BEFORE THE CURTAIN RISES

Three New Shows and Shubert V audeville Make Next Week an Interesting One-Shopgirls Get Jobs With "Irene"

By HENRY M. NEELY

WE HAVE a lot to look forward to next week. The last six days have offered us nothing new in the theatrical line, but Monday will be as conspicuous as a boil on the neck. And that's fairly conspicuous,

First, we will have the openings of three new shows on the "legitimate" stage and, second, there will be the introduction of Shubert vaudeville at the Chestnut Street Opera House. "The Bat" comes to the Adelphi, "A Bill of Divorcement" begins its American career and opens the Broad for the season. "Two Little Girls in Blue" displaces Thomas at the Forrest.

what I think of "The Bat." Saw it has organized a big producing company in New York this week and the audi- on the West Coast to film the stage ence interested me You Mustn't Gire almost as much as Away the Secret much as the play

imagine a show running well over a year and still pack. to buy front seats ten days ahead?
That's what "The Bat" is doing. a printed request on the program addressed to everybody and asking hat the secret of the way the mystery finally solved be carefully kept from those who intend to see the piece Sounds like the bunk, doesn't it? Bo There are mighty few who will solve the mystery as they watch the play until, like the well-known bolt rom the equally well-known sky, it is solved for them in the most unexpected

Naturally, to know the solution before for drama. you go to the show would spoil your way, enjoyment of it. So it is really only to re

As I say, the audience in New York interested me almost as much as the doings on the stage. This was because of the way the play gripped them and got them increasingly tense with ex-pectancy and excitement. Toward the end of the last act, when things were happening fast and furiously, one of the dope

Sound your A. 'Sweet lay yay dee Rut I decided not to. Sound your A. Like it! Tro it on your talking machine.

Thesday. He was over here super-cising the changes they are making in Actor Pretty Well theme of shell-says, "the managers simply laughed at "Love Dreams" at Shot Up During shock and, if you me. That was over a dozen years ago Morosco Thinks the Walnut before the Ypres Fuss

HOUSE~

Daily Mats.

T'M NOT going to tell you in advance camera and screen about fifty-fifty and shows that have been most successful in fattening his already plethoric (good word, that) bank account.

According to him, there is only one thing that will keep people away from only thirteen. theatre and that is a bad show. Industrial conditions, he admits, may have something to with it, but if you give 'em a show they really want to see they'll dig up the price somehow.

And he believes that the movies are really a good thing for the legitimate stage. He thinks they are developing future theatregoers, "Young people see a picture," he told me, "and it creates their minds a desire to go further with it -not only to see the actors move. but to hear them speak and to get that more intimate sense of personal conthat the screen can't give.
The neighborhood movie house sat-

isfies the young, undeveloped yearning It is a good thing in that It teaches the developing mind to recognize true dramatic values and fair to keep it from those who intend to discriminate between artistic and martistic stories and acting.

"And then, gradually, there grows all the added value that can be carried by the human voice. And the young movie fan becomes a theatregoer. It strikes me as being pretty good

AND, seeing "Love Dreams," I thought of writing this one. You say to me, "Member few years ago reformers kicked about girls scearing tights on the stage?" And I say. "—

A LSO saw "Tangerine" at the Casino conder. Julia Sanderson. Everybody over there's singing "Sweet Lady." My voice is a little husky, but let's trust.

1 Broad Monday night when "A Bill HAD a chat with Oliver Morosco of Divorcement opens. It's a play ought to be produced at all, built around the When I wrote the first draft. he

had been in Eng- when Wilde and Pinero were the best taking the show to land during a part bets.

New York Morosco of the war as I happened to be, you 'I had purposely tried the novelty of you know, has lately would have seen enough of shell-shock writing my play like a serial, mystify the land to taking them.

GALA OPENING

MONDAY MATINEE

THUT ST. SHUBERT VAL

night the British Consul General and tain. But the puzzle play had not yet representatives of a number of societies of British war veterans will attend the performance in honor of Captain Allau Pollock, the headliner of the cast.

Pollock, the headliner of the cast.

Pollock, the headliner of the cast.
On the day that Great Britain declared war against Winsome Willie, Allan Pollock was a popular comedian the hypnotic twist in 'Trilby.' So the managers laughed at me again." in New York; but, being a loyal Britisher, he gave up his career, went to the consulate and enlisted in the British Army. He paid his own expenses to England and was assigned to the famous Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders.

He was in the Ypres tea party, And he got his. Just after he had been promoted to the rank of captain, the Hun sent over a shrapuel shell with Pollock's name on it, and they took him away from there. In eleven operations in various bos-

pitals during three years they managed to cut out most of the pieces of the shell and still leave enough of his physiology for him to eat and sleep and breathe with. There are only thirteen at least, she was featured in the bill. breathe with. There are only thirteen pieces of shell left in him—thut's all.

I AST week, at the request of the man. agers of "Irene," I extended to the shop girls of this city an invitation to apply for jobs with the four new "Irene" companies they are organizing to send on the road. I thought it was just a clever press agent stunt. But it isn't. They're had a lot of applications and three girls have been engaged. They are Margaret Mangin. 2525 South are Margaret Mangin. Sucenty first street; Irene Harper, 3819 avenue, and Ann Mont-Thirteenth and Jefferson Powelton avenue,

WE OLD gray-heads haven't a chance in the world in the theatrical business any more. The kids are shoving us off the edge of the map. Here comes "Two Little Girls in Blue" to the Forrest next week with the feathe desire to have these actors and tured Fairbanks Twins only eighteen actresses actually speak the lines, with years old and the three men who are mostly responsible for it not much past voting age.

The music was composed by Paul Lannin and Vincent Youmans, Paul is twenty six years old and Vince is And Arthur Francis. twenty three.

When you and I were their age we thought we were pretty good when we got jobs in the grocery store at \$6 a week. And we bought us a checked ber 3 and takes to the road with its sult and a pair of pointed patent original cast. Boston is the first step. leathers when then raised us to \$10. But not these kids nowadays. They buy things like that for their chauffeurs.

DODSON MITCHELL, author of "Cornered," the clever play in Lyric, tells me he had an awful

"I had purposely tried the novelty of gone into the movie to convince you that it holds great ing my audience and not taking them pushess pretty deeply. He is playing dramatic possibilities. On Monday into my confidence until the final curgreat ing my audience and not taking them

peddled the play on Broadway, the only thing people knew about psychology was

About a year ago Miss Zelda Sears helped Mr. Mitchell revise the play and they managed to get Henry W. Savage interested in it. And now it's a bank

NOTICE that Hetty King, nov called "The Prince of Vaudeville," is to be the headliner with the Shubert oggregation at the Chestnut Street Opera House next week. Maybe my memory's twisted, but it seems to me that when Klaw and Erlanger put on

HAVING no new shows to review this last week. I took advantage of the full and dropped in at some of houses which a reviewer has to neglect during a busy season. Monday night went to the Casino. Hadn't seen a bur lesque show in ten years and though it would be just about the same as it was then. But it wasn't. Burlesque as everything else around the theatre

Judge Leslie has got his house fixed up to look like a million dollars. And all I can say about the show is that expected to stay there half an hour but I sat until the flual curtain-and then was sorry it was over.

Tuesday night, went downtown t the Broadway to get a line on the kine of business being done by the neigh borhood houses. I couldn't get the line at first; couldn't get in to get it. Every seat was filled and people were packed back to the doors waiting for that w to end and the audience to get and give 'em a chance to get seats for

And Wednesday out to West Philadelphia to look at some of the Nixon-Nirdlinger houses. As far as I can see, all this talk about people in having any money to spend is bunk.

THE "Follies" ends its New York engagement at the Globe on Octo-It has stayed in New York later this year than ever before.
The Shuberts have changed the nam

of their Imperial Theatre in New York at Seventh avenue and Fifty-ninth street, and have named it Al Jolson's Fifty-ninth Street Theatre in honor of IT'S going to be quite a party at the which Madge Kennedy appears at the the comedian who has proved their very best little box-office fattener

'LOVE BIRDS' TO PLAY SHUBERT

A musical comedy with the attractive name of "Love Birds" will come to the Shubert October 3 for a short run. Pat Rooney and Marion Bent are the clever stars in this tuneful affair, which had a long run in New York. Sigmund Remberg, author of "Maytime," is responsible for the score.

SAM SHUBERT

BEGINS

SMART

MUSICAL

COMEDY

SEATS THURS.

MARION P

PAT ROONEY

MONDAY

MAT. TODAY at

HIT

OF

Theatrical Billboard

for the Coming Week

New Attractions

ADELPHI—"The Bat." The mystery play which has thrilled New York for a season. Charles Milward, Jessie Ralph, Margaret Fielding and others in the cast of this Mary Roberts Rinehart-Avery Hopwood creation. FORREST—"Two Little Girls in Blue."
A musical comedy by Frad Jackson with the popular Fairbanks Twins and other well-known people and a plof that is not lost in the shuffle.

BROAD—"A Bill of Divorcement." Lon-don stage hit brought to this country with a cast of English players headed by Allan Pollock, will open this fam-ous old theatre for its 1921 season.

Shows That Remain HUBERT—"Irene." Tuneful operetta of James Montgomery, Joseph McCarthy and Harry Tierney, on its return visit and as popular as ever. Patti Harrold heads the cast. Entering on its last

WALNUT-"Love Dreams." Morosco' "melody drama," in its last week. Harry K. Morton added to the cast, and the play changed and cut. Wer-ner Janssen's score one of the big LYPIC'-"Cornered" Last week of this popular mixture of comedy and melo-drama in which pretty Madge Ken-

nedy returns from a long sojourn in the movies and proves she has not lost her ability to win the hearts of her

GARRICK—"Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse." The pictured version of the colorful novel of Ibanez, with scenes and characters brought to vivid life under the skillful direction of Rex Ingram.

METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE—
"The Love of Su Shong." A new play
on the Oriental pattern with Mac Desmond cast as a Chinese girl, and Frank Fielder and other members of the company in congenial parts. Story mixes comedy and drama and stirs in a quantity of romance for good

RPHEUM-"The Lion and the Mouse Charles Klein's famous drama enacted by these popular stock players with Ruth Robinson as Shirley Resemore and Dwight Meade as John Byder. A story of love and high finance in con-

Vaudeville

CHESTNUT STREET OPERA HOUSE

—Opening of shubert variety in this
city with a bill of many favorites:
Marie Dressler musical comedy star,
assisted by John T. Murray, Arthur
Geary and a picked company in a
humorous skit. "Moments From the
Winter Garden": Hetty King, popular
impersonator. In one of her typical
acts; Klein brothers in a comedy act:
"In Argentine." a South American
melange with a company of players
from Buenos Aires; Milo, in a novelty; Flora Hoffman, singing comedienne; Bert Sheppard, Australian
whip expert; Althoff sisters, "songs of
the day"; La Pinski, animal actors, in
"Pun in Luna Park"; and a surrounding bill of pictures.

KEITH'S—Gertrude Hoffmann heads an

KEITH'S—Gertrude Hoffmann heads an attractive bill with a production of an American ballet with a company of American with Leon Barte as principal dancer; Fokins is the producer. Emma Carus, comedienne, in a series of her latest song hits; Ruth Budd, trapeze

artiste; Miller and Mack, Philadelphia boys, comedy and music and eccentric dancing; Howard Langford and Ina Frederick in a comedy sketch, entitled "Shopping"; Joe Towle, monologist of the "nut" variety; Handers and Millis, comedians; Leonore Kern, novelty musical act; Fantino sisters and company, aerial thrillers; the Joannys, presenting shadow tricks, and the usual pictures.

presenting shadow tricks, and the usual pictures.

GLOBE — The bill is headed by "The Bullet-Proof Lady," in a sharpshooting novelty. Other acts include Cardo and Nell, in operatic selections; Greenley and Drayton, songs and dances in seven languages; Firman and Olsmith, comedy songs; Paul and Walter Laver, acrobats; Ferro and Coulter, comedy and chatter act; Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Emmett, ventriloquists; Flo and Elsie Burke, songs, and Madeline Frank, aerial novelty.

ALLEGHENY—"The Romantic Teacher," musical comedy tabloid, heads the bill. Other acts include Smith and Nelman, comedy offering; Prince and Bell, skit; Ben Harrison and his own company in a sketch; Four Renee Girls, terpsichorean experts, and the photoplay, "Experience," featuring Richard Barthelmess and Marjorie Daw.

BROADWAY—Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday the bill is headed by a

Barthelmess and Marjorie Daw.

BROADWAY—Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday the bill is headed by a "dance drama" entitled, "The Enchanted Mummy." The photoplay is "The Great Moment," with Gloria Swanson. Other acts for the first half of the week are Lewis and Thornton, comedians; Billy Watson in a humorous phylet, and Marje and Meehan, singing and dancing. On Thursday, Friday and Saturday, the headliner is a farce called "Clothes! Clothes! Clothes! Clothes!" and the photoplay is "My Lady's Latchkey," with Katherine MacDonald. Other acts will be Al Grant, comedian; Ray Hughes and company in a sketch, and Jewell's Mannikins, a novelty act.

CROSS-KEYS—"Putting It Over." a

CROSS-KEYS—"Putting It Over," a musical comedicta by former mem-bers of the Twenty-seventh Division, heads the bill for the first half of the heads the bill for the first half of the week. Al Grant, comedian; the Sherlock sisters and Clinton, songs and dances; Nancy Boyer, sketch; Amanda Gilbert, Philadelphia vocalist, and Boyle and Grill, acrobats, complete the bill. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, the headliner is "The Enchanted Mummy," a "dance drama," presented by Jack de Winter. Other acts include Lillian Herlein, songs; Billy Watson and company, comedy playdances, and the Kalkins, in a novelty act. WILLIAM PENN-For the first half of

the week the bill is headed by a dancing and juggling act presented by the Breen family. Charles Ray in "Scrap Iron" is the photoplay attraction. Other acts include Jack Mack and Frankle James in a skit; John and Frankle James in a skit; John King and Dave Irwin, satire, and the Garcinetti brothers, acrobats. For the last half of the week the headliner is Browniee's Hickville Follies, featuring a rube jazz band. The photoplay is "Don't Call Me Little Girl," with Mary Miles Minter Other acts include Stan Stanley, comedian; Charles Keating, impersonating "Huckleberry Finn"; Charles Tobin, songs and stories, and the Two Percival Girls, song-and-dence acts. dance act.

NIXON'S GRAND-The headliner this week is "Dancing Shees," with Ruth Wells and a quintet of syncopated steppers. Other acts include Alan Coogan and Mary Casey, comedy sketch; Demarest and Dell, comedy plano and vocal offering; Sherwin Kelly, bicycle expert, and Herbert's enimal act. The photonlay is "Arrofore" animal act. The photoplay is "Amor Those Present," with Harold Lloyd. KEYSTONE — The headliner is Bobbie Heath and Adele Sperling in a minia-

ture revue. Other acts include Arthur and Leah Bell, ventriloquists; Lew Ross and company, in a musical sketch; Richard Kean, in scenes from famous plays, and Jack Hanley, in a The photoplay is "Hurricane

Burlesque

CASINO—I. H. Herk's "Jingle Jingle,"
with Harry Steppe as the featured
comedian, and a company which includes Harry O'Neil, Stella Morrissey
and Margie Coates. A mixture of
catchy tunes, pretty girls and up-tothe-minute jokes.

TROCADERO—"Follies of Buric-que,"
with a company of forty headed by
Charlotte Starr, Bille La Monte and
Mark Lea. Jazzy tunes, originally
twisted "gags" and an attractive twisted "gags" and chorus combined in one. Minstrels

DUMONT'S—Emmett Welch and his popular company are seen in a typical melange of up-to-date cracks fads and fancies. The Atlantic C Pageant' is held over from last was the principal burlesque, and more songs and skits are added.

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