

SOCK AND BUSKIN

Nugget Critique Does a Few Stunts

What He Thinks of "The Girl I Left Behind Me" and Orpheum Vaudeville.

As if to make up for the meaningless mess of hodge-podge in the shape of a lurid border drama served the public last week, the Bittner Company this week at the Auditorium is quite surpassing itself. Not only is the play a good, wholesome one with the scenes and lines pleasing alike to the ear as well as the eye, but it possesses a plot, one, too, that at times is most thrilling in its intensity. Belasco, the author of "The Girl I Left Behind Me," is a past master at the art of writing plays, one of the most successful the western world has known in the past half century. As a book may be most generally judged by its author so may a play by its writer. "The Girl I Left Behind Me" does not depend upon its catchy title for its success, as there is genuine merit in each of the four acts, and though the scene is laid in the west, yet it is as far removed from the usual border drama as "Hamlet" is from being a comedy.

General Kennion is in command of the military department of the northwest stationed at Fort Kennion. Other officers at the post are Major Burleigh, of the 12th U. S. cavalry; Lieut. Hawksworth and Lieut. Parlow. The latter is affianced to the general's daughter, Kate, the outcome of a boy and girl attachment, who, though she does not love him, proposes to sacrifice herself on the altar of duty. Her heart is really in the possession of Hawksworth who is likewise in love with her but through his sense of honor and his regard for a brother officer he refrains from declaring his passion, resolving to seek a transfer to another post in order to remove himself from temptation. The

evening before his departure and also the wedding day of his rival the troop is sent out to suppress the sun dances of the Blackfoot Indians. The advance guard is ambuscaded and several lives lost through the cowardice of Lieut. Parlow. Upon their return to the fort the general failing to understand the cause of such calamity demands a report in which Parlow shifts the blame onto Hawksworth. The latter upon learning of the deception though not knowing it has been thrust upon him remains silent in order to shield his brother officer and the girl he himself loves. The post is surrounded by Indians, they are besieged, reinforcements are necessary and a brave man is called for to carry a dispatch to a distant fort, a journey that means almost certain death to the courier. Hawksworth volunteers, succeeds, the assistance arrives at the last moment and all are saved through the bravery of one who had been called a coward.

Virtue triumphs in the downfall of Parlow who is discovered by Major Burleigh as being the same man who years before had destroyed his own home, and who is only prevented from killing him through his love for his little son Dick.

One of the prettiest scenes is the finale of the second act where Hawksworth undertakes the dangerous task in the face of almost certain death. As he grasps the dispatches and is about to depart Kate whispers to him "I love you," three words for the sound of which he will brave anything.

Another most thrilling scene is the moment before the rescue when General Kennion is about to slay his own daughter to prevent her dishonor at the hands of the savages. It is then that Miss Lovell, who plays the role of Kate, shows the finished artiste. Her pleading with her father for death, her calm resignation at her fate is a bit of emotional work worthy of the highest praise. Mrs. Bittner as Wilbur's Ann, a product of the northwest, makes a very clever ingenue, an excellent foil to the Dr. Penwick of Mr. Southard. Miss Winchell is cast as Lucy Hawksworth, another ingenue, and Miss D'Avara as Fawn Afraid, an Indian girl. There is not much to the latter character except the makup and in that Miss D'Avara certainly excels. Mr. Cummings as Lieut. Hawksworth makes an ideal soldier and a typical lover, one to whom honor is worth more than life itself. Mr. Sedley appears as Lieut.

Parlow and Mr. Bittner is thoroughly at home in the part of the gruff major. Mr. Southard makes an excellent Dr. Penwick. Mr. Lewis does equally as well as Scarbrow the educated Indian, and the same may be said of Harry Cummings, who appears as Private Jones. Mr. Dundon has risen to the dignity of a speaking part and as Orderly McFlynn his talents shine forth in bright, effulgent rays. Claire Wilson plays Master Dick, the major's son, with the ease and grace of a veteran. The play is a veritable feast in comparison with some of the past productions.

ORPHEUM THEATRE.

The Orpheum theatre is presenting this week one of the best shows it has produced since its re-opening. A burlesque entitled "Ireland and Germany in Japan," arranged by John Mulligan, is the opening piece, included in which there are a number of songs, dances, marches and other specialties introduced.

The scene is laid in the palace of the Great Tycoon and the performers are appropriately attired in the picturesque costume of the country represented.

The act is concluded with a grand march which is prettily arranged by Kate Rockwell and is excellently executed by the company.

Helen Jewell, in sweet vocal selections, Paula Cordero in a clever specialty, John Mulligan in one of his inimitable acts, Maurettus & Brown in a funny specialty entitled "Uncle Tom's Cabin," Cecil Marion in songs, Mason & Evans in their startling act on the triple horizontal bars; Vivian in songs and Nick Burley and Mero Marich in a three round exhibition of boxing complete the program, which is one of strength throughout and should be greeted by large audiences during the week.

Dinner a la carte—Northern Cafe.

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CHILDREN WILL AID

In Celebration of the 24th. of May

Special Committee Appointed to Arrange Juvenile Portion of Program.

The children of Dawson are to take the same prominent part in the Victoria day celebration as they did last year. This was decided last evening at the meeting of the general committee in the Board of Trade rooms, and Col. MacGregor, J. A. Faulkner,

R. P. McLennan, Capt. D. B. Olsen and Chas. MacDonald were appointed a special committee to arrange a part for the youngsters and prepare them for it.

On motion of W. A. Beddoe, Geo. M. Allen, W. A. Beddoe and H. S. Congdon were transferred from the finance to the executive committee.

A discussion as to whether the celebration should occupy one or two days occurred, but the matter was finally left to the decision of the executive committee when it gets a report of the finance committee as to the amount of funds that can be raised.

At the close of the general committee, which adjourned to meet on next Monday evening, the sports committee held a meeting and began making up the list of sports for the celebration.

The meeting was largely attended and was harmonious and enthusiastic, and from the way the various committees have buckled down to work Dawson is assured a celebration on Victoria day that will out rival all previous records.

POLICE COURT.

In Judge Macaulay's court this morning William Binder was given judgment by default in the amount of \$300 against Dick Tim, a Dominion mine operator. The money due was for labor performed.

Geo. Rice, charged with perjury in the recording of claim No. 7 above discovery on All Gold creek, was held over to the territorial court. The complaining witness against Rice is Chas. Purdy. Not being able to secure bail, Rice is now in jail.

N. F. Hagel, K.C., has removed to Monte Carlo building.

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