

Plays & Players

AT THE CITY THEATRES.

ROSE COGHILAN is always delightful. Not only clever herself, she has the happy faculty of surrounding herself with clever subordinates, and, like Irving, she insists on the staging and scenic effects of her productions being first-class throughout. The result is brilliancy and fascination. In *The White Heather*, both these qualities are present in even more marked degree than in Miss Coghlan's former plays. The story is full of pace and sustained interest, and, if the theme is somewhat threadbare, the shabby spots are cleverly covered up in a mass of good dialogue, episodes, climaxes, and spectacular features. The submarine scene, in which two divers fight with knives, is highly realistic, and alone worth going to see. The supporting company, as already indicated, is a strong one. Mr. John F. Sullivan, Miss Coghlan's leading man, is a capable and natural actor. The humorous features of the play are supplied by Mr. John W. Wold, as Edgar Trefusis, an absurdly exaggerated type of barnstormer, who labors under the delusion that he looks like Jean de Reszke, and Miss Georgia Lawrence, as Lady Mollie Lanthorn. Of course, Miss Coghlan is also, at times, very funny, but the leading vein of her part, underneath all its humor, is womanly and serious. Those who have not yet seen *The White Heather* should do so before the engagement closes.

At the Theatre Francais, a timely play is on the boards this week—*The Kafir Diamond*, a South African romance. It receives an honest and interesting handling by the capable stock company, which nightly attracts such large audiences to the comfortable little east end theatre. A good vaudeville programme, as usual, adds to the attractiveness of the bill.

COMING ATTRACTIONS.

THE CUCKOO, an adaptation by Charles Brookfield from the French of the late Henri Meilhac's *Force of Decore*, will be acted for the first time in this city at the Academy of Music, next Monday night, December 4, continuing for one week, with matinees Wednesday and Saturday. A Charles Frohman company, headed by Joseph Holland and Amelia Bingham, will appear in the interpretation. The Meilhac

farce was immensely successful in Paris. When recently transferred to the London stage, as adapted by Brookfield, it made an instantaneous and emphatic hit—the opposition of the censor of plays exciting public interest to the point of aiding the play to make a sensation. The success of Charles Frohman's American production at Wallack's Theatre last spring was one of the notable events of a season already distinctive for its many extraordinary successes. The play, ran for two months to immense houses, and was only withdrawn on account of the approach of warm weather. Since then it has toured the large American cities, meeting everywhere with the most signal success. The story of *The Cuckoo* concerns a man and his wife who are at domestic war. Although middle aged, he is not without vanity, and is taken in by the wiles of a handsome siren. The wife is pursued constantly and fervidly by a chap with a penchant for exhibiting his bravery at any and all times. When the husband is absent in pursuit of the siren, the wife consents to dine at a rustic inn with her admirer. On the way, he rescues a man from drowning, and later, subdues an escaped lion. These feats naturally attract attention, and his companion is recognized. The editor of a wide-awake paper, supposing her companion to be her husband, publishes an account of the brave deeds, crediting them to the husband's name. When the latter is confronted with the account he is astonished, but the wife insists that he must have been dining at the inn with another woman. To deny accepts the mingled public honors and domestic humiliation—the more mockly in that the siren has laughed at his protestations after wheedling a goodly sum from his purse. In addition to Mr. Holland and Miss Bingham, the cast will include, Eleanor Moretti, Charles Bowser, Clayton White, Frank Lee Short, C. St. Aubyn, David McCartney, H. S. Lewis, Joseph A. Weber, Fulton Russell, Harry Lewis, Augusta Chase, Nora Dunblane, Annie Wood.

THE THEATRE FRANCAIS, next week, is to produce an old favorite *Lady Windermere's Fan*. The piece is too well known to need any fulsome praise. It is regarded by critics as one of the most remarkable plays ever written, in which the foibles of English society are brought out. This is done in *Lady Windermere's Fan* in a most interesting manner, and, while there is just a touch of French risqué in the piece, still, it is a perfectly pure and wholesome play. The stock company should be able to give it a good production. At the head of the vaudeville bill will be the *Broadway Trio*, composed of two men and a woman, who have earned distinguished success for themselves on the vaudeville stage. Wallie Clarke is spoken of as an excellent comedian, and Edward Marville is a new and original tramp contortionist.

TWO of the greatest hits of last season were scored by Sydney Rosenfeld, whose farce, *The Purple Lady*, will be the attraction at the Academy of Music, on December 11. *The Purple Lady* was exceedingly popular at the Bijou Theatre in New York last season, and will undoubtedly meet with as cordial a reception from our theatre-goers.

ACADEMY

NEXT
WEEK

Matinees—Wednesday and Saturday.

CHARLES FROHMAN presents the Great Laughing Hit of London and New York.

Original Cast—Same performance as given

At Wallack's Theatre, New York.

THE CUCKOO

Prices: 25, 50, 75c and \$1.00

Sets now on sale

**MONTREAL
ENTERTAINMENT
BUREAU**

**F. C. CAPON,
Manager.**

For the supply of
Vocalists, Instrumentalists, Orchestras,
Lecturers, and Elocutionists for Concerts,
Banquets, Musicales, Receptions, At
Homes, etc. For prospectus address

**The Montreal Entertainment
Bureau**

231 St. Catherine Street,
Bell Tel. 2471 Up.

(Canadian Foreign
Music Co.)



Scene from *The Cuckoo*, at the Academy of Music, next week.

THEATRE FRANCAIS.

**W. E. PHILLIPS,
Lessee and Mgr.**

WEEK OF DEC. 4th.

By Special Permission—

Lady Windermere's Fan

AND THE FAMOUS BROADWAY TRIO.

Prices as usual.

Phone East 316 for seats.

Don't forget that abuse is sometimes
an inverted compliment.

Windsor Hall

Friday,
Dec. 8th.

AT 4.30.

Prof. Goulet's SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Assisted by EDWARD A. BURKE, our favorite
Bass, and MRS. RISSA, of Paris, Harp
Soloist.

Hear **BLUE DANUBE WALTZES** by an
Orchestra of 40.

Reserved Seats 50c. Admission 25c.
Seats reserved at Shaw's, 274 St. Catherine St.

IN THE HEAT OF TRIAL.

LAWYER—You say you made an examination of the premises. What did you find?

WITNESS—Oh, nothing of consequence; a beggarly account of empty boxes, as Shakespeare says.

LAWYER—Never mind what Shakespeare says. He will be summoned, and can testify for himself if he knows anything about the case.