Three Important New Shows Come Next Week and Three A "Two Little Girls in Blue," at the be to hold some fifty husky people. I Good Ones Hold Over-"The Bat" Mystifies Everybody

By HENRY M. NEELY NEXT week offers another important change in the bill of fare for the theatregoer. On Monday the diversified menu will be two musical comedies, one corking mystery play, two serious dramas and a comedy.

Out of that, there ought to be something to suit everybody's taste, except short-haired women and long-haired men who are happy only with the

WE ARE likely to get two very widely contrasted schools of acting be dramas. Down at the South Broad we have had all week that quiet. Show Different repressed English Schools of Acting school that, by its

very fidelity to our through the strength that it takes to overcome the ranting of uncontrolled hown us something mighty well worth seeing and its character drawings are gems that aren't likely to fade from the theatregoer's memory for some time to

The contrast will be in the warmly emperamental atmosphere of "Spanish ove," which comes to the Lyric. its title suggests, but don't make the mistake of thinking that the word love" refers only to the amorous ties between young manhood and womanod. It embraces all of the affections. including such opposites as hatred and

There is one feature of this production which ought to be particularly in- Comedy Made teresting. By the arrangement of the Big Success in stage the audience becomes a part of the story, at least, the dividing line made as little noticeable as possible. There is a wall where the footlights usually are and, where the orchestriused to be, there is a part of the promare and, where the orchestra enade, with steps leading down through the boxes on each side so that the characters can come down and walk along on a level with the audience while others sit on the wall above and talk through the house and join them. It is intended to give an effect of intimacy etween actors and spectators, and I'm curious to see how it works out.

TOLD you a sceek ago that "The Bat" would make a hit, didn't It You can look learned and horn-rimmed and talk disparagingly of "hokum" and that sort of stuff all you please. The fact remains that, if you've got any

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BERT LYTELL in
"A MESSAGE FROM MARS"

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tremendous east includes Wallace Gloria Swanson, Elliott Dexter, Daniels, Monte Blue, Wanda y, Theodore Roberts, Agnes Ayres, are Kosloff and others.

ANGER & PACKER SENNETT COMEDY

ranc

Shows That Are

Bound This Way OCTOBER 10-"Mr. Pim Passes By."
with Laura Hope Crews, Garrick;
"Wake Up. Jonathan," with Mrs. Fiske, Broad. CTOBER 21—"Mecca," spectacular musical show, Shubert.

CTOBER 31—"Enter Madame,"
with Gilda Varesi, Lyric; "Mary
Rose." with Ruth Chatterton,
Broad.

red blood in your vetus at all, you'll be on the edge of your chair seith the rest of us before the final curtain. A chap wrote a show called "The Bat" had murder, thrill, mystery pat, With an end so unus-u-al Gosh! but it fools you all! (Speaking of rhyming-how's that?)

COUPLA years ago, when I was in -just as you would expect in a U London (don't we old chronic stayat-homes love to begin that way?)coupla years ago.

see a show called quite the rage at the time. And it got lived in the Bloomsbury boarding house section-and they were quite easy to

ou just naturally called her for short. I've often thought since of some of srins." After more or less practice, the hilarious comedy there was in that I'm able to tell 'em apart when they're show and wished I could see it again, together in front of me, but when But I didn't think there would ever be they're separated I'm still helpless. another chance-not until I found, quite by accident, that "Happy-Go-Lucky," which comes to the Walnut, and my old friend Tilly are one and the same. She has changed her name and her the second act. The curtain rises half dress; that's all. But there's nothing way, to show the staterooms. Then,

first tried it in New As you there are "Girls in Blue"

two pairs of twins in this show-Made. line and Marion Fairbanks, the leads, and the two Tomson boys, who play the parts of stewards on the ship. And Emma Janvier, also in the cast, is the mother of a fine pair of twins. So, on Wednesday they are going to give a "twin matinee" and every duly

authenticated pair of twins eight years old or older will be admitted free. A ten dollar gold piece will be given to the oldest pair of twins in the audience and they will be taken on the stage to be photographed with the other pairs. When this stunt was tried in New York it was almost a rlot. One hun-dred and nine pairs of twins presented their credentials at the box-office and had to be accommodated with seats. They came from almost all over the country—one pair coming from Halifax, N. S. (I've forgotten what N. S. stands for, but Halifax is there, where ever it is.)

There was only one pair of claimants who had any difficulty in getting seats. A very blonde boy, weighing something over 200 pounds, and a very dark slip of a girl, tipping the scales at barely ninety pounds, demanded seats, It seemed impossible to believe that they were twins, but their proofs established claim and they got their seats. The \$10 gold piece went to a pair of twins eighty-seven years old.

then. I went to T WENT back-stage Tuesday night to renew a movie-studio acquaintance Dear Ol' London "Tilly of Blooms- with the Fairbanks Twins. They're a bury." It was most comfy and wholesome pair of kids was most comfy and wholesome pair of kids to be so that, if you ever met a girl who mother told me that even she can tell them apart only by certain inflections of the voice and certain mannerisms. 'And one other thing,' Madeline smiles, but Marion only

I was particularly impressed with the engineering feats that are necessary in production of "Two Little Girls in There is a surprise climax to unusual in that. The Tillies of Blooms toward the end, it rises all the way and logist and step dancer of his day, bury change their names as often as shows the rail of the promenade deck.

Pat, the Second, was only a

Forrest, they are going to repeat a stunt that proved most that proved most Twins Invited popular when they to Matinee of first tried it in New of two I-beam steel girders with ship is carried on a long platform made of two I-beam steel girders with planks across it. It is lowered by eight steel wire ropes from above and lifted again after the minute or so it is in use. The girders and platform without the steel wire ropes are girled as small part in the company for a number of seasons which has produced plays which have never seen the light of Broadway-Maeter-link's "Monna Vanna." Ibsen, new plays by Tarkington, Sam Merwin and again after the minute or so it is in use. The girders and platform, without ropes or supports, weigh 2400 pounds. Every time the show jumps from one city to another they have to send ahead an expert engineer to install a spare set of ropes and pulleys and do whatever bracing is necessary over the proscenium arch to bear this unusual additional weight. They tell me that they have three tons of duplicate mechanism to send ahead for this set and the scene that follows, showing the ship swinging about as she is warped to her pier and disclosing the lights of the harbor be-

> SHUBERT vandeville this week spoiled a perfectly good sale of an electrical attachment for my player-piano that I was considering. Saw and heard one of the Althoff sisters play the sextet from "Lucia" all with one hand—and not miss a note.
> Well," sex I, "if she can do that all with her southpaw, who am I, to kick about having to use both my feet to

WE'LL all feel sad to say good-by to "Irene" tonight. She hasn't lost any of her freshness or her melodious charm since we made her acquaintance year ago and evidently she won't lose for some time to come. Excuse me; feel poetical again: once was a girl named "Irene"

Whose Alice-blue gown made 'em green With envy-and I Can guite realize schy-(From a box-office standpoint, I mean.)

PAT ROONEY, the Second, must have been a precocious kid, for he made a wise and business-like selection of a father. It en-Inherited His Dancing Talent

for dancing and entertaining.

PHILADELPHIA'S LEADING THEATRES, DIRECTION LEE & J. J. SHUBERT

scarf around his neck at every performance. Pat became interested in her. One night he asked if he could see her home and she said he had better not come all the way, as she was engaged to a husky, two-fisted police captain. So Pat took her to the nearest corner

and then ran. When the show was sent to Boston Pat was the happiest man in America. The courage—or rather has Philadelphia the courage—or rather has Philadelphia the courage—to support a stock company which would produce new plays and encourage new on's to be written?

Pat and his wife haven't been separated since, so "Love Birds," in which they come to the Shubert next week, they come to the Shubert next week, and encourage new on's to be written?

SINCLAIR LEWIS' great novel, "Main Street" has been put into the shuberts. It has

seems a good name for a show starring them. Pat and Mrs. Pat are proud of their success, but they say there is another Rooney who is going to be the really famous one of the family. He is other Rooney who is going to be the at the National Theater, in New York, really famous one of the family. He is Pat, the Third, at present twelve years old and attending a military school on the Hudson.

A THEATRICAL event which might have important results slipped through last week without many folks i n Philadelphia

Stock Companies realizing it. Mae , Desmond Give Chances to Untried Plays and her players at the Metropolitan Opera House produced a play which has never been seen in this city before, and, in fact, has not had an extended stage production as yet. That play was "The Love of Su Shong," whose author, De Witt Newing, has turned out theatrical productions of all varieties.

The production was a good one, well staged, intelligently, if not brilliantly, acted and, above all, possessive of sincerity and desire to do things right. While watching this romantic love story of a father. It en-abled him to come Is West' and "The Son Daughter" a

into the world the inheritor of a famous name and a good bit, the thought came that this sort of thing might go a lot further.
"Uncle Tom's Cabin," "Way Down East," "Shore Acres" and a score or Pat, the First, received the highest more favorites are to be found on the salary ever paid to a vaudeville per-former up to the time of his death. He was the leading Irish comedian, mono-cause it would be a shame to have these Pat, the Second, was only a child But how about the hundreds of plays

ONE YEAR

EDGAR ALLAN WOOLF.

Lyrics by BALLARD MAC DONALD.
Music by SIGMUND ROMBERG.

Ever hear of Stuart Walker and his stranded and little Pat went out dancing on his own and managed to pro-vide for his mother and small sisters, know that Indianapolis has had a stock

plays by Tarkington, Sam Merwin and the "first-loves" of dozens of ambitious young writers? Last summer there were two such stock companies in dianapolis and BOTH OF THEM MADE MONEY.

Frank Fielder and Miss Desmond and their associate players are hard-working and sincere. They have the immense and sincere. Metropolitan which could stage most anything imaginable. Have they got the courage-or rather has Philadelphia

been going through a try-out in Stamford, Conn., this week and will open

WHY IS NORA BAYES?

The Much-Debated Question of Her Popularity and How She Gets It The presence of Nora Bayes on the bill for the second week of Shubert vaudeville at the Chestnut Street Opera House gives rise to the old question, "Just why is Nora Bayes?"

She is not beautiful, and is herself

the first one to admit that fact; her vocal range is of eight notes only, and she is not noted for her dancing ability.

In fact, Miss Bayes is one of the enigmas of the American stage, and, insidentally, one of the most popular cidentally, one of the most popular artistes on it. "Personality plus" artistes on it. "Personality plus' might describe her success. She is honest with her public and with herself; she knows how to put across her songs, even if her voice range is limited. Her enunciation, carefully cultivated, is one of her assets. It has been called "carved" and not a syllable is lost in

any part of the theatre in which she

is playing.

And when she sings some little song with a bit of pathos to it, her humanness and intelligence gets it across better, perhaps, than years of voice cultur-

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