



"The Heart of a Thief."

A thrilling "crook" drama by W. V. Garrod is one of Mr. Leonard Rayne's latest acquisitions. It has proved a big winner in England and affords the members of the New Dramatic Co considerable opportunities. Miss Lillian Hallowes and Terrence Maxwell, Marjorie Clifton, Lago Clifford, Bertha Ricardo and John Cairns.

His Majesty's,

Another new comedy company, have made their triumphal entrance into His Majesty's Theatre, the music loving public of the Rand have again an opportunity of satisfying their inclinations of enjoying this class of ever popular entertainment. This company opened their season on Monday with "Kissing Time," a musical play from the French of Hannequin and Weber, by Guy Bolton and G. Wodehouse. music by Ivan Caryll. It has seldom been my pleasure to witness a jollier production of this category of entertainment, and the enjoyment was heightened by the excellent ensemble and the swing with which the piece was performed. Although the idea which underlies the plot could not exactly be called original, yet the gayness of the music, the brightness of the dialogue and the perfect harmony of the acting more than make up for this defect. In Blake Adams, the company possesses a comedian of more than ordinary ability, who kept the large audience in roars of laughter through the evening. In addition to his being a good actor, Mr. Blake also sings well and scored a decided success, among other items, with his song, "Women haven't any mercy on a man." Lily Ward made a perfect second, adding to her fine acting some good singing and graceful dancing. The leading lady of the company is Flora Ashe, who has a charming soprano voice which she displays to great advantage, in several solos and duets and she was well supported by Eric Harrison, although his acting is somewhat stiff. Hugh Ormond displayed a fine baritone in the one and only solo he sang, and I am looking forward with interest to this artist's future appearances. Minnie Rayner is decidedly clever, Zelig and Andrew Higginson proved by his acting and singing that he is an artist of experience. The cast is a fairly long one so that it is impossible, with the limited space at my disposal, to enumerate all the soloists separately, but it is with pleasure that I record

the fact that in this musical comedy company we have an ensemble of very accomplished artists who have taken the public by storm. The dresses and costumes are tasteful and in some cases gorgeous and the staging is bright and pleasing. Mr. Fred Coyne is the producer, and Mr. Dave Foote, the conductor. On the opening night the stage, at the close of the performance, resembled a veritable flower garden. P.J.

Standard Theatre.

The advent of another season by a new company, presented by our old friend, Mr. Leonard Rayne, was greeted with much enthusiasm by the local public, so much so that there was not a vacant seat at this popular theatre on Monday night when the company opened with Walter Howard's melo-dramatic play "Her Love Against the World." The piece is not new to local playgoers and has been well presented before, with, among others, Alfred Paumier in the role of the Earl of Strathmore. This part is now being taken by Terrence Maxwell, who also made a decided success of it, playing judiciously and with the necessary measure of restraint, his performance being well received. The principal lady of the company is Lillian Hallowes who is no stranger to us, she having acted the same part, that of the Princess Iris, some years ago. She again scored a decided success. The acting of little Bertha Ricardo was much admired and drew forth unstinted applause. A. Disney-Herbert gave a good account of himself as Prince Ulric and so did Lago Clifford as Prince Othmar, whilst the lighter vein lay in the able hands of Phil May as Heinrich. The excellent attendance on the opening night augurs well for the successful run of this play, with the approaching holidays and Show week. P.J.

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