

FIRST NIGHTS AT THE THEATRES

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"She Stoops to Conquer" Revived by Annie Russell's English Players.

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GOURLAY WINTER AND LEEMING

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It is an age of revivals, dramatic and operatic, some worthy of the resurrection, some most disappointing, when revived. Miss Annie Russell, with her Old English Comedy Company has made no mistake about her choice. "She Stoops to Conquer," famous for many years ago? was more thoroughly enjoyable at the Alexandra last night than half of the new comedies, most of the problems and all of the modern so-called musical plays. Goldsmith's comedy is not new, it presents no intricate plot, it deals with no phase of modern life, yet its presentation held a critical audience at delightful attention all evening. Perhaps some were surprised to find the lines quite as funny as the ordinary expressions and, generally, far more witty. And some were surprised to find in Tony Lumpkin an inimitable star comedian. Miss Russell is wonderfully fascinating in the role of Kate Hardcastle. She is so bewitching in her "bar-maid" attire that if all maidens were like that one does not wonder at the part they played in song and story.

Miss Russell's voice is one of her many charms, and when it ripples into laughs the whole world laughs too, for joy of hearing her. Oswald Yorkie, seen here in Pomander Walk, gave a perfect reading of the part of Charles Marlow. He was impudent itself when he didn't mean to be, and just as lovable as one could wish in the pretty scenes with the unrecognized Kate. Tony Lumpkin, of course, makes the fun. In the old English style, per-



Oswald Yorkie, leading man with Annie Russell, at the Alexandra Theatre this week in two plays, "She Stoops to Conquer" and "The Rivals."

haps, but still honest fun, with no trace of vulgarity, and Mr. George Giddens was all that could be desired. As the impish, but generous-hearted boy he was splendid, and his big, good-natured face was the signal for a laugh every time. Indeed one could mention every member of the cast and do no more than justice to so finished a performance.

Miss Ffolliott Paget as Tony's adoring mother and victim gives a fine interpretation, and Fred Fernald as Kate's father is exceedingly good. And still there is Miss Goodwin as Constance, Mr. Kennell as Hastings, and Mr. Power as Diggonny! It must be seen to be appreciated, as we heard toiling out, "I saw Lily Langtry play some thirty years ago, and now I have seen Miss Russell, and I like it better than anything that has been here for years!"

"The Reckless Age," which will be the attraction at the Princess Theatre next week, is a new play by Lee Wilson Dodd, and is presented here under the direction of Cecil B. DeMille. The story of the play has to do with the young social set of a Pennsylvania city. The society belle breaks off her engagement to the prosecuting attorney and goes for a nocturnal ride, she strikes her car down the dark road, she is accused of murder, another man is suspected. The play is in three acts, and is said to be filled with clever comedy and brilliant dramatic situations. In the cast are Frederic Burton, Miss Sydney Shields, Alan Brooks, Robert Ober, Osborne Searle, Fan Bourke, Cleo Crook, Mrs. Lewis McCormick and ten others. There will be during the engagement.

"Stars of Stagedland," which is on the boards at the Star Theatre this week, is a play of variety and quality in the "Stars of Stagedland," and the cast is fast and furious. There is a dash of the songs that Miss Blanch Bell, known as the "Belles of the Theatre," sings, and La Belle, the "Escaped From the Harem," was well received.

Louise Pearson and Anna Kelly also Dely and Mike McDonald as the Dutch and Irish comedians, show their talent to good advantage. The whole is a top-notch. The chorus consists of a large number of especially pretty and attractive girls, who are well costumed. The stage settings are good.

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SPARKLING BILL AT SHEA'S THEATRE

Lillian Shaw, Comedienne, Pleases at Both Performances.

Shea's Theatre is winding up its vaudeville season with a sparkling program. Lillian Shaw was given the unanimous decision of the big house as the premier diatist staging comedienne of the season. As the Hebrew girl at the baseball game, jilted, jealous Italian signorietta, and the Dutchman's "wife" Miss Shaw caused tumults of laughter. James Wm. Fitzpatrick gave a little comedy, "The Wanderer," with an interview trend of pathos commanding the greatest applause of the opening performance.

John C. Rice and his partners in their latest playlet, "The Path of the Primrose," exhibited a double melodramatic Counter attractions at the Arena and elsewhere made but slight impression on the audience that gathered at the Princess last night to greet May Robson on her return visit with that roaring, rollicking comedy "A Night Out." Miss Robson keeps the same clever company with her, and the action of the piece goes with a verve and sparkle which keep the audience on the brink of convulsions during the whole performance. Nor is the piece lacking in the latest touches to brighten and polish it. Wherever a new point could be thrust in it has been added, till there is not a dull moment in the piece.

May Robson's comedy is of the broadest order and savors of Dickens in some respects with its touches of farce and burlesque. But there is a briskness and alacrity about it which quite outpaces the art of the older school of comedienne, and she uses either method as the scene makes it effective.

There is a vein of pathos, but rarely uncovered, which lies near the surface humor, and adds a completeness to the character of the old "Grammum" which makes her grandsons' and their charming sweethearts' affection intelligible. There are fourteen members in the company, and they provide a steady current of laughter for all who are willing to spend "A Night Out."

Sale of Seats for William Hodge. The company engaged to support William Hodge in his new comedy



Kathleen MacDonell, the Toronto girl who has been engaged as leading lady with the Bonstelle Players, who will play stock at Shea's this summer.

The first was in the dressing rooms behind the scenes, and the second in the spotlight with singing, dancing and music. They simply lifted the house at the climax of their turn. Barbic splendor with all the gorgeous costumes of Hawaii fitted the stage musical. Hodge and her native Hawaiian native singers and instrumentalists gave a realistic interpretation of the music of that island of the Pacific. The Kinophone talking moving pictures included the farce, "Dob's a Write," and a glee club number, "The Well-Balanced Bill," the lengthy and well-balanced bill with the brains of Julius Tannen's "Chatterbox," patter by Marcus and the thrilling agility of the Four Floridors, European jugglers, on free ladders.

"MADAME SHERRY" STILL ATTRACTIVE

Popular Musical Comedy Attracted Large Audience to the Grand.

Because everyone all over the country is humming, singing or whistling some number of the score of the musical success, "Madame Sherry," the impression is current in some quarters that the production's charm is in greater part musical. The mirth qualities of the play are no less engaging than its score. The love of a man for a maid under odd circumstances, love that blossoms in the heart of youth and flourishes as true love ever does, when things do not go smoothly, but this love, this courtship, is so best on every side and attended by so many misadventures, that, while itself remaining an appealing interest, all its accessory situations arouse amusement. This the musical play, "Madame Sherry."



Maude Irving with Madame Sherry, Grand.

which is the offering at the Grand this week, and which attracted a large audience last night at the opening performance. The "Tertio Buffo," the brilliant musical travesty on the famous concerted numbers of grand opera, which is one of the bright spots in the score, is not unlike the sextet in "Lucia," or the quartet in "Rigoletto," but following the amusing situations in "Madame Sherry," and rendered by the cleverly-drawn comedy characters in the piece, it becomes as the best of its number, as with all that it fits perfectly into the plot of the other music in "Madame Sherry." It is a plausible outcome of the complications in which the characters find themselves at the close of the second act.

"Madame Sherry" is an exceptionally good musical conception, and at the Grand scale of prices should attract large audiences all week, and especially at the matinees on Wednesday and Saturday.

LOTS OF LAUGH IN "A NIGHT OUT"

May Robson and Her Company Were as Good as Ever.

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"A FEAST OF FUN"

Charming comedienne who is at the splitting comedy "A Night Out."

"A Feast of Fun," which is still the "burlesque queen" was evidenced by the crowded houses at the Gaiety yesterday, when two successful performances of "A Feast of Fun" were given by Miss Sydell and her famous London Belles. Rose Sydell earned her envied title of "Queen of Burlesque" by the brains and originality she put into her work, and now on the eve of her retirement from the stage she is still the handsomest woman in her class of entertainers, and the same magnetic singer that she was at the outset of her career. Yesterday she dominated the feminine contingent as usual, and her two songs, "Burlesque Queen," and "Jolly Me Along," were madly encored.

Johnnie Webber is supposed to be the comedian, but apart from his cast iron voice box, which plays a few tricks, he is a disappointment. The remainder of the company is remarkably good. The song specialties by Florence Nichols and James Bogard made a hit with the audience, and were all encored. The dancing of Phil Cook proved to be a revelation, and the same thing might be said of the high kicking of Gracie Ellsworth. In the first act there is a skit, "The Rejuvenation," by the Four Ellsworths, which is the second feature of the show. The performance of the four individuals is very pleasing, and shows that they are more clever than the majority of burlesque artists. The scenery is very picturesque, and the girls in the chorus are gorgeously costumed and have strong, clear voices, every one.

"Nobodies Widow," the funniest comedy that Avery Hopwood has written, and one of the most pronounced of the opening successes, has been chosen for the summer stock season at Shea's Theatre, which commences on Monday, May 12, when Miss Kathleen MacDonell, the popular Toronto actress, will be seen in Edward H. Robbins will play the part of the Duke of Moreland.

Tonio has only had one opportunity of seeing this funny comedy, when Miss Bates was here for three days, and local players have ever since been looking forward to the time when it would be presented again by a first-class company. "Something has come at last." "Nobodies Widow," filled with high-spirited fun, and told of a much in love, who finds her husband, and later she is confronted by a widow, who is presented to her by the Duke of Moreland, and she finds that she has married a duke instead of a plain English gentleman, as Moreland had purported to be. It takes three acts of convincing comedy to set things straightened up again.

The comedy will be given during the week, on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. A very effective way to remove old putty from window panes or other surfaces is to apply a red-hot iron, as follows: The iron should be made of a broken file or cold chisel and heated quite hot. This is run over the surface of the putty, which will crack and fall off. Be careful not to let the iron touch the glass, as the heat may cause the latter to break.

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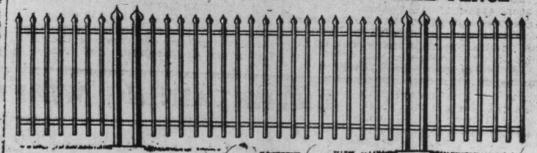
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"THE RECKLESS AGE" FIRST PRODUCTION

New Play Enthusiastically Received on First Night at Atlantic City.

ATLANTIC CITY, May 5.—(Special.)—"The Reckless Age," a new play by Lee Wilson Dodd, was produced at the Apollo Theatre here tonight under the direction of Cecil B. DeMille. The scenes of the play are located in a Pennsylvania city and have to do with the outcome of a wild nocturnal joy ride indulged in by several of the younger members of the fast society set. The theatregoers of Toronto are liable to receive a distinct shock and may recognize several of the prominent characters. The play was enthusiastically received and was presented by a splendid cast. Among the prominent players are: Frederic Burton, Miss Sydney Shields, Robert Ober, Alan Brooks, Osborne Searle, Agnes Moss and others. The play will shortly be seen in New York City.

Japs in California. The current report of John P. McLaughlin, labor commissioner of California, himself a violently anti-Japanese, shows that the Japanese own 728 acres of land, an increase since 1900 of 195 acres. There are about 12,000,000 acres of agricultural land in the state.

In the same document it is said that Japanese lease 17,596 acres, a decrease since 1900 of 298 acres. The anti-Japanese agitators always speak of "the hordes of Japanese who are pouring into the state." According to the report of the commissioner of immigration for 1911 and his bulletin for March, 1912, the number of Japanese in California decreased 4932 preceding the last-mentioned date. The Oakland (Cal.) Tribune of April, 1913, says: "The land-holdings of the Japanese in this state are in-

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considerable. George Shima is the only large Japanese land-owner in California, and the only offence he has committed is making potatoes more abundant and cheaper. The Pasadena (Cal.) News of April 8, 1913, says: "Chinese exclusion has benefited California. If we permitted a limited influx of the Japanese, our horticultural interests on the Japanese and our housekeeping burdens would be immeasurably lightened. But this racial prejudice, this narrow, bigoted point of view, anyway!"

"PEO... cent ro... should no... He pas... member o... such a s... man who... had stood... with him... they ther... they shou... be cried... and I leav... the polly tha... ter. Aga... why this b... Why shou... lion be pu... in 1911, I... had been... who spok... was laugh... in Jacin... had even... many, Ital... rope had... rested. I... the North... given of d... "Defence... at home,"... there were... of advice... that was a... who faul... Not that c... ation, but... of in Queb... vanced we... sense. Preceded... callies ho... most com... some such... the British... when wher...? Even... were to be... be manned... his wish... begin at th... at the bott... A letter... days ago... and sho... the Lauric... mind was... old days o... the polit... "My count... Quebec, wh... ed," but I... try over wh... With this... it to be th... take her s... fence. The word... this connect... from... but the... "In the li... seats in th... declared in... city Ch...-I... success is r... establishing... performance... thing that... He was n... insulted by... time both... shared their... Borden had... suits, but... As soon as... won at the... be traced and... He spoke of... have been... an agre... was as sp... however, ha... then the con... Monk had r... honored for... "This is th... given as th... cleared Sir... and... the bottom... "How will... forced thro... be as... "The rag... "It is an... "and... "Hisses... "I first stone... "They ob... agreement,"... "But I know... and I would... minority to... that now pr... "tyranny... mob or of... It is the san... it is cleav... and the mad... promise or a... was an an... the gover... force. Before cou... minority... without... In 189... will the eas... and the resu... estrous. Th... "pre-produc... Conqueror... declared, "I... some to the... an incid... with some... has passed fr... in hood a... galaxy of yo... tions are i... there is natio... Under the c... Canada... means of... Here the... lines of f... to my moth... in my own... recalls at on... whether count... eye own resp... of all consti... Hon. W. L... may differ... in the past... the plea for... might be d... a... (contin...)