

## GREENROOM GOSSIP.

The following are the dates booked for the North Is'and tour of "Peg o' My Heart":—Gisborne, October 21st to 25th; Auckland, October 28th to November 7th; Hamilton, November 8th; Wanganui, November 9th and 10th; Hastings, November 11th; Napier, November 13th and 14th. Palmerston North and Masterton will be visited in December, after the South Island tour.

Hale Hamilton, now starring in 'It Pays to Advertise,' to be staged here shortly, was leaving the stage door of the Theatre Royal Melbourne one afternoon, after a matinee, when he heard these remarks: "Look, there's Hale Hamilton. What a big fellow he is!" Yes, he's the original 'Wallingford.' That's why he gets on the fat s'ide." But what's that got to do with it?" "Well, Wallingford was supposed to be a big man, so Hale Hamilton's given up taking exercise in order to get larger. He's going to play the part." "By this time," said Mr. Hamilton, "I had settled down into my car, so didn't catch any more. But, thank goodness, Wallingford was not a living skeleton or—according to the remarks I overheard—I should have had to get on to starvation diet in order to look the part!"

Another of the list of young Australians who have made their name abroad and returned to their own country is Clyde Cook, who will be remembered as a dancing specialist in various J. C. Williamson productions, including pantomimes. His last appearance in this country was in "Jack and the Beanstalk," after which he went off to London to try his luck in the big metropolis. His cleverness as a dancer, his ability as a comedian, and the novelty of his turn soon brought him to the front, and before long he was starring at the music halls whence he graduated to the leading musical plays and revues. Mr. Cook is making his first appearance in Melbourne in "The Cinema Star."

Donald Bowles, the producer of "It Pays to Advertise," "Twin Beds," "The Boomerang," and other pieces of the Hale Hamilton-Myrtle Tannehill company, chatting with regard to producing in America and Australia, admitted that a certain amount of difference had to be made in the method of staging and acting a comedy in the two countries. "Australians have a keen sense of humour, and are ready to seize on a point, but they are not yet quite educated up to the American brand of comedy. Moreover, Australians like their comedy of

Mr. Cecil Brooking, who has been specially engaged to play the weak and futile Alaric Chichester in the J. and N. Tait production of "Peg o' My Heart," is an actor, dramatist, and scholar, who has had an unusual experience of the stage in many parts of the world. A few years ago he went to Berlin with Sir Herbert Tree's Shakespearean Company, and achieved much success in a long repertoire, including "Hamlet," "Romeo and Juliet" and "As You Like It." He also did a season in Holland in Alfred Sutro's "The Walls of Jericho," and was seen also in Paris in several French plays, for which his knowledge of the language especially fitted him.

Mr. Victor Beck has concluded negotiations for the English Pierrots to visit New Zealand next May.

## SOUTHERN STAGE NOTES.

(By "Lorgnette.")

WELLINGTON, October 10.

After a highly successful career as concert managers, during which they have handled some of the world's best-known artists, Messrs. J. and N. Tait have auspiciously begun their new career as theatrical entrepreneurs with the comedy "Peg o' My Heart," which opened a Dominion tour at the Grand Opera House this evening. "Peg o' My Heart" is truly a delicate dramatic creation, being something genuinely lovable and charming, and it is easy to understand that the play has enjoyed a run of over two years in both London and New York, and still cannot finish its season in either city. At the start the audience is in-



A scene from "IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE," the screamingly funny farcical comedy to be staged by Mr. Hale Hamilton, Myrtle Tannehill and Company, under the direction of J. C. Williamson, Limited, at the Grand Opera House, Wellington, on October 23 (Labour Day).

Lawrence Campbell, now giving recitals from "The Sentimental Bloke" under the J. and N. Tait direction in Sydney, is helping to further advertise C. J. Dennis, the author of that wonderful book. Dennis was born at Auburn, South Australia, and had a good position in Adelaide journalism before he set out on the path which has made him famous. Lawrence Campbell's recitals have enhanced the sales of his book immensely and have served to excite interest in a new volume which will shortly be issued from the press under the title of "Ginger Mick".

introduced to an entirely unpleasant and ultra-snobbish family circle, consisting of Mrs. Chichester, of her discontented daughter Ethel, who is engaged in an intrigue with Christopher Brent, a married man, and of Alaric, a more or less amiable nincompoop, to whom work of any description is a mystery. Finding that a bank failure has ruined them, the Chichesters are faced with the prospect of having to "do something" to keep the wolf from the door. To them comes Peg O'Connell, from New York. It appears that Peg's rich uncle has decreed in his will that if she will learn "to be a lady" in England she shall receive £5000 a year when she comes of age, while for instructing her in her new role Mrs. Chichester is to receive £1000 a year. Peg is plainly "impossible," but after all £1000 a year is a consideration, so she accepts the proposition. Miss Sara Allgood, as Peg, captivated the large audience from her first entrance, and scored a wonderful and instantaneous success. The brogue in her voice is just the thing to win the affections of any audience. Miss Doris Gilham acted well in the unsympathetic part of the snobbish and purse-proud Mrs. Chichester, whilst Miss Beatrice Yaldwyn gave a good rendering of the part of Ethel Chichester, the runaway who repented in time. Mr. Gerald Henson looked distinguished as Jerry, and made an honest and cheery lover. Mr. Cecil Brooking gives a very fine interpretation of the part of Alaric Chichester, a well-bred, loquacious, self-important "Johnny." Mr. James Gelder makes the most of the part of Christopher Brent. Mr. Ernest Ruston, as the lawyer, Mr. Thomas Sidney, as Jarvis, the butler, and Miss Betty Macmillan as the maid give the company efficient support.

On Monday, the 23rd inst. (Labour Day), J. C. Williamson, Ltd., will inaugurate a twelve nights' season of American farce-comedy at the Grand Opera House, during which term four of the greatest laughter-makers the world has ever produced will be staged. They are "It Pays to Advertise," "Twin Beds," "The Boomerang," and "A Full House." They will also serve to introduce two of America's most celebrated comedy performers in Mr. Hale Hamilton and Miss Myrtle Tannehill. The first production will be "It Pays to Advertise," the story of which centres round the movement of rivals in the soap industry in New York, where a famous soapmaker's son, who is not a lover of work, is

induced to launch out in business by a clever trap set for him by his father and his typiste, but, unlike his dad, he is a sound believer in advertising. He eventually induces his "stern parent" to come to his way of thinking, with the result that father and son come together, as one trust, in their famous article, No. 13 scap. Mr. Hamilton plays the part of a publicity agent, while Miss Tannehill appears as the typiste.

## MUSIC NOTES.

(By "G" String.)

Count Ercole Fillipini, one of the principal tenors of the Gonzalez Italian Grand Opera Company, which visits New Zealand shortly, has sung the part of Rigoletto over 400 times on the Continent and in South America, which he visited some years ago.

Madame Clara Butt has been able, as the result of "The Dream of Gerontius" Festival at the Queen's Hall, London, and the Clara Butt-Kennerley Rumford Fund concerts, to pay over to the British Red Cross Society £5365.

Miss Mary Law, the English violinist, who was lately in Australia on the Tivoli circuit, is back in England, and is booked to make her re-appearance in London at the Coliseum this month.

Paulette Verdoot, one of the celebrated dancers of the Brussels Opera, committed suicide a few weeks ago. It is said that German rule in Brussels affected her mind. She left a letter addressed to the police, in which she stated she would rather die than submit to German rule.

The concert given in the large Town Hall, Wellington, last Tuesday evening by the two Russian musicians, Michael Piastro and Alfred Mirovitch, was a rare and genuine musical treat, and will be long and favourably remembered by the music lovers of Wellington. Both artists are two of the most prominent graduates of the Petrograd Conservatorium of the present decade, and they do the Russian Academy infinite credit. The playing of both is marked by extreme virility, and so far as M. Piastro, the violinist, is concerned he produces perhaps the greatest tone that has ever been heard on his instrument in Wellington. In this respect he is somewhat of a marvel. M. Mirovitch, the pianist, in all his numbers proved himself to be one of the most brilliant executants heard in New Zealand for some considerable time. Both artists were exceedingly generous in giving encores, which were received with much gratitude by the audience.

## SPORTS-FOLK WANT

## STYLE IN OUTFITTING

and right here at HERB. PRICE'S is the supply to meet the varied demands of men throughout the Dominion! FOR VALUE, STYLE AND QUALITY OUTFITTING, WE STAND PREEMINENT!

Send your orders by mail!!! They receive the same personal attention as though you actually bought in our store!

## HERB. PRICE,

Outfitting and Tailoring:  
54 and 56, Willis Street  
Clothing Store:  
50, Willis Street,  
W-E-L-L-I-N-G-T-O-N.

## Voice Production and Singing.

## MR. WALTER GRAY

Formerly Principal Tenor of Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company, of Covent Garden Theatre, London, and recently Professor of Singing at Glasgow College of Music.

STUDIO:

BRUNSWICK BUILDINGS,  
QUEEN STREET, AUCKLAND.



An amusing study in Messrs. J. and N. Tait's comedy "PEG O' MY HEART," to be produced at His Majesty's Theatre, Auckland, on Saturday, October 28. "Peg" looking for England on the map.

a broader type. A remark that in America would evoke roars of laughter if merely uttered in a quiet way without "throwing" it at the audience would in Australia perhaps be passed over; so here we would accompany it with an expressive movement of gesture, to give it added point or emphasis, or 'color it up a bit.' The result is that comedy productions in Australia are certainly more lively than as staged in America. However, once Australians start to laugh, they laugh heartier than the American, and are much more demonstrative in their appreciation. This is delightful to American artists who, I must say, love applause."

Any one booking a box or four stalls for an evening performance in the Kingsway Theatre, London, is privileged, provided he lives within the metropolitan radius, to drive to the theatre in a comfortably appointed motor, which calls for him at his house, takes him first, if he so pleases, to a restaurant, and then, after dinner, on to the theatre, the chauffeur returning to take him up and drive him home after the performance.

A critic'sm more potent than polite: "An audience of 100 and "Hamlet" were done at the theatre last night." A small American town was the scene of the happening.