

June 8, 1923

THE S.A. JEWISH CHRONICLE



A Notable Anniversary.

It may seem peculiar that the opening of Mr. Joseph Kessler's season in Johannesburg should coincide with the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the Yiddish Theatre in English speaking countries and, it is interesting to note in passing that the Yiddish stage not only wills to live but to constantly improve and it is men like Mr. Kessler and his colleagues who have achieved world wide reputations to whom lovers of Yiddish are indebted for keeping alive that love of Yiddish literature and art. We would, upon this occasion point out, that no greater opportunity has been placed before our South African Yiddish Literary and Dramatic Societies as at the present time and, it is for them to show their appreciation of the enterprise which has prompted the present venture and upon which no expense has been spared. We have already given some details of the plays which will be presented and once again we would point out that the company is a new one to this country with an international reputation. Mr. Kessler has achieved fame wherever he has appeared whilst Madame Anna Augenblich has been his leading lady for the last ten years. This talented

lady is one of the most versatile actresses on the Yiddish stage today for, in addition to being a fine tragedienne, she is an accomplished vocaliste and a charming dancer. Madame Sarah Sylva has already shown South African audiences what she is capable of whilst Mr. Augenblich has been his "chief's" right hand man for the past nineteen years. In short the whole company is a brilliant one and never in the history of the Yiddish stage of this country has so great an attraction been provided. The company, including Mr. Harry Krone the manager, is due to arrive in Johannesburg on Wednesday next and the season opens on the 15th instant at the Standard Theatre.

His Majesty's

The new production at His Majesty's Theatre "Adele" is, indeed, a brilliant French comic opera and possessed of not only a delightful plot but some most charming music. Parmaceau a wealthy sardine merchant desires to marry his daughter Adele to Baron Charles De Chantilly a bored, young scion of a noble house and the adventures of the ambitious parent to achieve his purpose provide the basis of an evening's entertainment, in which there is not a dull moment from beginning to end. As Parmaceau Mr. Rowland Hill has a part which is admirably suited to his talents and which gives him ample scope for his capabilities. In fact, it is one of the most outstanding roles in the piece. Mr. Martin Iredale as the Baron is also much in evidence and acquits himself well, whilst, Mr. Victor Crawford is Jacques has only a small part but nevertheless what little he has to do is done exceedingly well. Miss Ethel Cadman as Adele, gives a fine rendering of a really charming part and as Myrienne de Meuville Miss Vera

Pearce both sings and dances with her usual vivacity. All the other parts are well taken. Again it is my pleasant duty to congratulate the producer and his assistants on the manner in which the piece is staged. From an artistic point of view it is excellent whilst the dressing is also very beautiful.

S.M.

HIS MAJESTY'S

(African Theatres, Ltd.)

To-Night at 8.15 p.m.

Grand New Production
COMIC OPERA

ADELE

In 3 Acts.

By PAUL HERVE & JEAN BRIQUET
Produced by F. Maxwell Stewart.As played with ENORMOUS SUCCESS
in

New York, Paris and Australia.

THE MUSIC IS DELIGHTFUL.
EXCELLENTLY CAST.
EXCELLENTLY MOUNTED.
PLANS AT CARLTON HOTEL.

EMPIRE

(African Theatres Ltd.)

TO-NIGHT at 8.15.

ALL STARS

Reeve Girls and Leslie
Jack Shields
Audrey Ashby
Lolita
Barrett and Clark
Archie Graham & Co.
Les Eldons
May SherrardBOOK EARLY.
Plans at Carlton Hotel.NEW BIJOU
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MR. JOSEPH KESSLER.



MADAM SARAH SYLVA.

The Empire.

The weekly change at the Empire Theatre has added further excellence to an already attractive programme. Lolita is a clever exponent on the violin, who plays with much verve, and has thoroughly mastered the difficult art of playing syncopated music faultlessly. In Audrey Ashby we gave an interpretative dancer of singular grace and charm, who combines youth with beauty and her selection of dances—classical and national—are a welcome change in this era of jazz and shimmy. A very breezy and bright turn is that provided by Archie Graham as "The Knut of the Army" assisted by his dainty partner, about half his size, as "The Knib of the Navy." The two keep the audience in roars of laughter with their amusing patter, puns and jokes, and are sure to become great favourites. Comedy character songs are rendered by Cliff Barret, who possesses a

remarkable falsetto voice, of which he makes full and effective use in the part of a Cockney lady, partnered in this particular item by Nettie Clark. No Empire programme is perfect without its Comedian, this week's newcomer in this line being Jack Shields, whose impersonations of different characters are most entertaining. The wonderful demonstration of strength and skill given by Les Eldons continues to arouse appreciation as well as amazement at such marvelous feats, and the popularity of May Sherrard, a boisterous comedienne of the funny type, also continues unabated. The Reeve Girls and Leslie are in their third week, and have introduced some new catchy songs. A feature of the screen is another picture of the desolate Tristan da Cunha Island and the latest Topical Budget.

M.L.



MR. AND MRS. AUGENBLICH AND THEIR SON.

The New Bijou.

As usual another fine film has been shown at the Bijou during the present week and "The Great Moment" the picture in question adapted from Elinor Glyn's famous book of the same name deals with the story of a foolish butterfly, a product of Society's Hothouse, who has flitted here and there, tasting all the sweets of life without sharing any of its pains, sufferings or emotions. In a single night this pretty creature was stripped of her golden wings. In one night she knew the full meaning of fear, hate, and love. Next week's attraction "Over The Hill" may best be described as a great moral drama and must not be confused with one of a similar title.

Latest Music.

For the past twentyfive years Messrs Feldmans the well known music publishers have done their best to provide the right type of songs and have scored innumerable successes. Looking at their latest batch of songs of all descriptions, many of which will be heard here in South Africa in the near future, I venture to say that the majority of them will be firm favourites ere long and included among them are seven dance songs,—"I Was More Than Lucky," "Honeymoon Time," "Indian Moon," "Whose Little Angel Are You," "The Cousin From Nowhere," "Maryland" and "Fate." Coming to the ballad type one can choose from such excellent numbers as "One Night In June," "Song Of Persia," "That Little Grey House," "When The Clouds Roll By," "Its All For The Best," "The Rover," "While Miami Dreams" and "Dreaming." Last but not least, we have some quite good comic songs which are as follows,—"I dont want love," "Sorry," "That Lil' Old Cuckoo Clock," "Goldfish," and "What Do You Know."

Johannesburg Relief Fund Drive.

Carnival Cabaret Town Hall

Wednesday, June 13,

9 p.m.

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