

AT THE THEATERS LAST NIGHT

THE BELASCO.

"Bought and Paid For."

The spectacle of a pretty and virtuous woman holding her self-respect above everything else she possesses is always an appealing sight, and one which wins our applause whether we meet it in life or watch it across the footlights, which accounts for the enthusiastic reception given the return engagement of George Broadhurst's American domestic drama, "Bought and Paid For," at the Belasco Theater last night.

When a successful New York financier, one Robert Stafford, confesses his love for a little telephone girl of more than the average refinement, and declares to her that he is confident of winning her love after their marriage, since she is not sure of it before, one feels sure that he can, and is in no way surprised that he does. The girl is given every luxury of wealth and position, but her happiness is marred by her husband's weakness for wine. Returning home one night maddened and brutalized by drink he demands absolute possession of her, as of his other chattels "bought and paid for."

In a revelation of delicate pride and self-respect the young wife refuses to be degraded, and is consequently in the following morning when he comes to her, penitent and ashamed, she asks him to promise to forsake the one barrier to their happiness, which promise he refuses to make with the result that the girl leaves him as empty-handed as she came, going back to earning her living in a department store at \$7 per week.

Aside from his problematic appeal "Bought and Paid For" has a persistent comedy element, which is delightfully refreshing; nicely balancing the tenderness of the more serious situations.

Miss Helen Marbeth has this season the role of Virginia Eldon, the telephone girl, a characterization which she achieved last evening with that directness and simplicity which are the earmarks of technical smoothness and the chief elements of wisdom and charm. She was convincing in her stand for the maintenance of her self-respect, and deserves especial praise for the suppressed intensity with which she handled the melodramatic parting scene of the third act.

Frank Mills impersonated Robert Stafford, the millionaire husband and occasional drunkard, with consistency and virility, winning one's pity for his one weakness and admiration for his other character, which made it possible for him to eventually overcome it.

The persistent comedy element was made irresistible by Francis X. Collan, as James Gilley, the pin-headed stripping clerk, and Marion Lord, the older and less refined sister of Mrs. Robert Stafford. Both were admirable, as were also Marie Hardt, as madam's French maid, and Makoto, look-alike as Ota, a Japanese servant, each introducing a variety of strongly differentiated modern character types.

William A. Brady has set the present production of the Broadhurst serio-comic play with the same lavishness which he has shown in his previous work. The play called for more than ordinary skill from a large cast of actors, as the least tendency to exaggeration in any of the characters spoils the peculiar charm of Mr. Ades' realism.

By the most exacting standards the Pull production merits the highest praise. The players have seized upon the juicy parts, supported with such charm, as Mr. Roberts said in his curtain speech, "complimenting the management. It is extraordinary that so from a general effect should be reached with a few rehearsals. The performance of Theodore Roberts as Jim Hacker is in itself sufficient to draw to Foll's Theater this week every seeker for what is truly notable in the players' art. In addition the character work of Richard Babler, Stanley James, William D. Corbett, C. W. Vance, Louise Kent, Helen Tracy, and Gertrude Bonnell is of more than usual interest. Miss Jewel, too, contributing her sweet personality in the role of the heroine.

ACADEMY. "The Shepherd of the Hills." The simple love story of the mountains of Missouri, "The Shepherd of the Hills," from Harold Bell Wright's novel of that name, is repeated with such charm in a delightful and wholesome manner at the Academy this week.

The shepherd is a cultured stranger who comes into the hills, and escapes from the conventionalities to which he has been accustomed. He accepts the occupation of shepherd, but soon becomes shepherd of a human flock, the

big-hearted mountaineers and their families. Among his devoted followers are Old Matt and Young Matt, the giants of the hills; Sammy Lane, glorious in the beauty of young womanhood, and poor Pete, a child of nature.

Ray Brown, as "Preachin' Bill," has a part that calls for real acting, and he responds to the call in more than adequate shape. Despite the roughness of his character, his striking philosophy is thoroughly enjoyed. It is "Preachin' Bill who kills Wagon Gibbs, the leader of the lawless element in the community, but he does it in self-defense and in doing so brings relief to the people of the Ozarks.

Miss Jean Ward, as Sammy Lane, is the heroine, and her sympathetic portrayal is convincing. Harry Nelson in the title role, gives a finished, well-balanced portrayal.

The stage settings are realistic, the beauty of the Ozark mountain region lending itself to the effective stage pictures.

NEW NATIONAL. "Cohan in 'Broadway Jones.'" Whether as Broadway Jones or in any other disguise, George M. Cohan is "all to the mustard." Walking or talking, sitting or standing up, drunk or sober, it's of course, applicable only to what he does, and he may assume—in the shape of a comedian or on the top wave of hilarity, author or actor, or both in one, he is an unending source of enjoyment to all who come under the spell of his genial humor.

It is as contagious as the measles; you never see him without laughing. He may be a comedian, but he is a comedian in the shape of a comedian. He may be a comedian, but he is a comedian in the shape of a comedian. He may be a comedian, but he is a comedian in the shape of a comedian.

As usual, Mr. Cohan has surrounded himself with a company, every one of whose members fit into the respective parts like the proverbial paper in the wall. Ada Gilman, as Mrs. Girard, the wealthy, superannuated widow, is in looks and action a regular "scream."

George Parsons is admirable as Robert Wallace, who has been called to him, just sure of a hearty welcome in the city of her birth, where she also entered upon her stage career, gave a very attractive interpretation to the part of Josie, the level-headed little business manager.

Mrs. Helen F. Cohan is a most lovable Mrs. Spottswood, and finds a splendid counterpart in Jerry J. Cohan in the role of Judge Spottswood. Mary Murphy as Clara Spottswood, sweet sixteen and very fond of chocolates and ice cream soda, made quite a hit, and Daniels Burns, as Sam, was a typical boy in knickerbockers, who is sure he has brains and is not afraid to show it. M. J. Sullivan is capital as Hankin, Jones' servant. Clarence Heritage as Peter Pembroke; Fletcher Harvey as Grover Wallace, and John Fenton as Higgins, who knows he is a "rotten" temper, complete the cast.

voices and ability meriting a part in the show. The show is a decided relief, coming as it does after a long string of the usual cut-and-dried burlesque. From the time the curtain rises until its final fall the performance is one continuous change of scenery, gowns, and principals. It is full of catchy songs, pleasing personalities, and plenty of wholesome fun.

B. F. KEITH'S. Refused Vandeville. Two packed houses yesterday and last night at R. F. Keith's vaudeville castle handed down the popular verdict to Jack Wilson, assisted by Ada Lane and Jack Boyle, in a side-splitting twenty-minute "Impromptu review," as they call it. The popular comedian, however, was closely pursued for first honors, for seven other good acts complete a bill of excellence.

It's a top-up for second choice between R. A. Rolfe's presentation of Ralph Lynn in "Purple Lady," a condensed musical comedy, and Miss Louise Galloway and company in a comedy of home life, entitled "The Little Mother."

From where we sat, Miss Galloway's splendid portrayal of a parent, with an overacting refusal to believe her son's guilt, made a distinct impression. John A. Butler, as the son, gives Miss Galloway excellent support. Ralph Lynn, the star of the Rolfe offering, is a laugh-producer of the first rank. The act is well staged.

DeLasso brothers, gymnasts, perform many "trick" acts on the horizontal bars and were accorded merited applause. Gertrude Vanderbilt and George Moore lived up to their reputations as dandy dancers and singers. Josephine Dunfee, a charming prima donna, has a beautiful voice of warm range.

Alberta Moore and Myrtle Young, two clever young girls, who open the bill, know how to entertain in the way of the village paragon. Edith Lovell and Jannette Wilbur show their prowess on the flying rings. The Pathé moving pictures depict recent events.

COSMOS. After one performance yesterday afternoon, "Woodland Memories," advertised as the chief feature of the Cosmos bill this week, was replaced for last night's performance with the Rough Riders Band, with its martial and classic music and patriotic tableaux. It will be replaced for the remainder of the week with a musical comedy, "Fun On the Hazy Deep," by a company of ten, most of them girls.

Douglas Douglas and her dog open the bill with a novel acrobatic act, and Garden and Gerrish make good in an offering of songs, dances, and comedy interpolations while the Rough Riders, a high-class offering with their banjos. The hit of the bill, however, is the clever little comedy, with a dramatic thrill, "A Dinner for Four," which is presented by William Lampe and his company.

CASINO. The nine Spanish War veterans who compose the Rough Riders Band made a telling hit yesterday at all the performances with their martial and classic music and patriotic tableaux. "The Spirit of '76," Wilson and Bondy have a good comedy acrobatic act.

Martin and Moore have a phonology that is both laughable for its comedy and enjoyable for its musical features. Walter Milton proved himself a doctor for the "blues" with his anecdotes and caecories. Jack Hendley and company present an amusing farce. The added feature last night, the surprise party, also created merriment and made some folk happy with its gifts.

MORE POOLS FAVORED. Mid-City Citizens' Body Ratifies Resolution for Swimming Places. The Mid-City Citizens' Association last night at its regular meeting, ratified the resolution calling for the location of swimming pools in different parts of the city, and the curtailment of recreation bodies. The resolution was ratified by unanimous vote.

Herbert J. Brown, of the Tax Reform League, appeared at the meeting and explained the motives of the reform league. William F. Peabody, of the Street Safety Association, spoke on street safety in the District. He compared the death rate of cities in this country with European cities, and advised more stringent traffic rules for this city. A. J. Driscoll, president of the association, presided.

CHASE OUT ON BAIL; HEARING POSTPONED. Accused Embezzler of Y. M. C. A. Funds Discusses Case with Attorney Laskey. Released on \$500 bail, Charles N. Chase, financial secretary of the Y. M. C. A., accused of having embezzled funds of the association, will appear in the United States branch of Police Court on Tuesday, December 16, to answer to the charge.

A preliminary hearing was scheduled for yesterday, but upon request of John Z. Laskey, counsel for the defense, a postponement was granted. Laskey explained to Assistant District Attorney Fielding Jones he had just been retained as counsel and desired more time to consider the case.

On a cash bond, furnished by George W. Ray, of Georgetown, Chase was released. Secretaries C. L. Johnson and A. M. Chesley, of the Y. M. C. A., have shown a friendly attitude toward Chase and yesterday discussed the case with Attorney Laskey.

In the meantime the force of auditors employed to examine Chase's books expect to complete their work this afternoon. Upon his release Chase denied himself to newspaper men and went immediately to his home.

Del Ray Merchant Nabbed. Charged with shipping unspiced meat and foodstuffs into the State of Virginia from the District, Jacob Glassman, forty years old, a merchant of Del Ray, Va., was arrested at Center Market yesterday by Detective Jake Berman.

SUMMER RESORT HAS BIG FIRE. Long Branch, N. J., Dec. 8.—Fire broke out in the West End Cottages, a popular summer resort, this afternoon and the building was gutted. Loss \$50,000.

THE OPEN FORUM

A Great Navy Absolutely Necessary. To the Editor: Henceforth the Caribbean will be the storm center of world politics, as the Mediterranean has been of the European, and as England has been the dominating power in the Mediterranean for her political life, so must the United States be in the Caribbean for her own. And the Panama Canal will be the pivot of the struggle. Involved in it all, in greater degree than ever before, will be the Monroe doctrine. In the numerous cases arising out of the Monroe doctrine is the danger of their application and its burden upon America. Every day new dangers are seen. But the Monroe doctrine cannot be abandoned. It is as vital today as it was at its birth a century ago. It must be maintained. The continued ownership of the Panama Canal calls for it; demands it. The Panama Canal is the strategic point of its maintenance and of American prestige. The canal must, therefore, remain American. To that end a great navy is absolutely necessary. Auxiliary is a great aerial fleet. The protection of the Panama Canal depends upon it. The Canal Zone should be covered with aviation stations with ships abounding. Congress should look to their establishment, encourage aviation, and make the protection of the Canal Zone secure through their agency. Certainly, aerial navigation would be of inestimable value for offensive destructive operations against hostile fleets. The fortification of the canal will be incomplete without a great aerial fleet for scouting and reconnaissance as well as destructive operations. And back of it all a great navy is absolutely necessary.

ANDREW JORDAN GREENE. Seats for Motormen. To the Editor: Permit a plea in your valuable paper on behalf of our faithful motormen of this city. I am sure they suffer from tired feet and aching backs for the lack of seats which could be obtained at a comparative small cost. I noticed in a sister city folding stools, easy to adjust, for standing or sitting, for these faithful men. In this respect let our congress along the lines of humanitarianism retrograding? The antiquated horse cars provided seats for the drivers.

H. D. GORDON. Summer Resort Has Big Fire. Long Branch, N. J., Dec. 8.—Fire broke out in the West End Cottages, a popular summer resort, this afternoon and the building was gutted. Loss \$50,000.

Dr. Timothy Dwight, once president of Yale, is living at eighty-five in New Haven, Conn. An almanac printed in Newport, R. I., in 1751, sold for \$15 in Boston the other day.

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