Amusements

THE big theaters, the past week yielded to the lure of the "movies" and at the one pictured happenings of current events, thrilling and with current interest, have been the vogue, while at the other, perhaps the climax of film production was seen in "The Birth of a Nation," which, notwithstanding controversy as to the merits of its story, has reached an eminence as a scenic attraction of great interest and wonderful accomplishment. That it has fairly packed the spacious National Theater with audiences not only willing, but anxious to pay the prices charged for the best dramatic offerings speaks more forcefully than words of the curiosity its coming has aroused.

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Two announcements for the current week have an appealing ring. One, the coming of a new play produced by David Belasco, will appeal with hopeful interest to admirers of art in the theater, while the other, a homely picture of New England life, with its irresistible tug of heart interest, will not lack the usual welcome that belongs to "The Old Homstead" as of right.

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With the paint and powder and masks and wigs of the colleges and the dilettante of social life soon will come the children's spectacles of which Washington may feel justly proud on its past record, and those that were pleased to applaud the professional will soon begin to enthuse with even greater vigor in approval of the daring amateur.

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But even the professional, when he comes in his annual tour of reveling galaxies like the famous Friars of New York, may well dare to test his popularity with all rivals in frolics that bring him at his best and with his choicest offerings.

Art in Characterization.—Joseph Henabery, the actor who portrayed President Lincoln in "The Birth of a Nation," was selected from more than twenty players who were coached and prepared for the part before the final choice was made. Mr. Lincoln's appearance and mannerisms were carefully counterfeited, even to the smallest detail.

The first scene showing the great war President is the signing of the call for 75,000 volunteers. Around the President are grouped the members of his cabinet and private secretaries. After the call is signed and as he is left alone he slowly buries his face in his hands as if in silent prayer.

Another side of Lincoln's character is shown in the granting of a pardon. As this scene opens the gorgeously attired diplomatic representatives of foreign powers are being received by the President. As they depart he is timidly approached by a plain, middle-aged woman who is anxiously awaiting a hearing. She tries to kneel to him, but he gently raises her and signs the paper which gives to her the life of her son.

After the Appomattox surrender the leader of Congress calls with a proposal to deal harshly with the south. "I shall treat them as if they had never been away," is Lincoln's gentle answer.

Mr. Henabery, the portrayer of the great President, has been commended for the sincerity, dignity and pathos of his characterization.

Wanted to Be a Circus Queen—Anne Meredith when a little girl cherished the ambition of riding a large white horse in a circus, and often spent hours of her girlhood meditating on running away from home to become a circus queen. Instead, after a perfectly good and proper school education in Canada, Miss Meredith found her way upon the stage. The other day she happened to mention her girlhood ambition to David Belasco.

Yesterday, when Miss Meredith appeared at the stage door, Manager L. Stoddard Taylor met her and told her there was a horse for her on the stage. Bewildered, Miss Meredith rushed in to find a toy horse on tiny wheels. To be sure, there were roses tied to its tail!

For the moment she was astonished. As she stooped to pick up the toy and flowers Mr. Belasco stepped out from behind a strip of scenery and simply smiled.

A Curious Beginning.—Had it not been for an old-fashioned attack of muscular rheumatism William Lawrence would not have come to Washington to appear as Joshua Whitcomb in "The Old Homestead."

William Lawrence was for years the understudy of that sturdy American actor, Denman Thompson, and he was so like the latter that in the later years of Mr. Thompson's life Mr. Lawrence played the part in the second and third acts, even when Mr. Thompson was able to get to the theater.

Mr. Lawrence was a grocer in Nova Scotia, where he was born, and had every intention of ending his days as such until he became afflicted with muscular rheumatism. The doctors of the town all agreed that the only thing for him to do was to go south—to Florida.

Harry Lindley, the showman, better known as "the Christopher Columbus of Canada," happened along with his troupe and offered to take Lawrence south for the sum of $100, the sum total of his savings. Lindley's troupe started south, but never reached a further point than Utica, N. Y., when Mr. Lawrence came to a realization that he had been an "angel" and not a tourist in search of a cure for muscular rheumatism as a matter of necessity. He began playing small parts in Utica, and attributes the cure of his rheumatism to enforced limitations of diet.

"Harry Lindley was a wonderful character," said Mr. Lawrence. "He pirated everything on the map and was not slow to tell Frohman and others just where they 'got off' with him. He carried the first show to Juneau, Alaska, where he charged $2 for standing room."

William Lawrence graduated from the Lindley forces and when Sylvester Z. Poli opened his original stock company in Waterbury, Conn., in 1904, his work came under the observation of Denman Thompson and he was engaged to understudy the part of Joshua Whitcomb. He played the role for nine years, and has just canceled a vaudeville engagement in order to take part in this production of "The Old Homestead."

Blackface Hardships.—Exponents of blackface comedy like McIntyre and Heath are said to be seriously affected by the shutting off of the supply of carbon "burnt cork" from Germany. The "autochthonous" preparation, giving the similitude of the Ethiopian complexion, is said to be long and lingering, once it has been rubbed upon the epidermis, but the German article can be removed in a few minutes.

McIntyre and Heath, who have been together for some forty years, are not as young as they once were, and, having been booked as vaudeville headliners for several weeks, they "view with alarm" the prospect of spending an hour or more after each performance removing from their hands and faces the sooty pigment which is necessary to their funmaking.

The cork powder which is rubbed on the face in handfuls, into the ears, even up into the hair, gives a wonderful Senegambian coloring, but it is almost impossible to remove. The early minstrels, when on tour, usually parted with their natural complexions during the season on this account, and both McIntyre and Heath remember when they wore burnt cork both on and off stage because they could not help it.

The German carbon preparation is rubbed on the face like cold cream, and can be shaded by fine lines drawn with a pencil, indicating facial expressions, something which could not be done with the old cork.

Thus, it will be seen that no one, not even the careless singer of plantation songs, is immune from the hardships of the great war in Europe.

Studies Life in the Streets.—Frank Craven is an actor, even in the street, says David's Belasco's press representative. That is, he studies humanity and makes use of what he finds in real life in the make-believe world behind the footlights.

"In this business," he says, "one needs to be observant. I remember that way back at school there was one exercise—I think it was the only one in which I used to shine. The teacher used to march a lot of us past a window full of many things and afterward required us to write what we saw.

"I have never forgotten the lesson taught by that exercise. When I see a man coming up the street who, for some reason or other, attracts my attention, I study him and endeavor to ascertain what made me look at him. If it's his walk, I analyze that. Perhaps it's the way he carries his cane. The chances are that something about the way he is dressed attracted me, for, it is said, clothes often make the man. It is thus I get many useful pointers in my profession."

Yet, withal, Mr. Craven frankly declares that he does not like acting. He loves the theater and likes to putter around the stage.

"I'd rather be a boss carpenter than an actor," he is reported as saying, "for nowadays the scenic artist and the stage carpenter often make the play.

"I have never read a book on play construction. I never studied a play from that viewpoint. My world is of the make-believe—I build it from observation, and many have liked the glimpses I have given of it."

Belasco.

At the Belasco Theater tomorrow night David Belasco will present his latest production, "The Lucky Fellow," a new comedy by Roi Cooper Megrue, author of "It Pays to Advertise," "Under Cover" and "Under Fire." For this new offering Mr. Belasco has assembled an exceptional company, including Frank Craven, Otto Kruger, Hayward Ginn, Charles Brokate, Rowland Lee, Harry Leighton, Allan Thomas, Carrol McComas, and Marion Abbott, Anne Meredith, Ione Bright, Beverly West, Helen MacKeller, Florence Deshen, Alice Carrol, Lillian Spencer and Emily Callaway.

"The Lucky Fellow" is in three acts and is said to have an unusual and clever story and plot. Naturally, much is expected in this respect from Mr. Megrue, who has given the stage some excellent examples of clever comedy and who always seems to have a fresh story to tell. Produced by Mr. Belasco, with his usual attention to detail, and with his sense of blending the beautiful with the dramatic, the presentation of "The Lucky Fellow" should be an event of more than usual importance.

Helen MacKeller, one of the many beauties in the new Belasco offering, "The Lucky Fellow," is a Washington girl, but not of the District of Columbia. She is from the state of Washington.

National.

"The Birth of a Nation," D. W. Griffith's masterpiece, commences tomorrow its second week at the National Theater. Audiences that have tested the capacity of the theater have been in evidence twice daily throughout the past week.

The present engagement will be the only one played in this city. Mr. Griffith has given notice that "The Birth of a Nation" will never be presented in any but the highest-class theaters, and at the prices usually charged for the best attractions.

Civil strife that grew out of misunderstanding, battles fought over wide-stretching areas, the great President and the men who, after his death, thwarted his far-seeing plans; the victor of the north and the aftermath of reconstruction furnish, in the production, a succession of themes of the eventful days of 1861-65. America's greatest war has never been more comprehensively put on stage, film, panorama or canvas. The fascination of the romance, the excellent acting, the clear photography, the emotional appeal of the music and the cunning art of the mechancial effects combine to make a remarkable offering.

Two performances will be given daily, at 2:15 and at 8:15 p.m.

It is claimed that "The Birth of a Nation" has played to greater receipts in its first year than were taken in for "Ben Hur" during the twelve or more years that attraction has been on tour. The comparison is made with "Ben Hur" because the record of the latter is generally recognized in theatrical business as the high-water mark of cotemporaneous drama in America.

Poli's.

Although "The Old Homestead," which will be the Poli offering for the week beginning tomorrow night, has become a familiar story, and its rural characters are as warm in popular interest as ever. Poli's Theater is offering this as an Easter attraction out of the ordinary and promises a production that will be practically a replica of the famous Denman Thompson performances. William Lawrence, who played the role of Joshua Whitcomb during the nine declining years of Mr. Thompson's life, has joined the Poli forces for this special engagement.

"The Old Homestead" was presented to the public for the first time at Boston Theater, April, 1886. Uncle Joshua was always a welcome guest in Boston and the receipts of the first week in the new play were $11,279.25. Several minor characters, like Eb Ganzey (Whistling Ed), a carrotty-headed Irishman in the last act, and the Hoboken tough, were not in the original production.

Joshua Whitcomb, who has given so much good cheer into the world, is a reproduction of two actual personages in Swanzey, N. H.

Aunt Mathilda and Cy Prime are also translated from actual life in New Hampshire. Cy Prime is a character photograph of one of the most noted liars in Cheshire county. Seth Perkins is a creature of the imagination.

Rickety Ann is a poorhouse waif, of whom there are many in the country towns, adopted to do the chores about the farm. The characters are all brought forward in the first act of the play, which takes place on the Old Homestead farm, at Swanzey, N. H.

Howard Lang will be the Cy Prime, Ben Taggart, Happy Jack; Eugene Desmond, Frank Hopkins; Hardie Meekin, Eb Ganzey; Harold Kennedy, Seth Perkins; Maude Gilbert, Rickety Ann, and Miss Warren, Miss Kohlhaas. Miss Alden and Miss Berger will be seen and heard in other of the popular character parts.

Scenic Artist Squires has prepared typical settings for the four acts of the play and Director Harry Andrews has organized a Swanzey Band, a double male quartet, and the Grace Church Choir.

B. F. Keith's.

McIntyre and Heath, the blackface comedy stars, whose characterizations have made laughter for decades, will be the center of the Easter festivities this week at Keith's. These famous Ethiopian eccentrics will present their three funniest farces, "The Georgia Minstrels," "The Man From Montana" and "Waiting at the Church." The repertoire will be divided during the week. Newcomers of note include Anna Wheaton of the London Hippodrome "revue," "Two Little Brides" and "The Rose of Algeria," with Harry Carroll; the Misses Campbell, Washington girls, and Alice Eis and Bert French, in their new story-dance spectacle, "The Lure of the North"; Dorothy Regel will appear in "The Girl at the Cigar Stand" and other attractions are Alfred Bergen, the baritone, Baraban and Grohs, "Turning Over a New Leaf"; Howard's arenic spectacle, the pipe organ recitals and the Pathe news pictorial.

Cosmos.

A playlet of mystery by the noted author of "The Devil," George Arliss' great play, will be presented at the Cosmos Theater this week by a company of experienced players. It is called "The Evil Hour," and there is said to be nothing else like it on the current stage.

The remainder of the bill will consist of holiday attractions, including Rayno's "Bulls," in a canine exhibition out of the ordinary; Queenie Dunedin, late star of the Dunedin troupe, in "Songs From the Cycle and the Wire," a novelty; Larkin and Meadows, a comedy team whose work makes for laughter; Stuart and Keeley, a pair of attractive dancing girls from the far west, in a graceful offering, and Berg, Hammer and Mitchell, a rathskellar trio from "The College Inn." There will be three new photoplays, including Frank Daniels in "Mr. Jack Trifles" and the big production, "Man and His Angel," featuring Jane Grey, which will be shown thrice daily, beginning at 12:30 p.m. The Selig Tribune news pictures are also a feature.

Bobby Heath and his big song revue of 1916 will be the headliner the last half of the week, in melodies, merriment and scenic pictures, with a kaleidoscopic color scheme of costumes.

Gayety.

Max Spiegel's Tourists Company, a burlesque organization of merit, will be the attraction at the Gayety the coming week. The book was written by Frederick F. Chapin and George Totton Smith, and the music by Leon de Costa. The scenes are all laid in the Catskill mountains and show the interior and exterior of a summer hotel. The story concerns the difficulties and embarrassments of three wives who leave their husbands at work in the city while they seek recreation and amusement in the mountains. Many humorous incidents follow. The situations afford opportunities for the introduction of many oddly drawn characters and also a large chorus of girls, each chosen for her appearance and talents. The cast includes Leo Stevens, Ben Pierce, Mlle. Babette, Charles Raymond and Frances and Ross. Lavish costumes and brilliant scenic effects, electrical and mechanical, are introduced.

As an added feature for every performance at the Gayety this week Manager Jarboe has engaged Takeuchi, a Japanese wrestler, who agrees to meet all comers in any style. John R. Leonard of the 2d Regiment, New Jersey National Guard, will wrestle the Jap after the Monday night's performance.

A runway has been installed in the Gayety and will be a feature for the remainder of the season.

Lyceum.

"The Mirth of A Nation," this week's attraction at the Lyceum Theater, is divided into two acts, each a separate burlesque. The first is entitled "Rinky Dink" and the other "Chasing Villa," a topical burlesque on the Mexican situation. Matt Kolb, comedian, is assisted by Harold Brown, while Evelyn Price and Hazel Grant have the leading feminine roles. The runway down into the audience will be an attraction.

La Pelletreau, a sensational dancer, formerly with Ruth St. Denis, will give expositions of classic and oriental dances at each performance. Tuesday and Thursday nights wrestling bouts will be staged.

Mexican Pictures at Belasco.

This afternoon at 3 o'clock and tonight at 7:30 and 9 o'clock what Uncle Sam, Villa and his followers and Carranza and his troops are doing across the Texas border will be shown in moving pictures at the Belasco Theater.

"Following the Flag in Mexico" is a film reflection of the preparations for the hunt for Villa and his bandits. Uncle Sam's familiar fighters are shown in the hunt as well as actual combats between the forces of Villa and President Carranza.

A talk on the trouble and the various scenes is given by Hamilton Walton.

Today at Keith's.

At 3 and 8:15 p.m. today at Keith's the bill will present Houdini, Claude Gillingwater, Edith Lyle and company in "The Decision of Gov. Locke"; Truly Shattuck and Marta Golden in "Musical Comedy Moments"; Franklin Ardell and company in "The Wife-Saver" and Elsie Pilcer and Dudley Douglas.

Cosmos Concerts Today.

Selections from Albini's "Baron Trenck," Gottschalk's reverie, "The Dying Poet"; selections from Tobani's "The Opera Mirror"; Powell's intermezzo, "Brides and Roses," and a galaxy of foxtrots and other numbers, including Easter selections, will be featured in the orchestral program at the Cosmos Theater today from 3 to 10:30 p.m. New specialties and other attractions will also be presented.

Gayety Today.

At the Gayety today the entire "Hello, New York!" company, headed by Lew Kelly, will appear at the 3 and 8 p.m. performances. As an added specialty, Mr. Kelly will appear in his original civil war burlesque, "Shenandoah," assisted by the entire company. Specialties will also be introduced by the great Martelle, Lon Hascall, Pymes and McCarthy and Eileen Sheridan.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

"The Bird of Paradise."

Richard Walton Tully's Hawaiian drama, "The Bird of Paradise," will be presented by Oliver Morosco at the Belasco Theater next week.

Luana, a Hawaiian girl, loves Paul Wilson, an American, who in turn as fervently loves her. But from the moment of his devotion to this sadly primitive little creature, Wilson not only loses caste, but he loses the force and distinction which are his by right of birth and race. He finally realizes this fact, and then comes the tragedy into his little sweetheart's life. In contradistinction, Mr. Tully has drawn the devilmaycare beachcomber, "Ten-Thousand-Dollar" Dean, who although sunk to the lowest depths of degradation, yet by keeping "his white soul clean," is finally saved by the teaching of an American girl, who brings him out of the depths and restores him to manhood.

The lengthy cast is headed by Miss Carlotta Monterey, a newcomer, in the part of Luana, whom Mr. Morosco claims will be a revelation. She will be assisted by Hooper L. Atchley, as Paul Wilson; Richard Gordon, as Dean, the beachcomber; Roberta Arnold, as the American girl, Diana; Robert Morris, as Capt. Hatch; George P. Webster, as the missionary, and a native band of Hawaiian singers and players. The scenic equipment of "The Bird of Paradise" is one of its most essential features, every scene being true to life, as near as stagecraft can show.

Burr McIntosh to Lecture.

Manager L. Stoddard Taylor received a telegram last night announcing that Burr McIntosh, actor and war correspondent, will appear at the Belasco Theater Sunday, April 30, matinee and evening, to deliver what he describes as his remarkably plain talk on the United States and its menaces. It is explained that the talk will be illustrated with 200 special views and 100 cartoons by noted artists.

"Rolling Stones."

"Rolling Stones," a breezy western comedy, which will be given by the Poli Players beginning Monday evening, May 1, has a record as a mirth-provoking play. It is a story of Chicago and portrays what might easily happen, what has indeed doubtless transpired times without number in close approach to the story, amid the setting of the Clark street bridge in Chicago and the cheaper boarding house district.

The cast for "Rolling Stones" includes A. H. Van Buren and Maude Gilbert.

Adelaide and Hughes.

Keith's will usher in the month of May next week with Adelaide and Hughes, the spectacular dancers, in their repertoire which kept them twenty consecutive weeks at a Broadway music hall; "Holiday's Dream," the new aquatic spectacle, with Mildred Macomber and a score of diving girls in a brilliant variety of features, and Pat Rooney and Marion Bent in another "Twenty Minutes With Pat and Marion." Other acts will be Harry Cooper, late of the Lew Fields musical shows and previously of the Empire City quartet; Dolly Connelly and Percy Wenrich, Allan Dinehart and company, in "The Meanest Man in the World"; Marion Weeks, a young coloratura soprano; Kartelli, the wire wizard; the pipe organ recitals and the Pathe news pictorial.

"Rosey Posey Girls."

"The Redemption Club," a two-act musical extravaganza, will be presented by Peter S. Clark's "Rosey Posey Girls" at the Gayety Theater next week. It was written by Walter Pearson, is said to be different from anything heretofore offered and contains more than a score of musical numbers. Earl and Marie Gates, dance exponents, are featured. The following principals are in the cast: Sherlock sisters, Mamie Mitchell, Billie Davis, Harry Bentley, Clare Evans, Harry La Van and Walter Pearson. "The Spirit of 1776" shows American warships in action.

"What Does the Public Want."

A musical hodge-podge, "What Does the Public Want?" is announced as the attraction next week at the Lyceum Theater. The cast is headed by Matt Kolb, Harold Brown, Evelyn Price and Hazel Grant, with a chorus of twenty girls.

Tuesday and Thursday nights wrestling matches will be staged.

Paint and Powder Club May 1.

The Paint and Powder Club of Baltimore will make its annual visit to Washington the afternoon of May 1, when it will present, at Poli's Theater, for the benefit of the Christ Child Society, its latest offering, "Dear Dorothy," a conceit of many novelties, many innovations.

This celebrated organization was started by a group of Baltimore boys twenty-five years ago, and today it is the best-known social and dramatic organization in Baltimore. Many of the original members have become famous in the professional world. Among them are George V. Hobart and A. Baldwin Sloane, composer of the music of this year's production. Mr. Hobart ranks as a foremost American playwright, whose morality play, "Experience," has been one of the most successful productions of recent years. "Moonlight Mary," for Rose Stahl, and "Our Mrs. McChesney," for Ethel Barrymore, are his recent successes. "Dear Dorothy" will be produced under the personal direction of Mr. Hobart.

The cast will include Harry Gallagher, Griffith B. Coale, R. McGill Mackall, Reed Beard, George Parr, J. Fulton, F. Burwell, J. Hyland Kuhns, E. Tileston Mudge, Erik G. Haupt, Arunah Brady, Douglas Warner, Walter B. Swindell, jr., and Charles A. McGhan.

Two scenes picture a Palm Beach drawing room and an orange grove and the beach in moonlight.

"End of the Rainbow."

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Leslie Holt have announced their annual spring production for Thursday evening, May 25, at the Belasco Theater. It is to be presented by a cast of 100 juvenile performers exclusively from their dancing classes. It will be an original musical comedy, including twenty-six songs and thirty feature dances arranged in coherent sequence with the plot. It is called "The End of the Rainbow." Mr. and Mrs. Holt will appear in person in dance numbers.

Mask and Wig Club May 8.

The Mask and Wig Club will present at the Belasco Theater Monday evening, May 8, its twenty-eighth annual production, entitled "Whoa, Phoebe." Phoebe is a mule whose education devolves upon a man named Baalam. It is pampered and petted, sung to, has its hoofs manicured and an almost humanizing element is infused into its four-legged personality. It is stolen by a circus and the efforts to recover it form the plot of the play, which is in two acts, with eighteen musical numbers, three specialties and numerous unusual dances. Chales Gilpin wrote most of the lyrics and twelve of the musical numbers; the scenery and costumes were designed by Edmund M. Lavine and the rehearsals have been conducted by Charles B. Morgan, assisted by Edward H. Rogers. The cast includes Robert W. Bell, P. Rees Dougherty, Paul J. Field, O. C. Wagenknight, Raymond D. Stevens, Edgar D. Tyler, Robert F. McMurtrie, W. M. Wright, Preston B. Hill, Clayton McMichael, K. C. Witherow and Henry S. Hagert.

Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell has charge of the box sale.

The Friars Frolic.

Apropos of the coming all-star rFiars Frolic, which is promised to introduce the most distinguished aggregation of male stage stars ever assembled upon one program, it may be interesting to chronicle the various walks of life whence these celebrities were originally recruited:

Irving Berlin, the well known composer, was at one time, it is said, a waiter in an East Side restaurant, from which he was graduated as a cabaret singer. His "Alexander's Ragtime Band" is recognized as an American ragtime classic.

Julius Tannen, the star of 'Potash and Perlmutter," was once upon a time a stenographer with Armour & Co., Chicago.

If Frank Tinney, the popular blackface mirth provoker, had stuck to his studies in former days, Frank would have been a priest.

Charles J. Ross, the musical comedy star and one of the cleverest of legitimate burlesque comedians, was at one time a jockey.

George M. Cohan was known as "the Infant Prodigy Violinist" long before he became Abbott of The Friars.

Bert Levy, the cartoonist, whose clever work has delighted vaudeville audiences throughout the world, was originally a newspaper illustrater.

George S. Dougherty was at one time second deputy police commissioner in New York and ranked as one of the most skillful detectives in America. Now he is one of the best actors the Friars have, on and off the stage.

Sam H. Harris once upon a time was manager of Terry McGovern, the champion lightweight pugilist, and a prize-fight promoter.

Lew Dockstader, the famous minstrel, at one time sold ladies' hosiery in Hartford, Conn.

Fred Niblo, the star of "Hit-the-trail, Holliday," at one time thought he could lecture and deliver travelogues. It cost a small fortune to disabuse his mind.

Richard Carle at one time was a dry goods clerk.

James J. Corbett, originally a bank clerk in San Francisco, developed into a physical instructor of the Olympic Club of that city and then became an actor. He ranks very high as a monologist.

Of the 160 names announced to participate in this mammoth entertainment, only one is today following the vocation he originally adopted for his career. He is Albert Spaulding, the famous violinist, who from early childhood has always been a student of the violin and is now recognized as one of the great masters.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

"The Show Shop" is to be played in London with Marie Lohr in the role of the young actress.

Brandon Tynan, author of "The Melody of Youth," is writing another Irish play.

There is a movement in Boston to organize a grand opera company for next season.

Amelia Summerville is to reappear in vaudeville in a sketch called "The Social Swim."

Robert T. Haines is to appear in a Polish drama called "Through the Ages."

Mildred Macomber, the new vaudeville dancing star, is a Boston girl, whose first vaudeville venture is "Holiday's Dream."

Allan Dinehart's comedy, "The Meanest Man in the World," is being rewritten in three-act form for the dramatic theaters.

Henrietta Crosman, who has been playing in James K. Hackett's revival of "The Merry Wives of Windsor," is to return to vaudevjlle.

Lina Abarbanell is to succeed Eleanor Painter in the title role of "The Princess Pat." Miss Painter has resigned from the cast to take a rest.

David Belasco produced last week in Atlantic City the new comedy, "The Lucky Fellow." Frank Craven has a prominent role in the cast.

A new play by Edward Peple, called "Friend Martha," will be tried in a stock company in Rochester. The title role, intended originally, it is said, for Billie Burke, will be played by Oza Waldrop, and Edgar McGregor will stage the piece.

Hyland Kuhns, who is "leading lady" in the Paint and Powder Club, gives several Russian dances and an impersonation of Ruth St. Denis in her latest dances.

Hellen Evily, an excellent character actress, may be the next Maggie Hobson in "Hobson's Choice," if a New York report is correct. Another company is now being assembled to present this successful comedy.

James Thatcher, general manager of the Poli attractions, has added another to his list of popular songs. It is entitled "The Old Homestead," and will be distributed during the current production of that rural classic at Poli's this week.

Ina Claire will probably be seen in the leading role of "Please Help Emily," a London comedy, to be presented in this country next season.

"The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come," the latest Eugene Walter play, closed down suddenly in Philadelphia, but will probably be revived in the fall.

The announced production of David Belasco of Willard Mack's play, "Alias Santa Claus," rehearsals for which have been going on for some time in New York, has been called off owing to the illness of Mr. Mack.

The season of "The Great Lover," in New York, with Leo Dietrichstein in the title role, is expected to run into June.

George W. Wilson has been engaged to play his original part of Louis XI in E. H. Sothern's last performances of "If I Were King."

Leslie Stuart, the composer of "Florodora," and his daughter, May Stuart, are to apear in vaudeville on this side of the Atlantic.

Hulbert Footner, author of "The Sealed Valley," has been engaged by Klaw & Erlanger to write a comedy of American life for Elsie Ferguson.

PHOTOPLAY FEATURES

Loew's Columbia.

Today will mark the first appearance of Marie Doro in a Lasky photoplay at Loew's Columbia, when "The Heart of Nora Flynn," from a story by Hector Turnbull, will be shown. Miss Doro is seen as Nora, a nurse maid employed by a wealthy family to look after two children, but she performs a much greater service by averting a domestic tragedy threatened by jealousy and misunderstanding, although she loses her own lover for a time by her action. Elliott Dexter, Ernest Joy, Lola May, Charles West, little Billy Jacobs and others appear in the cast.

MARIE DORO.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday Pauline Frederick, the emotional actress, will be the picture star in "The Moment Before," in which she is seen as Madge, a gypsy girl. Thomas Holding, Frank Losee and J. W. Johnston are in the cast. The scenes of this production were obtained in Florida.

Garden.

Mme. Olga Petrova will be the picture star at Moore's Garden Theater in "Playing With Fire" from today until Thursday, inclusive. "Playing With Fire" is a tragic story of studio life and concerns the infatuation of a model for a worthless artist. Many of the scenes depict the Bohemian artist life and the bal masque shows over a thousand fantastically arrayed dancers. Frank Daniels, in "Mr. Jack Inspects Paris," will be the comedy feature. Friday and Saturday Antonio Moreno will be pictured in "The Supreme Temptation," supported by Dorothy Kelly, and Frank Daniels in another comedy, entitled "Mr. Jack, a Doctor by Proxy."

MME. PETROVA.

Crandall's.

House Peters and Barbara Tennant are featured in "The Closed Road," a photoplay, at Crandall's tomorrow and Tuesday. It tells how Dr. Hugh Annersley discovered a cancer cure, while a man suffering from disease and on the verge of suicide agrees to shoulder the crime of murder, of which Annersley is suspected, in order that Annersley may live to perfect his discovery. William Farnum and Dorothy Bernard will be pictured Wednesday and Thursday in "A Man of Sorrow," based on "Hoodman Blind." It deals with a case of mistaken identity. Friday and Saturday "The Chain Invisible," a photoplay version of Richard Le Gallienne's novel, will be shown, with Bruce McRae and Gorda Holmes featured.

DOROTHY BERNARD.

Casino.

Elinor Glyn's "One Day," sequel to "Three Weeks," will be the photoplay at the Casino today. Its action transpires in the mythical kingdom of Veseria, opening with coronation of Paul I, the infant king, and passing through a series of exciting scenes to an attempt on the young sovereign's life by the regent. Tomorrow, Tuesday and Wednesday "Salamander," a film version of a modern society drama, will be shown.

Leader.

Pauline Frederick, pictured in "The Spider," will be the photoplay feature at the Leader today. Miss Frederick will be seen in the dual roles of a mother and her daughter. Monday and Tuesday Marguerite Clark will be featured in "Wildflower," and Wednesday and Thursday John Barrymore will be the picture star in "The Lost Bridegroom," every scene of which bubbles with fun.

Strand.

In "The Moral Fabric" at Moore's Strand Theater from today until Tuesday Edith Reeves is seen as the wife who tires of her home; Howard Hickman, as a Lothario, and Frank Mills as the unforgiving husband. On these days Charles Murray will furnish comedy in "The Love Riot." Wednesday and Thursday, Nance O'Neill will be the picture star in a film adaptation of Herman Sudderman's novel, entitled "The Flames of Johannis," wherein a foster sister stifles her love to bring happiness to a younger member of the family. Miss O'Neill is seen in a dual role, as the sacrificing sister and as an old gypsy hag. Ethel Teare will be featured, also, in a merry whirl of mirth, "Counting Out the Count." Harold Lockwood and May Allison will be the stellar attractions on Friday and Saturday in "The Come-Back," and Kate Price in "Terry's Tea Party." The Strand Orchestra will play accompaniments.

HAROLD LOCKWOOD.

Crandall's Apollo.

The struggles of a young girl to become an opera singer are depicted in the Paramount production "Temptation," featuring Geraldine Farrar, which is the photoplay attraction at Crandall's Apollo today. Theodore Roberts, Pedro de Cordoba, Elsi Jane Wilson, Raymond Hatton, Anita King and Ernest Joy are also pictured in the cast. Mary Miles Minter will be pictured tomorrow in "Lovely Mary"; House Peters and June Elvidge in "The Hand of Peril," a detective story, Tuesday; Dustin Farnum in "The Call of the Cumberlands," Wednesday; Theodore Roberts in "Pudd'nhead Wilson," Thursday, and Charlie Chaplin in "A Burlesque on Carmen," Friday and Saturday.

MARY MILES MINTER.

Avenue Grand.

Today's feature at Crandall's Avenue Grand is the Paramount production of "Madame Butterfly," with Mary Pickford in the title role. Tomorrow "The Struggle" will feature Frank Sheridan. "Her Great Price," featuring Mabel Taliaferro, will be shown Wednesday; "The Flames of Johannis," wherein a foster sister stifles her love to bring happiness to a younger member of the family. Miss O'Neill is seen in a dual role, as the sacrificing sister and as an old gypsy hag. Ethel Teare will be featured, also, in a merry whirl of mirth, "Counting Out the Count." Harold Lockwood and May Allison will be the stellar attractions on Friday and Saturday in "The Come-Back," and Kate Price in "Terry's Tea Party." The Strand Orchestra will play accompaniments.

VIVIAN MARTIN.

Vivian Martin will be featured Thursday in "A Modern Thelma," a story of the land of the midnight sun; "Armstrong's Wife," a Paramount production, with Edna Goodrich as the picture star, will be shown Friday, and "Then I'll Come Back to You," featuring Alice Brady, Saturday.