



America's Two Best Managers Bankrupt

Hardly a month ago Liebler & Co., which is George C. Tyler—went bankrupt. Now Harrison Gray Fluke joins him. There is no more meaning in this than any other of "hard times" and war will account for it. Undoubtedly the condition of this country and Europe helped, and undoubtedly the American theatre is in a very serious state. But the significant fact is the nature of the men and the works that have gone under, the sort of producers who are struck first in a time of stress for our speculative theatre system. Whatever the cause of the failures, they have fallen upon the two finest, the two most promising and the two most steadily achieving among America's theatrical managers. Tyler, who was always ready for experiment with new playwrights, new scenery, new types of plays; Mr. Fluke, husband and manager of America's greatest actress, moulder of a score of fine dramas.



Keith's star this week as de Zayas sees her in "Vaudeville," by Caroline Caffin.

Impending Pleasures

Following "The Miracle Man's" fortnight at the Garrick, Lew Fields will depart for his next venture, "The High Cost of Living." His play, "The High Cost of Living," has already enjoyed Broadway popularity. It is an adaptation of a German farce in which a number of elderly gentlemen pay tribute to a young man in melodramatic appeal—that score the successes. Such matter for the present can hold its own. The stuff that Tyler and Fluke would give has no chance.

Keith's star this week as de Zayas sees her in "Vaudeville," by Caroline Caffin. An appealing piece of sentimental drama, full of sweet and noble persons, mostly German, and Mr. Koller plays up and into, around and about it, with all his customary finish and thoroughness.

Mr. Koller probably does all that. As for the play, Mr. Hammond hasn't presented documentary evidence. His account of the plot is far otherwise than attractive. It sounds wishy-washy, this tale of the shoe manufacturer who pines for his son and tries to marry him to a banker's daughter, while he abuses his own girl and turns her away with her humble husband. The son, of course, proves to be that thing so frequently found in the neighborhood of the footlights, a bad egg. He absconds. Ruined father gets over his pettish ways. Daughter helps him out. And ultimately everything—including son—ends happily.

Yet all is quiet along the banks of the Chicago River. The New Winter Garden show, "Made in America," is to employ the following willing workers: Harry Fox, Yanaci Dolbey, Valeria Suratt, Belle Abilyn, Minerva Coverdale, Hal Forde, W. C. Fields, Joe Jackson, Bikel and Watson and Bert Clark. Harold Atteridge is preparing to write the "book" during the rehearsal, while Harry Carroll has already tapped out the tunes.

Edna Bates, general understudy for "Whatch Your Step," has got a most appropriate Christmas present—which she isn't shouting about. It betel in this wise: When Miss Bates was hired as a first aid to the injured and Radrury's Ready Relief, she was told that she must report every day to one of the theatres at which Mr. Dillingham's two successes were playing, and be ready for any emergency call.

Nothing easier. But—Anybody who wants to learn Miss Bates' misfortune and appreciate her feelings has only got to take a train to New York and try to see his way into either "Chin Chin" or "Whatch Your Step." Empty rear seat? There ain't no such animal. R. O. for Miss Bates. Likewise S. O. S. Hence Mr. Dillingham's present: A tamptool.

Koller as Cobbler From composing symphonies, leading menographers astray and being very naive and elegant at either. Henry Koller has settled down to life as an old Dutch cobbler. That is the sort of person Chicago finds him in Louis R. Anspacher's drama, "Our Children." Percy Hammond, of the Chicago Tribune, thinks Mr. Anspacher has writ-

PHOTO PLAYS

The war tax that has been imposed on many of the theatres in the Pittsburgh district has hit the men owning them harder than though it had come a few months earlier or later. Many of the theatres have remodelled their places and have put in extra seats and these have had to pay a higher tax.

In a number of instances the theatres have had a hard time raising their tax and it is shown by the list of theatres that have closed that the war tax was such as to make many of the small men close the doors of their places, many of them never to open again as motion picture theatres.

This is not the case alone in the Pittsburgh district, but throughout West Virginia and Eastern Ohio. It is estimated that more than 300 theatres were closed on account of the war tax, and more of them will close when the new building code of the States is put into operation and the inspectors get busy enforcing the law.

LASKY ACTIVITIES. The Lasky studios have just filmed "The Warrens of Virginia, which will be followed by "The Woman," to be enacted by a special star cast, and by "The Governor's Lady." One of the most recent notable additions to the list of dramatic stars who have consented to appear on the screen under the Lasky management is Edith Wynne Matthison, who is to play the title role in this last named Lasky-Belasco production. Wallace Eddinger has also signed a Lasky contract.

Plans are now well under way for the making of picturizations of such other Belasco presentations as "Sweet Kitty Bellairs" and "The Darling of the Gods." It is conceded on every hand that by the managerial stroke of this alliance with Mr. Belasco, the nature of whose genius has made his dramatic productions especially picturesque and suited for filming, the Lasky organization scored the greatest four de force of the season.

IN DAYS GONE BY. Sidney Bracy (Thanouser) was Feste, the Jester, with Viola Allen's "Twelfth Night" in 1906, and in 1912 was the Sir Guy in the all-star cast of "Robin Hood." William Humphreys (Vitagraph) was Oscar Brandt in "Richter's Wife," with Julie and Chrystal Herne in 1906.

PERSONALITIES. Neil Kenny recently attempted to jump from the Brooklyn Bridge for the Universal Animated Weekly, but was arrested in time by the police. Ella Wheeler Wilcox and Jack Rose, gambler, are writing a photoplay for Warner.

WHAT'S DOING TONIGHT. "Hilly" Sunday sermons, tabernacle, 19th and Vine streets, 7:30 o'clock. Free. Banquet, Abokoboko Business Club, 7th and Dauphin streets, 8:30 o'clock. Founders' Association, Manufacturers' Club, 8 o'clock. Geographical Society, Witherspoon Hall, 8 o'clock. Jewelers' Guild Housewarming, 1223 Walnut street. Dinner of Passengers, Ludlow and 22d streets. Franklin Institute. Kensington Board of Trade, Hancock street above Sunbusham avenue. Free. South 62d street Business Men's Y. M. C. A., 8:30 o'clock. East Central Business Men's Association, 422 Spruce streets. Free.

DOROTHY GISH Co-star with her sister Lillian in Majestic photoplays.

WHO WROTE HUGH WYNNE? THAT IS ONLY A STARTER

110 Such Questions Put to Pupils of Germantown Friends' School. What solid has the smallest possible surface compared with its volume? Who painted the "Madonna della Sedia," which hangs in the Uffizi Gallery in Florence? Why wrote "Hugh Wynne?"

EPISODE VI. THE CASE OF THE MWINTER FAMILY. McWinter did odd jobs at the chemical laboratory in the village. He was an expert in certain departments, and occasionally the chief chemist risked the chance of sending for him. It was noticeable that the derelict worked faithfully on these days, with the hope of continuous employment. When afternoon came a telephone call arrived with it and McWinter hurried off to the laboratory, rather pleased, too, to find himself temporarily placed over the man he hated so heartily. The same amiability he had shown to his wife he now exhibited in a lesser degree toward Smith, who was rather antipathetic at the sudden turn of affairs.

SILK-HATTED, BUT "BROKE" Apparel Does Not Proclaim This Man's Real Condition. A silk hat and frock coat are no unguarantee in Philadelphia, but when the owner of such finery acknowledges he has made his abode in an abandoned freight car and would be ashamed to look a real square meal in the face, it makes a little difference. Thereby hangs a tale.

R. R. MUST PAY RENTAL Camden Will Exact Sum for Use of New Terminal Site. A rental commensurate with the value of the property will be demanded by the Camden Harbor Commission, recently appointed by Mayor Ellis, before the Philadelphia and Reading Railway Company is permitted to erect a new terminal on the site of the old burned down at Kaighn's Point, Camden.

New Counterfeit \$10 Coin Found. The Central National Bank has discovered a new counterfeit \$10 coin. A large number of the coins are believed to be in circulation in Philadelphia. It was turned over to the Secret Service Bureau in the Postoffice. It has a plated appearance, its diameter is 1.18 of an inch less than that of the standard coin and it is below standard weight.

ZUDORA A GREAT MYSTIC STORY BY HAROLD MACGRATH

SYNOPSIS. Zudora is first an orphan at an early age. Her father, killed in a gold mine, has discovered half an hour after learning of the death of his husband Zudora's mother, a tight rope walker with a circus, is seized with vertigo, falls, and is killed. Zudora and the fortune from the mine, which later grows to be worth \$25,000,000, are left to the guardianship of Frank News, a circus man and the brother of Zudora's mother. Zudora, a young woman of great beauty, reaches the age of 15. The uncle, who has set himself up as a Hindu mystic, and means as Hassan Ali, declares in his greed that Zudora must be his. She comes into possession of her great fortune, so that it may be left to him, the next of kin, and he prevails upon her to leave her money in his hands three years longer and to say nothing to any one about the fortune. Hassan Ali sees an obstacle to his scheme in the person of John Storm, a young lawyer, for whom Zudora has taken a fancy, and he commands the girl to put the man out of her mind. Storm comes to ask Hassan Ali for the hand of his niece. At first the cruel miser will not listen to the proposal, but Zudora insists that if she consents the girl to put the man out of her mind. Storm comes to ask Hassan Ali for the hand of his niece. At first the cruel miser will not listen to the proposal, but Zudora insists that if she consents the girl to put the man out of her mind.

authorities. There was one thing quite plain to them, however, and that was McWinter had been murdered in a most cunning and diabolical manner. Naturally, the coroner's inquest drew the net about Smith's feet. He had gone out hunting with McWinter and was the last man to see him alive. Then came the clerk, who swore that the bottle found in the shack was identical to that stolen from the laboratory, where both men worked. Smith, despite all protests, was held for the Grand Jury on the charge of murder in the first degree. Other facts began to circulate. Some one had heard McWinter accuse his wife of being too friendly with Smith, and out of this calumny raised its ugly head. Here and there men began to mutter about Judge Lynch. And Mrs. McWinter was shunned by all those who had posed as her friends.

A few days before the trial began Hassan Ali was poring over his crystal. Nearby sat Zudora, reading and reflecting. The two had been talking about Meiner and Cagliostro, and Zudora was gathering her arguments from the book she held. The bell was heard to ring. A few moments later a visitor was ushered in by the Hindu servant. To Hassan Ali's cold eye this client did not suggest any future profit, but Mrs. McWinter's tale caught the sympathy of Zudora. "I will take this case, uncle," she volunteered. "It interests me. It is purely circumstantial evidence, and that is usually the most puzzling to solve. If I succeed, it will add another step toward my 20 cases." "Suit yourself," carelessly. "But remember, if it turns out to be an ordinary case, it will not count." "I accept that risk." Zudora, in accordance with her agreement with her lover, John Storm, wrote him explaining about the case, and asked him to meet her at the McWinter house the following afternoon. When the two arrived in the village they found the suburbs in turmoil. There had been, they found, a punitive expedition against the man that held Smith, but it had been frustrated. "This is going to be interesting, John," said Zudora. "I've an idea I'd like to plead for the poor devil. I never realized how many links there were in life until you entered this detective business." "The unexpected is always happening. On the face of it this man Smith looks guilty. The very fact that the woman is eager to save him has a suspicious angle. But for all this, we may find him innocent as a child." Meantime Hassan Ali had not been idle. He was going to lose no chance to further his schemes. To be sure, he had furnished his utter lack of interest in the case, but that had been to hoodwink his niece. So quietly and unobserved, he made a secret investigation of the shack. It did not take him remarkably keen eyes long to discover what had taken place. Clever, abominably clever! Here was a criminal who had fantastic ideas. If this infernal contrivance had served one major purpose, it might readily serve another. So he contrived to separate Zudora and Storm and bring the latter to the shack. He wrote frankly, signing his own name, and declaring that it would not be safe for Zudora to go deeply into this case, as there was more to it than could be seen on the surface. So Storm concluded to meet Hassan Ali at the shack and find out what he had to say. He promised himself that he would be cool in this case, as there was more to it than could be seen on the surface. So Storm concluded to meet Hassan Ali at the shack and find out what he had to say. He promised himself that he would be cool in this case, as there was more to it than could be seen on the surface. So Storm concluded to meet Hassan Ali at the shack and find out what he had to say. He promised himself that he would be cool in this case, as there was more to it than could be seen on the surface.

man who had built this windowless shack. By and by he heard hurrying footsteps. Blyly he looked out and observed the unsuspecting attorney. Good! But something slipped; the spring moved too soon, or Hassan Ali had not pushed it back far enough. The door slammed violently. There came a tinkle of breaking glass and Hassan Ali struggled desperately to pull the door open. He was already too weak.

PEOPLE'S CHORAL UNION IN MENDELSSOHN'S "ATHALIE" Sacred Cantata Presented by Public Sight-singing Classes. Eight years ago Mendelssohn's sacred cantata, "Athalie," was presented in Philadelphia, but not since that time until last night had it been repeated. The new presentation was by members of the People's Choral Union, who had received instruction in the public sight-singing classes under direction of Miss Anna McDonough. The choruses were sung with spirit and precision, and showed intelligent training and practice.

PHOTOPLAYS Thanouser's Greatest Photoplay ZUDORA

THE SPOILERS Direct from the Chester St. Opera House. CHESTNUT ST. OPERA HOUSE. Some of World's Greatest Photoplays. A FILM DRAMATIZATION OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST LOVE STORY THE CHRISTIAN. Twice Daily—Afternoons 2:30, Evenings 8:30. Preceded by Keystone Comedy Pictures. TULPEHOCKEN. GERMANTOWN AVE. & CHESTNUT ST. BELVIDERE. GERMANTOWN AVE. & CHESTNUT ST. KATHLYN WILLIAMS in "The Lord of the Jungles, Others." MANHEIM. GERMANTOWN AVE. & CHESTNUT ST. ZUDORA. GOOD PICTURE PLAYS. MIDVALE THEATRE. EAST FALLS. CHAMBERS ST. TREY O' HEARTS. No. 7. CAYUGA. GERMANTOWN AVE. and CAYUGA ST. The Traffic in Babes. His Gratitude. As We Journey Through Life.

TODAY'S PHOTOPLAY CALENDAR

Table listing photo plays at various theaters: ACROSS THE PACIFIC, THE CHRISTIAN, Days of Thundering Herd, ELAINE, ELAINE NO. 2, GHOST BREAKER, MASTER KEY NO. 3, MASTER KEY NO. 6, NORTHERN LIGHTS, PRINCE OF DARKNESS, THE SPOILERS, Story of the Blood Red Rose, TELLTALE HAND, TERENCE O'ROURKE NO. 5, THE THIEF, THOR, Lord of the Jungle, THE TIGRESS, TREY O' HEARTS NO. 7, WAR IN EUROPE, ZUDORA, ZUDORA. LINCOLN 49th and Woodland Avenue. CHESTNUT ST. OPERA HOUSE. FAIRMOUNT 26TH ST. AND GIBBARD AVE. IMPERIAL 60TH ST. BELOW WALNUT. RUBY MARSHALL AND MARKET STS. ALHAMBRA WELFLETH AND MORRIS STS. SEREMBUS AMBER AND NORRIS STS. TUXEDO HAVERTOWN AND LANCASTER AVES. JEFFERSON 39TH BELOW DAUPHIN ST. PARK RIDGE AVE. AND DAUPHIN ST. GERMANTOWN GERMANTOWN AVE. and School Lane. SAVOY MARKET ST. TELLTALE HAND 1211 MARKET ST. OVERBROOK 34d St. and Haverford Ave. LOCUST 45D and LOCUST STS. BELVIDERE GERMANTOWN AVE. bet. GRAVER'S LANE and WALNUT. LEADER 41ST ST. and LANCASTER AVE. MIDVALE THEATRE EAST FALLS. BIJUO DREAM 1205 MARKET ST. MANHEIM GERMANTOWN AVE & MANHEIM ST. BROADWAY 52D ST. and GREENSWAY AVE.

No. 8—ASTHMA SIMPSON, THE VILLAGE QUEEN—OH, YES! LUKE MANAGED TO SEE "CON" TRAFFIC!!

