

"BAD MAN" CAPTURES HEARTS OF AUDIENCE

Polite Bandit, Played by Holbrook Blinn, Welcomed at Walnut as Captivating Marauder

Walnut—Now, for a fact, Philadelphia has a theatrical visitor who should be invited to the city's heartthrob, not only for the holiday season, but late into the winter, without becoming a care or burden and without staying his welcome.

The Christians' victory is Holbrook Blinn, the play, "The Bad Man," by Porter Emerson Browne, a combination that, while new, could not, in the minds of the first-night audience at the Walnut last night, be beaten.

"The Bad Man" is one of those rare combinations of building, likable humor, and a surprising and fitting sort of satire which never is obvious, but always presents, and when sticks, somehow, in one's mind long after.

It is a comedy with no staleness of writing, and just as warm with the spirit of spontaneity and entertainment. In many ways it does not lagging, in much the same way that "The Tavern," for which this city was deprived the pleasure of seeing batted out, was interpreted as old, would-be-tantric specimens.

But, after all, "The Bad Man" shouldn't be trusted to see absurd a way except to say that its technical construction virtually was faultless and that there was not a missed opportunity to make the most of the comedy of the plot.

For this reason Holbrook Blinn, best cannot imagine his character as Pancho Lopez. It is a new birth, a snappy and subtly amusing actor whose every movement is in part, every wink a stroke of positive genius, every word a model of diction. The personage and easy-flowing lines of the author, he weaves into his laws of the United States of his life, his abilities, his ambitions, with a certain stern and life to his voice that makes the longer scenes to join him down in his beloved Mexico.

Pancho Lopez, who it hardly seems "drops in" on a certain ranch on the Mexican border one afternoon and plays destroy with the life of six or six people, is able to do this. In order to bring happiness to that ranch, he is forced to kill one of the party, but he does it in so informal and light-hearted a way that not only does the audience forgive him, but the other people in the story as well.

It would be hard to imagine finer and impossible to tell of the merits of all of them. Thomas Shearer as Uncle Henry, or Harry McLean, who spent the three acts in a wicker chair, was positively a revelation, and Fred Tilden, as the real villain of the piece, gave a gripping rendition. Miriam Collins was especially appealing in the role of a young girl.

LEE WHITE SCORES WITH HER SONGS

Singer Who Was Favorite in London Meets Approval at Chestnut St. Opera House

FUNNY TRAVESTIES IN "PASSING SHOW"

Drama of the Day Comes In for Burlesquing in New Winter Garden Revue

CHESTNUT STREET OPERA HOUSE—It can be easily understood why Lee White was the reigning hit of London for several seasons. Without extending herself to the least she can sway with the leaders of the show yesterday. In addition to a very pleasing personality, she has that asset which we are pleased to call magnetism and, best of all, a collection of songs that teem with philosophy and wit. Clay Smith gave room service at the piano, and also in the numbers. He helped to fill full value from every lyric.

Frank Orth, who made himself generally useful throughout the show, was at the finish of Miss White's act in fitting fashion.

Johnny Dooley, assisted by two dainty girls and his Daddies, managed to arouse enough comedy commotion to take four or five hours. He danced, broke straw hats and bawled about for a while, and finally closed his act with a song while stridio a brewery horse.

Lord Al. rendered selections from Rigoletto with good effect. From soprano, he dropped to basso and back again as he sang over the various roles.

In addition to quantity, Orth's "Bubble King" offered an act of quality. His "three acts in one" idea is well arranged. In addition to clearing all kinds of bubbles he introduces novel ventriloquism.

In Argentina, a cabbed with South American atmosphere, brought good results. Miss Anna Cook offered a number of scenes in a mimetic fashion and was assisted once again by Mr. Orth.

ORPHEUM'S CHRISTMAS PLAY

"Daddy Dumpling" Pictures Audience of Old and Young

Orpheum—The spirit of Christmas was in the air when the Orpheum Playhouse last night had a visit with "Daddy Dumpling," a comedie-drame based on the well-known novel by George Barr McCutcheon. The greatest part of the action takes place on Christmas eve and there are a lot of children on the stage, as the little girl in the audience had an especially good time. Ruth Bottoms came before the curtain and announced that she would present a beautiful doll to the child bringing the best dressed to the Thursday matinee. So every body was happy.

All of the favorite players of the company have congenial parts to rate offering. Dwight Menden in "Daddy Dumpling," Miss Robinson, Florence and Mollie Fisher, Mac Gerald, John W. Loft, Howard J. McGowen, Irene Williams, Gertrude Kretsch and Lester Howard all have good parts.

MAE DESMOND RETURNS

Reopens at Metropolitan Opera House With Production of "Zaza"

METROPOLITAN—David Belasco's famous dramatic bit, "Zaza," in which Mrs. Leslie Carter made one of her greatest triumphs, was chosen by Mae Desmond and her associates stock players to open their return engagement here. Big houses at both matines and evening performances testifies to their approval of the choice.

Mae Desmond appeared to good advantage in the emotional name-role and Frank Fielder and the other members of the company, besides doing excellent acting, also supplied the Gothic atmosphere for the play. The staging of this story of French life was always adequate and the result was a well-knit, stirring play that went forward to its sensational climax with a bang.

Continuing Shows

BROAD—"Declasse," Zoo, Aloma drama, in which Ethel Barrymore scores one of the biggest hits of the year.

ADELPHI—"The Bat," fourteen weeks of the run of this Mary Roberts Rinehart and Avery Hopwood thriller here.

"WANDERING JEW" SEEN AT FORREST

Tyrone Power Presents Finely Acted Play With Unusually Good Stage Mounting

FORREST—There was a certain atmosphere of "forever" in the opening of "The Wandering Jew." It marked the last "first night" in the life of the Forrest Theatre, so far as its immediate history is concerned. On January 10 it is to be turned over to motion pictures, but after that, it becomes the home of Shubert's "Theatre." The original series and troupe, which now holds its boards, is, therefore, dedicated to the spirit of the seasons.

E. Temple Thurston, the author of the play, legend of the Jew, Marthas, who shoots the first as he was to day to Calvary, and who was condemned to carry upon earth until Jesus died for him again.

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Elizabeth Kenney and Milton Beale, two juveniles, "event over." These children are talented in many ways. Their father is exceptional. Leo and Company entertained with their singing. The "Jew" and "Wanderer" had bags in the house.

Louise Verdi and Nona, in songs and dancing, scored one of the big hits of the show. Their act is built along musical comedy lines and is full of entertainment.

Globe—Cooper reigns supreme here, and it is keeping up the tradition. An animal comedy director, Mr. Tillon Arruda, looks like a vision from Edendale. In addition to other stunts, there is an eagle lion which rides bareback. Charles Lloyd and company, though alone, stand up well.

Regent—Light-headed romance predominates in "Garments of Youth," in which Garrah Hughes, well-remembered star of "Sentimental Tommy," has the leading role. It is the story of the day dreams of a young man who allows his love to come to him, and the better of women he cannot be won.

Alhambra—The "Sheik," desert romance, with Agnes Ayres.

Leader—"On a Very Curved

Ahead," with Richard Dix.

Sixty-Ninth Street—"Don't Tell Everything," with Wallace Reid.

Lois Lane—"Snowblind," with Pauline Starke.

Rivoli—"A Certain Rich Man," starring Robert McWade.

Belmont—"The Face of the World," with Edward G. Robinson.

Cedar—"Taking Chances," with Herbert Marshall.

Coliseum—"Hate and a Woman," with Grace Davidson.

Liberty—"The Lure of Jade," with Franklin Fredericks.

Flemington—"The Rider of King Log," with Frank Sheridan.

Albion—"Little Lord Fauntleroy," Frances Hodgson Burnett juvenile classic, with fresh life put into it by Mary Pickford.

Great Southern—"Camille," brought up to date with Alla Nazimova in the title role.

Market Street—"What No Man Knows," a society drama, with John Kirchnbach, George Walsh.

Imperial—"Serenade," a Spanish romance, with George Walsh.

Colonial—"The Sheik," desert romance, with Agnes Ayres.

Strand—"The Sheik," desert romance, with Agnes Ayres.

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