

# PLAYHOUSE ATTRACTIONS BILLED FOR THE COMING WEEK

**THE PLAYGOER'S  
WEEKLY TALK**  
*Observations on Plays and  
Photoplays of Interest  
to Philadelphians*

THE new theatrical week will feature three fresh offerings—a drama, a farce-comedy and a revue, and a variety of French pieces. The first is "The Haunted Violin," in which the author, George Cohan, will play at the Casino. It will mark the return of Sam Harris, who has been absent since Sam Harris was a member in his own time, partner, George E. Cohan. It will be remembered that at the time of the actors' strike Mr. Cohan, in taking the presidency of the Faculty, formed in addition to his regular assignment that he would still make other theatrical connections and responsibilities. At the time Mr. Harris is going to make public after fifteen years a conversation with Al Cohan. The second, "It Happens to Everybody," brings a much-needed note of gaiety to the winter stage. The third is "The Seven Chances," fully played at the Broad. The final is "Monte Carlo," a comedy at the Shubert, the tenets of which are Windsor Garden shows. Among the latter are half score of musical comedy favorites, a full score of song numbers, close to a score of scenes and an act-by-act comedy. The last will give members of the Twenty-ninth a opportunity without divisions a chance to renew old acquaintances, a chance to renew old acquaintances.

WHAT every Philadelphian knows is proved in "John Ferguson." So John G. Ervine's dramatic drama, indeed, that Elmer Gantry is 10 hours—and just as Irish—as the other three plays, and more agreeable country. The wit of the comedians of the north is a bit sharper than those of the south; the poetry is not so free in County Down as in County Wexford, and the remainder is differently gauged; but all are there, the wit, humor, mirth and romance to grace an underlying and continual sense of nationality in traits that make the characters kindred to those of Lady Gregory.

"John Ferguson" tells us of the life of the Bible, the Greek tragedy and the drama of Shakespeare, although a modern in staff as in style. The play is epic in its reach and pattern, although not epic in its material and texture. It has integrity of motives—the upholding faith of a stern commanding mind, sorely beset with personal gallantry, in the purity of divine wisdom and justice, and how incomparably and bitterly the visitations of punishment have dramatic power. Its demands as in a tragedy by Sophocles, or Shakespeare or Ibsen, nothing irresistibly to the inevitable. It has its form in massiveness and simplicity, with an elemental force, gravity like holding a hand over the heart, and propelling them to the logical and tragic issues—and the gravitation force is faith. Fate breeds over "John Ferguson," or possibly no one of the protagonist's religious would put it, his divinity, and the result, though agonizing to the soul, is accepted with the most devout acceptance in the grip of the strong demon, accepted with out daring and without a quiver of temptation for the "happy ending."

"John Ferguson" is not play writing. Its circumstances and its characters are not seen to be "real," entirely fascinating hand of the mould of drama, but in a way that is eminently natural. Not only is it a marvellous company at the Broad, which projects us every virtue, physical, psychological and spiritual. Both Joseph Brennan in the title role, and Mrs. Ferguson—she is now new to the cast, but now the best in it without a twinkle of individualism. Mr. Brennan will be remembered as the Scotch factor in "Tiger Rose," and a like role again in "The Wolf." Helen Freeman handles the "dilemmas without the difficulties" like none when the slightest slip would mean weakness and indecision. The playwriting has made his bigger, Charlie John, both in characterization and in bearing on the plot, a composite of Lawrence and Barrymore, does not miss a single opportunity to make his characterizations stand out. The young man has suggested as her successor Miss Phyllis Dohmen.



## THEATRE BILLS FOR NEXT WEEK

Schedule of Entertainments  
at the Various Play-  
houses in This City

### NEW ATTRACTIONS

GARRICK—"The Haunted Violin," a drama by Crane Wilbur, the first individual production for fifteen years of Sam Harris, George Cohan's managerial partner, and since Mr. Cohan's retirement as a producer-leader of the Casino. In the cast: Harry S. Sheldon, Anna Held, Eddie Corden, Bert Lytell, Eddie Foy, Jr., and others.

SHUBERT—"Monte Carlo," a Winter Garden travesty on Dumas' novel, "Le Sabot de la Watson Sisters." Rudie Hart, Lew Harms and the Doolittle brothers figure among the half score of scenes and acts. The cast includes numerous singing, dancing and comic girls are in the company. Jean Scherzer wrote the music. Has twenty two musical numbers and sixteen scenes.

WILFRID—"It Happened to Every Body," a mystery play with a comedy twist, by Harry S. Sheldon, author of "The Hawk." A jilted woman and her fiance are played by Rudie Hart and Peggy Bell, who have been seen in such success as "Twin Birds" and "Turn to the Right." A series of original comedy situations abound to a hilarious climax.

LITTLE THEATRE—Theatre Parcien Co. in French farces and operettas. Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, "Couchette" and "Main-Garde"; Thursday and Friday nights, "La Guerre ou L'amour."

CONTINUING ATTRACTIONS

FORREST—"Angel Face," Victor Herbert's new and tuneful musical comedy, sumptuously staged and expertly cast. George E. Cohan's "Ghosts," a capital gift of spirit and melody, both fresh and clean. Adele Rowland, John E. Young and Jack Donaue are featured.

BROAD—"John Ferguson," St. John Ervine's powerful drama. The scene is laid in Ireland. The titular character is a sort of modern Job, greatly afflicted, whose faith in divine justice is sure and serene. The acting is moving and natural.

ELIDA MORRIS—"A Little Journey," comedy, by Rachel Crothers, tells the story of a New York girl who finds herself on a train bound west. On the train all sorts of things happen, including a romance and a week's holiday to the West.

CHESTNUT—"Some Time," musical comedy. Book by Rudo Johnson, Young, music by Rudolf Friml. Frank Tinney heads a large cast of clever singers and dancers.

VAUDEVILLE

KEITH'S—Special anniversary week bills. Mabel McLean in a rollicking revue, "Imhof, Conn & Coreene," Skit; Sir Knights, Sketch; vaudeville; Walter Breese, comedy; Elida Morris, talented singer; Frank Sabine and Harry Goodwin in "I Ought"; Leon Gantier's animals; William Newall and Elsa Most, comedians; Claire and Atwood, comedians; and motion picture.

GEORGE—"Submarine F. 7," dramatic sketch; Fred Adair in skit; Sammy Duncan, comedian; Leon Stanton in skit; Kerns and Lester, sketch; Fox and Britt, comedians; Nora Kelly, singer; Robinson, McElroy and Robinson, comedians, and Jenkins, Clark and others, pantomime.

WILLIAM PEYK—"Rabbitville," featuring Harry B. Watson, Tracey and McBride, songs; Emily Durrell, comedienne; May and Ed Erie, comedians, and photoplay; "Lombard, Ltd.," with Bert Lytell, first half; Jack Lairt's skit; "Help," holding out hand.

CROSSKEYS—"The Spuds," musical comedy; Jack Lyle and Dolly Austin; Harry Green, comedian; Ryan and Ryan, singers; Albert Perry, in Skit; Mona Grey and sister, singers, and June Edwards and company.

GERMAINE GRATTRY

Who will appear next week in the French plays at the Little Theatre

first half. Baby Heath leads bill last half.

BROAD—Baby Heath and Bathing Beauties, in musical comedy; Klase and Termini, musicians; Frank Givner and company, skirt; Jane Clifton and company, singers, and photoplay. "A Temperamental Wife," with Constance Talbot, and, half, "The Spider," with Bill last half.

ELIDA MORRIS—"Oh, Mike," musical comedy with Roy Gordon, David and Sophie, and Max Fleischer.

LAWRENCE—"Lloyd Lloyd," with Lloyd, comedian, and photoplay.

WALNUT—"The Volvo," with Leah Baird, first half. Jack Rose leads bill last half.

### STOCK

OPHEUM—"Seven Chances," a melodrama based on the predilection of a young man who has to marry to win a fortune. Miss Despond, in the leading role, will be supported by some newcomers.

### BURLESQUE

PEOPLES—"Follies of the Day," features Harry ("Watch the Slip") Welsh, who has most of the responsibility for the success of Harry Gandy's show. Evelyn Cunningham and George F. Hayes help him in "Papa's Going Up."

CHESTNUT—Joe Hartig's "Twentieth Century Maids," with Ed Lee, Wroth, at their best. Mlle. Babette, Donna Hair and Owen Martin help out in the cast. There are many opportunities for the girls to sing, written to the music by Harry Stewart.

HOLLYWOOD—"Harry Hastings' New Kewpie Dolls," in "Razzle-Dazzle," with Tom Howard as principal comedian. It is a revue and burlesque. Two Wise Fools," George Hart and Anna

first half. Baby Heath leads bill last half.

WALNUT—"Dark Rosaleen," David Belasco's latest piece, a story of Irish life, said to be rich in Celtic sentiment and wit.

FORREST—"The Canary," Dillingham's newest musical show, featuring Julia Sanderson and Joseph Cawthon.

GARRICK—"A Prince There Was," George Cohan comedy, with Grant Mitchell, Glenda Leary, and Jessie Ralph.

DECEMBER 1—"A Lonely Romeo," an intimate musical comedy with Lew Fields as central character.

DECEMBER 15—"Garrick," a Belasco production of Edward Knoblock's emotional drama featuring Frances Starr.

WHAT HER ROLE TEACHES

Marriages Without Love Cause Tan-  
gled Nets of Unhappiness

Helene Freeman, who is seen in the part of an Elster peasant girl in "John Ferguson" at the Broad, has changed her views and ideals of what she once believed to be the best in womanhood.

"When I was handled the part of Hannah I felt she was not in line," said Miss Freeman, "but, being in the Actors' Guild, body and soul, there was nothing for me to do but accept the part graciously. What sort of girl is Hannah? I asked Mr. Duncum, our director, and he said: 'Just a human being, with more sense and more pride. Plain, simple, but with a heart full of love and devotion for her parents,' he answered.

"Somewhat different to the girls I have been impersonating," I replied. The more I studied the part the more Hannah appealed to me. How much happier would be with girls of her type. The right girls would be girls who have done even the disservice of parents by refusing, as Hannah did, to accept the help of the suitor of their selection, that means to the loss of home to herself and parents. Engineered marriages for young girls by their relatives may bring about a tangled web of unhappiness. Hannah to me is a noble character, teaching a lesson well worth of deep study."

WILLARD MACK'S "Sunrise"

Willard Mack's latest play, "Sunrise," is booked for the Little Theatre. Mr. Mack has many successes to his credit, including "Tiger Rose," "Breakfast in Bed," "Kick in," etc. "Sunrise" is said to be a revelation in time, and the scenes are set in the days of the First World War. The play deals with the problems of gay young Americans in America. It is brilliant and dramatic and also has humor and pathos. It has been staged by Mr. Mack. Barry McCormack, a protege of the late Nat Goodwin, will appear in the title role.

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