



His Majesty's.

There were many outbursts of enthusiasm at this popular Theatre on Monday evening when "The Sport of Kings" which is a racing play, was submitted for the judgment of Johannesburg playgoers.

The play might almost be termed

a morality-farce, since it exposes, in uproarious fashion, the charms and the hazards of betting as they come to the amateur.

"The Sport of Kings" will be good for all who see it. The chief protagonist is a certain killjoy named Amos Purdie. He is a wowsler, and, like all other wowslers, he is a hypocrite. He will have no consumption of alcohol, and, with Stuggins he holds that "all taps is vanities." He is bitterly opposed to gambling and the thought of a wager of a sovereign on the speed of horses "makes a vessel's heart bleed." He is what Mrs. Levenson called a beano-blighter, that is, a person who blights beans. But he does not confine himself to the suppression of joy. He hamstring happiness, and saps and undermines the current peace. He pollutes and spoils, mutilates and warps. He sickens by his sourness. In brief he wowses. However for this latter-day Stiggins there lie in wait "the men of wrath." In this case they are not an old stage coachman and a manservant, but two worldly young men who organise among his children and the staff of the fine house which Purdie has acquired a most acceptable and amusing rebellion.

Ian Hay is happy both in his subject and in his broad humour, but it is Mr. Mortimer who carries off the chief honours. He manages to be both broad and subtle. Hope Tilden, Mina Green, Leslie Harding and Marjorie Battiss give him excellent support, and the whole thing was very warmly received. The staging is excellent and the dressing fashionable, so that a good allround presentation is provided.

The Empire.

On Monday night last Herschel Henlere came back to Johannesburg after an absence of three years and was received with an enthusiasm that has seldom been equalled. To see him at his piano with his cheery nonsense, laughing and joking, and—by the way—taking Yiddish, is an entertainment in itself and yet besides all this there is his remarkable knowledge of classical music and his able interpretation of the best work of the greatest masters. On Monday night he played that stupid if popular melody "Yes we have no bananas" in the manner that he thought that such maestros as Liszt, Chopin, Rachmaninof, Verdi, and others would have played it. Then he rendered other pieces, including a composition of his own "Burmese Moon," which the public loudly applauded and finally left the stage to the regret of his audience enveloped in a medley of melodies which he had himself created. Others on the programme are Fred Curran who is a clever parodist and versifier as well as Salerno, the wonderful juggler. The Flying Winkills perform some wonderful acrobatic feats and Kennedy and Coppin the Anglo-Scottish couple are equally as well received. Maud Resy and Dragor give a dancing turn which is as fine as that which the Empire has

HIS MAJESTY'S.

The Most Laughable Racing Comedy ever presented
"THE SPORT OF KINGS."

By Ian Hay.

Enacted by the New English Company.

Producer: Philip D. Levard.

EMPIRE PALACE.

SPLENDID VAUDEVILLE BILL,

Headed by

HERSCHEL HENLERE,

The Mirthful Music Master.

NEW BIJOU.

"THE LOVE STORY OF ALIETTE BRUNTON"

Starring Isobel Elsom.

From the story by Gilbert Frankau.

THE ORPHEUM.

VAUDEVILLE:

FYNE and HURLEY.

PHOTO-PLAY:

"NORTH OF 36" featuring Jack Holt and
Lois Wilson (Paramount).

THE CARLTON.

"THE THIRD ROUND"

With Jack Buchanan as star.

"LURE OF THE WILD"

Featuring Jane Novak and the famous wolf-dog
"Lightning."

Not seen and Bert Southwood and Pink Lady present a vocal and comedy act which is bright, sparkling and up-to-date. Pathe's Gazette and the African Mirror show some very interesting pictures which add to a programme which is generally highly diverting.

The Guild Dramatic Section.

Under Mr. Harold Miller as producer the Dramatic Section of the Guild presented an interesting programme on Sunday evening last. The first item was a one act comedy by A. A. Milne, entitled "The Boy Comes Home" in which there appeared Mr. Maurice Hillman, Misses Sarah Stoloff, Annette Silverstane and Gertrude Wade and Mr. Donald Josephs. As "Philip" Mr. Hillman was really excellent, his presentation showing a more than usually intelligent grasp of the character which he had to portray and he was aided by the possession of a good stage presence which enabled him to look as well as act the part. Mr. Donald Joseph's make-up was particularly good and he too played well but for the fact that he had a tendency to hunch his shoulders and look upon the ground. The ladies were mediocre and suffered from nervousness and bad make-up.

The sketch was entitled "The Philosophy of Top-litzky" and the parts were played by Mr. Harold Miller, Mr. L. Rosen, and Miss Lillie Sass. This play is very popular at the Jewish Guild, where it has been produced before and in his role of "Levy" Mr. Miller's acting was distinctly reminiscent of Sam Stern, who it will be remembered played the part throughout South Africa. Mr. Miller's make-up was very good and by the introduction of local gagging he added interest to both the part and the sketch.