson and Violet Mersereau are appearing in "Her Own Free Will."

An Important Announcement to Omaha Theater Patrons

Five Carloads of Machinery Now Being Installed for the

Rialto Cooling System

In Operation Monday or Tuesday

A Great Electrical Freezing Plant, designed and built especially for the Rialto Theater, is almost completely installed. While it produces the equivalent of 300,000 pounds of ice each day, it does not manufacture ice. Ice for cooling humanity would make the air damp and unhealthy, even though it were cool. The Rialto Theater system freezes, washes and then dries the air, eliminating dampness and humidity.

Theaters the size and magnificence of the Rialto Theater cannot operate successfully if they depend solely on the cool months, being thankful for what little patronage is willing to come in and suffer through the hot summer months. Steady attendance every day in the year, summer and winter, spring and fall, is absolutely essential.

We had to abolish the seasons. Therefore this gigantic system which is unapproachable by any other ventilating system in Nebraska was installed, to provide fresh, healthful air for all seasons. Now you may come to this theater and enjoy the cool, fresh air, enjoy the shows and find relief on summer days when the air is hot, humid and oppressive.

To maintain this ventilating and freezing plant costs us as much as it takes to operate the average modern moving picture theater in its entirety. Yet this expense is wholly justified. It is good business logic. Because it serves to keep you comfortable and in a receptive mood to fully enjoy what you have paid to see and hear.

Your constant desire to attend this theater is the natural consequence of this, and the countless other unusual efforts of this organization to make you happy and comfortable.



Bring the Family to Manawa Park



BEAUTIFUL MANAWA PARK invites you to enjoy its delightful bathing beach, the best within hundreds of miles of this city. Old and young—all have a great time "go'in' in swimmin'". Bathing suits, roomy lockers, sand beach, a real lake of clear, invigorating water!

DANCING in beautiful lakeside pavilion; boating, large free picnic park, rides and games, free movies every evening, rapid street car service, good auto roads and convenient parking arrangements.

Plan Your Fourth of July Outing at Lake Manawa

MANAWA PARK

(ADMISSION FREE)

COME OUT WHERE **OMAHA SWIMS** In Nature's Pure Lake Water, Sand Bottom and Beach (Not a Pool)

KRUG PARK FUN FOR THE FAMILY

SANDPOINT BEACH

Swimming AT THE WORLD'S FINEST POOL AND SAND BEACH

Dancing TO A 12 PIECE ORCHESTRA

McCANN LAKE Located at Valley, Neb. 3 Blocks West of High School. Due to construction work on the Lincoln Highway at Waterloo, visitors should use the Military Highway out of Benson for the next four or five days. Connection is made with the Lincoln Highway, four miles north of Valley. **Summer Cottages Swimming**

Dot Matheas HIGH DIVING-NYMPHS TWO SHOWS 7:30 & 9:30 **Free Movies EVERY NITE** DELIGHTFUL PICNIC GROUNDS

A DRAMA OF THE GOLD RUSH DAYS Along the Yukon Trail **JACK LONDON'S** Classic of the North **"The Call of the Wild"** featuring **BUCK** The New Dog Hero **MOON** This Week—Ending Thursday **MIUSE** Only