

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 1917

WHAT'S NEW AT THE MOVIES

COMEDY STOCK AND PICTURES
New Programme, 2.30; 7.15; Big and Bright 8.45
TONIGHT and FRIDAY
"A DAY IN COURT"
Fun Galore. See Dick Baird as the Judge. You'll Laugh All Right. Merry Time With
The Gem's Own Comedy Co.
KITTY GORDON
IN
"THE CRUCIAL TEST"
Noted Actress in Thrilling Five Reel World Brady-made Drama of Russian Revolutionism
We Change Programme Entirely Wed. and Sat., 2.30
Super Fox Picture Saturday
Theda Bara in "THE DARLING OF PARIS" a deluxe Fox production of unrivalled characteristics. Big, but prices the same.
GEM THEATRE - Waterloo St.

FUN GALORE IN COURT AT GEM; ALSO THROBING PICTURE
Comedy Company in Rich Fun Maker—Kitty Gordon Starred in Great Photoplay
The Gem's Own Comedy Company won new honors, held old friends and made new ones last night by their sprightly specialties and general fun making in "A Day in Court." That's the name of the new playlet. It was written to make audiences laugh and, like its forerunners, has admirably accomplished its mission. All the members of the clever little company take part and they let few minutes pass without each bringing its own jollity. Dick Baird plays the judge, Hugh Conley, the troublous clerk of the court, and Harry McHenry shows new ability in a negro character. The ladies of the company introduce bright specialties. What Judge Baird does in handing out justice, chiefly with the idea of getting some money in fines, is the height of fun. The audiences keenly enjoyed the efforts of all to entertain them and everybody had a good time.
In the picture line the Gem offered a particularly powerful play of Russian revolutionism, "The Crucial Test," starring Kitty Gordon. It is a vivid story of Russian nihilism with its great risks, its fascinating though dangerous and perilous revolutionary plots of assassination against ruling powers, in which this international star, directed by Robert T. Thornby, with a superb cast, has accomplished a photoplay success of wonderful interest, by far one of the best productions seen in St. John recently.
After having conquered the British stage, Kitty Gordon crossed to the United States on an extended pleasure trip. Theatrical impresarios trailed her for weeks, besieging her with offers to play in American musical comedies, to which she succumbed after having refused many tempting engagements. The result was that she had theatre-goers at her feet for years, and became the idol of the light comedy stage. She was induced by William A. Brady to appear in motion pictures.
In this superb photoplay Miss Gordon is surrounded by a very clever cast. She acts with great power, wears some superb gowns and dominates the picture by the quality of her art. It is one of the Gem's big offerings, which are gaining such a name. This programme will be given until and including Friday night, with an entire change with something very big for Saturday afternoon.

The LYRIC is The PLACE



AND TODAY IS THE DAY
The attraction is the beginning of one of the greatest continued photo novels ever produced by Pathe.
"THE MYSTERY OF THE DOUBLE CROSS"

It contains more genuine merit, real suspense and interest than the best serial production.
SEE THE FIRST CHAPTER TODAY-- SURE

SPECIAL!
For The Boys and Girls Attending the
MATINEE SATURDAY
FREE-- Souvenir Buttons of "THE DOUBLE CROSS"

HOW WILL IT END?
The Concluding Episode of Pathe's Mystery Military Serial,

"PEARL OF THE ARMY"
THE MUTUAL WEEKLY
Comedy Acrobatic Antics
The BERNE BROS.

CLEAN, wholesome, thrilling, fascinating, with the interest sustained until the very end, is "Mystery of the Double Cross". It is an adaptation of an original story written by Gilson Willets. Pathe has made of it a motion picture serial feature superior to any they have heretofore presented. Each episode adds to the baffling mystery which, at times, seems so profound as to be unsolvable. But it is solved finally and happily, too.

The leading role is portrayed by Mollie King, youngest and most beautiful of serial stars, who is supported by Leon Bary and an admirable cast.

"Mystery of the Double Cross" is different, better, more absorbing than any serial you have ever seen.

REMEMBER The First Chapters of "THE MYSTERY OF THE DOUBLE CROSS" The Last Chapter of "PEARL OF THE ARMY"

BILL HART CAPTURES THE TOWN!
IMPERIAL THEATRE INTRODUCES ANOTHER SURE WINNER
"THE SQUARE DEAL MAN"
HAS COME, HE HAS BEEN SEEN AND HE HAS CONQUERED. The good bad man of the desert, Big Bill Hart, made bow to Imperial patrons yesterday and was a "clean-up." Tough, honest cowboy of the serious type; loves kiddies and protects the old folks. He stirred art-strings from the moment he stepped a tear away when the cowboy tot held out her hands to him. A great story, full of humanity with a capital H and the credibility of a 44-calibre gun. It today, it puts a new punch in moving pictures.
Loudly Applauded at Every Show
A Keystone Carnival of Hilarity "Stars and Bars"
WORLD TOUR: — (1) Castles in France. (2) Barbados, West Indies
EXTRA TODAY—Views of St. John in Ruins 40 Years Ago This Date



Flanagan Gives Advice To U. S. Army Officials
Visits Washington With Former Commander of Sportsmen's Battalion and Explains System of Army Athletics
Washington, D. C., June 18—Canada's athletic training system will be adopted in its entirety by the United States government. This was decided yesterday, when Lieut. Col. "Dick" Greer and Captain Tom Flanagan, of the Sportsmen's Battalion of Toronto, on invitation, came here in response to an invitation and conferred with Commissioner Fouldick, in charge of training camps.
"We know all about you and your work," said Commissioner Fouldick, as he grasped the hands of the Canadian visitors. "We have been studying the results of your athletic organization in Canada. We are so impressed with the magnificent results that we have already begun work of similar lines, and we will be very glad to have any assistance you can give us. The government has set aside one million dollars for the encouragement of sport in the army."
The commissioner has already begun to organize for the athletic and military training. College coaches and other handlers of athletic men will be used by the government in putting the Canadian camp training system into operation.
Col. Greer, comparing the fighting qualities of the warring nations, said: "The German soldier has no sport, he is a machine; he is rigidly in his place. He can't understand the ideal that fighting is sport to the British. That long line of men charging, laughing and kicking a football along against terrible odds. That is why you read of fifteen hundred or two or three thousand men surrendering in a body, with hardly any resistance. The English and Canadians never surrender like that. They fight while they have a cartridge left or a leg to stand on. It isn't in the game to quit. It's against every principle of sport."
"Why, at the capture of Vimy Ridge the fight was hardly over when the Canadians were clearing ground for a ball field, and forty hours later they were playing the final game in the battalion baseball championship series right on the ground the Germans had occupied. That's the sporting end of it."

OPERA HOUSE
EVERYBODY LIKES THE SHOW THIS WEEK
TONIGHT AT 7.30 and 9
Every Afternoon at 2.30
ALL NEW PROGRAMME
THE VALDARES 4 Sensational Cyclists
BERT and VERA MORRISSY
PAUL BRADY
CAPLANE and WELLS
McCLOUD and CARP
CHAPTER 3
"The Voice On The Wire"

TODAY UNIQUE TODAY
It Pay to Become a "Cave Man" When Cupid Wills Another Course?
Fifth of Our Black Cat Screen Gems
"THE LIGHTED LAMP"
Anna Mae Walthall, Edward old and Arthur Koeppe, Porting Leading Characters in An usual Episode.
Pathe Art-Colored Scenics
"By The Zuyder Zee"
Along the Eschutes' River—Views in and Around Holland
Neal Burns
In Christie Good Cheer Farce.
"Father Was Right"

SATURDAY MATINEE
Men's Day—A Right Merry Programme for the Little Ones
Twelfth Chapter of the Serial "PATRIA"
DO-NOTHING GOVERNMENT
Montreal Financial Times) ng other signs of life with which expiring straightline Conserva- government is brightening its close- rs is a bill for the enactment of dominion-wide daylight-saving. It is a good bill and would have been a year ago, at which time it was just obvious as it is now that a dominion-wide application was the only way of doing the thing properly. But a year ago the chief object of the dominion government

MRS. SOL SMITH, ACTRESS, DIES AT 87
"Grand Old Lady of American Stage" Passes Away in Her Sleep at Home
Mrs. Mary Sedley Smith, known as Mrs. Sol Smith, believed to be America's oldest actress, and one who had played a part in the life of the theatre through three generations, died peacefully in her sleep last week at her home, 89 Claremont avenue, New York. She was eighty-seven years old, and had appeared in public as recently as "the grand old lady of the American stage." The last of the famous old actresses before her was Mrs. G. H. Gilbert, who was eighty-

three when she died in Chicago on Dec. 2, 1894, while acting in Clyde Fitch's "Gypsy." After Mrs. Gilbert the next of the veterans was Mrs. Sol Smith. Mrs. Smith was born in Boston, a daughter of William Henry Sedley Smith, himself for many years identified with the early history of the theatre in this country. She was twenty years old when she made her first appearance as a member of a company in the popular play, "The Child of the Regiment," done into an opera by Denzetti, that still holds the boards today. Mrs. Smith played in support of all the old-time stars. As the Nurse in Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet," a character long in her repertory, she was seen in the company that acted the play with E. H. Sothern and Julia Marlowe. Her last appearance in a regular production was with a company at the New

Theatre, now the Century, which gave a spring season several years back in the play of "Beethoven," based on the life of the composer. She re-appeared, however, in her old role of Nurse in "Romeo and Juliet" at the all-star testimonial for William Winter, and she was again seen at the Baltimore in April of last year, when she was eighty-six years old, in a performance for the Professional Women's League, of which one of her daughters was secretary.
The widow of Sol Smith, who also was a famous actor and a cousin of Sol Smith Russell, Mrs. Smith had a wide acquaintance with people of the stage. Her birthday was an event that was remembered by stars of the present day all over the country, who each year sent her hundreds of letters and telegrams of congratulation. Among her friends she counted Daniel Frohman, William Gil-

lette, Sothern and Marlowe, and others as well known.
Mrs. Smith was one of the oldest members in the organization of the Actors' Fund of America, as well as one of the most active in the Professional Women's League, of which she was a vice-president. She was also an honorary member of the California Society. She is survived by two sons, Sedley Brown, a stage director, and Edward Brown, associated with a western motion picture concern, and by two daughters, Miss Alice Brown, secretary of the Professional Women's League, and Mrs. Elmer Smith Redding.
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