THE PLAYGOER'S WEEKLY TALK

Observations on Plays and Photoplays of Interest to **Philadelphians**

THE impressive Edgar Stillman Kelley musical accompaniment is an important feature of the performance of "Ben Hur."

JANE CARROL

THEATRE BILLS

FOR NEXT WEEK

New Attractions

BROAD-Robert Mantell in exclusive-

LYRIC—"The Guest of Honor," fea-turing William Hodge in a new com-edy of hilarious situations and dry humor. The star is revealed as a struggling young author whose kind-ness to others has left him practical-ly penniless. Jane Houston is his new leading woman.

W.I.N.I T--"Twin Beds," with Lois Bolton, who has appeared here suc-cessfully twice before with this fares by Margaret Mayo and Salis-bury Field. The plot is full of hu-morous complications and droll situ-ations.

Continuing Attractions

GARRICK — "Elsie Janis and Her Gang," in an A. E. F. revue with music. The east is mainly made up of former service men. The scenes, laid "anywhere at the front," are rich in mirth and melody. Splendid songs and dances are featured.

ful fictional thriller.

Vaudeville

Opera House

It is both orchestral and choral. For the latter, passages were selected from the prophecies of Isaiah concerning the coming of the Messiah, where the Savfour is referred to as "the light to lighten the darkness of the people."

The music of this number begins with the theme of the prophecy, trumpets and trombons, and is built upon the sancient musical scale peculiar to the Semitic people—Arabs and Hebrews—in which the interval of the augmented second is a prominent feature. This is taken up by the invisible male chorus, announcing the vision of Isaiah. Following is heard a suggestion of "The Star of Bethiehem" theme. After a somber passage, "For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, "the or-chestra takes up the theme of the Star, while the chorus chants the text: "The Lord shall arise upon thee, and gentiles shall come to thy light and kings to the brightness of the risings." The curtain rises on the opening tableau showing the Wise Men in the desert beside their kneeling camels awaiting the appearance of the Star in the East. As the first shimmering of the Star's light becomes visible suggestions of the Star's light becomes visible suggestions of the Star theme are heard, developing into orchestral fullness as the light increases in its intensity. As this incident of the drama closes the tread of the camel is simulated by the orchestra, suggesting the drama closes the tread of the camel is simulated by the orchestra, suggesting the drama closes the tread of the camel is simulated by the orchestra, suggesting the drama closes the tread of the camel is simulated by the orchestra, suggesting the drama closes the tread of the camel is simulated by the orchestra, suggesting the drama closes the tread of the camel is simulated by the orchestra, suggesting the drama closes the tread of the camel is simulated by the orchestra, suggesting the drama closes the tread of the camel is simulated by the orchestra, suggesting the drama closes the tread of the camel is simulated by the orchestra suggesting the drama closes the tread of the camel is simulated by the orchestra suggesting the drama closes the tread of the camel is simulated by the orchestra suggesting the drama closes the tread of the camel i lighten the darkness of the people.

PLAYS that dealt with the great war PLAIS that dealt with the great war sentimentally, melodramatically, temporarily, have been many. Those that treated it spiritually and dramatically have been so few that one greets with artistic gratification "The Genius of the Marne," the somewhat mechanically named piece written by a former Philadelphia newspaper man, John L. Balderston, and published in New York by Nicholas L. Brown, also a former Philadelphian. Philadelphian.

The drama, in three short scenes, is both the "symbol and synthesis" that George Moore claims it is in his preface. But it is also crisply intelligent in its handling of character and eminently playable.

Genre netors wishing to take a file.

mently playable.

Genre actors wishing to take a flier in vaudeville might look further and fare much worse in their quest for vehicles. Joffre is an acting part 'fat' with opportunities. Its quaint satirical implications, its humanity, are not too refined for footlight treatment.

According to Mr. Balderston, the apparition of Napoleon visited the exhausted and inwardly bewildered general, scolded him roundly for his indecision and dictated the first battle of the Marne. The author does not precisely label Joffre as an addlepate, but he shows him as the confused human agency of a superhuman genius—the smoky wraith of the Little Corporal. All this is not unqualifiedly flattering to Joffre, but it makes delicious high comedy, written in expertly concise diabetes. edy, written in expertly concise dia-

logue. Mr. Balderston's little cross-section of life in war is instinct with unobtrusive wit, but it goes somewhat deeper. It offers a reading of some of the great abstractions in concrete and contagning form.

WILLIAM HODGE, who returns to While not generally known, the plays

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While not generally suppeared since which Mr. Hodge has appeared since which Mr. Hodge has appeared since which was comedy the memorable 'The Man From Home,' the Booth Tarkington comedy

Home," the Booth Tarkington comedy which served as his vehicle for five seasons, have been written either in whole or in part by the actor. They were "The Road to Happiness," "Fixing Sister" and "A Cure for Curables."

At the time of the presentation the name of "Lawrence Whitman" appeared on the playbills as the author and it wasn't until recently that information leaked out that Whitman was merely a pseudonym for Hodge.

WHILE the ministry, for which he was preparing, may have lost a prize in Charles Lawrence, who dropped his studies at Tufts College to enter the ambulance corps when America decided to take part in the late great disturbance, it is certain that the stage has gained a genuine "comedy find" in this ex-service chap, who is one of the bright, shining members of the Elsie Janis Gang at the Garrick. Aside from Miss Janis, who this season is actress.

Miss Janis, who this senson is actress, producer, writer and director of her own producer, writer and director of her own show, has a "kick" coming, but as she alone is responsible, her "kick" is a purely personal affair. In speaking of her bomb-proof revue yesterday, she said: "I made one big mistake in this show, but I can't kick, however, because I wrote it myself. No one else ever put anything like it over on me, and I wouldn't stand for it now except that it is my own doing. Just think of it! I open the show! Don't that sound funny—and I did it myself. Yes, sir-ee, I open this show." I open this show,

ALLEGHENY — The Navassar Girls, instrumentalists; Kingsley Benedict and Ed Wade, skit; Johnny Cantwell and Retta Walker, songs and talk; Dave Harris, songs; Mon and Mme. Alf W. Loyal's dogs, and photoplay, "Fair and Warmer." A BREEZY personality, a good-na-tured grin and a funny walk are chiefly responsible for the popularity of William Kent, who plays the leading comic role in "Somebody's Sweet-heart,"

GLOBE — William O'Clare Girls, sketch; Emma Francis and Arabs, dancing; Jones and Johnson; McNally, Dinus and De Wolf, sketch; Baker City Four, vecalists; Sampson and Douglas; Jessie Morris, comedienne; the Messenger Boys; Grace and Eddie Parks, skit; the Three Anders. heart."

Kent played small parts in two Broadway shows before he came into success. They were "Toot, Toot" and "Ladies First." According to the gossip of the theatre lobbies he never would have found his chance with "Somebody's Sweetheart" had he not been "fired" from the cast of "Ladies First."

The Kent theatrical biggs play hearing

BROADWAY — Anniversary week.
Willard's "Fantasy of Jewels."
spectacular musical act; McParkland
and Pollace, singers; Murray Bennett, singer; Maxine Bros, and
Bobby; photoplay, "Soldiers of Fortune" Horace Goldin, illusienist,

The Kent theatrical biography begins with his running away from home in St. Paul about twelve years ago. He was stage struck, of course. In 1907 he joined Jarbou's Carnival and Circus as a "candy butcher." Three or four weeks later a cyclone struck the eircus in Sioux City and everybody walked home. Then he joined "Dr. Andreas McPhee's Medicine Show," in which he was the comedian.

The next step was to join a barnThe next step was to join a barn-

The next step was to join a barn-storming repertoire company. He pasted bills, counted up receipts and sometimes played three different parts in one night, Finally, in 1916, he got an engagement as the principal comedian in the Shubert Stock Co., in St. Paul. Vaudeville took him to Chicago, where he met Antonio Bafunno, one of the authors of "Somebody's Sweetheart."

THOUGH no one, as far as known. AMUSEMENTS

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ACAdemy, Fri. Aft., Feb. 20 at 3

Chopin—PIANO RECITAL by civilization, still they are of greater stringisty than P. T. Baraum, according to Robert B. Mantell.

The methods date back at least to Richelieu' — Mr. Mantell's opening biny Monday night—which was pre
Tats. 12.51,50,51.75c, Heppe's, 1119 Chestant

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STARS HERE IN CURRENT OFFERINGS



WILLIAM PENN-Jean Adair, play-let; Lew Wilson, comedian; Tommy let; Lew Wilson, comedian; Tommy Allen and company, entertainers; the Faden Trie; Samoya, aerial ar-tist, and movie, "The Misfit Earl" and "Log of the Submarine U-35," "A Hungarian Rhapsody" heads bill BROAD—Robert Mantell in exclusively Shakespearean repertory except
for Bulwer Lytton's "Richelien" on
Monday night. New productions environ many of the dramas. Fritz
Leiber is the star's leading man and
Genevieve Hamper his leading
woman. The first week's schedule:
Monday, "Richelien"; Tuesday.
"Hamlet"; Wednesday matinee,
"Romee and Juliet" (Miss Hamper
and Mr. Leiber); Wednesday night,
"King Lear"; Thursday night and
Saturday matinee, "The Merchant
of Venice"; Friday, "Macbeth," and
Saturday night, "Richard III." last half of week.

GRAND — "The Only Girl," musical comedy, by Victor Herbert; Fred Fenton and Sammy Fields, skit; Viola Lewis and company, song and dance; the Yaltos, novelty act; Commodore Tom, educated peny.

N/XON — Wolf Gilbert, song writer; Gardner Hartman and company, song and patter; Majaries and company, tight-wire act; Fabor and McGowan, songs and dances: Leopold Nefski, musician, and movie, "Live Sparks." Kluting's Animals heads bill last half of week. Stock

ORPHEUM—"The Five Million," first presentation in Philadelphia of a drama by Guy Bolton and Frank Mandel. The title applies to the numerical strength of the United States army and navy during the war and the plot has to do with the mass effect of their power to swing any great civic movement. It is a play of patriotism. Mae Desmond will be the heroine and Mr. Fielder will portray the role of a returned American acc.

the role of a returned American ace.

DUNBAR—"This and That," a musical comedy with lots of merriment and some original jazz, will follow the serious dramas of the last few weeks, Alex Rodgers wrote the book and C. Luckworth Robert composed the score, which includes twenty-four song and dancing numbers. "Dink" Stewart is the principal comedian and the cast includes Ida Brown,

Estelle Cash and other colored fav Minstrels

or "Sir Bolivar Lodge Outdone,"
or "Sir Bolivar Lodge Outdone,"
will be the new travesty. This timely topic lends itself to good-natured
satire. "The Mississippi Four" will
restore to the stage some of the oldtime pastimes of the levees. Emmet
Welch will offer new songs of his
ewn composition.

new dances are promised

new dances are promised.

TROCADERO — "The Razzle Dazzle
of 1919" is of Harry Hasting's planning and production. Harry Steppe is
featured in the extravaganza, which
consists of two parts, "Watch Your
Step" and "How Dry I Am." Ethel
Le Veaux and Nellie Nice are among
the cast

Coming Attractions FEBRUARY 23

GARRICK—"Dere Mable." a musical show based on the doughboy letters. Louis Bennisen plays Bill and Hattie Burke, Mable.

LOIS BOLTON'S SUCCESS

Has Played Lead in "Twin Beds" 2000 Times

Lois Bolton who plays Blanche Hawcins in "Twin Beds" which comes to the Walnut for its annual engagement beginning Monday, was recruited to the ranks of the legitimate by Selwyn and cwn composition.

Burlesque

CASINO—"Girls de Looks," a new Barney Gerard production. Joseph J. Watson and Will H. C. Cohan are the principal funmakers. The burial of John Barleycorn is a feature of the extravaganza. Hilda Le Roy and Ruth Gale are in the big cast.

PEOPLE'S—"Peek-a-Boo," Jean Bedini's newest output. Bobby Clark and Paul McCullough head the fun rester and Rita Drew aid May Myers are the feminine leads. A tuneful burletta and an abundance of new dances are promised.

ranks of the legitimate by Selwyn and company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the rehenrals of the company, and made such a hit at the r



Next Week—"EVERYWOMAN"

West Callegheng
Monday—Mrs. Castle in
Tuesday—The THE INVISIBLE BOND"
Tresday—The THE INVISIBLE BOND"
The HALVSTRIOUS PRINCE"
Wed. and Thurs.—Violu Dana in
"PLEASE GET MARRIED"
Fri. and Sat.—Hobart Bosworth & Jane
Novak in "BEHIND THE DOOR"

S2D ST. BELOW
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52D ST. BELOW
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J. WOLFE GLIBERT
J. WOLFE GLIBERT
Mijares Troupe in "Monkey Business"
and first showing of photoplay
J. Warren Kerrigan in "LIVE SPARKS"

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THE UITA Climay of Sensation and
The UITA Climay of Sensation and
"BEHIND THE DOOR"
with Hobart Bosworth and Jane Novak,
Wallace Beery and
Harold Lloyd in "HAND To MOUTTH!
Week of Feb. 23—"The Beloved Cheater"

Bellmant

52D ST. above

TOO MUCH JOHNSON Thurs., Fri., Sat.—Margnerite Clark "ALL OF A SUDDEN PEGGY"

Week of Feb. 23-"EVERYWOMAN" Rivoli 52D AND SANSOM Showing in All Philadelphia

Monday and Tuesday-All-Star Cast in Wed, and Thurs.—Douglas Fairbanks, "WHEN THE CLOUDS ROLL BY" WHAT'S YOUR HUSBAND DOING

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Ju "MY HUSBAND'S OTHER WIFE"

MARKET ST BEL. SOTH Coliseum

Jrankford Frankford Ave.

Chas. B. Bach. Organist

Monday and Tuesday-Mary Pickford in

HEART O' THE HILLS'

Wed. & Thurs. Sessue Hayskawa in

"THE BEGGAR PRINCE"

Fri. & Sat.—Derathy D fon in

"HIS WIFE'S FRIEND"

EN HUR

PHILADELPHIA'S FOREMOST THEATRES

WEEK LAST WEEK

MATINEE TODAY AT 2:15—TONIGHT AT 8:15
NIGHTS AT 8:15
NATINEES
MATINEES
WED. & SAT., 2:15

and HER GANG
in "A Peach of a Show NYTIMES

TWO WEEKS HOLIDAY MAT. MON., FEB. 23 SEATS THURS.

A big MARC KLAW musical production

MATINEES WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY AT

NO ONE SEATED DURING THE PRELUDE

KLAW & ERLANGER'S NEW PRODUCTION

OF THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST DRAMA

BEGINNING LAST TWO WEEKS



350 Living Actors in the 350 Gorgeous Spectacle 20 Living Horses in the Blood- 20 quickening Chaziot Race SPECIAL WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY MAT. MON., FEB. 23

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GENEVIEVE HAMPER and FRITZ LEIBER Monday

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Romeo & Juliet Thursday

MISS HAMPER and MR. LEIBER | Sat. Night "RICHARD III"

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2 Weeks Starting Monday, Feb. 16 ANNUAL ENGAGEMENT!



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The World's Greatest Baritone TITTA

IN CONCERT SEATS, 1108 CHESTNUT ST., \$1.50 to \$3.00

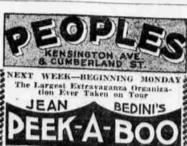
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THIS AND THAT A Musical Cocktail in Eleven Scenes Glittering, Dazzling, Panoramic Displa of Feminine Attire

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Academy of Music Thursday Evening, Feb. 19 Recital by PERCY GRAINGER Famous Australian Pianist

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Burt and other celebrated incumbents of the chief roles appear. CHESTNUT - "Somebody's Sweetheart, tuneful musical comedy. William Kent, Louise Allen and John Dunsmure head the good and big cast. CHESTNUT BELOW TWELFTH STREET BROAD-"Tillie's Nightmare," a ver-

The Merriest, Most Musical and Colorful Production Ever sien of a musical comedy classic, featuring the original Tillie, Marie Dressler, Not jazzical but jovial. Staged in Vaudeville. Carleton Hoagland Presents TROONEY & MARION BENT

SHUBERT. — "Greenwich Village Follies," described as a "revusical comedy of New York Quartier Latin." Frances White and Ted Lewis head good cast in good show. "RINGS OF SMOKE" ADELPHI .- "The Crimson Alibi," exciting mystery and crime melo-drama made by George Broadhurst from Roy Octavus Cohen's successwith MLLE. MARGUERITE & FRANK GILL

LUCILLE LOVE, LILLIAN FERMOYLE, MAUDE DRURY AND VINCENT LOPEZ AND HIS KINGS OF HARMONY Waudeville

KEITH'S—Pat Rooney, Marion Bent and company in clever dancing production; Alan Brooks and company in novelty sketch; Allan Rogers, singer; Nina Payne, descriptive dancer; Jim and Betty Morgan, singers; Duval and Symonds, skit; Martinettle and Sylvester, adroit acrobats; Wilson and Larsen, comedy. SECOND AND FINAL WEEK! **ALLAN ROGERS**

SPECIAL DANCE FEATURES **NINA PAYNE**

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Mr. Henry Dexter at the Piano, in "Fifteen Minutes of Concert" 'Original Dance Patterns' JIM & BETTY MORGAN Billy-Duval & Symonds-Merle WILSON & LARSEN THE DISTINGUISHED ARTIST

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1.30, 4.30, 8 P. M.

Two Shows Dally, 2 P. M., 30c and 55c, Including War Tax.

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Scats Always a Week in Advance. Bell, Filhert 3395; Keystone, Race 2150

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Sents 1108 Christiut St. Wal. 4424. Race METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE METROPOLITAN OPERA COMPANY, N. TUES. THE HOWARD HOWARD FEB. THE HOWARD HOWA MMES, PARRAE

AMERICA'S GREATEST COMEDIENNE MARIE DRESSLER

IN HER CYCLONE OF MIRTH 'TILLIE'S NIGHTMARE" PHILADELPHIA LAST MAT. 17th & De Lancey, Mat. 2:30. Evg. 8:30 The SELWYNS Present

A New Comedy by CLARE KUMMER, author of "Good Gra-cious, Annabelle," "A Successful Calamity," 'ROLLO'S WILD OAT" with Roland Young and a Super-

LYRIC MAT. TODAY at 2:20 TONIGHT LAST TIME **ALICE BRADY**

Strand Germantown Ave. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday MARGUERITE CLARK In ALL-OF-A-SUDDEN PEGGY* Thorsday, Friday, Saturday SESSUE HAYAKAWA In "THE BEGGAR PRINCE" ext. Week—"EVERYWOMAN"

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A Refreshing Story of Love and Romance
Amid the Bluebells and Highlands
Added Feeture—Log of I-hoot 35"

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"RED-HOT DOLLARS".
"Why Wild Men iso Wild"
Wednesday and Thurs.—Anic'l Stewart in
Friday and Saturday—MacLean and May,
"WHAT'S YOUR HUSBAND DOING?"

LAUGH FESTIVAL

Metropolitan Opera House Wednesday FEB. 25 At 8:15

MAE DESMOND

POSITIVELY FIRST PHILADELPHIA
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F.B. 23—"THE WOMAN IN ROOM IS" ACADEMY OF MUSIC FEB. 27

HOCKEY GENERAL SKATING 8:30 P. M.

DANCING LESSONS A Teacher for Each Pupil \$5 Instruction
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