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DESICCATED

SOUP

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Edwards' desiccated Soup
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TORONTO MONTREAL WINNIPEG REGINA EDMONTON SASKATOON

THE MATINEE GIRL

By MARGARET BELL

"Aunt Mary" in a New Role.

"AUNT MARY" has a new play. I
do not need to mention who
Aunt Mary is. She has endeared her-
self to every matinee girl from the
Atlantic to the Pacific, in her inter-
pretation of that role in *The Rejuvena-
tion of Aunt Mary*. She came back
to us, a few weeks ago, in the role of
a grandmother, no less dear than
Aunt Mary. But she has not deserted

stage, and the cast could not be im-
proved upon. Richard Bennett plays
the part of the rich young bachelor,
Ernest Lawford the mucker amongst
the gutters, and Louise Rutter the
wronged girl.

Miss Rutter is a very beautiful wo-
man, with dark eyes and hair, and a
Madonna profile. She has the charm
and reserve of an English lady, the
cleverness of a keen observer of hu-
manity. She was seen last in *Sher-
lock Holmes and Secret Service* with
William Gillette. We noticed her
then for her finished style of acting.
This year finds her even more fin-
ished, and she plays an exacting role
with just enough subdued emotion.

* * *

Louise Gunning.

QUITE the most refreshing musical
comedy we have seen this sea-
son was "The Balkan Princess," of
which Louise Gunning is the star.
This bit of tunes and tripping was
first directed to me by Robert Man-
tell, who spoke in highest terms of it.
He had enjoyed it, he said, after a
strenuous run in New York. It was
as a stimulant to a fainting man,
when all his energy is spent. The
music was above the ordinary musical
comedy "hash," and there was a real
plot.

I called on Miss Gunning, one day
in her dressing room. It was after
students' night, which is a yearly oc-
currence in Toronto. Miss Gunning
seemed to be unusually ruffled, that
day, and was painfully frank in ex-
pressing herself. I fear that students'
night would become a custom of the
dim ages, if the crowd of enthusi-
asts could have stood outside Miss
Gunning's door, and heard her tell
just how much she loved them. It
was the most disgraceful thing she
had ever heard of, and she had played
before students of Harvard, Yale and
Brown's. What did they think? Did
they forget that she was a high sal-
aried artist? No, they never should
have, had they been in her dressing-
room just about six minutes. Re-
minders of her stellar position were
numerous. I should call Miss Louise
Gunning a pessimist of the last de-
gree. Too bad that she should mar
her beautiful face by pouts and
frowns anent the hotel service all
over the Continent, and the non-

MAY ROBSON

the former character. She includes it
in a repertoire, and gives her many
admirers a chance to see her nibble
her first grapefruit, and sip her initial
glass of champagne.

This new role Granum, enables
Miss Robson to use her bright scin-
tillating wit to excellent advantage.
There is a ripe philosophy in the
lines, which might be readily recog-
nized as belonging to Miss Robson
herself. For she is responsible for
some of them, having collaborated
with the author in writing it. "A
Night Out" is what the new comedy
is called. Granum endeavours to
get herself into all kinds of ques-
tionable situations, and the result the
next morning is enough to make the
most un-humorous laugh. She al-
lows the boys, her two grandsons, to
take her to a cafe, and comes home in
the small, undecked hours, a disabled
figure, having escaped from the cafe
by means of the fire escape, it being
more desirous than the door, since the
cafe was raided by the censors. The
boys manage to haul her through the
balcony window, and Granum goes
to bed just an hour or two before her
irascible daughter gives the call for
breakfast.

* * *

"Passers-By."

WE have seen another new play,
written by Haddon Chambers,
the English playwright. It concerns
a young bachelor, who, bored with his
indolent life, accepts the suggestion
of his butler and observes the
passers-by, who wander along Pica-
dilly. The results, of course, are of
the greatest interest. There come
along the homely philosopher in the
person of Nighty the cabby, the lazy
crumb grubber, who is content to live
from the bits he can pick up in the
streets, and the honest girl, who, hav-
ing been wronged, is trying to pro-
vide a decent living for herself and
her baby.

Every line is a bit of philosophy.
Seldom has it been my good fortune
to see so clever a production. Every
detail is heeded, the setting is won-
derfully realistic, requiring the
greater part of a day to set upon the



LOUISE RUTTER
In "Passers-By."

appreciation of Varsity students.
There are so many more things to
think about. But she can sing. High
E comes to her like the warbling of a
lark on a summer's morning.

* * *

The Season's Hits.

EVERY season introduces new
stars, and usually some new way
of handling an old subject. The musi-
cal comedy of to-day seems deplor-