

# DRAMA & VAUDEVILLE

**NELLIE NICHOLS**  
GRAPHEUR.

**CAROLYN ELBERS**  
IN  
"THE LION & THE MOUSE"  
SPOKANE.

**MABEL WRIGHT**  
IN  
"THE VIRGINIAN"  
AUDITORIUM.

**RALPH CUTTINGS**  
PAINTINGS.

**WILSON & PEARSON**  
WASHINGTON.

## Lion and the Mouse a Play With a Moral

In the remark of a federal judge who was recently offered the nomination of one of the great political parties after fining a certain trust a number of million dollars, "For God's sake leave me my judicial honor, manhood and the respect of my friends," we have the keynote of Charles Klein's great play, "The Lion and the Mouse," which comes to the Spokane theater for one week, starting this evening.

This is one of the many recent instances which demonstrate beyond cavil that Mr. Klein did not begin to touch the center of reality when he wrote his great drama, which has kept the public of the entire country talking for the past three years. The clergy and the press, in reference to recent graft investigations, have used this play, which Henry B. Harris had the wisdom to produce, as texts for sermons and editorials, and lately the president of the United States was urged to use the lesson taught by the "Lion and the Mouse" as a campaign document.

Miss Elbers will be seen in the role of Shirley Rossmore and Walter Edwards is dealing with the part of Ryder. It is claimed by the critics that Mr. Harris is this season sending the best company yet seen in Mr. Klein's drama.

## Nellie Nichols Is Captivating Comedienne

Nellie Nichols, the headliner on the Orpheum bill which opens with the matinee this afternoon, is the only Grecian comedienne on the vaudeville stage today. At one time, before entering upon her present career, she was the official interpreter in the New York courts. She is dainty, captivating and has a voice which wins at the start. Her magnetic personality and her unique way of getting her songs over the footlights has figured as prominently in her success as her voice.

"Huckins' Run," in which Billy Walsh scores in a slang part that is a masterpiece, Miss Starr plays her part as the orphan girl most seriously and well. Frank E. Lynch portrays a "way down east" constable in clever style.

Al White's "Dancing Bugs" in a terpsichorean novelty are figured on as high class entertainers.

Fred Watson, a monologist with a bright and fresh line of talk and a number of new and catchy songs, is a splendid entertainer. His natty appearance and dapper manner has won for him the sobriquet of "The Student."

"The Chanticleer," the act of Walter Stanton and company, is a decided novelty. Stanton appears as a gigantic rooster and later as a big parrot. He is the inventor

## "Lost in the Jungles," Name of New Play Rehearsing Here Now

"Lost in the Jungles of Biafra," this is the title of a beautiful and impressive little dramatic sketch which may soon be seen on the vaudeville stage. The Dewitt H. Crawford company of four persons is rehearsing the lines of the play at the present time in Spokane, preparatory to going on the stage with it.

There is not a monotonous moment in the whole sketch, and the stage settings and scenery, which have already been procured for it, are unique and will afford a most elaborate spectacle with novel light effects that have been devised to bring out the beauty of the play.

The Biafra jungle, as the plot of the playlet has it, is fabulously rich in gold and ivory, but its waters are poison and its sun is of maddening heat. It is a place where many have gone in quest of riches, but from which few have ever returned. In the cast is an old man, the father of a beautiful woman, with whom his young friend and comrade is in love; there is a trusty Kaffir, the old man's servant, whose tongue has been cut from his head because he had once refused to divulge a secret upon which the lives of white friends depended.

The aged father is a gold-mad

man, and despite the poison waters of the Biafra jungle and all its hazards to human kind, its stores of gold and ivory lure him thence. His young friend, whom he prevails upon to join him in the death-courting journey, pleads that the trip be abandoned, for his father's home are out there in that selfsame swamp, bleaching in the sun. He, too, had gone to seek for gold. The old man threatens to bar the marriage to his daughter and calls the young fellow a coward, till at last he agrees to go. Before leaving, he thoughtfully pins a note to a fallen log that his sweetheart may read it as soon as they are gone.

Here the scene shifts to the jungles. The young fellow is mad with heat and thirst; his water is gone and only a few drops remain in the canteen of his old companion. In his delirium a vision of the woman of his heart appears in the scenery. It is novel and most beautiful. A struggle for the last remaining drops of water ensues between comrades and they fight like wild beasts in their well feigned madness, then fall prostrate together. They are rescued by the daughter and the faithful Kaffir, and all is lovely between the lovers, and the old man abandons his quest for gold.

## Roosevelt's Double Is at Washington

What is considered one of the cleverest singing and dancing acts of the season will be a feature of the program at the Washington commencing this afternoon. The offering will be presented by Effie Pearson and J. Hunter Wilson, two very clever performers. Mr. Wilson will be remembered as the principal comedian with the New York production of "Alaska," while Miss Pearson was with Weber & Fields for several seasons. Their act is especially well costumed and is one of the most entertaining of its kind.

Walter Le Roy and Florence Clayton will offer a number that is said to be the biggest laugh-in vaudeville, entitled, "A Horse on Hogan," the sketch being one continual laugh from start to finish.

Another pleasing feature will be the offering by Mlle. Nadje in her gymnastic act. In this number some very artistic posing is introduced, as well as the clever acrobatic work.

A ventriloquial number of un-

usual merit will be presented by William E. Whittle, entitled, "Nine P. M. at the White House." In his offering Mr. Whittle uses several figures and also carries special scenery. Mr. Whittle very much resembles Ex-President Roosevelt.

Max York and his troupe of five fox terriers, all excellently trained, is particularly attractive.

Nowell & Niblo, instrumentalists of international renown, will present a very pretty musical number, including selections on xylophones, saxophones and other novel instruments. The act is gorgeously costumed and both performers are excellent musicians.

## FLOWERS

Why don't you get in line and follow the crowd? Stop this crying about high prices. Patronize those that try to keep them down.

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## Actors' Benefit Series of Entertainments to Be Given

Some Time During Week of April 25 in Larger Cities of North America.

A. L. Erlanger, the national chairman of the Actors' fund benefits, has arranged a remarkable series of entertainments to be given on a day yet to be selected during the week of April 25 in all the large cities of the United States and Canada. Assisted by the National Producing Managers' association, Mr. Erlanger will have at his disposal nearly all of the big productions and companies now on tour. In each of the cities, which include Brooklyn, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Pittsburg, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, St. Louis, Kansas City, New Orleans, Denver, San Francisco, Los Angeles, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Chicago, Buffalo, Rochester, Toronto and Montreal, a local manager has been appointed as chairman of the committee which will arrange the program and supervise the performance. Leaders of society will act as patrons. Acts or scenes from the current plays of the week will be given, with the addition of the star acts from the vaudeville and burlesque houses. Talented amateurs in each of the cities will be invited to take part in the program. The keenest rivalry has already appeared among the managers as to which one will give the best performance and turn over the largest receipts to Mr. Erlanger. As the expenses will be small, the returns from this series for the fund ought to be enormous.

The Actors' Fund, which this series of benefits is designed to assist, is one of the most famous of American charities. Since it was organized 28 years ago its benefactions have stretched across the continent. It recognizes no nationalities and no creeds. It is not bound up in red tape. In the Actors' Fund home at West New Brighton the fund maintains for the old of the profession a pleasant refuge, which in its comfortable appointments and cheery surroundings is unique among similar institutions in the country. Those who seek its shelter when age has incapacitated them for labor are not "inmates," but guests.

To maintain the Actors' Fund home and keep effective the charities of the fund itself in all its branches throughout the United States requires more money than can be raised by its annual benefit performance and the nominal dues of \$2 which its members are assessed. Last year the expenditure for charities was about \$45,000, all of which was raised in the profession itself.

In the week of May 9 a great fair will be held in New York city for the benefit of the fund. President Taft will open the fair with an inaugural address on May 9. When he comes to New York for this purpose he will be greeted by a committee of 12 of the most prominent actresses of this country, who will have been chosen for this honor by ballot.

## MISSING LINK IN STORY SOMEWHERE

All is not peace and harmony in the second hand business. This morning Barney Marcus, who conducts a second hand store next door to Edward Houchins, another dealer in the same line of business, rushed into the police court in search of a warrant. Barney told Clerk Rainford that Mrs. Houchins, wife of his competitor, had stationed herself in front of his place and, armed with a second hand pitchfork, had refused to let him emerge from his store. Rainford couldn't understand how Barney got down to the station if Mrs. Houchins had refused to let him out. There was a missing link to the story somewhere, so Mr. Rainford told Barney to go back and get some witnesses who could testify that they saw the affair.

## "The Agitator," Labor Problem Play at Orpheum Next Week

One of the really big new attractions in vaudeville will be seen at the Orpheum commencing the week of March 20, when Helen Grantley in her act, "The Agitator," will be seen here. The act is by Mrs. Oscar Beringer, whose "A Bit of Old Chelsea," which was formerly acted by Mrs. Fliske, was considered one of the real one act gems.

"The Agitator" tells the story of a young girl employed in a large factory where she is trying to se-

## Stage Make-Up

"Ben Hur" is again playing to enormous business at the Boston theater, Boston. Owing to previous bookings, the run will have to be cut short, although the receipts are beyond those of any other previous engagement.

During her stay in Iowa, her native state, Lillian Russell will present to the Iowa Historical society an oil painting of herself. The presentation will be made at the request of the members of the society. The picture will be hung in the state hall of fame in the capitol building in Des Moines.

McIntyre and Heath, who are now playing on the Pacific coast in their successful musical comedy, "In Hayti," will open the new \$100,000 theater in Reno early in March. The new house is one of the most beautiful theaters west of the Missouri river.

Maelyn Arbuckle made his reappearance in the role of "Slim" Hoover in Klaw & Erlanger's production of "The Round Up" in Dallas, Tex. In a certain speech he said that 25 years ago he rode a cow pony through the mud roads which are now the paved streets of Dallas. Boyhood friends in the audience who recalled his youthful fondness for apple dumplings, presented him with an enormous apple pie, garnished with a mass of flowers. "The Round Up" is now on its way to the Pacific coast and Puget sound cities. As Mr. Arbuckle was a favorite in San Francisco as a member of the Frawley stock company, a cordial reception awaits him. The play will be put on in that city on a spectacular scale, as the stage permits the use of plenty of horses and men in the battle scene.

Those burnt cork eccentrics, Corcoran & Dixon, who are on the Washington program for the week of March 20, will offer a conglomeration of mirthful nonsensicalities, sprightly songs and acrobatic dances. John Corcoran has an original style of dancing which always brings forth hearty laughs, and Harland Dixon is one of the cleverest blackface comedians on the American stage.

Every lover of good music will rejoice in the splendid musical offering which is to be presented by Veroni Verdi and her tiny brother at the Washington the week of March 27. Their repertoire includes selections on the violin and cello.

A European gymnastic act that has aroused considerable notice is the Velde Trio, European gymnasts, and their "Looping the Loop" dogs. The novelty consists of astounding feats of equilibrium, which are daring and nerve tingling, combined with the remarkable feats of the dogs. This clever feature will be at the Washington the week of April 3.

## The Virginian Is a Powerful Western Play

Kirke La Shelle company, with William L. Gibson playing the title role, assisted by a notable array of talent, will present "The Virginian" at the Auditorium theater Thursday and Friday nights of this week. Theatergoers are promised one of the most powerful productions seen here during the season. This is a play of the western plains, dramatized from Owen Wister's popular novel of the same name. Each character in the production has been faithfully copied from Wister's famous romance, and nothing of the charm, thrilling or emotional parts contained in the latter has been eliminated in the transfer to the stage. Principally, it is written about men, which is the rational procedure in a country where women are in conspicuous minority, and the men belong to Wyoming, every one of them. "The Virginian" is a story of the friendship of two men quite as much as the story of the love of a man for a woman. And it is in the third act where these two friends come together for the last time and the Virginian captures Steve (turned cattle thief) that the strength of the play is fully shown. It grips the attention because of its novelty, and it tugs at the heart as the two strong men face the unalterable problem of their lives—one the hunter, the other the hunted—and the two friends who have shared the joys and sorrows of life on the plains were parted.

William L. Gibson, it is said, seems almost to have been created for the Virginian, and his success in the role has been most gratifying to his admirers.

The company will also include Marshal Farnum in his superb characterization of the villainous cattle thief, Trampas, and many of the original cast.

## Cummings Is a Vaudeville Star of Fame

Ralph E. Cummings, who will be seen at the Pantages all the week with his own company in "The Typewriter Girl," is too well known in the theatrical world to require much introduction. As a dramatic star his name is a household word in all the large cities of the states and eastern Canada, he having been the star of his own stock company for three years at the Princess theater, Toronto, and also at the Academy Theater, Montreal. A large salary and a less strenuous life tempted him to desert the life of a legitimate and his success in vaudeville is well known. He comes to Spokane di-

rect from the American Music hall, Chicago, where his act was a tremendous success and is said to have been the comedy hit of that house since the opening, remaining in Chicago for five consecutive weeks. No doubt Mr. Cummings and his act will meet with a warm reception in Spokane where many of his former friends will be glad to greet him.

## NOVEL BETTING PLAN IN INDIA

• Natives of India wager •  
• their money on the colors worn •  
• by jockeys or upon their favor- •  
• ite jockey, without regard to •  
• the merit of the horse. In- •  
• dians often form a pool and •  
• bet on every horse in the race, •  
• so that they will have the sat- •  
• isfaction of landing a winner •  
• in every race. It is estimated •  
• that \$1,500,000 changes hands •  
• on the races in India in a sea- •  
• son.

## SPOKANE THEATRE FOLLOW THE LIGHT

## TONIGHT

**MATINEE SATURDAY** **ALL WEEK**

The Talk of All America  
Henry B. Harris Will Again Present  
The Everlasting Success

## THE LION AND THE MOUSE

By Chas. Klein  
Author of "The Third Degree"  
With a Carefully Selected Company  
and a Complete Production  
POPULAR PRICES, 25c, 50c, 75c, \$1  
Next week Del Lawrence Stock Co.

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WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY  
MATINEE, MARCH 13, 1910

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"A Horse on Hogan"  
**MELLE NADJE**  
"The Typewriter Girl"  
Presenting Her Exclusive Gymnastic Offering

**WILLIAM E. WHITTLE**  
Presenting His Latest Novelty  
"9 P. M. at the White House"

**MAX YORK'S DOGS**  
Cleverest Canine Feature in Vaudeville

"A Treat for Music Lovers"  
**NEWELL & NIBLO**

"Unique Vaudevillians"  
**WILSON & PEARSON**  
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Matinee daily at 2:30. Two shows every evening at 7:30 and 9:00. Prices 15 and 25 cents.

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"Huckins' Run"

**AL WHITE'S DANCING BUGS**  
A Terpsichorean Oddity

**LAVINE-CIMARON TRIO**  
Grotesque Comedy and Dancing  
Travesty—"Imagination"

A Vaudeville Novelty  
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Impersonators of Birds, with Life-Like Feathered Costumes

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