### THE PLAYGOER'S WEEKLY TALK

MONDAY'S only incoming novelty will be "Not. So Long Ago," a romantic fantasy of youth and love. It covers the same ground, but with an entirely different step and pace, as Mrs. Wharton's "The Age of Innocence." But while the novel is satiric and rich in its author's pungencies and poignan-cles, this little play of the same envi-ronment, New York city of twoscore years ago, is sentimental and romantic.

"MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE" is an authentic specimen of operetta which is distinguished from what we call musical comedy, in that the solos, choruses and concerted numbers are part of the dialogue and forward the action. Like opera comique, of which it is a variant if not a diminutive, it has both spoken and vocalized dialogue. The classic opera comique calls for incidental music which is suggestive of the narrative, and in this Andre Messager has found himself in sympathy with the Booth Tarkington tale. The book was provided by Frederick Lonsdale and the lyrics by Adrian Ross, who have happily preserved the glamour with which Mr. Tarkington invested his story.

Fashionable life at Bath toward the close of the eighteenth century, with action. Like opera comique, of which it

Fashionable life at Bath toward the close of the eighteenth century, with its gamesters, gallants, duelists, possures and grand manners have afforded a tale that in its very nature calls for music—music of delicately sentimental and rococo order that Messager has provided. An interest of point about the score is its echoes of old English rounds, glees, minuets and ditties, not conscious imitations of a "national school, but haunting recollections of a musical manner.

Do I think it should take three years to propose and be accepted." Mr. Hymer and Mr. Shipman so when they wrote our play,

thought so when they wrote our play, and "East Is West" by too good a play for me to criticize. Besides, I tike my job." It was Robert Robert apeaking in his drassing room at the Chestingt of his marriage to Maude Fulton, dancer, actress and playwright.

"However, I will say it didn't take me that long—only ten days in fact—and I was married in less than three weeks. But Massachusetts requires a five-day handicap, and that show matrimony up a bit.

Yes, we were maraled in Massachusetts and only a couple of weeks ago, but I must say in all fairness that in one way it wasn't as sudden as it all seemed, though I'm not relinquishing the record any. I went to school with Maude Fulton some thut it doesn't matter how long ago; in St. Louis.

"I used to see her across the footlights, but she was always a very received person and second ter how long ago; in St. Louis.
"I used to see her across the footlights, but she was always a very reserved person and scemed to avoid teeing me at all times. She was oosably just avoiding an abstract arrogance, but I was egotistical enough to take i, personally, and in fact I'm still a little sensitive over one instance, though she assures me she didn't know it was I. She had a big scene to write that particular night Anyhow, it was in Cincinnati and I was playing in "Brewster's Millions." Rock and Eulton were at Keith's. I had a birthday and a party. It started out to be a dinner with Billy and Mrs. Rock, Then it developed into a party. Well, at the last minute Miss Fullon sent her regrets by Mrs. Rock, and to proceed from there I got sore and vowed I'd get' the lady for refusing to come to my party.

"The mills of the gods,' you know."

get the lady for refusing to come to my party.

"The mills of the gods," you know. That was over ten years ago. I'm not a revengeful man, but when she came to Boston in "The Humming Bird" a few weeks ago I said now is my chance. I had been playing there in "East Is West" for twelve weeks and had my gang all around me, so I brushed my old gray bonnet into a black derby, and that'n that. It's a terrible price to pay for declining an invitation, and she says she'll never refuse another from me.

AS DONALD BRIAN sang to the world in "The Girl From Utah" "They Wouldn't Believe It," not even when he Selwyns themselves declared that Buddles has divorced him from the lufty-ruffles musical comedy in which Suffy-ruffles musical comedy in which he has been singing and dancing his way to stage success since his juvenile tole in "Florodors." That's because the world and his wife got it into their heads that there is no correlation between straight comedy and the sort of stunts they are accustomed to see the Brian feet do. So. They Wouldn't Believe It," when told that the popular lancer and singer, as one of the fristars of George V. Hobert's fragrant ove story of Brittany has an honest ove story of Brittany has an honest one sory of Brittany has an honest had been some of the fristance of George of Brittany has an honest ove story of Brittany has an honest had been some of the fristance of George of Brittany has an honest had been some of the got of the fristany has an honest over story of Brittany has an honest one has gift of song to "get over."

MITCHELL HARRIS, the lucky man who wins the lovel heroine of Joe Lincoln's Cape Cod comed). Shavings," playing at the Broad is a nephew of Maggie Mitchell, the delight of playgoers of a generation ago in Fanchon the Cricket. Mr. Harris is also a son of William Harris, well-enembered as leading man for Edwin Booth. Young Harris, who was pragucally born on the stage, always intended to become an actor, and strangely enough, his family approved Most actors, no matter how successful they may be, strenuously object to having their children follow the stage. Men in other professions are usually glad to have their sons succeed them, and so it was with Mitchell Harris. "I was educated," relates the leading man in "Shavings," with the idea of becoming an actor. When I was a child my father chose schools for me where I could receive special attention in interature, the arts, history and languages. Also, I had to study good paintings. I completed my sducation at Bondentown Military Aradems. My training there has been invaluable to me in playing the role of a major of aviation in "Shavings."

"Stavings."
Mr. Harris has nice been seen in Philadelphia as leading man in "Hen Hur" and the "Round-I'p."

# BLACKMER'S RISE

Young Southern Actor Only Four Years on Stage

Sidner Blacknier who place the leading male role in "Nor Se Long Ago" at the Adelphi, first floshed across the theartest horizon when he exceeded Henry Hull in 29 East" during the summer run of the Rachel trinthers comedy. In the early part of last season he was seen as the leading man for Maxine Elliott during her brief en gagement is "Trimmed in Searle".

Mr. Blackmer made his dirst stage appearance four years ago in let a a pearance pour years age its is a native of Salisbury, N. C. and before becoming an actor made a brief and half-hearted attempt at law, norse for the sake of complying with family ambition. He made his first stage alpearance in a small role in Winthrop Ames' production of "The Morris Dange" at the Little Theatre. Later he toured with ben Greet Players, doing romantic leads in half a dozen or more Shake-spearean plays.

A season's tour as the leading juvenile, of "The Thirteenth Chair," followed by several months to the leading man of the Municipal Stock Co. at Northampton, Mosse, completed his experience prior to the war.

Enlisting as a private, Mr. Blackmer won a commission as a limitenant of artillery, and after overseas service returned to America as an artillery instructor.

## NEWMAN TRAVELTALKS

Gerusalem and Holy Land' Is First

act. New bill latter halt.

NIXON—Minc Dorse's Celebrities, grand opera selections: Ned Nestor and of core Haynes, comedians; Elkins, Fay and Elkins, songs and music, thick and Verif, Italian musicisms, fordor and Germaine; Hill's Circusd and Buck Jones in movie, "Just Pals." Subject

1. M. N. when begins in annual travellally separate in the Accidence of Music next Finish exempts and Saturday afternoon. Generally and the Buck Jones in movie, Just Pals."

Holy Land' is the first of the series of five travellally to be given hers. The first travellally to be given hers. The first travellally to be given hers. The first property of Buck Jones in movie, Just Pals."

And Buck Jones in movie, Just Pals."

All N. when begins in annual Countries. Hill's condounded in the beautiful travellally and Buck Jones in movie, Just Pals."

And Buck Jones in movie, Just Pals."

Apanesse magical tricks, and his company, in a novelty specialty; Louis J. Saymour, songs; Princess Walletka, mind reading Avia Bennett and George Lee, which is made to the series of the series of five travellally and five travellally and Generally and George Lee, while the property of the series of t ale. A litter visit to the Jest have es will reveal what the Jew have planed. Newman arrived in the city during the feast of the Ram when an uprising was feared and a trutted with armed troops.

WILTON-Midgle Miller, a bundle of lively eccentric dances and songa: Helen Covne and Harry White, rand dances and songa; La Deaux and Macchin South American sensational

ON NEXT WEEK'S PLAYBILLS



ROBERT OBER

WORLD'S

"EAST 15 WEST" Chestunts

NORLD'S — Randion, in interesting novelty, and Schlitzle, Aztec, are new

Minstrels

JANUARY 17

DONALD BRIAN "BUDDIES" Lyric

Theatrical Billboard

for the Coming Week

New Attractions

ADELPHI—"Not So Long Ago." a fantasy of love, romance and youth of
the early seventies, the "dating" of
which gives it its title. The heroine
is a lovely little faddist in sentiment.
Her elderly father invents fishing
rods and she invents heart affairs.
One of these masquerade romances
comes true, furnishing the pot of the
story. Eva Le Galliene, daughter of
the poet, and Signey Blackmer have
the "leads."

Continuing Attractions

Continuing Attractions

FORREST — "Monsieur Heaucaire." romantic operetta, with attractive score
by Andre Messager, French composer
and conductor, based on Tarkington's
novel and play, in which Richard
Mansfield starred. Of the period
when hoopskirts and powdered wigs
were the vogue among ladies of caste
and gentlemen were gallant squires.
Marion Green, noted American baritone, has the title role, and Nancy
Gibbs, popular London singer, is
Lady Mary.

SHUBERT - "Aphrodite." the elabor ately staged spectacle. Based or

BROAD—"Shavings," a human comedy of Cape Cod, made out of "Joe" Lincoln's agreeable novel, by Pauline Ehelps and Marian Short Harry Beresford has the role of the "young-

old titular character, a whimsical carver of toy ships, who is always forgetting himself in caring for the interests o fithose around him. Clara Moores, for some seasons leading woman with William Hodge, plays the young widow who brings romance into Shavings' life.

WALNUT—George Arliss, in a distin-guished impersonation in "The Green Goddess." a drama of Asia. William Archer, the celebrated critic, has written a modern "play of adven-ture," which, however, is distinct from the mere melodrama of thrills. Splendidly cast and produced.

Spiendidiy cast and produced.

LYRIC — "Buddles," George Hobart's attractive story, with B. C. Hillan's tuneful music, of a maid of Brittany and a shy American lover, one of a group of doughboys billeted in a Breton home after the armistice. Donald Brian, Peggy Wood and Ralph Morgan have the principal roles.

roles.

CHESTNUT—"East is West," appealing drama of a Chinese bride bought for a San Francisco tea merchant. Fay Bainter is starred as Ming Toy, the purchased bride, whose reactions to American ways when the scene shifts from China inske an appealing little play. It is pictorially staged.

GARRICK—"Return of Peter Grimm," revival, with Mr. Warwick again in the role of the lovable old gardener, whose story shows the persistence of personality after death. An affecting and solacing drama and one of moment in view of contemporaneous interest in psychic phenomena. Last week.

Vaudeville

ERITH'S—Mme Besson, in Sir J. M.
Barrie's 'Half an Hour', Joe
Cook, one-man vandeville, Dave
Krainer and Joe Boyle, music and
togging. Big City Four, vocalists,
Ethel McDonough, skit. Bert and
listy Wheeler, songs and dances,
Alexander Brothers and Evelyn, ball
bounders, the Musical Hunters, news
and other pictures.

GLOBE-Carson and His Girls, dances Charles McDonald and company

BODES.

LOBE—Carson and His Giris, cances, Chirdles McDonald and company play: Al and Angy Knight, sketch; Sophie and Harvey Everett, skit the Lutes, "armiess wonder"; Jarvis and Harrison, skit; Brown and Myrtle, dances; Hister and Huston.

songs.

Al./.EGHENY — The Kincald Killies, band, "Madame Peacock," movie, with Nazimova; "The Black and White Review," minstrels; Russell and Devitt, comeditins; Peters and Labuff, unique act.

CROSS KEYS — "The Heart of Annie Wood," playlet; the Three Johns, novelty; Sherman, Van and Hyman, songs; Renard and West, skut; the Callerini Sisters, dancers; the Onti Duo, cyclists. New bill last half of west.

week.

BEOADWAY — "Extra Dry," musical comedy, "Madame Peacock," movie, "The Spotlight" girl, Julia Kelety, songe: Douglas Film, comedian, playlet; Fiannagan and Stapelton songs and talk. New bill last half.

and talk. New bill last half.

WILLIAM PENN—"Bits of Hits" with Brown and Earle and aix Petite Femme; Charles Ray, in "Forty-five Minutes From Broadway," movie; Paul Cunningham and Florence Bennett, songs; "Taxle," canine wonder; Howard Mack and Henrietta Lane, skit and H. Jean and Vallean, ring act. New bill latter half.

Pierre Louy's new Pagan novel of decadent Alexandria. Among those credited with various features of the production are Morris Gest, David Belasco, Henri Fevrier, Anselm Goetzl, Leon Bakit and Michael Fokine.

HARDORIE BURGESS MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE

Based on Willie Collier's delightful farce, "Caught in the Rain." GARRICK—"The Storm," a romance of the big woods, by Langdon McCor-inick, featuring a realistic forest fire JANUARY 25

HUBERT—"Kissing Time," with William Norris and Edith Taliaferro heading the cast. FORREST — "Hitchy Koe Revue of 1921," with Raymond himself; Julia Sanderson, George P. Huntley and Doyle and Rixon, the dancers.

LYRIC — "Smilin" Thru." with Jane Cowl Cowl as star. dancers; Endicott Sisters, dances and songs; Marimba Band, tropical music.

February 15 February 1;

FORREST — "Scandals of 1920," the second of these "annual events" produced by George White, George Bickel and La Sylphe are featured.

SHUBERT—"Tickle Me," musical comedy in eight scenes, by Otto Harbach, Oscar Hammerstein, 2d, and Frank Mandel, and score by Herbert Stothart. With Frank Tinney. DUMONT'S—"Our Woman Jurists" is the new buriesque; Master Joseph Rankin, boy xylophonist; Charley Boyden, Franklin and Richardson, Sheldon and others in novelties are on the bill.

A CALIFORNIA DANCER

ORPHEUM — "The Fortune Hunter,"
Winchell Smith's breezy comedy which
has survived ten years upon the
stage. It presents humorous city
ingress Her Dances

Burlesque

CASINO—"Ed Lee and Wrothe and His Best Show" is described as a superior production in which the noted star has many opportunities to distinguish himself. Among his supporters are such well-known musicat comedy artists as Teresa Adams, Dolly Sweet, Mark Brothers and Rusself Hill. Pictorial staging and costumes are promised.

EOPLE'S—"Peek a Boo" Communication of the production originated and staged undertone originated and staged un stage. It presents humorous city and country types in a small town environment. Miss Desmond and Mr. Fielder play the leads.

In his private life David Warfield is one of the kindlest, and most unassuming of men, democratic to the last degree. He does not care for the life of the theatre, but for the art of the theatre he has the greatest possible eathusiasm. Once arrived in his dressing room he has no thought save tor the character that he is about to play. PEOPLE'S—"Peek a Boo" Company" is a well-established organization, which features Florence Darley, sprightly soubrette; Kelso Brothers, Australian jugglers: Six High Steppers: Balsar Sisters, novelty act; Musical Spillers, Jazz Band and others in a varied en-tertainment TROCADERO — "Razzle Dazzle" is a breezy show, with Baker and Rogers as principals. A swagger "baby chorus" is a feature. Dolly Rayfield, Ethel DeVeaux and Rose Lee are in the cast.

PEOPLES Kens. Ave. and Cumb.

Jean Bedini's Twinkle Toes NEW ESKIMO LIFE FILMS WALNUT- "Pitter Patter," a musical UNIVERSITY MUSEUM, 33D AND SPRUCE AT 3:30 P. M. FIRST SHOWING

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By J. M. BARRIE AUTHOR OF "PETER PAN," "DEAR BRUTUS," "MARY ROSE," ETC. STAGED BY CLIFFORD BROOKE.

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MAT. TODAY

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The jammed house was so obviously delighted with three Lincolnesque characters that they burst into applause whenever one or the other of them left the stage."—EVE-

Last night's audience filled the house, and the enthusiasm with which the piece was received was hearty and genuine."-RECORD.

Mr. Beresford plays 'Shavings' truly, simply, comically, intensively, and his humor, charm and finesse of stroke are undeniable."—INQUIRER.

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