New Plays Dull or Dumb

# Mrs. Hammond Finds Little of Late Over Which to Rave at Gothan Theaters

## By PERCY HAMMOND.

New York, Feb. 9.

the playwright; Kenneth MacGowan, the critic, and Robert Edmond Jones. The twins, a modern boy and a the scenic artist, are occupying it at girl, are vain, charming, flippant and

ly ill fortune to seek a livelihood upon the boards, was a popular player of of the People."

winkle of satire.

The play was a salubrious en leavor to expose and to remedy some of the follies of 1845. Mr. and Mrs. Tiffany, though of obscure, pro incial origin, were haughty New Vorkers who desired to marry their laughter to the Count Jolimaltre, a rench impostor. They were rather rue! to the lovely Gertrude, a debendent and a music teacher, and

ly in New York. These children are indifferent to the deprivations their T HE Provincetown playhouse, a remote and shabby manger for what are suspected to be the better things, is now in the hands of welcoming household and proceed to vigorous new tenants. Such sophisti-cated young men as Eugene O'Neill, selfishness.

the scenic artist, are occupying it at present, with high hopes and lauda-ble aspirations. The first thing they did after taking possession was Strindberg's "The Spook Sonata," an essay in Bedlamism, that proved too maggoty even for those who are well versed in the inner meanings of the continental stage. Needing recreation after that dire experience with de-composition and the gibberings of madmen, they exhumed this week a popular American comedy of 1845, and made solemn fun of it. The result was hilarious, and not at all ghoulish. "Fashion," a play by Mrs. Anna Cora Metrjott AND GARE Put Vience IN A WOMAN OF PARIS " A

"Fashion," a play by Mrs. Anna Cora Mowatt, was the cadaver selected for larkish disinterment. Its author, a New York gentlewoman, driven

But it is intimated slyly in the bethe boards, was a popular player of Pauline in "The Lady of Lyons" to the Claude Melnotte of E. L. Daven-port. She was a virtuous and a digni-tied actress, and her home, the an-cient chronicles say, was "a center" cient chronicles say, was "a center Beach also communicates to you the cient chronicles say, was a tedgar of culture and refinement. Edgar Allan Poe, then the dramatic critic Allan Poe, then the dramatic critic Mr. Ingals (Norman Trevor) will get Alian Poe, then the dramatic critic Mr. Ingals (Norman Trevor) will get of "The New York Literati" and "The Broadway Journal," raved about her physiology "from top to toe." He that the art of the theater is the art was particularly enthusiastic concern- of preparation. However, the crisis ing her "gray eyes, her flexible hips, arrives in dramatic fashion and the auburn hair, her fragile figure, family becomes bankrupt. The chilher auburn hair, her fragile ngure, her light step and her graceful ges-tures." She was the sort of nice wo-man who would invite, as indeed she did, plays entitled "Gulzara; Or, the Persian Slave;" "Evelyn: Or, a Heart Unmasked," and "Armand; Or, a Child

It seemed a bit cruel, therefore, when Mr. MacGowan and his ribald young associates danced on the grave of Mrs. Mowatt's "Fashion." As a document it would have been amusing enough; but they were not content to reproduce it as it was, with all its indicrous artificialities. They caused it to be roughed by Mr. Brian Hooker the adapter of Mr. Hampden's "Cyrano") and to be foolscapped at itmes in the acting. I suspect that "Cyrano") and to be looiscapped at father their small savings; they refuse to go back to college, and they scheme to go back to college, and they scheme in many ways to cause him to be comfortable. It is all somewhat of a Ape"-would be at this moment wallow of sophomoric self-abnegation, ridiculous if subjected by Mr. Mac- but it brings the final curtain down Gowan to his merciless fun poking. on a pretty emphasis of the belief But youth must be served and despite that all is well with the American that handicap Mr. MacGowan man-fireside when it is put into an Ameriaged to present an adroit blending of can play. Miss Katherine Grey is the bewildered mother and Miss Mariam Doyle the flapper whose wings

turn angelic at the end.

Picture Attracts Crowds

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What percentage of an audience the news reel, comedy, scenic and

omes to the theater to see some of other "bits." "Two a Days" Growing. the shorter bits of the program? Two a day shows, with reserved That's the question agitating the seats for all patrons are being tried out in various parts of the country. Estimates of what attracts the crowd to the particular vary from a discrete the brought to the feature picture. Most be are delighted with the plan and theater men throughout the country that the theater is paying better than declare that more than 75 per cent of ever before.

their patronage is attracted by the The idea of developing a regular teature, but in the same breath the show hour for the better class of motion men who run the bigger and better picture production was tried out in theaters declare that today an audi-D. W. Griffith's "Birth of a Nation." ence is disappointed unless there is which was exhibited throughout the Matgatet Wood offered. country just as the big traveling mu-sical comedies or dramatic shows. COMING TO offered.

Complaints from the exhibitor Since that time several companies THE BRANDEIS about "padded" features have resulted have issued their big pictures on this in promises from the producers of plan—but in Omaha the two-a-day pictures that this season there will shows have never proven more than e shorter pictures, leaving room for a fair success.

Hoot Gibson and	"Name the Man"
Desmond at Moon	Opens at the Rialto

Hoot Gibson has scored another A forceful story by Sir Hall Caine comedy-drama success in "Hook and and an all-star cast, which includes Ladder," now showing at the Moon. Conrad Nagel, Mae Busch, Hobart Gibson enacts the role of a recruit fireman from the plains, who found his heart captured by a winsome miss in the person of Mildred June. The Gibson enacts the role of a recruit story was written for Hoot by his director, Edward Sedgwick, and Ray. Man," at the Rialto.

mond L. Schrock. brated English novelist's recent best seller, "The Master of Man." It tells William Desmond, hero of many a serial, has another thrilling story, lightened with comedy bits in "The the striking story of a young judge Breathless Moment," which comes to whose first act of office is to pass the Moon, for three days starting judgment on a girl he himself wronged. Wednesday. Desmond plays the part The courtroom scene, which is one of an American Arsene Lupin, who

of the intensely dramatic incidents through a trick of fate becomes manit: the story, calls for some of the ager of a country grocery store. The greatest emotional and dramatic actyear of reform enforced on him shows ing which has ever reached the Amerhim the way to a permanent leave taking to his occupation as a burglar.

**Gloria** Swanson Star of "Humming Bird"

A new Gioria Swanson greets photo-Ruth St Denis lay fans at the Strand this week in "The Humming Bird." Gloria, who won her niche in the cinema, first as in Hall Caine stories, with Conrad a bathing giri and then as the wearer Nagel playing the part of the judge. a bathing giri, and then as the wearer of wonderful wardrobes in features, has a new film, dependent upon story values and with Gloria in a great part of the picture playing the part of a superb photography add to the per-fection of the distinguished European

Swanson baffles Paris police with "his" clever- tainment. ness. Edward Burns plays the part HUMMING of the American newspaper man who becomes interested in Toinette and a BIRD AT

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BRANDEIS

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IN THE

THE STRAND

ican screen-with a man-human erring, whose deep and lasting affection for one girl is pitted in combat with his pledge to duty which calls hum to say "you must die!" to a frail. weet girl who owes her downfall to him, her judge. Mae Busch plays the part of the wronged girl-her second leading part A brilliant cast, with gigantic settings picturing the ancient prison and castle on the Isle of Man, and

The story is of the apache quarter director's first Goldwyn production. of Paris, in the years from 1914 to It will make his name familiar to 1918, the hectic days when France every picture fan in the country and was at war. Gloria has the part of heip the films to come into their foinette. "the humming bird," who own as an art as well as an enter-

> Walter Hiers Opens **Boulevard** Program

Walter Hiers in a comedy drama of evolutionary South America. "Mr Billings Spends His Dime," and round seven of "Fighting Blood" in the offering at the Boulevard today and Monday. Marshall Neilan's "The Eternal Three" is the feature for with a comedy and "The Days of baniel Boone" No. 8 to complete the program. Friday and Saturday there to be vaudeville, a comedy and Ruth of the Range" No. 13, and ilso Andre Lafayette in "Trilby, the romance of Paris studios. **Connie** Talmadge Today at Grand Constance Talmadge's new picture mouth's rebellion, "The Dangerous

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Jewell AND Rita

AT THE WORLD

the count in her bedchamber. In those far-away nights men went to women's rooms, not women to men's, is is now the custom. . . . Mr. Tiffany is a forger at the mercy of snobson, his bookkeeper, who pro poses silence in exchange for the and of Miss Tiffany. . . Ger. rude is proved to the long-lost grandlaughter of the rich and chin-whiskered old Adam Trueman, from Cattarugus, and the count, and ex-barber nd "a false jewel on the finger of oclety." is disclosed as the betrayer t Mile. Millinette, the Tiffany's rench housemaid.

In 1845 Mr. Poe, alone among th wittics, denounced "Fashion" as totaly deficient in verisimilitude." \ He reented the resonant sollloquies and "asides." the meaningless crossings and recrossing of the dramatis per-sonae. He said that it paid no attention to the dictates of commo sense, and that, as a slice of life. it was unworthy of notice. Perhaps Mrs. Mowatt had refused to go to lunch with him. Still, Mr. Poe admitted, "the scenery was very good, indeednd the carpet, the ottomans and the handellers were excellent. The en-ire 'setting up.'" he said, was "admirable, and the play compared with most American drama, very good.". When, if ever, you feel impaient with the cliche and platitude American dramatic criticism. read Mr. Poe's theatrical reviews. They will assure you that the job is hope

If you are a parent of meager in ome possessing expensive offanring. ou may find instruction in Lewis Beach's new comedy. "The Goose Hangs High." Also if you are the expensive offspring of parents of meager income you may be benefited by attendance upon that entertain ment. At any rate it is an observant, well-written and amusing comedy. one of the brightest of the season. It is he first product of the new "Drama-Theater. Inc.." composed of ists' "oso Hamilton, James Forbes, Edward Childs Carpenter, William Anhony McGuire, Owen Davis and Arhave pooled their considerable ex-"erence from the casual managers. Their initial gesture is encouraging.

In Mr. Beach's play, the Ingals are starting next Tuesday matinee. There vell-born and decent people in a mid- will be a matinee daily reserved for newest city of 100,000 residents. ladies, at which performance a spe-Their salary small, their prestige and cial lecture will be given for ladies esponsibilities large. The Ingals While children are not admitted to wins, I think, are at Radcliffe and any performance, all evening per Harvard, learning criminology and formances are for men and women. scene painting. An elder son, hav. Popular prices will prevail. ing finished college, is living selfish

### Why, Marguerite!

went over to Las. balina" show), with Eva Olivotti sing Pretty soon we went over to Las-kys and bumped into Marguerite ing the title role, will be on view at Clayton, who is one of our most diz the Brandeis theater next Thursday, ziest blondes and a sweet gazelle.

Marguerite was all done up in a sky-blue-pink negligee, or however Oscar' Hammerstein II, are respon- color of the costume glows through wonder. This trio presents a pro- to the musical portion of the stage T. Roy Barnes, who will be remem- does not depend for its strength upon for a single scene. you say it, with pink estrich feathers sible for the book and the lyrics of the blackness. "The Son Dodger" of gram of comedy and song out of the entertainment. you say it, with place for his spinling work in the place, and Herbert Stothart and fers a variety of entertainment with ordinary. Marshall Montgomery has "Youth a la Carte" is the play an-Marguerite how she liked the lot. Marshall Montgomery has the play and the



of England in the days of Mon-Maid." is offered at the Grand today. Monday and Tuesday. Dustin Farum in "The Man Who Won" and Ruth Roland in "Ruth of the Range" follows on Wednesday and Thursday and the final bill for the week is "The Silent Command," a story of love and intrigue on the high seas.

Two Male, Two Female

Hoot Gibson in a fire laddle story. Hook and Ladder," forsakes his chaps and sombrero for a heimet and rubber coat as the opening picture of the week's program at the Muse. Herbert Rawlinson is featured Monday and Tuesday in "The Mystery Girl," a melolrama of crooks, mysterious women and a haunted house. The last of the week there are billed two female stars, Agnes Ayres, in "The Heart Raider." on Wednesday and Thurs day, and Mae Marsh in her Irish story. "Paddy the Next Best Thing," for Friday and Saturday.

characters is a part of the story. And, not to forget, Gloria is reported to have a reel or two wherein she blossoms forth in splendor, as in previous pictures-all dressed up. "The Humming Bird" is boasted as Miss Swanson's greatest achievement

romantic love story between the two

in pictures. In the cast are Edward Burns, William Ricciardi, Cesare Gravina. Mario Majeroni and Rafael Gongini

## Thrills a Plenty in "The Last Hour"

It is nothing new to speak of a ting, no script was used. thrilling scene in a motion picture. even go so far as to say that if it was shot, all of which had to go were not for the "thrills," supplied through a process of elimination se-

be any pictures? "The Last Hour," the photoplay por time in the history of motion pic tion of the World bill, answers this tures that such a feat has been ac question in the only way it can be an complished-where one man created swered. It contains several thrills a story, directed it and then cut it which are hair-raisers according to without a line of continuity. advance reports. However, critics remarkable feat was made possible by

bered for his splendid work in "The "punch" scenes is filled with obvious The motion picture directors and

Stars on Muse Bill

Chaplin's Photoplay Made Without Script

> Possibly the most remarkable feaure about the production of "A Woman of Paris," the first serious photoplay written and directed by Charles Chaplin and featuring Edna Purviance, and now showing at the Sun theater, is the fact that during the

entire making of the picture from the time of the conception of the story until the last of the final cut-This despite the fact that hum

There are thrills a plenty. One might dreds of thousands of film footage as the most important ingredient in lection and then had to be cut to its our picture fare: well, would there final footage of his brain.

It is probable that this is the first

This

have been unanimous in according to shooting the story in sequence, where "The Last Hour," the most logical as the usual motion picture is made continuity of any picture these last in set sequence; that is, all scenes in several years. The thrills are a neces each set are taken before moving into

Marguerite how she liked the lot. "Great!" said Marguerite. "I just "Great!" said Marguerite. "I just "Great!" said Marguerite. "I just love Laskys: they let you wear such reaty clothes." "The cast, in addition to Miss Olivotti, reaty clothes." "The cast, in addition to Miss Olivotti, includes Bobby Bernard, Carrie Rey-"The billing with a Gayety theater this week, is in two Middleton, "The billing with a Gayety theater this week, is in two Middleton, "The cast during saturday. "The cas

In the picture, James King, Miss Davies' father, despairs of successful-

"Adam and Eva"

Mae Busch IN

NAME THE MAN AT THE RIALTO.