



Lady Betty.

This charming production staged on Tuesday night at His Majesty's may be better described as a "comedy with music" than as a "musical comedy" but it is not detracted from in any way by this fact since there is a distinct plot which is interesting to watch in its development and unravelling. The particular beauties of the piece however, as presented to the Johannesburg audiences by Mr. Wybert Stamford, are the elaborate and artistic stagings which improve and increase as each scene gives way to its successor, culminating in a ball room setting that has rarely been equalled and certainly never surpassed in any previous local production. The story of how Betty, a kitchen maid, becomes a countess and is received with satisfaction by a particularly aristocratic old duke has been detailed by my daily contemporaries so that I need do little more than pay a tribute to the excellence of the presentation. The title role is taken by Miss Gladys Moncrieff who has ample opportunity for demonstrating her possession of a particularly fine soprano voice, singularly flexible and beautifully trained. The music cannot be said to be catchy nor is that to my mind a disadvantage since, at times, it reaches a distinctly high level and affords the soloist occasions which in easier music she might lack. Never has Miss Moncrieff delighted her audiences more thoroughly and I feel sure that it was only the lateness of the hour that prevented more generous responses to the obvious wish for encores. The simple girlish part was admirably portrayed and an instantaneous success, likely to continue and increase, achieved. As the Duke of Crowborough, Mr. Grafton Williams was singularly successful his aristocratic attitude being most appropriate while his son, the Earl of Beverley was played by Mr. Hearne with an obviously intelligent appreciation of his part. Mr. William Greene was well fitted with the role of Lord Payne and gave us some delightful fooling of a high class nature while Mr. Achille Jotte, the low comedy part, was given by Mr. Chas. Kitts. Amongst the ladies I cannot help being delighted with Miss Dorothy Purdell who played a small boy's part with wonderful charm and *abandon* and Miss Rita Reuas as Chiquette, the latter singing delightfully. Miss Hilda Guiver had a comparatively small part as Estelle and Miss Violet Yorke little else to do than to look pretty, in which she succeeded admirably. Miss

Vivion Talleur was responsible for the dancing which helped to enliven the play and Mr. Talleur Andrews sang "That Dreamy Lullaby" with much expression so that a charming evening's entertainment was provided. L.L.G.

The War.

To-morrow evening will be the first of the three nights when Mr. Frederic Villiers will deliver his interesting lecture entitled "With Joffre and French at the Front." The *venue* of the entertainment, which will be profusely illustrated by sketches from the facile pen of the lecturer and moving pictures taken on the field of action, is the Town Hall and there can be no doubt that a more than ordinarily interesting occasion will be provided. The lectures are under the auspices of the African Theatres Trust and the prices charged are distinctly moderate when the fame of the lecturer is taken into consideration.

The Standard Theatre.

After to-night, to-morrow afternoon and the evening, "Tiger's Cub" that charming Alaskan melodrama which has been delighting the patrons of the Standard Theatre, will give place to "What Every Woman Knows." This well known play by Sir James Barrie affords not only Miss Katharine Pole but also Mr. Frank Cellier, Mr. M. R. Morand and Mr. W. Mollison excellent opportunities for the display of that histrionic ability for which they are so well known. We have been favoured with a synopsis of "What Every Woman Knows" from which we gather that the play is one replete with interest and brimming over with incident and, since the dialogue is said to be bright and sparkling, the production should be marked with complete success. The idea which forms the *motif* of the play is indeed original and, presented as it will be by a capable combination, should prove intensely interesting.

The Germiston Races.

Followers of "the sport of kings" will be catered for even better than usual on Monday next when there will be a special meeting at the Germiston Race Course. In our advertisement columns may be found the exact times of the trains to the Course and on the programme the times for return. With their usual consideration to the fair sex, the Stewards of the Germiston Sporting Club invite ladies free to the Paddock and have reduced their admission charges for gentlemen to the Public Stand 3/6, the Paddock 7/6, and the Members' Stand 10/-. Apart from the number of "Books" standing up, the 10/- totalisator will be open on every race so that ample opportunity for speculation will be afforded.

MATINEE TO-MORROW at 2.30.

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And Following Evenings at 8.15,
The Daly's Theatre Success.

BETTY.

Produced by WYBERT STAMFORD.

Seats booked by telephone will not be kept after 8.10 each evening. (Matinees 2.15 p.m.)

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What Every Woman Knows.

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SPECIAL HOLIDAY MATINEE MONDAY
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The Entertainment will be profusely illustrated with his own sketches and moving pictures taken on the field of action.

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The Native parcels left by Alia Godin Std 145 Main Reef Road George Goch, will be removed to Std 709 New Primrose from the 30. 8. 16, and if any natives do not fetch same within three months from date will be sold. P. Cronson & Son Parties Agents, 48 Commissioner St., Phone 2300 P. Box 3201 Johannesburg. 4. 11. 18