# SHAW AND REX BEACH ARE COUNTERPOISED IN THE NEW ATTRACTIONS OF THE PLAYHOUSES

## MR. SHAW'S DILEMMA; GOOD BILL AT KEITH'S ALSO THE REVIEWER'S

The Case in Point Being an Amusing Comedy About Doctors and Artistic Romance

# STAGE SOCIETY PLAYS IT

OR'S DILEMMA. Comedy in fiv-mard Shaw, Stage Society Players. Clark P. Horne Mabel Sheppard Henry C. Sheppard Edward B. Laumer Henry L. Fox William H. Whitney amole William H omfield Bonington. George Y Edwards Insop H Lloyd Weir Supple B, Norr a Vinton Fraedley Marie Baer J N Deeter Act L. Sir Colenso Ridgeon's Consulting

Act II. After Dinner on a Hotel Terrace. a Acts III and IV. Louis Dunedat's Studio. Act V. A Picture Shop Gallery.

The Doctor's Dilemma" is also the ritic's dilemma. Shall be take Louis the gifted, the shiftless, the selfah, at the shavan valuation, along with the varied types of medics and the angelic Jennifer? Shall be look at the artist through the strikt's eyes, and so forth? Or is his right course to regard the whole five exceedingly entertaining acts as pearls on the rosary of Bernard's satire? Perhaps yes; for with-out the saving sense of that popular trish-man's satirical and noncreative faculty (an pointed out by Mr. Clayton Hamilton) there is little to be gained in pro or con tacties for of against him who has never needed an esthetic defender—because he has been his own best frumpet and dram.

his own best trumpet and drum. Be it said, with some caim, that 'The Doctor's Diemma' is Shaw at his best-mully. For one thing, the theme is so We have been pestered and dosed and moralized at by our family pby-scians for so many years we can't help enjoy seeing a verbal knife thrust between their riba. And they are capitally individ-mailed. The pompous and beoming "B valued. The pompous and becoming "B B"; the dapper and superficial Watpole; the stanch and human Sir Patrick ; the tu-bercular Blenkinsop; the Semitic Schultzhow vividly and amusingly and macher maliciously and caricaturedly they are hit

But there are other reasons why the play, is spite of its length and the feebleness of is last act, is worth seeing at least once. It strangely brough now and then does achieve a touch of the genuine Mr. Shaw In never less happy than when he is trying to dissect love and lovers. How, then, did he do it here? Done it he has, however, with Jennifer, Cornian and clean-hearted and lovely. And, although he has tried to minimize and distort Louis, he hasn't quite acceeded. Any stage portrait drawn from Beardsley is bound to have a little flavor of something lovable, a little secondary intention of spiritual sweetness, even though he borrows and doesn't pay and lies and loves locatly. It is the artist and his wife that hold the comedy together, for Ridgeon is as unreal in his passion as a green carnation and as dead theatrically as Anne of Cleves. So romance, despised by Mr. Shaw, steps in and takes his honors from him. One goes from the theater remembering the Indivisible clasp of two lives, not that the man was a cheat and the woman a fool.

In the present case, one also goes away membering some extremely neat acting; some that is worse than futile, and two mumptions that are really fine. It seems unthinkable that the same cast that holds the intense, touching Jennifer of Miss Nor-ris; the masterly sketch of Sir Patrick, by Mr. Pox, and the keenly feit, quick, enarmingly-voiced Dubedat of Mr. Freed-ley, can also hold such halting and inept work as that disclosed by Ridgeon. Bon-ington, too, is not grasped, except in the style of old-fashined comedy; and the whole production might undergo polishing. All the best jokes "get over" in the un-many Shaw manner, and some of the shy heavy of the married lovers. These two impersonations are worth study, and a widt to the playhouse. A Louis who can In the present case, one also goes away mpersonations are worth study, and a visit to the playhouse. A Louis who can put across the inner character of himself and keep the Shaw inflection belongs in the legitimate theatre. And a Jennifer who is taut and adorable, is—well, Jennifer.

# WINS LAUGHS BY SCORE

Lyddell and Higgins and Ward's Symphony Girls Favorites. Florrie Millership III

A well-rounded program was offered at Keith's to an appreciative audience.

Many novelties were presented in the nurse of the bill and there was a plentiful upply of good comedy and music. If laughter and applause are indicative of opinion, then the show overflowed with nerit.

Worthy of special mention are the news other events of the day, give a 'close up' view of President Wilson when, it is said, he was addressing Congress and using permission to arm the merchanimen. The picture of the President on the day of his record inauguration aroused the patriotism of the audience to highest pitch and brought prolonged applicates.

Will J. Ward and his five "symplions first carried of first honors in laughter and applause, with Ai Lydell and Bob Hig-gins, in "A Friend of Fathers" running a close second. The other acts were close on the best of the other acts were close on the heels of this pair of fun-makers. Ward and his girls-Frances bougherty. Kitty Leavitt. Marie Foy, Bobby Lucey and Gail Start-were infectious with humor, that was carried to the audience though the yehicle of a well-executed musical program The technique of the "orchestra" of five deep-toned planos, thrumming ukuleles and clear voices made an impression on the audience. It has been many a day since as ludricous and true-to-life octogenarian character as Al Lydell has been laughed at

Hiness prevented the appearance of Flor-rie Millership. Evelyn Xesolr, with Jack Clifford, was received with much applause in her 1917 act, presenting a newness of thought in scenery and costume. William Sisto, as an "Italian-Polack-Allegarety-Nova Scotia" multiplier consult by archively from the scotia spellbinder, caused hysterical feminine gig gles in the fifst balcony, as usual. Ed Gal lagter and Andy Lewis appeared for the first time here in a new comedy act. My Friend the Judge. The possibilities of the sweet-foned sylophone were displayed by the Musical Johnstons. The Konerg Brothers gave a daza ing jug-

gling act. The Amoras Sisters, in a medley of song dance and physical culture, won gling act. applause

## "MADAME X" REVIVED AT THE KNICKERBOCKER

Eugenie Blair, Emotional Actress, Begins Engagement in Tensely Dramatic Play With Stock Company

The depths of despair and degradation brought about through recourse to the use of drugs were tensely visualized at the Knickerbocker. Theatre last night by Eugenie Blair in the title role of "Madame N." The play-will be given a week's run by the stock company.

Miss Blair has joined the Knickerbocker players as leading woman, to take the place of Miss Anna Doherty, who has been comor miss Anna Doherty, who has been com-pelled to give up her stage work for the remainder of the season on account of her health. Miss Blair is considered one of the leading exponents of emotionalism on the American stage. She is well known to Philade'phians, there being few parts, either classic or modern, that she has not at some time or other portraged in this city.

BEN WELCH AND COMPANY PLEASE CASINO THRONG

Diminutive Comedian Returns to His First Love, Burlesque, and Scores Heavily

ther. Ben Welch, one of the few burlesque co-medians who is equally good in vaudeville, brought his own company to the Casho hast night and scored the success that has become a habit with him. He is, of course,



Goodman, at the Broad

## REX BEACH'S "BARRIER" MARY DOES KEYSTONE COMES TO OPERA HOUSE

A Tense Tale of the North With Lots of Excitement, but Little Beauty

# Charm STANLEX-"The Poor Little Rich Girl." Art-raft, with Mary Pickford, Story, from Missnor Gates a play Directed by Maurice Tourising

The Barrier," which came to the Opera-House last right, where the same author's fact that its story has been padded out with

since "The flirth of a Nation" has enjoyed. Gil Spear, winner of the EVENING LEDGER scenario competition, has done excellent work in adopting the tale. the film must start with one of those "twen-ty-years-ago" introductions, in which the villain marries a girl who loves another. Keystone counedy and some broken water villain marries a girl who loves another.

dyke, with the viliain and the other man in the same camp, the progress of the yarn is unabated. It ends with the death of the viliain, the vindication of the now aged victim and the marriage of the daughter of the viliain and the murdered woman to a young army officer of very good family. There are a large selection of good fights strewn along the way.

There are a large selection of good lights strewn along the way. Two more polats of the story deserve consideration, one doesn't amount to much, as the story comes out on the screen—the

The action swamps this psycho-

ARCADIA-"The Argyle Case." Selanick with Robert Warwick. Story from the play di-rected by Raiph Ince. After a good while out of the game

usual Fox vortices. It has bright photog-traphy, handbone reta, whirlwild action, a real if improbable, story. Ferhaps you don't cars for the rough-house , most or he thickly-laid-on child pathos, but you' idmit that the vampire-ingenue work of admit that the vanishes meride with or Miss Pearson is elever, and you certainly won't he bared. This company's directors are sharks at the close-up and the cuthach and so the flan moves with breakness speed. a mi dexterity.

SAVOV-"Neven Deadly Sins: Envy," M-Vilues, which Alls Murdawa and George Le Unice Diseased to Murdavd Ridgely Photo graphed by George W. Lane,

The first of the new Mctlure photoplays There are a whole lot of nice things about is like a good dinner. filled with ta courses that are a little hard to digest hus all the elements of the modern thrile this new Pickford picture, in splite of the Similars' first fourtabled, is in the true fact that its story has been pudded out with the spectators canners with that is story from this masterpiece of acreen meiodrama. Like all flex Beach's tales, it is a straight story -cleverig twisted piot, well-arranged conflicts, excitement, suspense fight; everything that ought to make a better scenario fight ought to make a better scenario fight service main the schedule and the result is a straight story -cleverig twister is mainly first of all. Mary as a girlie in sport skitts, in short skitts, in log's clones and in fact. There is Mary first of all. Mary as a girlie in short skirts, in boy's clothes and in flat fiel 'leddy bears''. Mary preity and pouty Miss Murdock is There are plenty of inand pathetic. Then there is some of the best mud throwing by Mary and a lot of little boys that ever took place outside a Reystone country and some broken water pipes of the same school. Handsoms in-teriors and fine lighting adorn the tale of too much emphasis isn't put on the higha poor little rich kiddle who never has any art end of it.

The Palace is showing "The Witching Hour," with C Aubrey Smith. At the Re-gent Harold Lockwood and May Allison in "The Promise" are the attraction @Peggy Hyland in "Intrigue" is the principal fea-ture on the Strand bill. It will be reviewed here later this week.



than a cheap coffee!

## 'PRETTY BABY' DELIGHTS MASQUE OF AMERICAN WITH HUMOR APLENTY DRAMA CONCLUDED

## Snappy Lines, Good Singing and Albert E. Trombly's Allegorical Funny Comedian at Walnut

"Pretty Baby, the production which came in the pictorial section.) the Walnut last night. The show is Hodges, the leading comedian.

As a general rule, such productions have to depend on its comedian to get it "across," but in "Pretty Pala" such is not the case.

"Land of the Dragons,"

"Poor Butterfly," a song hit from "Hip Hip Hosray," is song by Miss Fin Wells in future for the union. this scene and we might make mention of the fact it is this young lady who possesses the hest volce in the company. It is

has a damin charm which drew the audi-effect to her from her first appearance

Announcement that Albert E. Trombly, under the personal direction of Jimmie poet and professor of romance languages at the University of Pennsylvania, had completed the words of the "Masque of American Drama." to be presented during the second week in May at the Botanical Gar-There is a great variety of material ranging dens, has proved highly satisfactory to There is a great variety of material ranging from light operations to that delight of the dim and happy part the song and dance only two acts constitute the entire per-formance. But is a menes are spread through it and each scene presents some different portion of the globe. The first curtain ruses on a millionairy's home in New York, and before one has get confortably acquainted

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for Rehearsal

with the atmosphere the curtain drops and when it rises again we find ourselves in the "Land of the Dragons."

The color and spectacular appeals of the Masque will be shown by means of a large dance chorus of 500 or more students, who start work this afternoon in their first reatteriy devoid of that rasping sound which bearsal at the First Pennsylvania Cavalry

utterny devoid of that rasping sound which we find in home of the very best singers at this time of the year. As for dimmie Hodges, the comedian, his every action drew related to be used in the Masque are being taught in the De-partment of Physical Education. Mr. Trombly, who was born in New Tork-in which he smokes those two cigars throughout the first art plunged the audi-erne line a spann of langhter from which it never units recovered for the rest of the scents. Jean Tymes, who is epinosite Mr. Hodges, has a damty charm which drew the audi-ence to her from her first appearance.

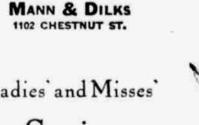


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# DESTNUT STREET OPERA HOUSE-"The Barrier" Rev Beach Pictures Company Adapted from the provel by Adrian G.I Spear Desorted by Edwar Lewis

abuses her, murders her and leaves the blame on the man she loved. But when the story gets started again in the far-off Klon-dyke, with the villain and the other man in fun with the neighbors or her folks or her-self, and is finally sent into a very danger-ous dreamland by a nurse who overdores

artist as the stage. The production is excellent throughout with the slight exception that the leader writer labors under the delusion that the following are the customary spellings: "To night." "To morrow," "birth-day" and that barrier" of race, by which the officer and the girl are separated until she learns that a certain Indian woman is only her foster

old favorite "til."

# IN DREAM PHOTOPLAY "The Poor Little Rich Girl" at Stanley Has, Humor and

## LITTLE WOMEN" SEEN AT ORPHEUM THEATRE

## Comedy of New England Life Given at Germantown Playhouse Last Night

"Little Women." a dramatization of Louis May Alcott's novel of the same same, was presented in Germantown last much for the first time at the Orpheum Trastre. The locale of the quaint comedy is in

er England, where the picturesque char-clers are given many funny lines. The bay pleased and was given by a well-bal-inced company, which included Evelyn Terke, Florence Huntington, Constance n. Henrietta McDanlel. Paul Kelley. ries White and John yon Rittberg.

## From Coney to the Pole-Globe

The sparkling musical comedy. "From any laland to the North Pole" headed the at the Globe Theatre. This act is one the most elaborate of its kind, requiring. This act is If does, a big company and three scenes. in both fields.

A close second to this was Olga Mishka ad company, a group of dancers in the Raman style, who do poetic, classic and refers dances of much merit. Maida De long says she is an American, but in reality she is a dainty Scotch lassie who has become a rabid baseball fan. Her consiste with songs, called "The Base-all Bug," has a great amusing feature of and is well delivered.

## Riding School-Penn

The laugh after the other is about the way to describe "Bostock's Riding to," which headlines the bill at the liam Pens. In the course of the act the farmers involved endeavor to show the farmers involved endeavor to show the line how circus riders are made. There is no end of anilis and missikes not to to no end of spills and mistakes, not to

Other entertaining acts on the bill in-the Seven Entertainers. Stone and Arm Lillian Harley and the McCarthy man. Right in line with the atmosphere in show is the photoplay. "The Bad by," with Robert Harron as the principal manker.

## Continuing Plays

al of Stevenson lives again in Island," which continues at the Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hopkins are the capable players in the cast.

Tailaka." with tuneful music by Rudolf an began its second local week last at the Lyric. The clean comedy of hy Barnes and Ada Meade is a fea-

Rescher and a lively company are aring in "Fair and Warmer," the current attraction. It is an amus-based on inebriety.

Good Eddie" simply won't quit t. Ernest Truex and his cohorts dy, including Alice Dovey, Oscar d Denman Makey, make this piece

Missi Hajos) in her latest

and "pep. Francis and Wild appeared in a playlet full of pure, unadulterated fun, called other good acts were offered by Baby Helen, the most fascinating diminu-tive vaudeville artist in America; the Yaltos, whiriwind dancers; Skipper and Kastrupp in merry songs and jolly chat-ter, and Roeder and Dean, in acrobatic thrills. The pictures were of high stand-

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### Town Hall Follies-Cross Keys

Lively.

ard.

four hours old figured prominently in their

songs and talk.

and pointed our vision irresistibly to the departing figure Yet "The Barrier" remains exciting, constantly, uninterruptedly-which cannot al-ways be said of art works-and it stands as a monument to the fact that a good cast of actors, whether they have names or not, will make a good film far more certainly ount of money squandered on than any am stars-if you have a story. K.M.

## Jay Circus-Broadway

Town Hall Follies—Cross Keys The first public charges in this city against the twelve Senators who defeated the armsed neutrality bill were made last night by Carson and Willard, two Phila-delphians, at the Cross Keys. They as-serted that the Senators in question were a dozen lemons. The audience approved of the charge by an outburst of applause. and when one of the comedians called at-tention to the normal color of a lemon, the house emitted a long laugh. This lively pair, whose act runs neck and neck with the news of the day, were the hit of the show. Events that were less than twenty-four hours old figured prominently in their

Este and Dutton was another pleasing act on the bill.

hecome a habit with him. He is, of course, the central figure throughout the evening, and the person who built up the show around him made the most out of the fai-ents of the popular little Jewish comedian. The two burletas are catted. They arbor' and "The New Commander," and is in during the course of one of these that is to be commended also. "Maids of Philly"-Nixon Grand "The Maids of Philly"-Nixon Grand "The Maids of Philly" captured every-thing in sight at the Grand flast night. The extra catted, they were ten luxclous maidens in the act, and every one of them a native of Philledel phia. Strangers have often confession the most beautiful women in the word, "The Maids of Philly" demonstrated that their most beautiful women in the word, "The musicasm was based on fact. The act was full of Philly" demonstrated that their full of Philly" demonstrated that their and "opep."

splendid a place for the new sort of scenic

VICTORIA-"Sister Against Sister." Fox. with Virginia Pearson and Irving Commings. Story By Mary Murillo. Directed by James Vincent. It's easy enough to laugh at William Fox's obvious vampires, and just as ob-vious virginal, dove-like heroines. It's easier to find his plots and his players "im-It's possible" from the angle of the actual when all that is disagreeable has been said, the Fox product stands out from the debris because it is sharply defined, exciting, "punchy." This latest sample of good-sis-



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