

New Frohman Star, British Invasion, Rural Drama and Farce on the Programs

Ann Murdock as Star Heads Week's Playbills, With Cyril Maude's First Appearance Here, Will Hodge in "The Road to Happiness," Reorganized Stock, Evelyn Nesbit in Vaudeville, and Usual Burlesque Bill.

Charles Frohman's presentation of Ann Murdock as a star in Porter Emerson Browne's new play "A Girl of Today," at the Columbia Theater tomorrow night, while the most important event of the week in theatrical circles, is only slightly more important dramatically than the first appearance in Washington of Cyril Maude, the distinguished London actor, and his London Playhouse company in "Grumpy," at the National.

At the Belasco Will Hodge is to be seen in "The Road to Happiness," in which he has had such great success that he has only appeared in two cities in the play although it has run almost continuously for a year and a half. The reorganized Poli Players, with Maud Gilbert and Rockefellee Fellowes, present "The Rule of Three" for the first time in stock; Evelyn Nesbit is the feature of a big vaudeville bill at Keith's; Florence Mills, a Washington girl, heads "The College Girls," at the Gayety, and the bills at the smaller houses all promise a full week of entertainment. For more detailed statements of the various attractions:

COLUMBIA.

At the Columbia Theater tomorrow night Charles Frohman is to make a double production, so to speak, as a new star in the theater in the person of Ann Murdock and at the same time he produces a new comedy of American life, by an American author, Porter Emerson Browne. Miss Murdock will be remembered as the heroine of "The Beautiful Adventure" which was presented at the Columbia during this season. It was her great personal success in "The Beautiful Adventure" that caused Mr. Frohman to advance her to stellar honors, although William Gillette is said to have long ago predicted that Miss Murdock "couldn't help becoming a star."

In "A Girl of Today" the story of a young American girl, Elaine Van Dorn, who loves all the best there is in life. She has been under the care of a guardian, Gordon Blake, almost since her birth for she was placed in his arms by her mother, when when she realized the great love that she had misused. Blake brings the child up as his own.

The making of a will never occurs to him, until his attorney points out that should anything happen at his estate will go to the benefit of Elaine, the one he loves, would be left penniless. He orders the will drawn, but before it is signed he realizes that Elaine and Elaine is forced to subvert on the charity of the relatives.

The supporting company includes Eugene O'Brien, Frank Mills, Edwin N. Alexander, Harry S. Hadfield, William E. Kelly, William H. Holden, Gordon Duffield, Duffield and Belle Daube. Matinee will be given on Thursday and Saturday.

NATIONAL.

At the New National Theater this week Cyril Maude and his London Playhouse Company will present for the first time in Washington, the comedy drama, "Grumpy." There is a distinct fascination to the play that makes an emphatic appeal to all classes of playgoers.

"Grumpy" is not of the usual type of the comic drama school with many thrills, frolics, and laughs.

Mr. Maude appears as Andrew Bullivant, a crabbled old criminal lawyer, who has retired on a modest practice. He is of that peculiar type that on minute scolds and storms and the next feels badly for having inflicted pain.

BELASCO.

The bright and cheerful native humor and Yankee cleverness of "The Man From Home," in which William Hodge starred for some seasons, are said to be reproduced in Mr. Hodge's latest play, "The Road to Happiness," which comes to the Belasco this week.

POLI'S.

"The Rule of Three," Guy Bolton's clever comedy, will be the offering of the Poli Players this week. This piece enjoyed a successful run in New York, and then was produced on tour. The play tells the story of a young woman who has been divorced from two husbands and at the beginning of the play she is on her honeymoon with a third. She has elected to spend this season of happiness in the same charming nook where she had taken her other husbands on her honeymoon.

B. F. KEITH'S.

Evelyn Nesbit and Jack Clifford will be the conspicuous attraction in the new B. F. Keith Theater bill this week. Throughout the Keith circuit they have smashed to smithereens all previous records. They will offer the feature in which they reached stellar fame and position in London and New York this season, "The Beautiful Adventure," with her wonderful silver and fur gowns.

The supporting numbers will be led by the people of the "The Beautiful Adventure," billed as the world's greatest risqué performers, in thrilling feats. Another feature will be "The Beautiful Adventure," billed as the world's greatest risqué performers, in thrilling feats. Another feature will be "The Beautiful Adventure," billed as the world's greatest risqué performers, in thrilling feats.

GAYETY.

Max Spiegel's new "College Girls" of 1914-15 comes to the Gayety Theater this week. Few burlesque organizations have had the popularity that the "College Girls" have had in the past. This year's production is said to be the most pretentious Mr. Spiegel has ever made. Fifty people engage in the production.

MAJESTIC.

Patrons of burlesque will see "The Rector Girls" at the Majestic Theater this week, commencing with the Monday evening performance. Two novel features and a vaudeville bill make up the program. It is claimed for this show that it has caught the real musical comedy atmosphere while retaining the best of burlesque. The two vaudeville acts are "The Rector Girls" and "The Rector Girls."

COSMOS.

"The Buyer from Pittsburgh," a musical comedy, is the principal attraction at the Cosmos theater this week. The piece is said to be not unlike a tabloid version of Potash and Perlmutter. The action revolves around members of a busy firm trying to please an out-of-town buyer. The play is said to be a really big feature of the English stage, and has created many delightful comedy and character studies.

CASINO.

Eddy Baldwin as "Uncle Josh," in a musical comedy of the same name, is the attraction at the Casino Theater this week. The play is not unlike the one that made Denman Thompson famous many years ago, and Eddy Baldwin is said to furnish an interesting character study. Several vaudeville acts are introduced during the action of the play.

MOORE'S STRAND.

At Moore's Strand Theater this week, from Monday until Wednesday, inclusive, Manager Moore announces the first local showing at popular prices of "Cabrera." It was this massive production that earlier in the season crowded the theater to overflowing. The play is said to be a really big feature of the English stage, and has created many delightful comedy and character studies.

Quakers to See "Peg."

Philadelphia is promised its first glimpse of the "The Road to Happiness" at the end of the month. One of the curious accidents of play-going having been that though this play has been seen in almost every city and hamlet in the United States during the past two years it has never appeared in Philadelphia.

STARS AT CAPITAL THEATERS THIS WEEK



ANN MURDOCK - Columbia - Cyril Maude - National - Gertrude Hitz - Belasco - E. M. Newman - National - Wm. Hodge - National - Gertrude Hitz - Belasco

Jeanne d'Arc of Burlesque Is a Washington Girl

By GARDNER MACK.

Could the late Mr. Hercules view some of the jobs modern reformers lay out for themselves and sail serenely into with that carefree manner which distinguishes their tribe, he would be impressed with the fact that his little daughter, Jeanne d'Arc, is a Washington girl. In his travels to the Holy Land he has seen the evolution of the burlesque, and the invention of the modern burlesque. It was at this period that Miss Mills entered the field. A native of Baltimore, she came to Washington when a baby, and after spending the early years of her life on Capitol Hill in school and play as other children did, she found that she must go to work to make her living.

Heroism of Serbs to Be Prof. Pupa's Subject

The story of Serbia and its relations to the present European war, which is said to be no less thrilling and interesting than the story of Belgium is to be told at the Columbia Theater on the afternoon of Wednesday, February 17, by Prof. Michael Idovorsky Pupin of Columbia University. His subject will be "The Serbian Struggle for Freedom."

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Maude Proves Romance of American Farm Lad

By GARDNER MACK.

The difficulty that lies in general acceptance of the truth of the statement that the American farmer boy furnishes material for more romantic than any other individual lies in the fact that the rosy color in which he is painted is too often mistaken for sunburn. Custom having coupled the pettebreuse with the romantic, first glance of the youthful fibers in faded overalls, from the towed weather-stained hair to the enlarged toe joints, usually causes the casual observer to turn away. But the farmer boy is the lad that first started history in the culture of living success and the American farmer boy has been the reason for more of such repetition than the youth of any other nation.

Stage Debut in Denver.

Maude made his first appearance on the stage in Denver, Col. as a servant in "East Lynne." On the tour of the Bandmann company, which progressed as far as the purse of Bandmann held out, which happened to be as far as San Francisco. Maude played the most unusual lot of parts. He developed a reputation for "climacteric" on that tour from which he has never recovered. He played the parts of Marcellus, Bernardo, Rosencrantz, the second grave digger, and other characters in the performance of the immortal tragedy, and he told me that anyone who could watch Daniel Bandmann as he played these parts would have to have any respect for the play at all. He was a sweet and confident disposition, wholly unimpaired by his real life.

Arriving at San Francisco and the end of its resources simultaneously the Bandmann company stayed in the city of John E. Keilard, who had also been in the company. Maude made his way back to the city, and he immediately secured a situation with a company producing "The Rubber Tree" in a grand old building. After touring the kingdom for a short time he returned to London and in September, 1887, made his first appearance in the city as the Duke of Courland in "Racing." From that time on Mr. Maude secured a growing reputation as a student of the stage, a man who believes in doing thoroughly everything that he does, and a man who gives his characters and their surroundings more attention than any other London actor.

So this is information for the Briton as well as the American pastiche. Admitting all the things the Londoner will say, the fact remains, nevertheless, that Cyril Maude is a shining example of the power of the American farmer boy to become anything he wants to because Cyril Maude was an American farmer boy. Further than that, he made his first stage appearance in the United States in London, and he is one of the greatest actors of England! Here is the real story:

He was born in London in St. George's square, 10, in 1858. He went to school with the present Lord Curzon of Kedleston. It is also true that his family is an English army family, and are known in history as the Fighting Maudes. Likewise it is true that there was a connection between the family and the actor by the name of England! Here is the real story:

Constitution Needed Amendment.

At the present time Mr. Maude is devoting himself to a study of the constitution of the United States. He has played twenty-two weeks in New York, four months in Boston, and four months in London. The play, curiously enough, was in his possession more than two years before he considered putting it into shape to be acted. He did not believe it would be a success and in this his judgment was sustained by several of the best of the theater. Just before he started for this country last year—and by the way, this is the very first time that he has ever been in America—he made since that memorable evening the production of the play in the city, it secured a tremendous success. And it has been scoring a tremendous success ever since wherever it has been played.

Amateurs Will Produce Auditorium

Amateur actors and actresses of the city are much interested in the organization of the Dramatic Club of the Knights of Columbus, which will make its first appearance at Carroll Hall next Wednesday evening. Two plays will be given, "My Lord in Livery," by S. Fitzgerald, and "The Merry Wives of Windsor," a two-act comedy. The cast for the first night includes Joseph T. Fitzgerald, Henry W. Tucker, John Merdill, John A. Costello, Misses Marjorie Corcoran, Ruth M. Purcell, and Misses Joseph B. Fitzpatrick's business manager, William P. Normandy.

Washington Girl Starts Reform.

To Miss Mills burlesque meant a form of entertainment that was built for no other purpose than to create amusement to get a laugh. She understood it as a type of amusement equal to every other type represented in the theater, and it was her determination to make it so regarded. She was told she was making a mistake, and that her ideas would not pay. But she did not have to work alone. She quickly found the reward of the fair reformer, the same opinion as herself. The result has been an evolution in the business during the last few years that has been startling. At the present time it is said that the only theater to which a stranger can take a woman friend without fear of being embarrassed is the burlesque theater.

Today's Programs.

The fourth of the series of Newman travelogues at the Columbia Theater this evening at 8:30 o'clock, will be devoted to Egypt. Mr. Newman spent the greater part of the summer in the Near East gathering unusual pictures and data for this lecture.

Today at 2 and 8:30 p. m. in the vaudeville concert at the B. F. Keith Theater will present Gus Edwards & Company and other features of last week's program.

The "William Tell" overture, selections from Massenet's "Herodias" and a number of other classic and popular compositions by the Pathé players, in addition to the special orchestra concert at the Cosmos today and tonight in addition to the regular program.

An orchestral program as well as the particular features of the week's program will be offered the patrons of the Casino today and tonight.

Mary Pickford will make her appearance in the comedy drama, "Mistress Nell," at Moore's Strand Theater, tonight at 8:30 o'clock. The play is a comedy, timely, happening throughout the world, and appropriate music.

The attraction at Moore's Strand Theater today will be a film realization of the famous marching song, "It's a Long Long Way to Tipperary." Supplementary features include a Keystone comedy, the Strand topical daily, and special music.

At Crandall's today the feature photographs will be "The Queen and the King," a dramatic story based on history. In this country, however, the business of which there will be the usual variety of entertainment was called burlesque—at least that part of it which

FOYER GOSSIP.

The performance of "The Road to Happiness" will be given at the Belasco tomorrow evening, will be partly for the benefit of the Florence Crittenton Mission.

Harry Lauder is planning another globe-trotting tour. This time he intends to take in Canada, South Africa, India, Russia, and Japan.

Little Doris Eaton is to play a role part with the Poli Players in "The Rule of Three" this week.

Jane Morgan, formerly a member of the Poli Players, has made herself very popular in the local stock company at New Haven, Conn.

The tri-star musical comedy combination under the Frohman trade mark—Julia Sanderson, Donald Brian, and Joseph Cawthorn—in "The Girl From Utah," will be the Washington's bi-weekly week attraction at the National.

Elsie Mackay, the Australian actress, who is the leading woman with Cyril Maude in "Grumpy" this season, in addition to being one of the most beautiful women on the English stage, is an ardent devotee to all sorts of outdoor sports.

H. D. MacLellan, well known in Washington, has recently made a deep impression on the people of Boston by his work with Henry Wood's company of Shakespearean actors at the Boston Opera House.

Frank Mills, who has an important part in the new play in which Ann Murdock is to be presented for the first time as a star tomorrow night at the Columbia, has long been a prominent member of Charles Frohman's force.

Mabel Hicks, with Cyril Maude at the National this week, is a daughter of Raymond Hicks, one of the best known directors and light comedians of the English stage.

Gertrude Hitz, who has the leading feminine role with William Hodge in "The Road to Happiness," this season, in addition to being one of the most beautiful leading women on the stage, she is the lead with Mr. Hodge, in "The Man From Home" also.

Eleanor Gordon, who will be seen in support of Ann Murdock at the Columbia this week, will be remembered for her good work with the Skinner in "Kismet," as Kut-el-Rulub, Redoual girl.

Walton Bradford, manager of Cyril Maude's tour in "Grumpy," is an old Washingtonian, having been connected with the National Theater for many years before becoming connected with the Liebbers.

Abe Reynolds, the comedian of the "College Girls" company, at the Gayety this week, began his stage career in this city at the old Bijou Theater, in the burlesque stock company with Bert Leslie, Eugene Rocamora, Matt Kemmerer, and others now known to fame.

Eugene O'Brien, leading man with Ann Murdock at the Columbia this week, was last seen with Emmett Corrigan in "Charles Klein's production of "The Money Maker" at the National.

Cecilia Wright, "the adopted daughter of the United States Navy," who has just retired from her position as visiting manager and Mrs. Robbins, at Keith's Theater, and will return to the vaudeville stage at the National Theater of Australia under contemplation.

John Harwood not only has an important part in the production of "Grumpy," but he is Cyril Maude's stage manager, and it is said that he writes few short stories, but a little pen and ink illustrating, and compose a poem or two.

DANCING

ARCADÉ DANCE

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LONGER DANCES

Valentine Dance in Morning

Special Matinee, 25c.

MRS. ROWLAND

PHILADELPHIA

WYNDHAM BROS. STUDIO

PHONE ROBEY'S AT 14th

MISS CHAPPELEAR

PHILADELPHIA

WYNDHAM BROS. STUDIO

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