

## MIMIC WORLD

BY H. M. BALL

### "THE SHRAPNEL DODGERS."

Four returned Canadians who for the past few months have been stationed at the Spadina Military Hospital, have just completed a successful week's engagements at the Orpheum Theatre, one of Detroit's biggest vaudeville houses, where they were billed at the head of a first-class vaudeville program.

"The Shrapnel Dodgers," as they are now well-known in Toronto, first discovered their talent in a little, old dugout back of the Flanders trenches, two years ago. At that time the Dodgers—Sergeant A. E. Blake, Sergeant-Major John Parker, Sergeant

John Cook and Staff-Sergeant Arthur Sutherland—had successfully dodged all the various brands of Hun missiles and on one particular occasion were called upon to entertain a number of their chums in the battalion. Since then the four boys have been wounded and invalided back to Canada where with the same songs and stories and the same crude instrument fashioned behind the firing line from a biscuit tin, a splinter from an ammunition case, and a string from a shell-wrecked piano, they have aroused the enthusiasm of many local audiences. That the "Dodgers" are winning success on merit is evidenced in the enthusiastic comment of the Detroit press where the presence of the Canadian war veterans aroused great interest during the past week. The "Shrapnel Dodgers" are to appear in Chicago this week and are already besieged with offers from the vaudeville managers in other prominent American cities.

## THE HUNS APPLAUD AN ENGLISH ACTOR

During Visit to Toronto Late Sir Herbert Tree Recalled Visit to Berlin.

### THE KAISER'S FATE

Shakespeare, 'Once Popular in Germany, Now a Medium of Warning.

When the late Sir Herbert Tree played his first and last engagement in Toronto at the Grand Opera House he was keenly interested in the war news and during the progress of the performances would send out to James W. Cowan, the manager of the house, a note asking to be kept informed of any developments in the western field of battle. One evening after the performance of Henry VIII, in conversation with Mr. Cowan, the lovable old actor said: "Your audiences are marvelous—more like the Dublin audiences than any other I have played to. Berlin audiences are a bit like them—at least the Shakespearean audiences—for they know their Shakespeare. You can tell that as you play. I shall never forget my farewell to Berlin. I was playing Falstaff in 'The Merry Wives of Windsor' and after the performance they called on me for a speech. I spoke and then went around to the crown prince's box to pay my respects. I stood talking with him in the box and for 20 minutes by the clock the audience remained applauding. At last the crown prince said: 'You must address them again, Sir Herbert, so I stepped to the front of the box and spoke to them. There stood the audience with the backs to the stage and I facing the stage, speaking to them. Wasn't that an odd situation? One night we played 'Richard II' and when I came to the speech about the death of kings my imagination ran away with me, and I addressed the speech to the Kaiser in the royal box. After the performance the Kaiser came to see me. He was very kind, very polite, very friendly, very English. 'Shakespeare was a great figure,' he said vigorously, 'a dramatic figure.'

"He was great because he was dramatic," I replied, "and dramatic because he was great. All the great events are dramatic because they are great and they are great because they are dramatic. And I might say the same about the individuals." The Kaiser laughed.

"That was seven years ago and even then the anti-English feeling was strong. The opening night the stage hands struck and we had to handle things back of the stage ourselves. It was like that all thru our engagement, but I kept it from the newspapers, and not until we were ready to leave did I tell our audience so that he might know the truth if the story leaked out later."

"The death of kings," mused Sir Herbert, grown suddenly serious. "At the end of this war we may well say 'the death of kings.' Then indeed will come the drama; then will there be great drama."

"Great drama on the stage, too?" asked Mr. Cowan.

"He was thoughtful a moment, and his blue eyes, kindly, intelligent blue eyes that kill with looks, in many a performance, the by nature they were made to smile, faded into the inscrutable future. And then, baffled, said: 'Will there be a debauch of opera



ANNETTE KELLERMANN  
GREATEST WOMAN  
SWIMMER AND STAR  
OF WILLIAM FOX  
\$1,000,000 PICTURE

Appearing at the Grand Opera House during "Fair" weeks, beginning Saturday, August 25.

bouffe or a golden era of mighty drama? Who can say what the reaction from this greatest of all dramas will be?"

### "THE BIRD OF PARADISE"

Makes Annual Visit  
Oliver Morosco's Wonderful Hawaiian Play Opens Regular Season at the Alexandra.

When "The Bird of Paradise" became an assured success Mr. Morosco was besieged with requests from all over the country asking that the company be sent there to play an engagement. So numerous were these requests that Richard Walton Tully, the author, requested Mr. Morosco to organize a number 2 and number 3 company. Mr. Morosco refused.

"Why not?" asked Mr. Tully. "The people want it, and we can clean up. Others are doing it."

"That's just it," replied Mr. Morosco, "other producing managers have sent out as many as half a dozen companies of a successful play, but the property was thru in a season or two. We can keep 'The Bird' going for years with only one company."

It is now admitted that Mr. Morosco was right. "The Bird of Paradise" gives promise of lasting for many years to come. It is the one lasting success. "The Bird of Paradise" will open the regular season at the Alexandra week commencing Monday, August 27. Matinee Wednesday and Saturday. Seats on sale Thursday.

## MISS KELLERMANN THE MODERN VENUS

Coming to the Grand Opera House on Saturday, August 25.

### "DAUGHTER OF THE GODS"

Famous Picture to Be Presented for First Time at a Scale of Popular Prices.

There will be shown at the Grand Opera House, commencing Saturday, August 25, the picture on which William Fox expended a million dollars in his determination to "metamorphose" the motion picture "industry" into that aesthetic term spelled with a capital "A" and called "Art." In a story which appeals both to the juvenile and adult mind—the Greek scholar, the archaeologist, the sculptor, the painter, the teacher, the musician, the debaucher, the child, the play in motion is a swift and dazzling spectacle in which climax succeeds climax and thrill exceeds thrill, until, at its close, the spectator feels that he has at last witnessed the ultimate in photographic art. For who can improve on perfection?

To put wings on the sumptuous production, which for beauty of ensemble and richness of detail will probably never be equaled, Mr. Fox chose for his central figure, or star, the lovely woman whose classic figure has come to stand for the ideal of perfect womanhood. Annette Kellermann is the jeweled "hub" around which the iridescent spokes of six of the tremendous episodes of "A Daughter of the Gods" are ranged. The play in motion is a swift and dazzling spectacle in which climax succeeds climax and thrill exceeds thrill, until, at its close, the spectator feels that he has at last witnessed the ultimate in photographic art. For who can improve on perfection?

The play embraces every appeal to the tender and imaginative side of the human soul. Oh! lovers will see those fascinating babies, Katherine and Jane Lee, in the prettiest acting they have yet accomplished. For those who are critics of feminine charm, a school of mermaids takes first place, and in the Sultan's harem such hours flourish as furnish dreams of the Mohammedan's heaven.

For those who worship the divine in nature are landscapes and water vistas of superlative beauty, and in and thru all that animated marble statue whom we call Annette Kellermann. Picturesque, battles of the fiercest order will satisfy those who want their conflicts waged on a stupendous scale. It is, altogether, an offering which could well be laid on the altar of art.

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## THIS WEEK'S PLAY BILLS

### ALEXANDRA

THE last production to be given by Edward H. Robins and his Robins Players at the Alexandra for the summer season of 1917, will be given this week, when this versatile company of local favorites will present Elsie Ferguson's greatest society comedy, "Shirley Kaye." This play when it was presented at the Hudson Theatre, New York, scored one of the heaviest hits ever made by an entertainment of this type. The story just naturally lends itself to comedy, comedy of the highest order, and the authoress has made the most of the opportunity afforded, so that there is a blending of the pathetic with a roar of laughter.

### GRAND

RECOGNIZING the change that has taken place in the theatrical situation in recent years and the appreciation that has been manifested by the public, generally, in the most artistic of motion pictures—not the morbid and crime exhibitions which have been screened and offered to theatregoers as the latest in action drama—the Grand Opera House has arranged for opening the season with the big feature picture produced by William Fox, with Annette Kellermann in "A Daughter of the Gods." This famous picture will be presented during the two weeks of the Fair, and two performances will be given daily, commencing Saturday, August 25. It will be presented with all the stage effects and a first-class orchestra under the direction of Frank Jennings.

### SHEA'S

ELIZABETH BRICE and Charles King presenting "A Bit of Musical Comedy in a Vaudeville Way," comes to Shea's as the headline attraction of an all-star bill for the re-opening of the popular vaudeville house for the coming season, Monday matinee, August 20. Both artists are well-known here, and in their newest offering present smart songs, pleasing dances and clean, wholesome comedy. They possess that indefinable asset known as personality, which puts them on friendly terms with their audience and which commands attention until the finish of their act. One of Willard Mack's most delightful one-act comedies is that one entitled, "Who Is She?" featuring Joseph B. Bernard. It is a lively little sketch containing plenty of amusing situations and moves rapidly thru the different incidents which are said to be of laugh-compelling character. Browning and Denny are newcomers to Shea's, but this fact will not lessen the appreciation of the audiences. In appearance and manner, Haruko Onuki, a dainty Japanese maid, who will appear in a repertoire of songs, is unquestionably an Oriental. Phina, a clever singing comedienne, surrounded by a cast of capable boys and girls, will sing new songs, dance in pleasing fashion and make merry in a manner that will win for them many friends. Val and Ernie Stanton, "The Droll Daffy Dills," are farcical and travesty comedians. Sull, Rogers and Sully, trampolines experts, have a lot of fun, while the Three Bullwag Girls, in an offering that requires grace, skill and agility, and feature comedy pictures, complete an all-star bill.

### LOEW'S

BY far the best mid-summer vaudeville bill, reinforced with a wonderful photodrama, "The Family Honor," with Robert Warwick and June Elvidge in the principal roles, offered this summer in Toronto, will occupy the boards this week at Loew's Yonge Street Theatre and Winter Garden. Zelaya, the musical find of the concert stage last season, will make his initial appearance in Toronto at the head of the vaudeville program. In point of interest the powerful photodrama, "The Family Honor," is said to be one of the finest screen productions recently released. The feature plunges into the heart of the story at once and maintains the interest thruout. The MacKays, recent arrivals from the London music halls, will entertain with a novelty Scotch singing and dancing act. Other entrancing numbers will embrace Willard Hutchinson and Company in a new farce comedy, "A Leap Year Leap"; Mumford and Thompson, presenting a pleasing playlet, "The Singer and the Stage Manager"; the Three Jennetts, in an artistic acrobatic and posing novelty; Orben and Dixie, and Jinks and Allen. Several comedy film features will round off an exceptionally attractive program.

### HIPPODROME

WILLIAM S. HART, admittedly the best actor who ever portrayed the part of a westerner, will be featured at the Hippodrome this week in the greatest of all Triangle releases, "Wolf Lowry." He will not be seen as a "bad man," "gunman" or "killer," but, in strong contrast to his previous work, he portrays a role that is idyllic in its big-hearted ruggedness, honesty and devotion. His famous six-shooters are drawn only once, and then with chivalrous intent. The feature picture will be shown at 1.55, 4.15 and 8.15 p.m. A feature of the vaudeville bill will be the Aesthetic Dancers, presenting a series of ancient and modern dance creations. Bernice Le Grande and six other beautiful coryphees are featured in a production that is said to be second to no other dancing act in vaudeville. Valentine Vox, Jr., and his capable company offer a novelty known as "The Members of the Black and White." Green, Miller and Green have a variety of feats that contain skill, grace and agility. The Guy Bartlett Trio of singers offer a number of new song successes, together with the best of the older numbers. Margaret Shannon, the Irish colleen, in a dainty singing and dancing offering, will prove very attractive, while Stewart and Oliver offer a merry musical melange, and with new film comedies, complete the bill.

### GAYETY

IN striking merit one will discover the contrast in the "Great Star and Garter Show," the offering commencing a week's engagement at the Gayety Theatre on Monday. This year's vehicle for the W. & W. Amusement Company is a new two-act musical comedy, "For Art's Sake," and "Hingle Dingle," written by Donald Morrison Clark and drawing royalty on the same basis as the big Broadway hits, with special music and all the costly wardrobe and scenic equipment that go with such productions. The management have secured a two-act musical comedy, "For Art's Sake," and "Hingle Dingle," and there are laughs so plentiful that the audience usually welcomes the interruption by the chorus for musical and dance numbers to give an opportunity to rest for the hearty laughs to come. While special attention has been given to the feminine allurements of this organization this is merely a reinforcement to the cast of principals. Heading the list are Bert Rose, bound to make you laugh with his Yiddish drollery, and James Coughlin, who never fails to provide his audience with a laugh a minute when he is in evidence.

### STAR

WHAT promises to be the best attraction that has come to town is some time is underlined for this week at the Star Theatre, where Wainstock's famous aggregation of vaudeville headliners, comedians, vocalists and burlesquers will play an engagement. Known from coast to coast as the strongest organization of its kind on the circuit, the company this season will make a stronger bid for popularity. That it will meet with success is conceded in view of the fact that the entertainment offered is a direct departure from the usual run of shows of its kind. The cast includes such capable dispensers of mirth as Geo. A. Clark, Miss Leona Fox, the Kentucky beauty; Charles Fagan, one of the cleverest dancers in the business; Myrtle Franks, black-face comedienne; Ben Holmes, James Hilbert, Caroline Warner, Louise la Booth and Harry Van.

### WHO THEY ARE.

Writing for a chance with Goldwyn Pictures? Philadelphia High School girl says: "I'm not one of the 50,000 people in the United States who know they outshine Mae Marsh and Mary Pickford. There are the same number whose eyes rival Clara Kimball Young's, whose dimples threaten Lillian Walker's popularity and whose smiles compete with Helene Kennedy's. I can't claim to be in any of those classes. I am simply 'L'."

## THREE N OPEN ON

The Very nounced sented

### IRENE FE

In "Mary's Metropolis Excellen

BY E

New York. A mentary on the coming season character of t tractions to be two rollicking charine comedy. When the shows now ave "bushes," prep invasion, sweet Way in the ne said that the blast—and a word could the these particula

So far, the the Metropolis face by Willa whom little is he was the lit which was p sro. The sp face are G. M. sence Weber, t be remembered old favorite of "The Very L and doesn't be could a farce eugenic avoid modesty?

The story this: a child adopt an infant brother, who is persuades them adoption is all able and the be to select su brother selects the father and the mother. be wed, anyw \$18,000 inducer child resulted two.

It's all very ingly broad—m when the moth her child for a ends happily young wife wh husband as the last act.

Of course it cleverly done, ed "regular" have with shocks. The au and his story o to make the r previsible, fan it has been ac itness that off face built on this may be a first rose to d dian in the t my."

The cast was turing as it d first rose to d dian in the t my." Truec the childless fa ly funny. It to find Richa remembered a "Damaged Goo but there he w ly-obsessed honors with th W. T. Carlet were respecti the maid, bot formances. Unless all s not need to loc this season.

Of "Mary's initial offering not speak so never can tell craftsmanship work, but st requirements that it is fun hasn't the all probabilities. It was writt efforts hereto to vaudeville there you see ing. For it farce"—snapp teeming with The story o doctor who p ing to marry the name of M hope that he relatives some happened—t farce—that a into his offic "elegant to ha tried. Of course t meantime end ordinary farc by the young

George A. Cl dian wh the Star th

17th Week ALEXANDRA AUG. 20th  
FARE- -WELL

THE SEAL OF CLEAN PLAYS

THEATRE ROBINSON'S PLAYERS

AND A DISTINGUISHED COMPANY

MISS VIRGINIA FOX BROOKS

CLEVERLY PRODUCED

PRODUCED BY HULBERT FOOTNER

FIRST TIME ON ANY STAGE IN CANADA  
MISS ELISIE FERGUSON'S

HUDSON THEATRE SUCCESS, A SOCIETY COMEDY DRAMA

# SHIRLEY KAYE

By HULBERT FOOTNER

ENTIRE COMPANY ALL THE FAVORITES  
LAST POPULAR MATINEE WEDNESDAY, 25.  
CURTAINS PROMPTLY AT 8.15 AND 2.15.

'ALOHA NUI' MEANING 'GREETINGS AND LOVE TO YOU'  
IN HAWAIIAN  
LUANA and Her Native Singers and Dancers Will Appear at the Grand Toronto Theatre-Goers at the ALEXANDRA, Week Commencing August 27.  
MATINEES WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY  
IN OLIVER MOROSCO'S SPECTACULAR HAWAIIAN ROMANCE.

# THE BIRD OF PARADISE

# HIPPODROME

Matinees, 10c, 15c Continuous Performance Evenings, 15c, 25c.

WEEK MONDAY, AUGUST 20

"THE COOLEST PLACE IN TOWN--ASK ANYBODY"

HEADLINE ATTRACTION

THE UNDISPUTED PEER OF ALL WESTERN CHARACTER ACTORS

# WILLIAM S. HART

IN AN ENTIRELY NEW "TRIANGLE" CHARACTERIZATION

# "WOLF LOWRY"

AS KING OF THE WILD DESERT COUNTRY HE THROWS FEAR INTO HIS ENEMIES

FEATURE PICTURE SHOWN AT 1.55; 4.15; 8.15 p.m.

# THE AESTHETIC DANCERS | VALENTINE VOX, JR. & CO.

A Series of Ancient and Modern Dance Creations Featuring Bernice LeGrand and Six Other Beautiful Coryphees. Vaudeville's Versatile Ventriloquist in His Latest Production "A MEMBER OF THE BLACK AND WHITE."

# GREEN, MILLER & GREEN | GUY BARTLETT TRIO | STEWART & OLIVE

COMEDY VARIETY OFFERING SOME SINGERS SINGERS AND DANCERS

# MARGARET SHANNON, the Dainty Irish Colleen

# AND THE LATEST RELEASES OF THE BEST FILM COMEDIES

NOTE---The prices for the entire lower floor on Saturday matinee will be 25 cents; box seats 25 cents; all balcony seats 15 cents.