

BILLS

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and Winter Garden actor comedian, Lou Perlmutter, come "Prodigal Father," es, and his dialogue His new piece is udeville. Another a feature of several oductions in vaude- in musical comedy, angling girls. They her feature act will ayet, "At the Bar- Irish-cook, and mix ship of an Irish lass, er acts will include artists in vaudeville. Joseph and Jessie n in her latest film a most absorbing

is told at the Hip- star, Emmy Whelen, l of the Shadow," he, dealing with the gles against high- a sextette of well- vaudeville, will head- Irish and Scotch est, better known as surpassed in vaude- ories, which he tells lies on popular song comedienne, Emma he calls musical have all the season's The Hong Kong re truly astounding. e United States they eazed the critics with and Booste, in "The eplete a bright, well-

ure" to the Star The- popular theatre. It means more than ht particular revela- his way to the very characterization. His "Stardom," actually wn to the Star to see appearance of Char- eptainer in burlesque- performer, one- to stic ability, which is nora.

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NSTEIN'S EDITION LIES OF SURE REATEST ON OF EAUTIES

BURLESQUE EEN 100 ts Now

THEATRE OUTLOOK BETTER THAN EVER

On Verge of New Season All Signs Point to Banner Year.

MANY NEW HOUSES

Innumerable Number of New Playhouses Have Been Opened.

BY BRETT PAGE.

New York, August 4.—On the verge of the new season the theatrical outlook is better than it has been for many a month. Indeed, it is even better than at the beginning of any other season, save the last two, during the past decade.

To many a manager who has shaken off the lethargy that followed the days of perplexity incident to the announcement of our entrance into the world war, the coming season will bring greater activity than ever before. The phenomenal theatrical prosperity of last season may not be duplicated, but the show business as a whole is doing everything in its power to outstrip even these remarkable records.

Consider the Selwyns, for instance. Selwyn & Co. are said to have signed leases for the two new theatres building on Forty-second street, and they have, besides, the lease of the Harris Theatre on the same famous street. Another theatre for the Selwyns is said to be projected on site recently acquired at Forty-ninth street and Broadway. It is planned to seat 800 persons.

To list the new theatres now being built and projected in this city of seem- ingly innumerable playhouses would be but a repetition of the plans mentioned in this column from time to time during the past year; but one sentence will con- tain the gist of a somewhat surprising fact—the first year of the new season will witness the opening of at least as many new theatres as any recent year has known.

To fill these new theatres and to main- tain the prestige of the city of seem- ingly innumerable playhouses, there are, there are now in rehearsal or planned a larger number of theatrical entertainments, having greater diversity of appeal even than last year.

Mrs. Fiske is to have her next season under the direction of Klaw & Erlanger and George C. Tyler, for the past two seasons Mrs. Fiske has been appearing in "Dr. Williams' Pink Pills," the comedy that brought the then new and now well-known firm of Dr. Williams and Kler.

"The Belle" is the title of Mrs. Fiske's new comedy, written for her by Cath- erine Chisholm Cunningham, author of "Jerry" and "Polyanna." It is to be produced in September, and about October Mrs. Fiske will play for a time out of town, coming into New York in November.

One of the to-be-expected results of the war is the shortage of stock man- agers in the city. This has been the case since some of the old, stirring, heart- gripping war plays of fond memory, "Shenandoah," "The Heart of Mary," and "Secret Service," "The Girl I Left Behind Me," do you remember? Do you still thrill with old-time memories at their names and the reminiscence of the pleasure they gave you? It is this feeling, added to the fact that war is bringing into many a home in this country the same sense of war, that some stock managers are bettering will cause a wave of property to follow the production of such vaude- vilties. Then, too, you know they point to the popularity of war songs—come as old as old-time grandfathers—as additional reasons for confidence in the plan.

Madison Core and Harrison Grey Fiske have joined forces for the production of at least one new play, "Serv- it." The title of the play is "Serv- it." It is the work of Henri Lavedan and is said to deal with the same theme— the theme of patriotism and peace, and reports say, had a tremendous vogue in Paris last season.

"As 'Serv- it' is in two acts a curtain- raiser is needed to bring the offering to full-evening entertainment length. For this purpose Corey and Fiske are lucky to be able to offer the often-mentioned "A Night at the Inn," by Lord Dunsany.

The first Morocco play of the New York season is said to be "Lombardi, Ltd.," now playing in Los Angeles. This offering is to open the Morocco Theatre here about Labor Day.

The Manhattan Opera House is to have "The Wanderers" as its opening offering, with practically the same cast that made it so successful last season. The date of the opening is set for the second debut.

On 18, "Chu Chu Chow," the oriental fantasy, which has been a success at the Elks Theatre in London for some time, is to be produced, to follow "The Wanderers." While it is believed that some of the original English actors will come to this country to play their parts, here opinion is evenly divided as to whether or not the British authorities will grant the necessary permissions.

For, be it known, the British Govern- ment is daily becoming more strict in its export permissions to its actor subjects. The New York Hippodrome is said to be selecting a new act to take the place of one refused traveling permission when it endeavored to sail for this country. There are reports current along Broadway that several English actresses, more or less famous, have been compelled to cancel contracts on this side of the water be- cause their government refused them per- mission to sail for this country. And the efforts of more than one English actor to obtain permission to sail the seas for this pleasant haven have met with failure.



June Caprice in "Patsy," a tale of thrills and adventure at Loew's this week.

RUBE BERNSTEIN'S BIG SHOW AT STAR

"Follies of Pleasure" Opening Attraction, Two-Act Musical Extravaganza.

The much discussed burlesque show Rube Bernstein's all-star burlesque troupe, the "Follies of Pleasure," comes to the Star Theatre commencing Saturday matinee August 4 and entire week of August 6.

This season Manager Bernstein offers a two-act musical extravaganza called "The Girl From Broadway," which is said to be entirely different from anything heretofore offered by shows of this kind. Clyde J. Bates, the well-known comedian and play- wright has exceeded his best efforts in "The Girl From Broadway," and even if it did not contain more than thirty sweet-voiced chorus girls, the plot is so interesting that it would not fail to hold the attention of the audience from start to finish.

Among the members of the cast who are favorably known throughout the country are Clyde J. Bates, Tom Mc- Kenna, George Suter, Billy Shuler, Charlotte Worth, Violet Hilson, Mae Mills and the famous California Beauty Chorus.

Rube Bernstein is about the most prominent exponent of up-to-date burlesque in the country today. The trouble with so many burlesque man- agers is that they depend too much on the bits that "used to go big" with the audiences. They are too deep in the rut of self content to see that the public want something new.

Rube Bernstein represents the young- er element. He is alive to the neces- sity of new stuff every year. He knows a lot of stuff that went big years ago and it goes big yet with the younger men. But it drives the "Old Codgers" away because they know it by heart. Wake up. Give the people something new. Keep an eye on Rube Bernstein, and the "Follies of Pleasure." They have some- thing new every time they come around to the Star. And it sure is "some bunch" of comers Rube has in the chorus. The Star reopened Sat- urday matinee, August 4.

A particularly appropriate title during these days of national stress is "Mr. Without a Country," you may remember Edward Everett Hale's story—and that novel is to form the foundation for a play soon to be produced by a new theatrical company, called the Producers' Holding Corporation. The question that natu- rally arises is whether or not this remarkable story can be done full justice in dramatic form.

"WEB OF DESIRE" AT THE REGENT

Fascinating Picture Drama Booked for Popular Playhouse.

DEEP INTEREST STORY

Ethel Clayton, Supported by Rockliffe Fellowes, Has Strong Part.

Grace was tricked in handing over to Mordant her interests in the Western Power and Development, and only realized it when, eager to ascertain Mordant's intentions, she overheard a conversation between her and Mordant. Mordant was the man who wanted to gain control in the big development company of which Grace's husband was president, and who, with the shares held by her, had the upper hand. Mordant had agreed to secure this for her for a consideration of \$500,000, and in his attempt to do so he almost broke up a happy home.

In presenting this story of entangle- ment and domestic misunderstanding, the Regent Theatre management is this week giving to its many patrons one of the most fascinating pictures of the season. "It is entitled, "The Web of Desire," and is the vehicle in which Ethel Clayton stars to perfec- tion. She is ably supported by Rockliffe Fellowes, who is "President John Miller," and that charming Ju- niole, Madge Evans.

It was after locating in New York, following the announcement that the water rights franchise was valid that Grace felt she was being neglected. The gap soon widened due to her husband's continued absence caused by his fight for success. Misunder- standing, added to misunderstanding, with the result that Grace seeks new companions. She finds friends in an ultra-Bohemian set known against her husband's wishes—and here Mordant enters the scene of things. He plays upon her loneliness and finally persuades her to leave her home and accompany him.

He places her in embarrassing posi- tions and goes to it that her husband finds it out. Thus does he heap coals upon the burning fire of discontent. With only seconds at his disposal, Mordant makes his exit from the couple's home, escaping via the bal- cony. Again he has compromised Grace, and altho the husband insists, he is unable to discover who the in- truder is.

In her despair, after learning that Stuart Mordant is an enemy and not a friend, Grace makes her way to the directors' meeting, grabs the stolen documents, tears them into shreds, and pointing to him, exclaims to her husband, "There is the man you wish- ed me to name."

It is a tense story, full of dramatic incidents, full of red hot blood inter- est, told as only Ethel Clayton and her renowned companions can. Yes, Mordant excludes himself from the lives entirely, and before doing so com- pletely exonerates Grace of all wrong. The franchise decision made them mil- lionaires, and the picture closes with the little family circle restored to hap- piness once more, their tangled desti- nies unraveled and the sun of content- ment coming slowly but surely over the distant horizon.

To round out the program a happy Sidney Drew comedy will be shown, the Regent News Weekly—picture newspaper summary of Canadian and foreign news events—coupled with the Regent Symphony Orchestra, conceded to be one of the finest on the continent.

The two playwrighting James-Jane Cowl and Jane, Murrin are busy at work on their new play, "Daybreak," which recently secured its initial per- formance out of town, and is scheduled to reach Broadway the second of Sep- tember.



Charlotte Worth, with Rube Bern- stein's new "Follies of Pleasure" at the Star.

JUNE CAPRICE AS "PATSY" NEXT WEEK

This Presentation is Said to Be the Best of the Season.

June Caprice, who rose from an un- known schoolgirl to film stardom in a year, comes to Loew's Yonge Street Theatre and Winter Garden this week in an exclusive first presentation of "Patsy," the photodrama sensation of the season. It is a tale of thrills and adventure. Patricia Primmel, better known as Patsy Prim (June Caprice), the born in the city, is brought up in the west, where her father has gone for his health. As she grows older her father becomes concerned over her untamed nature, and determines to send her to a friend in New York for education and contact with refinement. The friend had died some time be- fore, and Patsy is received by his son, Dick Hewitt. Dick becomes infatuated with Patsy, and would marry her if it were not that he had wedded Helene Arnold, adventuress, in a not sober moment. Ignorant of this fact, Patsy sets out to win the love of Dick. Invited to a party at the home of Dick's sister, they arrive very late because of a breakdown of their machine. Dick is upbraided for compromising the girl, and told that he must marry her. To make things more uncomfortable his wife is at the party as an entertainer. She threatens to expose Dick if he does not pay her \$100,000.

Patsy hears several girls at the house gossiping about her and Dick, and flees. Just as Helene, Dick's wife, is about to reveal her first marriage to Dick, the butler, her former husband, appears. Subsequently Dick sets out to find Patsy, and shortly returns with her. As Helene's marriage with the butler annals Dick's wedding, he sees his way clear to make Patsy his bride. They enter the drawing-room together and make the announcement to the guests; they telephone for a minister, and change the house party into a wedding, and all ends happily.

PREVENT SCREEN GLARE.

Inventors of all sorts of things per- taining to motion pictures find their way to Universal City to demonstrate their ideas. One which quite impres- sed the technical staff of the picture capital was a new screen which is said to hold all light, yet prevent glare. The screen will also show a much finer tone of photography than the ordinary ones, and its inventor, C. G. Benson, of Sacramento, also claims that it will prevent distortion of pictures from any angle.

"CASTE" WILL LEAD STRAND PROGRAM

World-Famous Play by T. W. Robinson Starts on Monday.

STORY WITH A LESSON

Scion of High Degree Marries Dancing Girl, Breaking Conventions.

"Kind Hearts are more than coronets, And simple faith than Norman blood."

That is the lesson—that the moral— of "Caste," the world-famous play by T. W. Robinson, which will be seen in screen form, and with Peggy Hyland and Sir John Hare in the two principal parts, at the Strand Theatre on Monday and Tuesday. "Caste" is, indeed, a world classic. As a legitimate stage attraction it is known through the English-speaking world as one of its standard dramas, and has been suc- cessfully revised from time to time, not only in England but also on this con- tinent. The story of "Caste" is the story of a great love that had the great grace to see beyond the vaults of ancient ancestry and the boasts of noble blood. The young scion of high degree who marries a dancing girl of common origin, was strong enough to tear down the bars that convention— that creature of a complex civilization— has set betwixt rich and poor, be- twixt the haughty and the humble.

Playing the role of the English dan- cing girl, Peggy Hyland achieves a real- izable success in character study. Sir John Hare, the eminent English actor, reproduces on the screen his former part on the legitimate stage—that of the reprobate father-of the dancing girl.

In the Greater Vitaphone Blue Rib- bon Feature, "The Stolen Treaty," which will headline the bill on Wed- nesday and Thursday next, Earle Wil- liams has a photoplay and a part which show off his genius to greater advan- tage than any other in which he has appeared. The story of the play deals with the disappearance of a secret treaty made between the United States and another country. This treaty was one of so great importance that pub- lication of its contents would entail the most serious consequences.

For obvious reasons, stories of lost diplomatic papers rarely reach the public. But the constant danger to which the United States has been ex- posed, especially since the beginning of the war, has been referred to by Pres- ident Wilson before now.

Does it pay to tell the truth? Is a lie ever permissible? Such are the questions asked and answered in "The Beautiful Lie," the fine Metro Pro- duction, starring Frances Nelson, which will be presented at the Strand The- atre on Friday and Saturday next. Lov- ers of Ella Wheeler Wilcox will be de- lighted to hear that this photoplay is an adaptation of one of the most powerful dramatic poems that have ever proceeded from that gifted pen, known as "A reverie in a station house."

Caught in a strong undertow and carried out into the ocean beyond their depth, Marcia Moore and Molly Ma- lone, who play ingenue leads in Uni- versal photoplays, narrowly escaped drowning one Sunday recently at Long Beach, California.

The girls, neither of whom could swim, were being carried to sea when they managed to seize one of the life- boats after a desperate struggle and held themselves on the surface until lifeguards came to their rescue.

They were able to proceed to their homes after being given first-aid at the lifesaving station.



Ethel Clayton in "The Web of De- sire," a strikingly original photo- play at the Regent this week.

EXCELLENT MUSIC AT THE STRAND THEATRE

Orchestra, Under New Leader- ship, Presents First-Grade Music.

The Strand Theatre has always made a special feature of the musical side of its entertainment. And this side is being more than ever emphasized at the present time. Mr. Ernest Knaggs, the new musical director, is a musician whose qualities as a leader and a so- list, are evoking widespread approval among the patrons of the Strand. It is fairly safe to say that aside from the high-class photoplays featured, the music at the Strand, under Mr. Knaggs' direction, well repays a visit.

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