

# BERKELL PLAYERS GET BIG OVATIONS

Stock Actors at English's Receive the Biggest Reception of Career Here in Opening Week of New Season.

By Walter D. Hickman

NO ONE could have been present at the first two nights of the opening of the Berkell season at English's without being impressed with both the magnitude and the sincerity of the receptions accorded the players.

Mr. Berkell told me that never in his life has his players received such ovations as were extended them on the opening night Sunday.

And last night was another duplicate of Sunday both as to capacity as well as enthusiasm. I can truthfully tell you when I was present on the opening night, that I never witnessed in the theater such a manifestation of good will as the audience gave this company.

The opening bill is a light little comedy by the name of "Mary's Other Husband." The play is most suitable for the first week of the Berkell Players. No great demand is made upon the actors, but it serves its purpose to bring back this band of players. Miss Edyth Elliott has returned as leading woman and it is necessary to concede when it is all said and done that this woman is the most satisfactory Milton Byron of all the leading women that Berkell has had here. She has a substantial as well as a large following. This season returns another favorite, Mildred Hastings and she has a corking good comedy chance in this show. She is cast as a maid who has a weakness for butlers. Bob Fay is another one of the Berkell Players who was missing last season, but back again. Milton Byron, leading man, Isabelle Arnold, Larry Sullivan, Bernice Marsolais and Robert St. Clair are all back again this season. Harry Foxworth is a new member. William Worswick is the new director and William V. Hull is technical director and stage manager. Hull has been director for the past several seasons and it was found during the season of "Mary's Other Husband" that he has both a director and technical director. It looks like a success because the stage sets and lights were better handled than in other seasons of these players.

It is not necessary to go into detail concerning the story of "Mary's Other Husband." It is clean fun, not brilliant, but has the qualities which make for an interesting opening bill for a stock company.

The cast is as follows:

Stella Allen.....Mildred Hastings  
Gloria Allen.....Isabelle Arnold  
Mary Marshall.....Edyth Elliott  
Larry Langham.....Larry Sullivan  
Harvey P. Marshall.....Milton Byron  
Eddie Eimer.....Bernice Marsolais  
Florence Ainslee.....Robert St. Clair  
Jerry Niles.....Harry Foxworth  
Oscar Shea.....William Worswick

If the opening capacity crowds mean anything, then it appears that the Berkell Players are now on their most successful season. On the opening night there were flowers for the actors, talks and the like that go with a typical Berkell first night.

"Mary's Other Husband" is the bill for the week at English's.

**HARLEQUIN CLUB**  
HAS MIGHTY GOOD SHOW

The Harlequin Club of Purdue University was wise in selecting a recent musical show hit, "Castles in the Air," as its annual show.

The students brought their show to the Murat last night and presented it to approximately a capacity house. This show has real tunes, splendid chorus numbers and a theme that yields easily to treatment on the part of students.

I believe that the comedy parts,

While all the girls seem to be toe dancers there is one featured dancer who is especially good. One of the girls does a burlesque on the more or less classic dance. There is a football dance done with a great deal of grace as a finale, with all the company in it.

Here is the sad story of a young man who was proposed to by four different girls on leap year and in leap year and in leap year.

Libby Dancer moments of weakness accepted all of them. The girls were invited to the young man's home and the most talented one was to be the one considered. Paul Rahn was this man and while the girls are changing he sings several comedy songs that are clever. Two of the girls also sang. One with a very low voice. The other had but a fair voice. There was one toe dancer, and she and another girl, along with the man taking the part of the butler, did a tap dance. This is a pretty good act.

Holton and Wainwright have one of these before and after taking sort of skits. It is when they meet to be married and one year after. One year later the husband is celebrating, and I would say from his condition he had been doing a very good job of it. There are some funny and clever bits of dialog in this, as well as some good comedy.

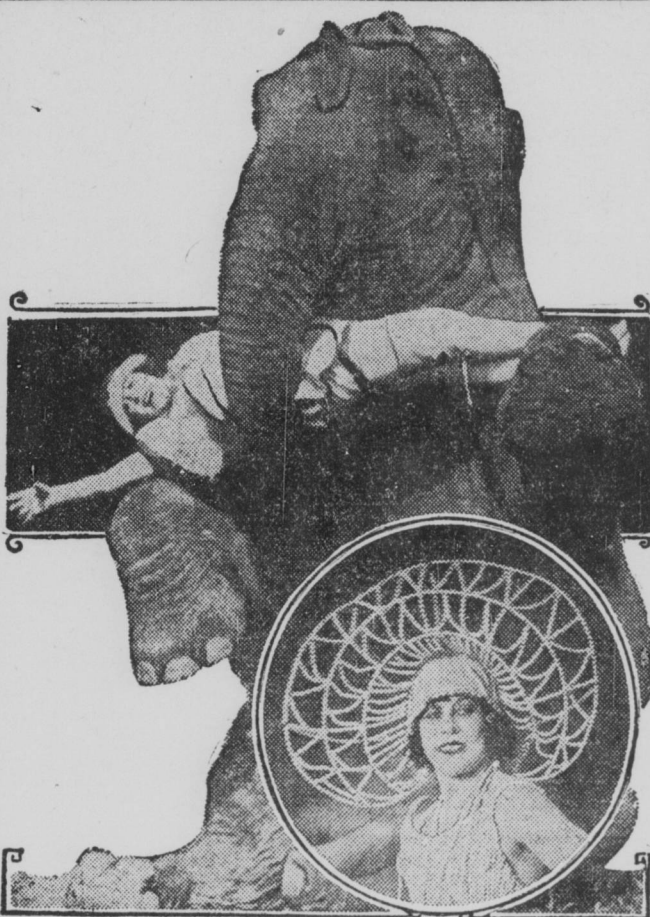
Eddie White has a repertoire of some popular numbers, which he sings in a good fashion and some stories that are really funny. He has an act that takes.

Quite a number of popular ballads are played by Mary Zoller and Company. "Dizzy Fingers," a number by the composer of "Kitten on the Keys," is played by the man in the act, on the xylophone. This is good. This man plays a medley of numbers with Miss Zoller playing an accompaniment on the vibraphone. The effect is good.

Lewis and Ames have a comedy act that is mostly singing of comedy stuff with one song that is a specialty, "We Know a Thing or Two." This man has been here before. There is some good comedy that borders on the slap stick in this act.

The Colby Wells trio, which is a substitute for Jackson and Baker, is an acrobatic act that possesses the distinction of being as good as

## Circus Comes to Town Today



Beauty and the Beast

Here are two pictures of one of the animal trainers with Sells-Floto circus. This young lady handles the elephants in a masterful fashion as is shown in the top picture where she is all wrapped up in the elephant's trunk. There are to be two performances today, a matinee this afternoon and a performance this evening at Eighteenth St. and Sugar Grove Ave.

the general run of acrobatic acts. Most of the stunts are tumbling. Comedies and news reel complete the program.

At the Lyric. (By the Observer.)

### LOOKING OVER NEW BURLESQUE BILL

I have heard it said many times that the success of the show never depended on the comedians. However I have seen the statement repudiated several times.

Especially is this true in the burlesque show. There has been shows saved purely on the merits of the comedians. Harry Jackson in "Be Happy" is to my notion the man that keeps the show from being nothing. This man is also a good actor of character parts, burlesqued of course. When I was at the show he did a skit in which he was a drunk. It was all very silly, but it was cleverly done.

Agnes Nichols was the leading lady. She and her sister sang several songs and they had fair voices. Eloise Dwan was the best dancer of the company. Frances Haines did an aerial number hanging by her teeth and with the aid of lights making a butterfly.

"Be Happy" is not an exceptional burlesque show, but it does have the saving of it by Harry Jackson. At the Mutual. (By the Observer.)

Other Indianapolis theaters today offer: "Tenderloin" at the Apollo; "Laugh, Clown, Laugh" at Loew's Palace; "Love and Learn" at the Circle; "The Smart Set" at the Indiana; "Speedy" at the Ohio and Sells-Floto Circus at Eighteenth and Sugar Grove Ave.

### CHURCH PLAYERS TO PRESENT COMEDY

The Sutherland Players will present Tuesday night and Wednesday night at 8:15 o'clock, "The Arrival of Kitty," a three-act comedy, at the Sutherland Presbyterian Church, Twenty-Eighth and Bellefontaine Sts., as their fourth regular production of their 1927-28 season. Riley Fledderjohn will play the leading role. Others in the cast are Jeanette Wilds, Fannie F. Fort, Ruth Brown, Joe Foy, Russell Young, Fred Fledderjohn, Roberta Hawkins and Norman Green, producing director.

Music for the performance Tuesday night will be furnished by the Fairview Presbyterian Orchestra under the direction of Robert Schultz. Music for the Wednesday night performance will be provided by the Leslie Troutman orchestra. Virginia Brackett Green is chairman of costumes, assisted by Bernice Mitchell Young and Mrs. Mina

## SHRINE PARADE MARKS OPENING DAY AT MIAMI

Masons From All Parts of  
Country Gather for  
Annual Council.

By United Press

MIAMI, Fla., May 1.—Shrine Nobility from all quarters of the United States gathered here today for the official opening of the fifty-fourth annual imperial council sessions, which will continue until Thursday.

Topping the day's events was the huge parade of uniformed Shriners down Biscayne Blvd., along Bayfront Park, where the pyramids and images of ancient Egyptian rulers added an Oriental atmosphere to the city's tropical beauties.

Seventy-five thousand residents and visitors thronged both sides of the wide avenue to witness the colorful parade. Bands from every one of the eighty temples and chapters' choruses played and sang the special convention music.

Governor John M. Martin of Florida opened the Imperial Council sessions later with an address in the Olympic theater.

His address was followed by short talks by Benjamin E. Dyson, grand master of Masons of the State of Florida; Hon. E. G. Sewell, mayor of Miami, and Judge E. B. Donnell, potentate of Mahi Temple, Miami. Imperial Potentate Clarence M. Dunbar gave a response to the welcome and the various Shrine groups of Miami, Atlanta, Chicago and St. Louis gave musical programs.

The afternoon program was devoted to sight-seeing tours after a luncheon in the Graydon hotel. These included trips to the Everglades farming districts, the fruit farms south of Miami and boat trips.

Individual parties took thousands of the Shriners to the beach and the Pennsylvania Sugar Company plantation in the Everglades.

Late this afternoon and this evening the Shrine activities will center about Bayfront Park.

## QUAIL GLEAM AFTER HARVESTING SQUIRREL

Interesting Natural History Note  
Reported by Scientist.

By Science Service  
BERKELEY, Cal., May 1.—Quail acting as gleaners after a busily harvesting squirrel, is the interesting natural history note reported to the Condon by E. Raymond Hall of the University of California, museum of vertebrate zoology.

Mr. Hall tells his story: "While walking along the lower trail on the south side of Strawberry Canyon in the Berkeley Hills, my attention was attracted to a commotion, some twenty yards away on the opposite side of the creek, in a fringe of tar weed. It was

caused by a California ground squirrel pulling down the stalks of the tar weed to eat the seeds. "The squirrel actually climbed into the tops of some of the larger plants. A goodly number of seeds were shattered to the ground. "There, three California quail ate the seeds as fast as they fell on the ground."

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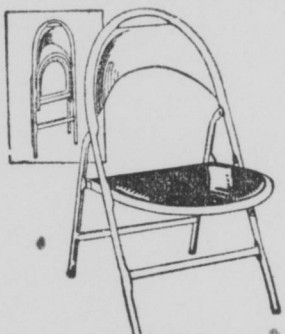
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