

THE NEW PLAY

Blanche Ring and Pony Ballet Score At the New York.

The Pony Ballet, then Blanche Ring; then Blanche Ring plus the Pony Ballet; after which the Pony Ballet, and an ensuing stunt by Blanche Ring, quickly followed by an excellent bit of work on the part of a fluffy little feather-footed octette known as the Pony Ballet. And so on for two long, tuneful, dancelike acts.

The foregoing is the groundwork and front elevation of "His Honor the Mayor," a musical bunch of summer fun compiled by Campbell and Skinner with a score by Edwards and Aarona, and flashed on a wet, enthusiastic audience at the New York Theatre last night.

The show ran last summer in Chicago and later on the road. Through fault, perhaps, to lavish stock on train officials, the plot became muddled en route. To atone for the deficiency Blanche Ring was summoned from vaudeville and the Pony Ballet resurrected from the archives of "Piff, Paft, Pout," and both were sent in to fill the gap.

So well did they succeed that most of the other "parts" dwindled to "bits." Miss Ring was in her old-time "Belle of Avenue A" form and good-naturedly sang each of her various songs innumerable times apiece. Only one of these songs was new, all the rest having served vaudeville terms of greater or



Blanche Ring Invited the Audience to Sing.

less extent. The Pony Ballet, too, was forced to respond to numberless encores of its last year's dances and to some new ones. The jokes wherewith the piece was heavily fringed also had the fine, mellow flavor that honored age alone can bring. But in hot weather it is infinitely pleasanter and easier to laugh comfortably at old-fauntaine jokes than to strain the intellect in the task of encompassing the points of new ones. There was something touching and altogether delightful in the way that last night's audience recognized and welcomed with open arms the jests, songs and dances hallowed by the light of other days. The only ancient

CITY IS MENACED BY HIGH EXPLOSIVES

After an extensive inquiry as to the manner in which explosives are handled in this city, the Citizens' Union has decided to ask for an investigation of the Bureau of Combustibles. The Union's committee declares inspection in insufficient and lax and that lives and property are constantly placed in jeopardy. The committee made known its report to-day, after which a copy was sent to Fire Commissioner O'Brien. The committee investigated twenty-two different places and says that in nearly all gross violations and flaws were discovered. It was found that owners stored much more dynamite in the city than permitted by law; that most of the magazines are not of fire-proof sheathing, that magazines are not kept free from litter; that as a rule watchmen are not charged that high explosives are dangerously handled and, in fact, all safety laws are grossly violated. In some of the most thickly populated parts of the city dynamite, to be used for blasting, was found lying in yards uncovered. At the Pennsylvania tunnel it was found that in nearly all qualified, while in Riverside Drive tunnels were found to be keeping more dynamite than their permits called for.

The report, scathing in its denunciation throughout, finishes as follows: "It is not believed that anything short of a complete reorganization of the system of inspection employed by the Bureau of Combustibles will result in any lasting improvement over the present conditions."

Mayor McClellan to-day appointed two new members on the Bureau of Explosives Commission, Cipriano Andrade, Jr., and Dr. A. A. Benemann. Mr. Andrade is a lawyer and was urged for the place by automobilists on the ground that recent explosions charged against him raised questions in which the auto people were entitled to representation. Dr. Benemann is a chemist, of No. 97 Water street, and was nominated by the American Chemical Society, as provided by law. The salary is \$10 per meeting.

LEFT BABY IN BASKET ON STRANGER'S STOOP. Attracted by the cries of an infant, Albert S. Angler, of No. 156 Fifth avenue, went to the stoop at No. 216 Beverly road, Brooklyn, early to-day to investigate and found a healthy five-day-old baby, snugly tucked in a basket.

The youngster was wrapped in a white petticoat and white dress, with a black silk cape around him.

MRS. S. S. DREYFUSS ON TRIP TO EUROPE.

Mrs. Samuel S. Dreyfuss sailed for Europe to-day on the Frederick der Grosse and the East Side is going to have a long sleep to-night. It didn't get any sleep last night because a farewell reception to Mrs. Dreyfuss was begun at Lovers' in Grand street, at sundown and kept up until it was time to go to the boat to-day. Mrs. Dreyfuss, in addition to being

the wife of a popular East Sider, is the daughter of Edward J. Spoltenberg, the King of the East Side Pawn-brokers. She is a wealthy woman in her own right and much of her income is disbursed in charitable deeds. Hundreds of humble friends who have looked to her with confidence for assistance in the past rubbed shoulders with the well-to-do at the Lovers' reception. At least 50 persons accompanied her to Hoboken and waved at her from the pier until the ship was lost sight of down the North River.

Mrs. Dreyfuss will be gone for six weeks. During her absence she will collect a substantial legacy left her by an aunt who died a short time ago. In the course of her travels she will make a tour of Germany and France.

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