THE PLAYGOER'S WEEKLY TALK

THE "crime wave" seems to have reached the stage as well as other institutons bereatout. This is speaking literally and not metaphorically in the sense that a good many offerings put before the public are colloquially, though not legally, "crimes." But in the other sense, it is interesting to note that "At the Villa Rose," in which Otis Skinner opened last Monday at the Garrick, is a crime-and-sleuth play, and that criminal antecedents and underworld experiences figure largely in next Monday's only novelty, "The Sign on the Door," a Chauning Pollock melodrama, which brings Marjorle Rambeau to the Adelphi. Moralists have scored the movies for

OTIS Skinner's knowledge of the technique of the stage is backed by insistence upon accuracy in detail.

But a few days ago the newspapers carried a cabled dispatch to the effect that several hundred feet of the top of Mt. Blane, which is plainly visible from Geneva, had impled over.

Mr. Skinner at once cabled A. E. W. Mason, author of the play in which Mr. Skinner is now appearing at the Garrick, called "At the Villa Rose." to ascertain if this were true, and just how much of the mountain peak had disappeared. The actor knew he would get

climber himself.

The answer was received in Philadelphia on Monday morning, about eight hours before Mr. Skinner's opening performance. It read: "Four humbred feet of peak toppled over. Mt. Illiner now

formance. It read: "Four hundred feet of peak toppled over. Mt. Illane now resembles frustrum of a cone."

A scenic artist was called in and the back drop used in the fourth act of "At the Villa Rose," which shows Mt. Blanc in the distance, was put on the frame and the famous snow cap which has characterized the mountain probability. has characterized the mountain post-ably since the beginning of time, was partly painted out. So as near as can be judged from the cabled description. Mt. Blane as shown on the scenery is as it is supposed to be today after this

THERE Is little "vanit" in Eddie Cantor, for he appears to be able to do most anything.

He is all around in the Rounders at the Shahert and everywhere testiles. He realizes that to be a star one must work in order to shine. In addition to singling half a dozen sense and dancing while he sings. Mr. Canter plays four parts. He appears in "white" and Philack?

Many of his laughs are harvested in a clothing store seens where he entreavors to make a runtish rube (Lew Hearn) buy something that he doesn't want. As a salesman. Cantor is a wonter. He converts a plain blue suit into a checkered plaid by dexterous use of a stick of chalk and although the rube wants a of chalk, and although the rube wants a long coat with a belt in the hack, Can-tor finally sells him a sailor sujt, and

Nora" as many vaudeville and mussical comedy patrons of this and other fair cities call her, in our midst, again raises the conjecture of "why is Nora" and went on the stage as a child with the Pollard Lilliputan Opera Co., which carried has to

sheer electric delight and could have heard her gurgle, you would understand

BROAD Broad Below Locust PRANK NIRDLINGER Business Manager

FORREST

GARRICK

L Nora" as many vandeville and musical comedy patrons of this and other fair cities call her, in our midst, again passes the conjecture of "why is Nora" Bayes?"

Just what elements go to make up the popularity of this star of the music shows is a question observers of the theater have often asked. Perhaps the sature Nora could tell us—site has much, deep and surprising krewledge of what pleased the American theatre public—perhaps she could not. Perhaps her success is due to that evasive, all-embracing, intefinite thing called "personality."

Perhaps it is just good "showmanship."

At any rate popular she is, and her popularity will not be diminished by her new vehicle, "Her Family Tree."

No good judge of revue pulchritude would have the temerity to call her popularity. She is not pretty, and wouldn't like to be flattered that she is. But to those who have watched her expression as she sings a tender little croon that in marks and mark and the properties of this series of the day is among the it of principals in the "Midnishi Rounds the Series of the loading entertainers of the day is among the it of principals in the "Midnishi Rounds the Series of the loading entertainers of the day is among the it of principals in the "Midnishi Rounds the Series of the loading entertainers of the day is among the it of principals in the "Midnishi Rounds the series of the loading entertainers of the day is among the it of principals in the "Midnishi Rounds the series at the Simbert. Miss Halperin who is put a song namber averse, has been a headliner in vandeville for several years.

I which such favor of the stage as a child with the fact of the conductor. Who conductor the music of the Kreisler-Jacobi operation. "Apple Blossoms." Can the favor of the music of the Kreisler-Jacobi operation of the Kreisler-Jacobi operation of the Kreisler-Jacobi operation of the Mark with the favor of the heading entertaints of the day is a day in the "Silver of the loading entertaints of the day is a day in the "Silver of the loading entertain one of the jazz jangles of the day, she has beautifully intelligent and human And there we have elements that may

WANTED to be a great dramatic actress I had my eyes on the role uliet only I doln't grow up An immediate success in the "Midnight Rounders," was talking to an inter-viewer in her dressing-room "But now I am just as happy as I can be. You know I get just as much fire out of doing all those crazy things as the audience does."

If you could have seen her jump in

SHUBERT MAT TOTALY EDDIE CANTOR in the N. V. Century Theatr- Luctucus MIDNIGHT ROUNDEDS:

ADELPHI LAST MAT, TODAY MR DITRICHSTEIN THE PURPLE MASK"

LYRIC MAT. TODAY NORA BAYES in "HER FAMILY TREE" Chestnut St. 1907 See at 4

"WAY DOWN EAST" BROAD MAT. TODAY EVES Booth Tarangron's "Clarence"

GARRICK Mat. Today FYSS OTIS SKINNER

FORREST APPLE BLOSSOMS

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AND GIRARD

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DHILADELPHIA Tonight at 8:15 NINTH ORCHESTRA SYMPHONY

DUMONT'S of a ARCH. EVG., 8:15 Mats. Mon., Wed., Sat., 2:15 Emmett Welch Minstrels

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and VICTOR JACOBI

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MAT. TODAY

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Theatrical Billboard for the Coming Week

menacing spectre from her own past channing Pollock, the author, is said to have treated his dramatic material with remarkable skill and to have provided suspense and susprise in his

Continuing Attractions

tainingly fantastic play, with girls, music and Nora Bayes. In the sup-port are Julius Tannen, Florence Mar-tin and Al Roberts. The book in by Al Weeks, Detroit dramatic editor, and the score is by Seymour Simons, who wrote most of the music for Miss Eayes' show last season. Miss Bayes, who is her own producer, has given a colorful environment with many unusual lighting effects.

GARRICK—"At the Villa Rose," a detective play by Major A. E. W. Mason, featuring Otis Skinner in a Gaboriau-like character. Mr. Skinner in a lective, which allows sway for his romantic and robust personality. The mantic and robust personality. The story is one with numerous thrills, yet presents personalities as well as ballads. Mr. Skinner is supported by an unusually well picked cost.

SHUBERT-"The Midnight Rounders," an elaborate revue in twenty scenes, featuring Eddie Cantor, Harry Kelly, Nan Halperin, Jessica Brown and half a bundred furmakers, singers and dancers. All that is up to date in fancy and eccentric dancing and jazzy and tuneful in music is blended in this variegated entertainment. FORREST._"Apple Blossoms," musical

ORREST—"Apple Blossoms," musical romance, with varied and colorful scores by Fritz Kreisler and Victor Jacobi, and book by William Le Baron, the latter two coauthors of the recent "Half Moon." The notable musical comedy cast includes John Charles Thomas, Fred and Adele Astaire, Wilda Bennett and Percival Knight. The tasteful scenery is by The tasteful scenery is by Knight. The Joseph Urban.

BROAD—"Clarence." Booth Tarking-ton's characteristic comedy of Ameri-can temperament. The story is about a whimsical soldier, played by Alfred Lunt, with such notable players as Mary Boland, Phoebe Foster, John Flood and Glenn Hunter in support.

Vaudeville KEITH'S—John Hyams and Lella McIntyre in clever playlet; Louise Gunning, special songs; Jensie Brown and
Effie Weston, dancers; Jim Toney and
Ann Norman, comedy; Lou Miller and
Alice Bradford, songs; Rena Arnold
and Hary Lambert, skir; E. Merian
presents Tillie Tiloro and canines;
Dan Doubini and Adele Bernard,
musicians, and the Van Cellos, foot
feats. TIXON-"The Current of Fun," by

JAON—"The Current of Fun," by Madam Burnell and company, scientific novelty; Ben Ryan and Harriet Lee. "A Cyclone of Laughter"; Cello, "Musical Fool"; Yule and Richards, skit: Downing and Bunnin Sisters skit; Shirley Mason in "The Girl of My Heart," movie, Montgomery and Allen head bill letter tell of real My Heart," movie. Montgomery a Allen head bill latter half of week. New Affraction

DELPHI—The Sign on the Door," a new A. H. Woods melodrama, with Marjorie Rambeau as star. It is the story of a woman who tries to save fier stepdaughter from an unfortunate marriage and thereby raises a menacing spectre from her own past Channing Pollock, the author, is said to have treated his dramatic material to have treated his dramatic material.

Allen head bill latter half of week.

CROSS KEYS—"Fashion Frolics of 1921" and contest; Payron and Ward, sketch; Harry Haywood and company sketch; Sheppard and Dunn, singers; Bowers and Saunders, songs; "Catland," with Bobble and pets. "Money is Money" heads bill latter half.

GRAND—Grace Huff, Ralph M. Remely and company in sketch; Arch Hen-

and company in sketch; Arch Hen-dricks and George Stone, songs and talk; Commodore Tom, educated pony; Rose Revue, musical, dancing spe-cialty; Victor Burns and Adelaide Wilson, sketch; movies.

Tama," musical comedy; "The Master Mind," movie; Chuck Maas, monologist; The Camille Trio, comedians; Sol. Pattee and comrade veterans of '61, versatile artists; Kyra and Sex, novelty.

BROADWAY—"Money Is Money," must-cal comedy; "The Love Flower," Grif-fith's movie; Neil McKinley, nut comedian; Billy Loske, entertainer. "The Fashion Follies of 1921" heads bill latter half.

eity, and many other acts.

WILLIAM PENN—Russ Leddy and company, in sketch; Wanda Hawley in "Food for Scandal," movie; Nestor and Olivette Haynes, skit; Choy Ling Troupe, Oriental wonder-workers; Marie Walsh and Irving Edwards, songs; the Southern Four, songs. Arthur McWaters and Grace Tyson head bill latter half.

Roof Entertainment

WALTON—"Whirligig Revue for 1921," by Joseph K. Gorham and Phil Boutelle. It will have everything new from music, sorgs to costumes, with a speciacular finale. Specialties will be introduced in dances and operation

Burlesque

CASINO—"Million Dollar Dolla" offer
the comedictta "The Litle Elephant,"
in two acts. It was staged by John
G. Jermon, Joe Freed, Al Tyler, Harry
Fentel. Al Mardo and Irene Mears
are the well known principals, with
Marty Dubree and others in specialties.

BIJOU—Harry Hasting's Kewpie Dolls with Vic Plant as the principal comedian. The two buriettas are "The Girl Next Door" and "As You Like It." Frank Penny is in cast. TROCADERO—"Jimmic Cooper and His Heauty Revue," with Ada Lum, the Chinese-American prima donna. Jimmic Cooper, Marty Collins, Eddie Hall, Johnny Bell, Rose Hemley, Princess Livingston and Bernie Green, are among the clever principals.

PEOPLE'S—"Parisian Whirl," with Billy Watson, himself; "Grogan" Spen-cer, Edgar Bixley, the vaudevillian, and Martin Sanai, in a sensational musical act. Lavish staging is pro-

ORPHEUM—Mae Desmond in "The Squaw Man," with her company, in picturesque roles, which will give them the opportunity to tell the story of any Englishman who marries an Indian maid. A romantic drama, successful several seasons ago. Museum

WORLD'S.—Nona, the "littlest lady";
The All Zacks, Hindoo fakirs; Olivette, female athlete; "The Death Chair and a Maid," are the new offer-

Attractions in Advance SHUBERT — "Sinbad," Winter Garden Show, featuring Al Jolson, Return engagement.
DECEMBER 25 -LYRIC-"Her Family Tree," an enter- ALLEGHENY-"The Rose of Yama METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE-

"The Ed Wynn Carnival," with Ed. Wynn, "the perfect fool"; Lillian Fitz-gerald, Black and White Melody Boys and other noted entertainers. Continues through Christmas and New Years's weeks. Year's weeks.

DECEMBER 27

MEROPOLITAN—(Monday and Tuesday matinees only). "Little Red Riding Hood and the Wolf," and "Mother Goose's Ball" with all the gorgeous spectacle of the pantomime, and the trappings and glitter of fairyland. To be presented by the Peerless Juvenile Extravaganza Co.

LYRIC — "Buddies," George Hobart's story, with B. C. Hillian's music, of a maid of Brittany and a shy American

GARRICK-"Return of Peter Grimm," | Door" company.

another revival of a wel-known War-field success, with Mr. Warfield spain in the role of the lovable old gar-JANUARY 5

FORREST -- "Monsteur Heaucaire," romantic operetta, with score by Andre Messager, the noted Freich composer and conductor, based on Booth Tarkington's novel and play in which Richard Mansfield starred. SHUBERT—"Aphrodite," the Century
Theatre spectacle which tells & More
of love, devotion and sacrilege in
pagan Alexandria.

Marjorie Rambeau's Husband in Cast Marjorie Rambeau, star of "The Sita CHESTNUT — "East Is West," the drama of a Chinese-bought bride of a San Francisco tea merchant. Fay Bainter is starred.

Marjorie Rainbead, sar of "The Sign on the Door," at the Adelphi, is 12 pri-vate life Mrs. Hugh Dillman. Her imp. band is a member of "The Sign on the band is a member of "The Sign on the



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TWO SHOWS DAILY, 2 P. M., 30c AND 50c. NIGHTS, 8 o'CLOCK, 30c TO \$2.00 INCLUDING WAR TAX. SEATS ON SALE ONE WEEK IN ADVANCE

Marjorie Rambeau

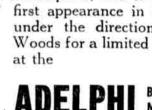
is, without doubt, one of the best known and most popular of the younger actresses

Her career has been unique and phe-

Six years ago she appeared quietly on Broadway, an unknown actress from the Far West. Overnight she was famous. Three years later she was a star.

Broadway took her to its heart as it has taken no player in recent years. Since her sensational debut six years ago she has appeared continuously in New York in a

In "The Sign on the Door," Channing Pollock's masterpiece, she is making her first appearance in Philadelphia



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An Open Letter to Philadelphia Theatre-Goers

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Playgoer:

I have spent \$100,000 in producing "Her Family Tree," my new musical play which is housed at the Lyric Theatre. Every penny of this sum was earned by my voice.

I have bought the best in scenery, costumes, electrical equipment and players. Hassard Short, who has done fine things for the American theatre, staged this play.

I have always wanted to produce a clean musical play, without vulgarity-one that even a Methodist bishop could recommend—and I think I have done so in "Her Family Tree."

I am waiting now to see if my faith in the clean-mindedness of the play-going public will be fulfilled. My judgment proved sound in Detroit, Pittsburgh and Washington.

Will it prove sound in the City of Brotherly Love?

The only way I have of proving my judgment is correct is by the box-office receipts.

Your loving son,

NORA BAYES



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2 ND BIG WEEK STARTS

MONDAY

NITE

MIDNI

RIP-ROARING REVUE HAS TAKEN PHILADEL-PHIA BY STORM

The Evening Bulletin told the whole story when it said:

"The Midnight Rounders," shown at the Shubert last night, seems to be about three jumps ahead of anything in the way of a revue ever seen in this city. The action of the "promenade" brought here from the Century Theatre, New York, is

AS FAST AS MAN O'WAR the chorus is as "easy to look upon" as a sunset in Norway, the ballets, dance ensembles and scenic effects far surpass all previous efforts, while the musical numbers and specialties are "put across" in a way that leaves nothing to be desired" ,

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