

# Walker Will Give World Premiere of 'Artists' Life' at Murat Monday Night

Peggy Wood, Famous Actress, Comes to Indianapolis to Create Leading Role in New Play.

## THE KELLYS CLOSE SEASON TONIGHT

This here old town is goin' to have another world premiere of a new play.

That is the way that Stuart Walker and his company at the Murat will observe the Fourth of July. On next Monday night at the Murat, Mr. Walker will present for the first time on any stage a new play by Samuel Merwin and Peggy Wood.

To make the occasion even more important, Miss Wood is here and will appear in the leading role of a play which she helped to write.

"Artists' Life" is the name that the new play bears at this time. New York will have its theatrical eye on the Murat stage next Monday night because Mr. Merwin and Miss Wood are recognized persons in the theatrical field.

With Gregory Kelly and Ruth Gordon closing their stock season at English's tonight with the final showing of "Just Suppose," the legitimate and stock field in Indianapolis will be left exclusively in the hands of Mr. Walker.

With B. P. Keith's closing the summer vaudeville season on Sunday night, the Lyric will be at the head of the houses showing summer vaudeville.

## WORLD PREMIERE OF NEW PLAY TO BE MADE MONDAY AT MURAT.

Stuart Walker's Fourth of July firecracker to Indianapolis is a brand new play, "Artists' Life," by Peggy Wood and Samuel Merwin, which will be seen for the first time on any stage at the Murat Monday night.

As an added attraction Mr. Walker has engaged Peggy Wood, herself, to appear in her own play. She will play the part of Emma Norvallo, an American girl who became for a few brief years a great opera star in Europe. Miss Wood is one of the best known opera stars on the American stage. She played the leading roles in "The Madcap Duchess," "Maytime," "Young America," and "Buddies."

The new piece, which is called "A romantic comedy of operatic ambitions," is written in a prolog, three acts and an epilog. The prolog and epilog are modern, while the play itself flashes back to Paris during the early 80s.

In the prolog Miss Norvallo, now known in her home village, among neighbors who know little and care less of her great days so long ago and far away, as a "broken-down opera singer." In order to influence her gifted niece against attempting to follow a similar career, reads the memoirs she is writing of her own brilliant dramatic and operatic life five years abroad. In the epilog one learns the outcome of her efforts.

In the play proper, one sees the youthful Emma, a simple American student, plunged into the sophisticated atmosphere surrounding the Paris opera, and about to make her debut. The principal male character is Johann Strauss, the "Waltz King," then in the heyday of his Parisian career, himself a prince of Bohemians, adored by ladies, and in the act of composing his famous "Artists' Life" waltz, which is woven charmingly through the play.

A long and brilliant cast has been chosen by Mr. Walker to portray this world premiere. As mentioned before, Peggy Wood will be seen in the role of Emma Norvallo. McKay Morris is cast as the dashing young composer, Johann Strauss. Tom Powers, for his second work with the Stuart Walker company, will appear as the young artist and lifelong friend of Miss Norvallo. Among others who will be seen in "Artists' Life" are Elizabeth Patterson, Judith Lowry, Aldrich Bowker, Marguerite Vonnegut, George Sommes, Julia McMahon, Edwin Noel, Robert McGroarty, and Grace Kleiche.

This world premiere will be made under the personal direction of Mr. Walker, with special settings by Frank J. Zimmerer. There will be matinees on Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday.

For the week of "Artists' Life," the Stuart Walker company will be seen in Cyril Harcourt's comedy, "A Pair of Silk Stockings."

## THE KELLYS CLOSE THEIR SEASON TONIGHT.

Gregory Kelly and Ruth Gordon will close their twelve-week stock season at English's tonight with the final showing of "Just Suppose."

Mr. Kelly has announced that he will return next spring to English's with his company for another season.

## WESTERN DANCING ACT TO HEAD BILL AT LYRIC.

Just what constitutes a smart singing and dancing act "on the coast" will be displayed at the Lyric next week by the Four Rennees, quartet of girls, San Francisco's favorites, who are invading the East and who will be among the features of a bill of vaudeville specialties. They excel, especially, in dancing, and for several years were starred in various revues in "Frisco."

"Sugarfoot" Gaffney, the famous black-face comedian, who will be remembered as the star of Nell O'Brien's minstrels, will be seen in a new comedy sketch in which he is assisted by his partner, Ed Quinn. "Sugarfoot" is counted among the funniest dark delineators. His brand of comedy is distinctly his own, and his methods of mirth-making are indelible. The Bohemian trio, Italian singers and musical artists, will present a colorful melody oddity introducing numbers on the harp and piano accordion.

Other acts completing the bill will be the Cortez sisters, two pretty, dancin' Spanish señoritas who sing, dance and offer a display of costume change; Adams and Thomas, farceurs, in a sketch called "In and Out of Society," in which they satirize popular follies of the day; the Dalley brothers, expert head to head balancers and equilibrists; the Jim Jam Four, harmony singing comedians in a repertoire of vocal selections interspersed with comedy antics, and the Ellis-Norton troupe, comedy acrobatic circus stars.

The Paramount magazine, the Pathe review and a Fox film farce, "Three Good Pals," will be the screen contributions.

## AMUSEMENTS.

### KEITH'S

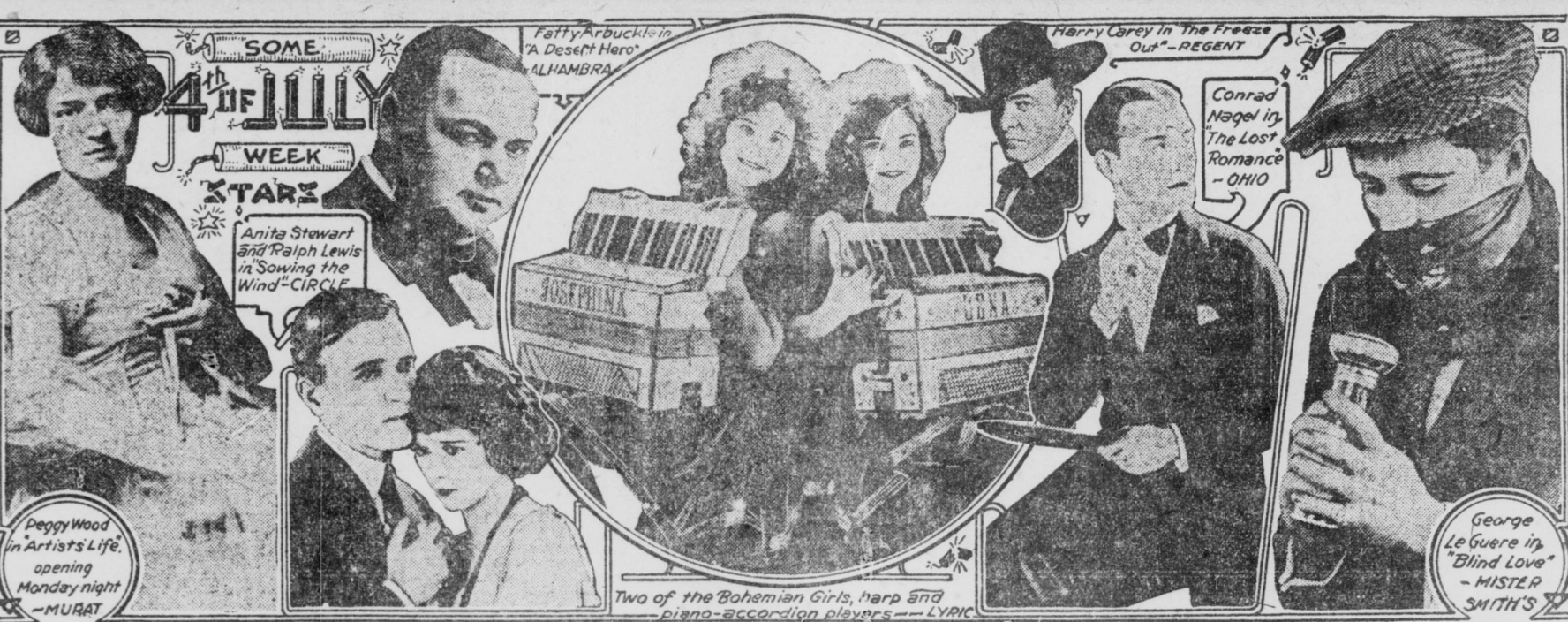
ELECTRIC FAN VAUDEVILLE. A Breezy Show in a Cool Theater. Iced Lemonade Served Free!

### STEED'S SYNCRATED SEXTETTE

Spley Syncretisms.

PAULINE SAXON, DON C. ALFONZO ZELAYA, FORD & FRICKE, BARRY TSUDA.

Cartoons of Aesop's Fables. Pathe News—Digest Topics. News Every Day 2:30, 7:30, 9 p. m.



## In The Land of Make Believe

B, WALTER D. HICKMAN

As you read this department today I will be witnessing that so far unnamed dramatic or comedy event as staged by our Mr. Dempsey and that French "movie" actor, Georges Carpentier, at Jersey City.

As Jack has been in the movies, one of those serial affairs, I feel that a dramatic editor can attend with safety the "matinee" this afternoon in the open air. Georges' grace is not unknown to the silver screen.

The Dempsey-Carpentier "play" may be a drama, or it may be farce or comedy. I am sure that I will see in the open air "theater" at Jersey City many regular followers of the drama as well as the bare-knee revue.

I promise you that I will discuss at length the dramatic and comedy aspect of this big show at a future time.

A few nights ago, Al Jolson brought to an end his long engagement in the Winter Garden production of "Sinbad," which was seen at the Murat last season. The run in New York and the various tours have covered a period of three and one-half years, establishing a new record in theatrical history for long runs of musical productions.

During his appearance in "Sinbad," Mr. Jolson has played every section of the United States except the South, and there have been return engagements in Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh, these returns in receipts passing his first engagements. In many cities the receipts reached as high as \$50,000 a week. The tour was the most profitable ever undertaken by Jolson, it is reported to this department.

"Sinbad" was produced under the personal direction of Mr. J. J. Shubert at the New York Winter Garden on Feb. 24, 1918. The play was forced to leave this theater to make room for a new production, and was moved to the Century Theater, later being transferred to the Casino, and in November, as Mr. Jolson's popularity in this particular play had not diminished, it moved back to the Winter Garden. Again Mr. Jolson has vied to make room for "Monte Cristo, Jr." and transferred to the Forty-Fourth street theater, where he played for ten weeks. He then began a two and one-half year tour.

Last winter in order to give Mr. Jolson rest, the company was closed for a month while its famous star went to Palm Beach for his first vacation in three years.

During the coming theatrical season Indianapolis play-goers will have an opportunity to see one of the big successes of recent years, for it is definitely announced that William Harris, Jr., will send to the Murat "East Is West," with Fay Belinter in her now famous character of Ming Toy. This is the first of the productions of Mr. Harris to be presented in this city, and it will be followed at a later date by the no less famous production of John Drinkwater's "Abraham Lincoln," it is announced.

"East Is West," despite the name, is a comedy of American life and manners. It gets its name from the fact that the central character is a little girl, presumably Chinese, who is found in China, and the succeeding action involves Chinese characters. The play was written

by Samuel Shipman, best known for his play called "Friendly Enemies," and John B. Hymer, an actor in vaudeville. Mr. Harris produced "East Is West" three years ago. Two years it played at the Astor Theater in New York and last season was divided between Boston, Philadelphia and Chicago. This season the play will be seen on a long tour, embracing the important cities of the country.

Constance Talmage has started work on her newest First National "Good for Nothing," an original John Emerson. Anita Loos story, which deals with a small town girl who runs away from New York, and instead of experiencing the power of the big city, she finds the time of her life. John Emerson will personally direct this picture. In the cast are Frank Lator, George Wray, Nita Naldi, Theresa Maxwell Conover and Thomas Carr.

George B. Van Cleave, vice president and general manager of Cosmopolitan Productions, announces that Edward Dillon will direct "The Beauty Shop," featuring Raymond Hitchcock. "The Beauty Shop" is a screen adaptation of the musical comedy success by Channing Pollock and Renold Wolf.

A fire engine, hand pumped and hand drawn, is among the Victorian era props used in the filming of George Du Maurier's famous story, "Peter Ibbotson," in the Paramount Eastern studios. The engine is the property of the New York fire department and was built in 1842. It was lent to the studio by the city government. Firemen appearing in the burning orphanage scene, in which the Duchess of Towers, played by Elsie Ferguson, is burned to death, appeared in scarlet uniforms and brass helmets, the equipment of Parisian fire fighters of that day.

The city duds obstructed the ordinary business traffic. Business men and male shoppers, however, believe they—not the pretty bathers—are being punished, because when the girls used to go down to the lake, passing through the business section, an audience lined the curbstone.

HATCHET LADIES GO TO WORK. SMITH CENTER, Kan., July 2.—The men folks were too slow in tearing down a frame church building that had been superseded by a new structure. Women members of the congregation armed with hammers, hatchets and crowbars flocked in to do the work. After one day's work the casualties included three wrenched backs, eight pinched toes and eleven smashed fingers. Mrs. Walter Lewis was the most seriously injured. She struck a nail with her hammer and broke her nose.

A CONVERT TO RED TAP. PORTLAND, Ore., July 2.—Never again will K. P. Cecil, former lieutenant in the American Expeditionary Forces, condemn governmental red tape. He works on the principle that everything comes to those who wait—long enough.

Three years ago at Chalons sur Marne, France, the lieutenant parted company with his current plan, a bagatelle, failed to toss it aboard the train on which his troop was leaving a shell-shattered town on a dark night. He failed to miss the equipment until it was all there—trench coat, boots, army tent and blankets.

Cecil was a lieutenant in the artillery corps.

## AMUSEMENTS.

### Lyric

Continuous Vaudeville

## NEXT WEEK

### 4 Rennee Girls 4

IN A SMART DANCE REVUE

Bohemian Trio Adams & Thomas

Italian Musical Artists "In and Out of Society"

Walters, Hopkins & Churchill

HARMONY SINGING COMEDIANS

Sugarfoot Gaffney and Frank Quinn

Late Stars of Nell O'Brien's Minstrels, in their original comedy absurdity, "At the Weiner Stand."

Dailey Brothers Cortez Sisters

Equilibristic Experts International Entertainers

Tai Ling Sing Nadje

The Jazz Chinaman The Athletic Girl

FOX FILM FARCE, "Three Good Pals"

Dancing in the Lyric Ball Room Afternoon and Evening

## FAMOUS AUTHOR HERE FOR PLAY PREMIERE

Among those who will be in the audience at the Murat Monday night to witness the premiere of the new play, "Artists' Life," will be Samuel Merwin, well known author, who with Miss Peggy Wood, the actress, wrote the play. Miss Wood will go one better than Mr. Merwin, as she will play the leading role. Although there have been few young women who have made the success that Miss Wood has in the theater as an actress, she admits that she has always yearned to express her love for the stage through an additional medium than acting. She has always had the desire to write plays, and when she got her friend, Samuel Merwin, to collaborate with her, her joy knew no bounds.

"There were times," said Miss Wood, during a rehearsal at the Murat the other day, "during the writing of 'Artists' Life' that I was so thrilled with enthusiasm that the thought came to me that I would like to retire from the stage and spend all my time in writing for the theater."

But now Miss Wood has found a still happier solution. Just think how much fun it would be to write a play and then play the leading role yourself!

Miss Wood was no more with a theatrical silver spoon in her mouth. She has worked very hard, winning her business from the ground up.

Beginning as a chorus girl with Emma Trentlin, Miss Wood has traversed every step of the rocky road to fame and fortune by means of her own talent and endeavor. Before her phenomenal engagement with "Buddies," she appeared for two years in "Maytime," playing the leading role. A few years ago she took a fling into straight comedy, playing the leading female part in "Young America."

Miss Wood says that her last appearance in Indianapolis was in "The Madcap Duchess."

From all indications the Fourth of July will not be the slum burg now, a state of a few years back, but on the other hand it undoubtedly will contain much more racket than is contemplated by the ordinances and police authorities of the city.

MOONSHINERS' PARADISE. OREGON CITY, Ore., July 2.—It cost Clackamas County absolutely nothing to hunt moonshine. The occupation is self-supporting. Last month \$28 was won in fines by brewers of the deadly concoction, which more than met the expenses of prosecutions, search and salaries of the officers employed.

DE MILLE MOVIE ANSWERS MANY QUESTIONS. Does romance end with marriage? Does the nuptial vow spell the end of the thing that is vital to a woman's happiness? These are the questions which are answered in William de Mille's new Paramount production, "The Lost Romance," which will be on view next week at the Ohio.

In the story, written by Edward Knoblock, a noted English playwright, which was acquired by Olga Frimlman, a young wife is on the point of deserting her husband for his best friend when the sudden disappearance of her child awakens her to the real life that binds and a broader sense of the real meaning of life and love and romance. With the return of the child, all ends happily and the husband and wife find happiness where before there was discontent and restlessness.

Lola Wilson plays the wife. Conrad Nagel is the young husband and Jack Holt portrays the other man.

A delightful role is enacted by Fontaine La Rue, who, as Aunt Betty, carries out a plan which smooths out the situation at the finish of the story and brings the wife to her senses.

Others in the cast who did excellent work are Maym Kelso, Robert Brower, Mickey Moon, Clarence Geldart and Clarence Burton.

ANTIA STEWART MOVIE NEW OFFERING AT CIRCLE.

A dramatic story, starring Anita Stewart, in "Sowing the Wind," the screen adaptation of Sydney Grundy's stage play, in which Henry Miller and Viola Allen appeared on the stage, and which is the feature attraction at the Circle next week.

The story concerns Rosamonde Athelstane, a young girl, who graduates from the convent and goes to her guardian's home, eager to meet her guardian. When she finds that the guardian is her mother, the keeper of a notorious gambling establishment, who has kept her secretly concealed because she could not bear to have her daughter know the truth about her.

(Continued on Page Eight.)

AMUSEMENTS.

LAST TWO TIMES TODAY

The Stuart Walker Co. in "MY LADY FRIENDS"

Polka

ALL NEXT WEEK

Mats. Wed., Thurs., Sat.

World Premiere!

The Stuart Walker Company

Presents

For the First Time on Any Stage

ARTISTS' LIFE

A Romantic Comedy of Operatic Ambitions

By Peggy Wood and Samuel Merwin

—WITH—

Peggy Wood Patterson Julia McMahon McKay Morris

Elizabeth Lowry Aldrich Bowker George Sommes

Marjorie Vonnegut Edwin Noel Robert McGroarty

Oscar Davison Tom Powers

and others

World Premiere!

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## COMEDY, DRAMA, WELL MIXED SILVER SCREEN

The Lost Romance 'Sowing the Wind' T Pictures on View

## PLAN PATRIOTIC MUSIC

Fourth of July week on the local screen promises to be a giant firecracker affair.

Film players, many of whom are well known, and others who have been identified with several successes, will appear in the movie vehicles next week on the local screen.

The movie line-up for next week is as follows:

Ohio—Conrad Nagel and Jack Holt in "The Lost Romance."

Loew's State—Matheson Lang in "Carnival."

Circle—Anita Stewart in "Sowing the Wind."

Alhambra—Virginia Caldwell in "What's A Wife Worth?" and an Arbuckle comedy.

Isis—Norma Talmadge in "A Daughter's Strange Inheritance."

Regent—Harry Carey in "The Freeway Out."

Colonial—Helene Chadwick in "Godless Men."

Mister Smith's—George LeGuere in "Blind Love."

The musical directors have prepared special musical programs for next week. Some of the numbers will be patriotic in character.

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(Continued on Page Eight.)

AMUSEMENTS.

SENSATION OF THE SEASON

SEE

BERT SWAN

Wrestle 10 Foot Crocodile

Under Water

Death Defying Feat

MABEL SWAN

And Her Diving Sea Lions

PROF. THURMAN

In Sensational Balloon Ascension

Stupendous Display of Fireworks

Afternoon JULY 4th Evening

RIVERSIDE PARK

BROAD RIPPLE PARK

and BATHING BEACH

INDIANAPOLIS

SUNDAY, JULY 3rd, 1921

PEERLESS ENTERTAINERS

Vocal—Instrumental—Comedy—A Rip Rousing Comedy Program

MONDAY, JULY 4th, 1921

HOOSIER QUARTETTE

Reading and musical numbers and an able bunch of assistants in novel repertoire of vocal and instrumental specialties.

GRAND CELEBRATION FIREWORKS AT NIGHT

You should see and hear this program, it will be worth your while both days. Plenty of amusements and refreshments at this ideal pleasure park. Free moving pictures every night.

UNION TRACTION COMPANY OF INDIANA