

POPULAR PRICED SHAKESPEARE WILL SHOW AT ENGLISH'S

'Dollar Top' Feature of Three-Day Engagement Next Week; 'Macbeth' Will Be Presented at Murat; 'Good News' Has College Cast.

YOU can have your Shakespeare this season for one dollar at your favorite theater and sit in the best seat on the main floor. That fact was broadcast today from the English, where Fritz Leiber, with a distinguished cast, will play a three-day engagement beginning Thursday, Feb. 21.

It long has been Mr. Leiber's wish to be able to put the classic within the reach of the many. This season he has had an opportunity to experiment with the "dollar top" price, which has proved tremendously successful in the cities tried. It was the price that made their engagement of nine weeks in Cleveland, O., so successful.

It is pointed out also that the plan is being accomplished without lowering the quality of the company or production; in fact other cities this season report that the Leiber organization is better than ever. The added volume in patronage (sold-out houses being the rule) at the popular price of a dollar made the scheme feasible.

Shakespeare long has been considered the joy of the rich and the inspiration of the poor. But unfortunately Shakespeare in the theater too often has been priced and sold beyond those of modest means. It is a recognized fact that the great middle class and the so-called proletariat form the vast public, which for one reason or another, accord the Bard a most cordial welcome when their purse will permit.

The Leiber organization were highly gratified to find that while at the popular price of a dollar their revenue was scarcely increased, yet a greater number of people who love the theater and the classics were able to attend their performances than formerly.

The new departure created quite a stir in theatrical managerial circles. It was commented on editorially by the press of the country. It gave those who have been trying for the last few years to cry down theater prices something to think about. For the local engagement the following play bills will be offered: "Hamlet," "Macbeth," "Romeo and Juliet," "The Taming of the Shrew," in modern dress.

'MACBETH' WILL BE AT MURAT

George C. Tyler's epoch-making production of Shakespeare's "Macbeth" will play at the Murat theater for an engagement of three days commencing March 21.

The brilliant stellar cast is headed by Florence Reed as Lady Macbeth, Lynn Harding in the title role and William Barnum as Macduff. Fred Eric will be seen as Banquo and Douglas Ross as King Duncan. Others prominent in the cast are Percival Vivian, Olive Oliver, Leonard Mudge, William P. Carleton, Bryan Hughes, Harold Hartsell, Burford Hampden, Gerald Lingard, Arthur Barry, Harold Thomas, Frank Holman, Tom Manning, George Macready and many others.

This is a new "Macbeth." The novelty is provided in the "designing" by Gordon Craig, the distinguished continental artist who is regarded as the outstanding figure in the world's theater. It is by far the largest Shakespearean production ever staged in America. So

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"CHEATING PAPAS"

Note—Tues. Nite Garter Nite

Thurs. Nite Chorus Girls' Contest

MIDNITE SHOW TONITE 11 P. M.

Prices Mat., 15c; Nites and Hol., 25c.

COLONIAL

tremendous an undertaking is this tour that it would not be possible except for the fact that it can be shown in the largest auditorium with capacities that permit a scale of popular prices that are within the reach of all lovers of the best in dramatic art.

There is pomp, pageantry, poetry—the winds of the Scottish border, the wall of the pibroch, the clash of the claymore, the march of Highland men, witches' music and choral features; trumpeters, pipers, singers, troubadours, tumblers in the Ghosts' banquet; color and movement and beauty on a scale commensurate only with grand opera. One hundred people are used in the presentation.

For the first time a great Shakespearean play is presented with the dramatic action stressed by a tempo rather than that of the old school, yet preserving all the poetic beauty of the play. Play, players, scenic and costume design and music represent all that is best in the arts of the theatre.

As the supernatural element is so predominant in "Macbeth," Craig in his design has suggested as far as possible the occult power of the weird sisters. His effects are obtained as largely through lighting as through physical form and architectural treatment in design. This presentation is considered as the greatest achievement in the long career of George C. Tyler, who has successfully presented such notable spectacles as "The Garden of Allah," "Joseph and His Brethren" and such all-star revivals as "The Rivals," "Trelawny of the Wells," "Diplomacy" and "She Stoops to Conquer."

MANY COLLEGE MEN IN 'GOOD NEWS'

It is not just a coincidence that there are so many college graduates in the company presenting "Good News," the new musical comedy with the collegiate atmosphere and background, which Schwab and Mandel bring to English's, starting Monday, Feb. 25. It is rather by design of the producers.

When Schwab conceived the idea of producing a musical comedy whose story should deal with campus activities, including athletics, fraternities and sororities, he realized that the work of contributing the various elements that go to make up a production of the kind could best be done by persons thoroughly familiar with the subject matter, not only through reading and indirect contact, but through actual college experience. When this part of the contemplated production was completed, Schwab and Mandel further realized that the show could best be put across by actors and singers who, having had the same experience, could best enter into the spirit of the piece. These were obtained, and the instantaneous success of "Good News" is proof of the producer's wisdom.

Schwab, a graduate of Harvard, decided to write the book and lyrics himself, with the aid of B. G. De Sylva, a graduate of the University of California, and Lew Brown, another university man. As the composer of the music, Schwab and Mandel, the latter a graduate from Leland Stanford university, chose Ray Henderson, also from Leland Stanford.

Henderson having written some peppy numbers, the producers looked around for the proper orchestra or band to play them in the way of the spirit of the piece called for. The decision was in favor of George Olsen's famous band.

When it came to the selection of



1—Virginia Bronson and Fritz Leiber in a scene from "Hamlet" to be presented at English's starting Feb. 21.

2—Thurston, the master magician, who will be seen at English's the week starting March 4.

3—Joy Brothers and Gloom, an act to be seen on the Lyric bill for the week starting Sunday.



4—Lena Daley, one of the company of "Step Along," the week's burlesque attraction at the Mutual beginning Sunday.

5—Bonnie Lloyd, a member of the cast in the new show opening at the Colonial Sunday.

6—Margaret Breen, who will be seen in "Good News" at English's for the week starting Feb. 25.

Lena Daley Tops Cast at Mutual

Comics Are Lew Lewis and Charles Smith in 'Step Along.'

IF titles mean anything in Mutual burlesque, Sam Morris' new attraction, "Step Along," coming to the Mutual theater Sunday, Feb. 17, should be swiftly-moving entertainment. And when the personnel of the presenting company is glimpsed, among its members will be found some of the fastest-stepping players in showland.

Heading the cast is Lena Daley, known as a comedienne who specializes in fast movements in all types of terpsichore and whose Hawaiian dance has been well liked.

Lew Lewis, the Dutch comic and Charles Smith, who has an eccentric fun role, each are fine pedal artists. The other principals among the women are in and out of innumerable scenes and they, Florence Trotman, the pretty soubrette and Laurette Lee, a brunette beauty who is the show's ingenue, do solo and double dancing numbers as well as leading the chorus through many spirited interludes.

Harry Harrison, the juvenile of the troupe is a second George M. Cohan in his dancing moments, so even without a prancing chorus of sixteen, "Step Along" is one attraction that lives up to its caption.

Pick Cast

Among those selected for the cast of "The Game of Love and Death," the Roman Rolland play which the Theater Guild is to present soon, are Margalo Gillmore, Earl Larimore, Arthur Byron, Claude Rains, Henry Travers and Morris Carnovsky. There are still several roles to be filled. Rouben Mamoulian is directing the play.

James Finlayson, Scotch comedian, has been added to the cast of "Two Weeks Off," which co-stars Jack Mulhall and Dorothy Mackall at First National studios. He will play Miss Mackall's father in the story.

Comedy on Variety Bill Next Week

Eleanor Hicks and Chester Clute in Sketch at Lyric.

A CLEVERLY conceived farce, "Thank You Doctor," with Eleanor Hicks and Chester Clute, will be the feature vaudeville attraction on next week's bill at the Lyric. The skit is built on humor possibilities. A mental specialist interviews a pseudo sister of an unwitting patient who implores him to treat her "brother" a monomaniac, who is obsessed with the idea that he has been robbed of a valuable string of pearls. During the temporary absence of the doctor and the nurse, a jewelry salesman arrives with a string of pearls on approval for the doctor's "niece," who is trapped in the house with her spoils. Complicated and amusing situations

published during the winter. Also he did some work on his pet hobby—a life of Cagliostro, the greatest of all the charlatans in history. For the work Thurston has been collecting material for the last fifteen years. Two years ago Thurston published in Collier's and the Saturday Evening Post, a series of articles on his experiences as a wizard. Thurston's daughter, Jane, is this season co-starting with her father and comes to English's the week beginning Monday, March 4.

Thurston is a

WHITER TOO.

Thurston, the magician, wields a pen as well as a wand. During his vacation this summer he completed his autobiography, which will be

Makes Record

Dolores Del Rio, the Mexican film star made a record disc from a distance of 3,500 miles, using the simple telephone process as means of transmitting her voice into the master disc.

throughout the act make the offering a humorous skit.

The bill will include:

Willie Mauss—World's champion bicycle rider, will give one of the most daring exhibitions of cycle riding ever seen on the Lyric stage. His act, entitled "The Death Wheel," is a short and snappy number, in which Mr. Mauss rides his bicycle around a huge wheel going in the opposite direction. The act is not only one of daring but is also one of color.

Walter Walters and Company—An amusing ventriloquist act placed in the tropics, in which he uses three dummies, working two while his partner manipulates the other. So accomplished is he that it seems that all figures can talk at once, while drinking does not hamper their vocalizing.

Joy Brothers and Gloom—Cavert

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THANK YOU, DOCTOR "A Cleverly Conceived Farce"

RUSSELL & FIELDS in "Get the Idea"

FRANK J. SIDNEY "A Sportsman's Garden"

JOYBROS. & GLOOM in "Foolies of 1929"

WALTER WALTERS in "The Baby's Cry"

WILLIE MAUSS Presenting "The Death Wheel"

LYRIC

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FRITZ LEIBER

IN THE PLAYS OF SHAKESPEARE

"HAMLET" THURSDAY NIGHT

"MACBETH" FRIDAY NIGHT

"ROMEO AND JULIET" SAT. MATINEE

"TAMING OF THE SHREW" (In Modern Dress) SATURDAY NIGHT

Prices 50c, 75c, \$1.00—Seats Monday

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AND THEY CERTAINLY DO "STEP ALONG"