On Stage and Screen

REMODELED AND RENOVATED BROADWAY THEATER OPENS TODAY, LEADING NORTHWEST OPERA HOUSE

W. W. WISNER, MANAGER OF THE BROADWAY THEATER

PHILIP LEVY, MANAGER OF THE ANSONIA AMUSEMENT COMPANY

The Broadway opera house, which for the past six months during which time the sum of $100,000 has been spent by the Ansonia Amusement company in converting it into one of the leading, if not the leading opera houses of the northwest opened today with Pantages vaudeville. It is true the remodeling and renovating has not been completed, but the house progressed so far that purchasers able to observe that the opera house at last is one of which Butte may well be proud. The recent painters' strike and the difficulty in securing materials due to the world war have delayed the perfect completion of the place of the management. However, in another week or so the waiting details will be supplied.

Commencing on the outside, there is a complete change in the exterior. Painters are now putting the last touches on a coat of tan. Ornamental cement work has been placed on the walls to a height of one story and beautiful marquees have been erected at the entrances. As before, the main entrance will be on Broadway, with the ticket office in the spacious and handsome foyer and the manager's office adjoining.

Beautiful Interior.

It is the interior, however, which has received the most attention. The heart of the house has been changed in the past six months. The unsightly pillars have disappeared. A bowl-shaped floor has been substituted and the seating arrangement has undergone a complete change. Practically everything in the interior is new. The latest seating arrangement has been provided and every chair in the house is a comfortable one and a good one from the viewpoint of the spectator. Stairs have been dispensed with and sloping passageways have been provided according to the modern theatrical arrangement.

In the mezzanine have been built rest rooms and writing rooms, where a maid will be in attendance at all times, as well as a gents' smoking room, with all modern conveniences. The walls have been frescoed and panneled in satin finish with tapestry effect. A color scheme of old rose and gray has been followed throughout. The proscenium is finished in verdigris gold. The boxes "downstairs" have been eliminated, but four new boxes have been built on either side of the balcony, accommodating in all 64 people. The draperies are of old rose, harmonizing with the dark gray of the upholstering of the chairs. The electric equipment is superb. Indirect heating has been installed and while not complete, because of lack of material, will be ready very soon and in the meantime temporary heating arrangements have been provided.

Furnished by Baxter.

"Billy" Baxter of the Baxter Furniture company gave his personal attention to the furnishings of the theater and the result is a testimony to his sense of the artistic as well as his appreciation of comfort, service and convenience. The hand of the master is discernible in the harmonizing tones of color. The contract has been most creditably carried out by Mr. Baxter.

The house will now accommodate 1,500 people. This is somewhat less than of the past, when there was room enough in the "gods" alone for that number. The ladies' room, situated on the third floor, was never used, or at least very seldom. It has been dispensed with and the lounge of the theater improved by an entire change in the roof, which was dropped at least 17 feet. As usual, the roof leaks. The house is provided with a system of heating, which provides for warm air in the winter and cool air in the summer, the air at all times, whether warm or cool, being pure and fresh.

The downstairs portion of the theater, where the actors have their home for several hours of the day, has been completely remodeled and dressing rooms of latest model and equipped with all conveniences have been built. The stage, which always has been the largest in the northwest, has been further equipped. The Broadway will house Pantages vaudeville for Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of each week. On Thursdays and Fridays, whenever possible, the best road attractions will be shown. W. W. Wisner will manage the theater as in the past. Phil Levy is the manager of the Ansonia Amusement company, which owns the house and arranged for the remodeling and improvements. The building is fireproof. "Watch Your Step" will be shown there next Thursday and the following night Anna Held will appear in "Follow Me."

THINKS HOLD-UP MERE JOKE AND FLOORS HER ASSAILANT

"DOT" RAYMOND,
Whose sweet voice and dainty ways belie the powerful punch that will in future be a terror to a certain Butte footpad.

Returning from the last show to her hotel Tuesday evening "Dot" Raymond, leading lady of the O'Brien and West musical comedy stock troupe at the Empress, was walking alone, a block behind the rest of the troupe. She was among the last on the stage, and as the rule is among the ladies was insistent on eradicating the last traces of the stage paint.

As she was crossing the alleyway at the First National bank a hand came out of the darkness, grabbed her by the sleeve and she heard "Hands up!" Thinking it was a frame-up by another member of the troupe, she landed full on the stranger's chest and he went over. "Dot," still convinced the matter was a joke, stood waiting for him to get up, and was on the point of assisting him when the footpad fled precipitately.

Realizing that it might have been an attempted holdup, Miss Raymond quickly rejoined the other members and told her story. She was trembling somewhat from the excitement of detailing the occurrence, much more than she had when she "poked" her unknown friend. The latter might have been more careful had he known that Miss Raymond's main fondness is for an afternoon in a gymnasium with the boxing gloves preferred.

GIDDAP!

(Mr. Head married Miss Race.—News item).
A striking paradox you see,
When this young couple wed;
For, though the bridegroom won the Race,
The bride came out a Head.

—L. & N.

FAIRBANKS BUYS M'ADOO FOOTBALL

He Then Resells Pigskin and Swells Yuletide Fund.

Douglas Fairbanks last week purchased a football autographed by William G. McAdoo for $100 at the Los Angeles Yuletide festival held in the Billy Sunday tabernacle.

Ten minutes later he repurchased the same football for $1,000, which helped swell the Christmas fund for the soldiers and sailors over there.

The film actor's telegram to the secretary of the treasury read:

"Bought your pigskin for $100, reauctioned it for $1,000. Send a hundred more out here and I'll get Charlie Chaplin, Bill Hart and George Bebee to flood the town with your autographed footballs. Money will be used to purchase smoking tobacco for Sammies. Los Angeles has gone dry and we're all preparing for a tremendous Prune and Citrus celebration in these parts."

JULIAN ELTINGE WILL APPEAR IN NEW FEATURE

Julian Eltinge, whose Paramount picture, "The Widow's Might," will be a January release, began his career as a female impersonator with an organization known as Boston Cadets, of which he was then a member. "Miss Simplicity" was the play and they needed someone with a good complexion and dramatic ability as well to interpret the role of a girl in the comedy. Julian Eltinge essayed the part and made such a remarkable success that he became famous in amateur theatricals, and after in the professional stage, in feminine characterizations.

In his two preceding Paramount pictures, "The Countess Charming" and "The Clever Mrs. Carfax," Julian Eltinge has won the regard of screen patrons not only because of this remarkable gift of impersonation, but because of his buoyancy and the verve he instills into the productions.

"The Widow's Might" is by Marion Fairfax, who has been responsible for so many decided successes in Paramount pictures, and William C. De Mille is the director, assisted by J. P. Browne. The photographic work is by J. P. Browne. A strong cast supports the star in this picture.

THE POST FOR THE NEWS

FAIR FILM STAR'S EFFORTS FOR U. S.

Marguerite Clark is Credited With $15,000,000 by Cincinnati.

Oscar A. Price, director of publicity of the Liberty loan of 1917 for the treasury department of the United States, has written the following letter to Miss Marguerite Clark, star in Paramount pictures, who was instrumental in raising $15,000,000 for the second Liberty loan in Cincinnati, O., recently:

"Miss Marguerite Clark, Rye, N. Y.

"My Dear Miss Clark: It is my pleasant duty to express to you in behalf of Secretary McAdoo the very sincere appreciation of the treasury department for the assistance and cooperation you gave the second Liberty loan. In all of the great national efforts that our country has engaged in since it entered the war, the American women have been notably patriotic and active and we feel that their services to the Liberty loan have been notably valuable. Very sincerely yours,

"OSCAR A. PRICE,
"Director of Publicity."

In addition to the foregoing the following is contained in a letter to Miss Clark from G. W. Williams, vice president of the Fourth National bank of Cincinnati:

"All Cincinnati honors you for your splendid efforts in behalf of the bond sale and the magnificent result obtained through your efforts in aiding James Heekin, the chairman of the committee, and our local friends to secure subscriptions. We congratulate ourselves on having received your consideration."

H. R. Probasco, a prominent Cincinnati attorney, includes the following pleasant compliment in a recent communication to the dainty Paramount star:

"With highest regards and respect for our charming little Cincinnati girl, who has by her career, her life and her teachings, made herself so influential that in 24 hours it was possible for her to secure Liberty bonds to the tune of $15,000,000 in her home town."

As has been told previously, after having sold a million dollars worth of bonds during the Cincinnati drive, Miss Clark so enthused those present at a meeting in her home city that $14,000,000 more was raised for the loan, following her departure. She was later notified that this amount had also been credited to her, making the grand total of $15,000,000.

FORBES-ROBERTSON QUITS 40 YEARS WORK

New York, Dec. 22.—Sir Johnston Forbes-Robertson has sailed for England, where he will enter the long promised retirement he thinks he has earned after nearly 40 years devotion to his profession. He made his stage debut in 1874 in "Mary Stuart," and was first seen in the United States in 1883, when he came over as leading man with Mary Anderson.

It was a quiet week in local theatrical circles, but at that the Post can be relied upon to give you the very latest news of the show world every Saturday.

THEATER "TRUST" WAR IS RENEWED

Klaw and Erlanger Still Against Shuberts is the Outstanding Gun.

The bitter war between Klaw and Erlanger and the Shuberts broke out when the Shuberts broke into the old theatrical trust once again. After the dissolution of partnership of both firms a suit filed by Klaw & Erlanger in Philadelphia last week, the dissolvement of their partnership with the Shuberts is proving a bomb affair, but not so much the breaking of vaudeville circuits.

All indications in theatrical circles yesterday pointed to the fact that the Shuberts are preparing to launch another attack "to the finish," and will probably institute action against Klaw & Erlanger.

A lineup of the affiliated firms seems to give the advantage to the Shuberts. For instance they expect William A. Brady, D. Williams, George Broadhurst, Weber, William Faversham, Elliott and Gest, Weber and Fields, Wurthreg, Ames, Bishop, Tullis, Norworth and Shannon, Hopkins, Oliver Morosco and Cohan and Marbury will take their chances in the fight.

It is also known that Klaw and Erlanger can count on Messrs. George C. Tyler, Henry W. Savage, Cohan and Harris and perhaps F. Ziegfeld, Jr., Charles B. Dillingham, will be with attractions through Klaw & Erlanger but their hope to win over Cohan and Harris is over. A. H. Woods now is in business with Klaw & Erlanger in the public theater.

The fight seems likely to be much more bitter than that of six years ago because the Shuberts are much stronger than when they first set out to compete with the syndicate. They controls many theaters throughout the country, and maintains an exclusive booking agency.

OSCAR LEWISOHN DEAD HUSBAND OF EDNA MAY

New York, Dec. 22.—Oscar Lewisohn, the banker, who married Edna May, the actress, died in the Mount Sinai hospital following an operation for intestinal trouble. Lewisohn was the son of Leonard Lewisohn, who was a brother of Adolph Lewisohn of the Fifth avenue, best known member of the family. Oscar Lewisohn, who was graduated from Harvard, was thought to be dead in Germany in 1916 when he was reported the victim of an automobile accident.

"MEL" WILSON WEDS MISS MABEL SMITH

"Mel" Wilson, formerly representative of the Paramount-Artcraft pictures and now manager of the Orpheum theater, was married yesterday to Miss Mabel Smith, a well-known young lady of the city. The marriage was a great surprise to his many friends, but "Mel" was taking no chances on inviting the attendance of his friends.

IN BUTTE'S THEATRICAL WORLD

Ed LaRose, who was here last week with the Pantages vaudeville show, worked 20 years ago in stock with "Uncle Dick" Sutton's troupe at the old Family theater. Needless to say "Uncle Dick" and he had a very pleasant reunion talking over the old days.

When "Dot" Raymond, leading lady of the O'Brien and West troupe at the Empress theater playing musical comedy stock, was told that she was booked for Butte she had friends hunt of her. Miss Raymond is sister-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. O'Brien of 710 West Park street. Mr. O'Brien is one of the well known contractors of this city.

Hazel Boyd, soubrette of the Empress musical comedy stock company, was introduced to a comfortable chair at the Masonic temple last week during the Shriners' meeting. She felt very comfortable until an electric switch was turned on. It is still the talk of the theaters how fast she got out of that chair and how suspicious she is of comfortable looking rockers since.

"Anything you can tell the Post for the theatrical page?" asked Earl Keeler of his granddad, "Uncle Dick."

"Don't know anything about the theatrical business," said Uncle, with one of those knowing smiles, and he kept the reporter listening for a whole hour to a recital of some of the old-time theaters that Butte boasted when the town was a live burg and there was nothing less than a "bit," and they were as scarce as cents now.

Play criticism is an art—if you get passes and have the time. The man who signs himself with three C's from his long experience as a press agent can drop into a back seat for a half hour during the afternoon and write a boost under his name. "Spike" Haynes, neglecting the name and without seeing the show, can exhaust a good sized dictionary in fulsome praise.

Luke McLuke might say: "Where is the old-time press agent who came around with an armful of passes and begged everyone connected with the newspaper office from the managing editor to the printer's devil and the office boy to drop in and see the greatest show on earth? Them were the happy days."

Says "Uncle Dick:" "There were fewer old timers on visiting vaudeville teams in Butte last week than for many a moon."

Earl Warren Keeler is now busily filling out his questionnaire.

Leo Clark quit the Montana Power company's service more than a year ago, traveled around the country, came back and is now "at your service" throwing pictures on the screen at the American theater.

"Abe's Night Out" starts today at the Empress theater.

"Watch Your Step" comes Thursday to the Broadway and "Follow Me" Friday. Safety first people should see the first comedy and the devil-may-cares might well spend a couple of bucks on the latter.

When are Butte people going to see Mary MacLane in the silent drama of "Men Who Made Love to Me?"

Again! The Post would appreciate it if press agents turned in next week's calendar each Friday morning. In these days of high cost of living the dramatic writer finds it expensive to visit the shows individually.