# FIRST NIGHT AT THEATRES

## "Abraham Lincoln" Receives Good Welcome at the Princess—"Irene" Is Smart Musical Comedy at Royal Alexandra—Mayor Leary Acclaimed at Pantages — Good Vaudeville and Pictures at Other Houses.

**"Irene"—Royal Alexandra.**

A remarkably clever cast, headed by Dale Winter in the sellar role, presented the musical comedy "Irene," at the Royal Alexandra last night, and unmistakably scored the greatest success of the season so far. It is not the usual musical comedy with little music and no drama, but a real sparkling comedy enlivened by excellent music. Some of the airs are new and catchy, the songs are pleasing, the choruses are well costumed and above the average in vocal ability, while much of the dancing was wonderfully good. The play itself sustains interest by its own merit, but the enjoyment of the evening is greatly heightened by the musical numbers that are generously interspersed.

Dale Winter can both sing and act. The role of Irene was probably created for her, or at any rate she has made it her own. Whether as a slangy shop girl or the young lady of fashion, she kept the audience entertained thruout. Remarkably good also was Lou Ripley, who impersonated Irene's mother, the shrewd, kind-hearted old Irishwoman, jealous of her daughter's good name, and bound to protect her at any cost. Marjorie Moore and Gladys Nagle well played up to Miss Winter's interpretation of Irene by their rendition of Helen Chester and Jane Gilmour, the shop girl friends of the heroine, who climb with her to meteoric social success.

The man behind was Madame Lucy, the Paris modiste, lately arrived in New York. As a rule the role of a man dressmaker is not a pleasing one, but Raymond Crane, as Madame Lucy, scored a wonderful success. He can sing and dance fit well as act, and he proved to be a favorite with the audience thruout. Rollin Grimes Jr. gave an excellent representation of Donald Marshall (Mr. Mawshall, as Madame Lucy called him), the generous friend of Irene, who, of course, marries her happily at the end of the play. "Irene" will prove a favorite in Toronto and big houses are anticipated the balance of the week.

**"Abraham Lincoln"—Princess.**

One of the most remarkable successes, if not the most remarkable, on both the English and American stages—"Abraham Lincoln," by England's young dramatist and poet, John Drinkwater, opened at the Princess Theatre last night before a crowded house. It made a tremendous impression, repeated in fact its triumph in London and New York and at the same time earned for Frank McGlynn a distinct personal success for his portrayal of probably the greatest personage in the history of the United States.

The author's dramatic conception of the great president and his colleagues at the time of the civil war is as true as it would seem possible to be and gives to him the lofty character that history has invested him with.

The story is told in seven scenes, from the time Lincoln receives the offer of his party's nomination, which practically means his election to the presidency, until the tragedy at Ford Theatre in Washington, where he is fatally shot by a crazed assassin. For sheer dramatic effect and intensity of emotion the memorable incidents of the civil war and of Lincoln's participation in it made a powerful impression, Mr. McGlynn physically, in his gestures, mannerisms and methods of speaking, was exactly as one has always imagined Lincoln to be. His interpretation in short was startlingly striking and the incidents depicted, because of their great historical importance by turns, gripped, thrilled and held the audience.

The company, which has a cast of fifty, is the original organization which has been playing in New York, is splendidly cast and give Mr. McGlynn capable support. The characters of Seward, Generals Grant and Lee, William Custis, the negro, and other great figures of civil war days are all portrayed with remarkable fidelity to present-day conceptions of the participants of those stormy years. And this was enhanced by the striking resemblance the characters bore to the originals. The scenic effects also were good.

Taken altogether, "Abraham Lincoln" is as impressive as it is moving and the fact that the characters, as well as the incidents of the piece are so well known, lent additional pleasure to those who saw it last night.

**"Way Back East" at Grand.**

That melodrame, "Way Back East," presented to a large and appreciative audience at the Grand last night proved to be pleasing and wholesome and quite up to the standard of this well-known opera house. This is a well-known play of the old orthodox school, which knows only those betrayals which are due to age-worn custom, listing little of those more sinister betrayals which are laid deep and whose memories linger perhaps over long years of agony. In this play the villain of the plot falls a prey to the custom which gives all to the man and takes away all from the woman, leaving her a wreck on the sand. of the present social fabric. It was a melodrama notable not only for its exciting situations, but also for its pleasing notes of song and mirth mingled with pathos. The chief parts, that of the country squire, taken by Edwin Dudley and that of the wronged woman, by Pearl Grey, were well taken. Perhaps the most natural characters noted were those of the squire's lady, taken by Jeannette Cass, and that of the gossip sprite, by Millie Stevens. The chief characters were well sustained by a good cast.

**Screaming Comedy at Shea's.**

Screaming, uncontrollable mirth is provoked by Homer B. Mason and Marguerite Keeler, headliners at Shea's Theatre this week. Their one-act farcical improbability, bearing the arresting title, "Oh!" is without doubt the really funniest act seen at this popular vaudeville theatre this season. Their dialog is so utterly nonsensical and absurd as to be almost classical. Jack Wyatt and his Scotch lads and lassies were encored time and again, and the applause was deserved. In thier full stage musical melange, "Kilts and Tartans," they are knock-outs, and the way they coax blood-stirring music from the bag-pipes is little short of marvellous. They are also good dancers. Madeline De Page and the Yorkov sisters have an unsurpassable musical and singing offering, which was applauded without stint. Billed as syncopation's clever exponent, Dolly Kay certainly lives up to her appellation. With Phil Phillips at the piano, she puts across a series of snappy song hits which certainly registered the applause; Lou and Jean Archer, in a singing and dancing sketch, are fair, altho the material is not exactly new. The title of their act is "Tailor Maid," and the title is about the cleverest thing about it. The artistic delineator of character studies, Charles Leonard Fletcher, has a remarkably good offering, which is rather marred by his essaying tragedy. However, his wind-up was exceptionally good and he received more than a good share of applause. Lorimer Hudson and Company, in a bicycle act, entitled the "Pinnacle of Picturesque Pedalry," is one of the best offerings of its kind. The somewhat extravagant title is also not very far off the mark. James Evans and Louis Perez, in a sensational novelty acrobatic act, complete a bill which is head and shoulders above the average.

**Loew's Yonge Street Theatre.**

Loew's Yonge Street Theatre is strong on comedy this week, both in pictures and vaudeville acts. What happened to a young lady who longed for the white lights of the big city is told in an unusually bright and engrossing reel. Lured away from the hay country by a city slicker, she gets into difficulties when she lands among the denizens of the underworld and escapes only thru the faithfulness of a country swain, who had trailed her to the city and arrived apparently just in the nick of time. He takes part in a whole lot of exciting adventures before he finally puts the villians to rout. The Telephone Tangle, in which Joe Bennett is the star performer, is one of the big laugh producers of the show. Mr. Bennett became noted as Abe Kabibble. He unhooks a very amusing string of conversation in Dutch dialect and he gets good support for his chatter from half a dozen others on the line. One of the best on the program is Harry Lee's monolog and song act. In one of his skits he pokes a little fun at the ladies who go down town to shop and take their purchases into the theatre with them, including fish and other things. "The Swede and the Girl" is presented by Jack Clifton and Lucille Kramer, and the Skating Macks are two good features. The skating pair are very graceful on rollers and their act is highly meritorious. There are also Mutt and Jeff pictures, which illustrate the danger of putting too many raisins in the home brew.

**Shea's Hippodrome.**

Shea's Hippodrome presents an all-round good bill this week, which is headed by a William Fox photoplay production entitled "The Scuttlers." The powerful actor of virile men parts, William Farnum, stars and holds up his end to perfection. There are two typical Farnum fights staged during the action, and the romance of the piece centres around Farnum's love for the pretty daughter of the captain of the boat on which the scuttlers are at work. Master Gabriel is a Lilliputian comedian, and in his one-act sketch, moved the audience to tears of laughter. He is probably the funniest person who has been seen at the Hippodrome for some time. Conley and Francis are excellent in the offering of comedy talk interspersed with musical numbers. They were encored several times and really deserved it. Payton and Ward, in a comedy and dancing act, hold up their end of the entertainment to perfection. The dancing is particularly good. Roden and Dean have an acrobatic offering which is funny and clever. Singing and dancing de luxe is presented by Elaine Sisters, who have a very good act. Their dancing is good but their vocal efforts fall short of the mark. Fennel and Tyson, nut comedians, are alleged to be funny, and might be considered so. However, their comedy is not very satisfying or mirth-provoking.

**Arbuckle at Pantages.**

Popularity and patronage outdid themselves at the Pantages Theatre yesterday afternoon, when a capacity house with hundred outside waiting a chance to enter were evidence of the favor with which Toronto regards the hero of the occasion which presented Roscoe (Fatty) Arbuckle in the side-splitting picture, "The Life of the Party." The story portrayed dealt with an election in which Arbuckle ran for mayor. Two women, Milly Holister and Mrs. Carraway, officers in a society that is making a vigorous protest against the raise of prices waged by the Bolton-Clay Milk Association, divided the attention of the audience with the municipal candidate. In the contest Judge Voris is the opposing candidate and both are in love with Milly. The developing of the intrigue practiced by Voris in order to discredit Leary in the eyes of Milly and the situations that develop as the result of a party given by Mrs. Carraway, president of the club, afforded opportunity for a fund of laughable sequels, which were appreciated and punctuated by the laughter of the big audience. The vaudeville features included Gautier's Toy Shop, which opened with a pretty picture out of which ponies and dogs evolved to perform clever and attractive acts. Vera Walton, a singing comedienne, had an attractive soprano voice, and scored a success; Fred and Catherine Webber had a really clever ventriloquial novelty, which was applauded to the echo; Juggles from Cherry Blossom Land were cleverly presented by the Mizuma Japs; songs, style and surprises were the offering of the 5th Avenue Girls; Coakley and Dunlevy, black-faced comedians, had a breezy bit from the trenches, the whole forming a very attractive bill.

**At Loew's Uptown.**

Not in every vaudeville and film theatre are recreation and rest combined, but this is what was experienced yesterday afternoon at the premier performance for the week at Loew's Uptown Theatre, when the pretty house had an inviting air and the picture "To Please One Woman," together with vaudeville features, composed the program. The film drama, with an all-star cast, had many attractive scenes and a happy ending, the preliminary to which it would not be fair to reveal to future patrons. Leon Stanton, assisted by Eleanor Warren and Ada White, were seen in the principal vaudeville feature, "Money and Matrimony." Other acts and turns were chatter and dances, by Conn and Whiting; songs and vocal humor by McConnell and Lockhart; the five Avallons, impersonations and a medley of clever turns; Alfred James, in "The School of Imitations," and Lorne Evans and Stellas, in songs and dances artistically carried out. From Thursday until Saturday Elaine Hammerstein will be seen in "The Pleasure Seekers," one of the outstanding successes in the field of the screen drama.

**Good Bill at the Strand.**

E. W. Hornung built better than he knew when he wrote "Dead Men Tell No Tales," and he must have felt a great satisfaction when he saw the spirit of his book transferred to the screen. It is drawing huge crowds to the Strand this week, which only demonstrates that for a red-blooded film of adventure in which is woven every emotion, love of the sea unfolded before one's eyes, has no equal. The cast contains such artists as Holmes Hubert, Roy Applegate, Percy Lamont and last, but not least, Catharine Calvert.

Francis Dattray, master of Kirby Hall, with his boat, "The Spindrift," takes off Joaquin Santos, a cruel, cunning devil and a fortune in gold, from the Lady Jermyn, leaving hundreds to perish, among whom is a young lawyer, George Cole. Eva Denison, who is an accomplice of Santos, and who became engaged to Rattray while the plot was hatching, falls in love with Cole. Events follow close upon one another, and the last great scene is set in Kirby Hall, where Santos is killed by a retainer while escaping, and the gang killed or captured by detectives who have been on the trial of Santos for years. How Eva decides between two lovers is left for the movie patron to find out. It is a Tom Terriss production and during the filming of the burning Lady Jermyn a full-rigged ship, some of the actors barely escaped with their lives. The photography is excellent and without doubt the film is due for a long run.

**Human Story at Regent.**

A very human and in many ways pathetic story of the new twists to the old, old story of married life is that one showing this week at the Regent Theatre, which was well received yesterday afternoon by the large gathering present. The narrative in film, which is an adaptation from a delightful novel by "Pan," the noted anonymous English author, is well named "The Furnace," depicting as it does the fires of emotion which run their course in the life of two people whose ideals are of the scrapping variety. The acting was very fine and the cast up to standard. The scene is laid in England, and the characters are an English actress, a Canadian millionaire and the ubiquitous forlorn lover and the staunch sweetheart whose day arrives all in good time. Miss Marjorie Pringle, the well-known Toronto singer, was the feature of the orchestral section of the matinee presented yesterday. She sang "Just Like a Gipsy" and another popular number, with customary sympathy. The Regenette and other film studies completed the afternoon series.

**Soldier-Actors Shine.**

The new overseas revue, Billet Thirteen, with all soldier-actors, holds the boards this week at the Capitol, North Toronto's own playhouse. The boys have nothing but praise for the beauty of this theatre. Their finished work pleased a crowded house last night.

**Mirth and Music at Gayety.**

Dave Marion's Own Show, which opened its Toronto engagement yesterday at the Gayety Theatre, contained all the essential features of satisfactory burlesque. Frequent scene changes, a fanciful range of humorous subjects, and sprightliness of chorus were all staple features, while the Byron Brothers Saxo Band provided a real novelty in their offerings of instrumental music. The burletta, "The Land of the Impossible," upon which the major part of the entertainment hinged, served to introduce in bewildering succession tuneful vocal numbers, graceful chorus ensembles and riotous humor. It was particularly worthy as a burlesque medium in the fact that it maintained thruout a uniform standard of entertainment for the audience.

**Attractive Bill at Star.**

The "Broadway Belles" company, appearing at the Star this week, has a brand new musical comedy which received the attention of one of Broadway's best producers before it went on the road, and the chorus is all there. Eddie Cole, the funny little comedian, keeps the audience in gales of laughter, assisted by such stage celebrities as Ed. Johnson, Burton Carr, Helen Gibson, Florence Whitford, Myrtle Andrews and Peggie and Phil Hart. Two acts and five elaborate scenes full to overflowing with snappy dancing, pretty girls, the latest song successes and witty dialogs make this show one of the best on the circuit and is a sure cure for the blues. The electrical effects are excellent, the costumes gorgeous and the ease with which the artists dance thru scene after scene will satisfy the most critical Star patron.

## MEN YOU HEAR OF
### Seen as Their Friends Know Them
NO. 75.

MR. R. P. GOUGH, president of the Sellers-Gough Fur Company, and of the Murray-Kay Company, Limited. Born in York county 54 years ago, Mr. Gough was educated in the public schools in Toronto and in St. Michael's College. He has been in business 35 years. He is a member of the Ontario and Lakeview Clubs and of the Ontario Motor League and his favorite sports are motoring and fishing.

**HELD WITHOUT BAIL**

Mrs. George Adams, who appeared in the women's court yesterday to face the charge of having caused the death of her husband, who was fatally and apparently accidentally stabbed on Christmas Day, during a struggle in which he was the aggressor. Mrs. Adams, who was remanded until Wednesday, has aroused the sympathy of a large section of the public, the feeling being that her detention without bail, while her little children are in charge of the Children's Aid Society, is an injustice.

## DISCUSS PLANS FOR GREATER TORONTO

### Conference Will Also Consider Housing and Municipal Finance Problems.

A meeting that should have an important bearing on municipal development was held in the city hall. Some of the executives of the Town Planning Association of southwestern Ontario, met with the officials of the Town Planning and Housing Association of Toronto to arrange for a conference on housing and town planning to be held in Toronto the middle of February. Those present from out of town include: Thomas Adams, federal town planning adviser; Gordon Philip, of London, secretary of the Town Planning Association of southwestern Ontario, and W. H. Breithaupt, chairman of the Kitchener town planning commission.

J. P. Hynes was appointed chairman of a general committee with W. S. B. Armstrong as secretary to arrange for the conference in February. It is proposed that the conference will be held under the joint auspices of the various housing and town planning organizations of Ontario, local branches of the architectural, engineering and surveying bodies, the National Council of Women, Provincial Women's Institute and the I. O. D. E., labor and trade organizations, the G. W. V. A., and the Federation for Community Service.

**Attractive Program.**

An attractive program has already been tentatively arranged. It will include an exhibition of housing and town planning material under the direction of the commission of conservation. The prominent speakers who will be invited to address the conference will explain what phases of town planning may be accomplished under existing Ontario law.

One of the main objects of the conference is to further new town planning legislation, which will probably come before the house this session, and this proposed legislation will be discussed. Housing and municipal finances are subjects also to be covered, and of local interest will be the afternoon devoted to the problems in planning "Greater Toronto." It is expected all sessions will be open to the public, but there will probably be a special public evening meeting devoted to housing and town planning, which will be illustrated by moving pictures.

The co-operation of the harbor commission was promised by Mr. E. L. Cousins. Controller Gibbons and Alderman Mrs. Hamilton attended the meeting and promised their hearty support in making the conference a successful one.

It is expected that the conference will result in the formation of a permanent town planning and housing conference.

**FOR CHINESE FAMINE FUND.**

Presbyterian churches thruout Canada will make special collections next Sunday on behalf of the North China famine fund.

## DAVY IS GRATEFUL FOR CAMPAIGN HELP

"I do not regard my election on Saturday as any personal achievement," said H. M. Davy, the new alderman for ward seven, "but I owe a big debt of gratitude to many warm personal friends who stood loyally by me thruout the campaign. I also desire to thank The Toronto World for its efforts in my behalf. The World put up a strong, vigorous campaign, and the fact that the three candidates it named were elected shows how successful it was."

## BOARD TO CONSIDER T.S.R. ARBITRATION

### Will Be One of First Problems Undertaken by the Controllers.

The question of the arbitration to fix the price which the city will pay for the property of the T.S.R will be one of the first matters to be tackled by the new board of control. The city has already nominated Sir Adam Beck its representative on the board of arbitration, but the street railway company has not yet appointed its arbitrator. The company some time ago gave notice of intention to proceed under the municipal act and leave the issue to the official arbitrator, P. H. Drayton, but later notified the city that they would accept the three-man arbitration board as prescribed in the agreement between the city and the company, providing the arbitration was proceeded with immediately. The city has not yet accepted or rejected this proposal.

When asked yesterday for his opinion of The World's suggestion that the system should be taken over without any further delay, instead of waiting for the expiration of the franchise next September, Mayor Church remarked that he would have nothing to say on the question until after the holiday season. Nothing could be done, anyway, until after the inauguration of the new board and council.


ALEXANDRA — MAT. WED.
IRENE
Next Week --- Seats Thurs.
Mgmt. A.E.L. Presents CHARLES CHERRY & JUNE WALKER in SCANDAL

PRINCESS | Tonight 80.3
John Drinkwater's ABRAHAM LINCOLN With Frank McGlynn
MATINEE TOMORROW
NEXT WEEK — SEATS THURS. It's Something New, Novel, Different A Genuine Roof Show First To Come To Toronto
"Century Midnight Whirl"
Star cast includes Richard Carle, Blanche Ring, Charles Winninger, Jay Gould, Winona Winter and Million-aires' Chorus. Evgs., $2.50-50c. Mats. Wed., $1.50-50c. Sat., $2.00-50c.

GRAND | OPERA HOUSE | MATINEES WED. & SAT
Evgs., 25c to $1.50. Mats., 25c, 50c, 75c
THE BEST OF ALL RURAL PLAYS
WAY DOWN EAST
DELIGHTFUL AND REFRESHING
NEXT WEEK
Colossal Revival of
"THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE"

THURSDAY
TETRAZZINI
Assisted by
Francesco Longo - - - Pianist
Max Gegna - - - - - 'Cellist
J. Henri Bove - - - - - Flutist
Seats On Sale at Massey Hall.

MASSEY HALL TUES., JAN. 11
THE MASTER
YSAYE
THE BELGIAN VIOLINIST
Res., $1.00, $1.50. Bal., Front, $2.00.
SEATS NOW ON SALE.

LOEW'S
THIS WEEK | YONGE ST. THEATRE WINTER GARDEN | THIS WEEK
MAY ALLISON
In "ARE ALL MEN ALIKE?"
"A TELEPHONE TANGLE"
With JOE BENNETT and Big Cast. The Skating Macks, Harvey and Dell, Clifton and Kramer, Harry Lee, Siegel and Irving, Mutt and Jeff, Loew's News Weekly.
LOEW'S UPTOWN
Monday—Tuesday—Wednesday
"TO PLEASE ONE WOMAN"
With a Cast of Stars
VAUDEVILLE

SHEA'S VICTORIA ST.
HOMER B. MASON and MARGUERITE KEELER
Wyatt's Scotch Lads and Lassies; Lou & Jean Archer—Dolly Kay; Charles Leonard Fletcher; De Page and Yorkov Sisters; Lorimer Hudson & Co.; Evans and Perez; Shea's News Revue.
SHEA'S HIPPODROME TERAULEY ST.
WILLIAM FARNUM
In "THE SCUTTLERS"
Shown at 1.20, 4.15, 7.45 p.m.
The Mardi Gras Maids; Conley and Francis; Master Gabriel & Co.; Payton and Ward; Elaine Sisters and Hurd; Marvellous Merediths; Hippodrome News Revue.

WILL LEVINGTON COMFORT
FAMOUS WAR CORRESPONDENT AND NOVELIST
Will Give Two Free Lectures in
Canadian Foresters' Hall
Friday and Saturday Next
JANUARY 7 AND 8
Mr. Comfort is an adept in his stories of the Yellow East and the Scarlet West, the Purple South and the Flaming North. His lectures will be on
Narratives From the Mystic Road
EACH EVENING AT 8.15.

'DEAD MEN TELL NO TALES'
Strand
A fascinating adventure story with many thrills. A spectacular production that will keep Toronto talking for many moons.

PANTAGES VAUDEVILLE
Now Playing.
ROSCOE (FATTY) ARBUCKLE
(ALGERNON LEARY)
—in—
"The Life of the Party"
Gautier's Toy Shop; Fred and Katherine Webber; "The Ragged Edge"; Coakley and Dunlevy; Faber and McGowan; Mizuma Japs.
NEXT WEEK.
Zane Grey's greatest story
"RIDERS OF THE DAWN"

STAR
BROADWAY BELLES
WITH
EDDIE COLE
THAT FUNNY LITTLE COMEDIAN

GAYETY
LADIES' MAT. DAILY
DAVE MARION'S OWN SHOW

COMING NEXT WEEK
THE SCREEN MIRACLE
OTIS SKINNER
IN
"KISMET"
Mr. Skinner's screen debut in the most tremendous production the history of motion pictures has ever recorded. The Arabian Nights come to life in all their mystery, romance and whimsical humor.
NEXT WEEK
The Regent

*A good quarrel, now and then, is said to clear the atmosphere of the home. Certainly an "understanding" between husband and wife is better than cold indifference. A fact powerfully portrayed in this heart-stirring picture.*

The Regent
NOW PLAYING
NO ONE--MARRIED OR SINGLE--SHOULD MISS
"THE FURNACE"
By "PAN"

*Anthony Bond's bride must be above reproach. How difficult this was, you will understand when you have seen "The Furnace," for Folly Bond was beautiful, admired, unconventional--and not in love with her husband. Yet, love won its triumph.*

MARJORIE PRINGLE "Gypsy Love Songs" FAMOUS
THE REGENETTE The Window of the World REGENT
FAMOUS "ROSE" NUMBER Regent House Staff ORCHESTRA