

## Modern Stage Treatment Given Old Love Tragedy

By WALTER D. HICKMAN  
BEAUTY can be bestowed even upon a love tragedy.

Robert Browning once wrote "The Ring and the Book," which might be called a dramatic recital of the love affair of two souls which ends in a tragic success for both. This dramatic soul poem or tragedy has been adapted for the stage by Arthur Goodrich and Rose A. Palmer as a new addition to the repertoire of Walter Hampden.

Mr. Hampden chose Indianapolis, the home of Riley, as the first city to see Browning's "The Ring and the Book" under the title of "The Ring of Truth." Last night at the Murat for the first time on any stage this play was presented.

Modern stage treatment, the use of

lights, the magnificent voice of Walter Hampden as Caponsacchi, a priest, who frees Pompilia (played by Carroll McComas) from a marriage of lust to Count Guido Franceschini (played masterfully by Ernest Rowan), the successful application of the so-called "movie flashback" upon the speaking stage, are all used to present the dramatic beauty of this soul tragedy.

The problem of this play rests not

in revision of the script, but upon the ability of the producer to eliminate the loss of time from shifting from one scene to another. The method of recital is the same as used in the movies—the flashback. The play opens in the court at the Vatican Rome, during the trial of Count Guido for the brutal murder of his wife,

Guido attempts by foul means to trap his wife and the priest at an inn. It is in the third act, second scene, that the brutal triple murder is executed in the same terrific manner that Bill Sykes dispatched Nancy. In their play the murderer uses a sword.

In the last scene, dramatic beauty is given when Pope Innocent XII orders the death penalty for Guido when the court attempts to shield Guido under an act of mercy. The pope then declares Pompilia, a pure, good character and so restores the faith of Caponsacchi. Here we obtain justice for which Caponsacchi sought.

Miss McComas put real life blood into the character of Pompilia, as well as great beauty. She read her lines with amazing ease for the first performance. The rich voice of Hampden lifted the play at times to dizzy heights.

The real acting triumph of the evening was registered by Ernest Rowan as Count Guido Franceschini. Here is magnificent dramatic work although the theme is a trifle too crudely dramatic during the triple

murder recital.

Mr. Goodrich, one of the authors,

was present last night. A real



HAMPDEN AS HAMLET

Grammatic story is well told. The problem is to make it come within the production time of the modern stage and I am sure that this can be done.

### Many Interesting Names Found in Last Night Cast

The cast is full of interesting names and proves that Mr. Hampden means business.

The complete original cast is as follows:

Soldiers—	Giotti .....	William Stephens
Andrea .....	Charles Brokaw	
Montini .....	Robert Bufford	
Pope Innocent XII .....	William Sander	
Judge—Tommati .....	George Dier	
Venturini .....	Le Roi Operi	
Count Guido Franceschini .....	Ernest Rowan	
Violante Comparini .....	Walter Hampden	
Pompilia .....	Carroll McComas	
Pietro Comparini .....	Edwin Cushman	
Antonie Paul (Brothel of Guido) .....	Reynolds Evans	
Barber .....	Joseph Lathan	
A Girl .....	Ruth Chorning	
The Governor of Arezzo .....	H. N. Niles	
Margherita, a servant of Guido .....	Mary Hall	
The Franciscan .....	Charles Emery	
A Boy .....	Margaret Barnard	
Landlord at Castelnovo .....	C. Norman Hammond	
Martinetta .....	Ella Herndon Kearns	

Count Guido Franceschini .....

Violante Comparini .....

Pompilia .....

Pietro Comparini .....

Antonie Paul (Brothel of Guido) .....

Barber .....

A Girl .....

The Governor of Arezzo .....

Margherita, a servant of Guido .....

The Franciscan .....

A Boy .....

Landlord at Castelnovo .....

Martinetta .....

C. Norman Hammond

Ella Herndon Kearns

First Guard at Castelnovo. Francis Avery Guards, Peasants, Merrymakers at Carnival dance executed Margaret Barnard and Le Roi Operi.

"The Ring of Truth" will, I think, be a worthy example of the lofty and sincere ideals of Mr. Hampden.

Other attractions on view today include: The Grand Players in "Polly With a Past" at English's; Carl Norman at Keith's; "Stranded" at the Palace; Mutual burlesque at the Murat; musical comedy at the Rialto; "Adam's Rib" at the Circle; "Jazzmania" at the Ohio and "Romance Land" at Mister Smith's.

### To Prevent Speculation

Seeking to prevent speculation in stock the Stevenson Gear Association has filed articles of incorporation with the secretary of State, Harry J. Quigley, president, said today. Efforts will be made to pool the stock through organization of a protective association.

## YOUTH, 16, LEAVES HOME

Police Asked to Search for Vernon Baldwin, Missing Two Days.

Miss Vonda Baldwin, 826 N. Tuxedo St., today asked police to search for her brother, Vernon Baldwin, 16, who left home April 2. She said he was with two other boys and they had planned to go to Canada, California or Vincennes.

Floyd Huggett, 13, of 952 S. Delaware St., was reported missing from

### Missing From Insane Hospital

James Stuckmeyer, 60, was missing today from the Central Hospital for the Insane. Police were asked to search for him.

### Mule In City Market?

White mule as well as soft drinks was sold by Lee Wickard, 33, of 230 E. Wabash St., at his city market stand, according to charges police had against him in city court today.

We Lead in Millinery  
in Indianapolis

THE W. H. BLOCK CO.

Largest Assortment and Best  
Values in Indianapolis

# FIRST AFTER-EASTER EVENT

Stock Adjustment Sale of

# New Millinery

Three Day Sale  
Thursday,  
Friday and  
Saturday

Three Day Sale  
Thursday,  
Friday and  
Saturday

THE OPPORTUNITY OF THE SEASON. The assortment is wonderfully complete. Hundreds of these hats were specially purchased for this occasion. The others were purchased for Easter shoppers,

but were not received until the middle of this week. So to adjust our stock and prepare for our summer merchandise, we are making this GREAT reduction.

Many of These Hats Are New Styles—Just Placed On Display—And Very Extraordinary at These Prices

THE BASEMENT STORE

Presents

## 1,200 Trimmed and Sport Hats

560 SPORT HATS

### MATERIALS

Felt and Straw Combinations, Timbo, Tagal and Milan Hemp

### SHAPES

Off-the-Face, Poke Bonnets for Young Girls, Straight and Cushion Brim Sailors

EVERY WANTED COLOR

\$1 99

This is by far the  
biggest value-giving  
event we have  
ever attempted

Our advice is  
SHOP EARLY



The TRIMMED HATS Are All That Is New in  
Spring Millinery

### MATERIALS

Straw Cloth, Tagal, Timbo, Milan Hemp and Hair Braid

### TRIMMED

With Flowers, Ribbons and Novel Ornaments

### COLORS

Red, Copen, Brown, Sand, Pearl, Purple, Orchid and Black

Large Hats, Medium Hats and Small Hats

No C. O. D.—No Deliveries—No Layaways



THE FOURTH FLOOR

Presents

## 1,000 New Hats

### DOMINATING COLORS

Such as Sand and Purple—Also Orchid, Copen, Pearl, Gray, Green, Berry, Cocoa, Brown, Navy and Solid Black

### TWO-TONE COMBINATION COLORS

White and Black, Pearl and Navy, Orchid and Purple

\$4 75

### NEWEST MATERIALS

Tagal, Hair, Straw Body Hats, Milan Hemp, Combination Material of Taffeta and Leghorn, Tagal and Hair

Trimmed With Flowers, Feathers, Ribbon, Taffeta and Fancies



Many New Arrivals in Tailored Hats  
in This Group