

# THE STAGE

## FIXTURES.

### HIS MAJESTY'S.

Feb. 13-24—J. C. Williamson, Ltd. ("So Long, Letty")  
 Feb. 26 to March 3—Propagandist Play, "Damaged Goods" (J. C. Williamson, Ltd.)  
 April 7-21—J. C. Williamson, Ltd.  
 May 21-June 2—J. C. Williamson, Ltd.  
 June 4-11—Allen Doone  
 June 18-29—J. C. Williamson, Ltd.  
 Sept. 24-Oct. 10—J. C. Williamson, Ltd.

### KING'S THEATRE, NEWTON.

In season—Brandon-Cremer Dramatic Co.

### TOWN HALL CONCERT CHAMBER.

Feb. 6, 7, 8 and 10—Selinsky-Amadio.

## HIS MAJESTY'S.

### J. C. WILLIAMSON'S BIG ATTRACTION.

Quite one of the most important theatrical events which has happened in Auckland for some considerable time will be the appearance at His Majesty's Theatre next Tuesday of J. C. Williamson's New English Musical Comedy Company in four of the biggest and brightest musical comedy successes of two decades, "So Long, Letty," "To-night's the Night," "The Girl in the Train," and "High Jinks." The first-named, which will be the opening piece, is described as a sparkling comic opera of music and colour compact, and also a triumph in daintiness; a gem in sweet music, restrained comedy, graceful dancing, and all-round charm of dressing and staging. There is a pretty little love idyll in it, and there are glimpses of the "smart set" life, with fashionable dressing and luxurious surroundings. Running through and around the story like a passion vine on a trellis of music are numerous songs and dances, and the whole action is carried through by talented artists, who are good to look upon. The whole piece is sweet and clean and refreshing. The second production of the 12 nights' season will be the fascinating comic opera, "To-night's the Night," voted to be one of the gayest and brightest musical plays the Williamson firm has secured in a number of years. The music is tuneful, the dialogue smart and witty, the ballets dainty and there are a host of pretty girls. The idea of the play is piquant and quite original in conception, and it is said to develop in an entirely original manner. In this way, graceful dances, pretty women in novel styles of luxurious attire, backed by beautiful scenery and dainty, tinkling music, form elements in this clever theatrical confection. In "To-night's the Night" it is said that the present combination are all seen at their very best. From a spectacular point of view, nothing more magnificent has been attempted on the stage than the effects presented in this play. The third production will be the wildfire musical comedy "The Girl in the Train," and for the last nights of the season, the exhilarating musical extravaganza "High Jinks" will be revived. Dresses costing several hundreds of

pounds are worn through these four productions, and the many costumes that are displayed are the latest modes. A specially augmented orchestra under the baton of Mr. Harry Burton will be responsible for the music, the exigencies of which demand the services of the best orchestral players. The four plays will be interpreted by one of the strongest companies the Williamson firm has ever sent to the Dominion, and includes Dorothy Brunton, who has scored the biggest successes of her young life since she was last here; Connie Ediss (the celebrated London Gaiety Theatre comedienne), Maude Fane (last here as leading lady with the "Mother Goose" pantomime), Marie Eaton, Cecil Bradley, Ethel Morrison, Rene Connelly, Irene Jones, Violet Hooper, Messrs. Field Fisher, Charles H. Workman, Alfred Frith, William Greene, Claude Bantock, Walter Champney, Ronald McLeod, Edgar Warwick, Fred Maguire and the two brilliant eccentric dancers, Madge Elliott and Jack Hooker. The plans are at Wildman and Arey's.

## OPERA HOUSE.

Comedy plays a large part in the programme submitted at the Opera House this week, and Monday's audience set the seal of approval on the new bill. Blake and Granby introduced themselves as top-notch sketch artists in an amusing domestic playlet in which a giddy Lothario of a husband is foiled by his wife in spite of his "system" of evading her vigilance. In an original sketch entitled "In Society" Miss Lolyan Mason, with an engaging charm of manner, confirmed the excellent impression she made last week of her work as a comedienne, and was ably supported by her colleague, Miss Helen Le Cain, who set off her soprano songs with smart frocking. Miss Jeannie McRae made a first appearance, singing Asher and Scotch songs in character and making her biggest appeal with "The Long, Long Trail," in the chorus of which she induced the audience to lustily join. Another taking singer appeared in Miss Marjorie Alwyn, a good contralto voice being used to pleasing effect in a couple of ballads Leonard Nelson, in accordance with his usual custom, was a regular riot, introducing several new characteristic songs and causing a furore with his world-wide success "Mr. Booze." To stem the clamour and in response to special requests he was obliged to give the cockney lament "When are You Going Away." No less popular was Phil Percival in his pianologues and breezy burlesque sketch, the warmth of his reception testifying to his many friends all over the house. The thrills of the bill were supplied by the two Arleys in their astounding feats on poles, and by the Elmars in their graceful athletic turn, both acts meeting with hearty plaudits. Winifred and Lumley gave a good account of themselves in cheerful song and

patter, a play on song titles being cleverly conceived and evoking bursts of laughter. Merlyn, the magician who works on lines of his own with his unexpected exposures, was responsible for a novel turn in which he was assisted by his inscrutable partner, Archibald. Vaudeville aid was given by Mr. E. J. Burke's orchestra.

ment and his tone are entrancing. The manner in which he manages octaves, creating an almost simultaneous effect, as though two instruments were playing, is truly astonishing, and he can imitate the moaning of the wind among trees and the screech of a gale. The "Press": "Miss Treweek, soprano, proved her-



MAX SELINSKY, JESSIE MASSON, ELSY TREWEEK, and JOHN AMADIO, the celebrated star artistes now appearing at the Town Hall Concert Chamber, Auckland. The final concert will be given on Saturday, February 10.

## TOWN HALL.

### SELINSKY-AMADIO.

One of the finest musical combinations that has visited the Dominion within recent years, is the unanimous verdict of the Southern Press in regard to the Selinsky-Amadio quartette, who open at the Town Hall Concert Chamber as this paper goes to press. Says the Christchurch Sun: "The standard of merit is so even, and yet so high, that the audience was not required to sample the mediocre performances which too often are sandwiched in between the virtuoso items. Each artist held the audience enthralled, and every item was received with manifest appreciation. The concert was a delightful one, which could be heartily enjoyed by the ordinary lover of music, as well as by those whose knowledge of music converts them into critics. The leader of the company is M. Max Selinsky, a Russian violinist who is not unknown to fame. Audiences retain the happiest recollections of the visits of Kubelik and Mischa Elman, and it is only a slight exaggeration of praise to say that the memory of M. Selinsky's playing will be as lasting." The Star: "Mr. Amadio is an amazing flautist. The notes simply fly from his instru-

self easily as the most accomplished and vocally gifted that Australia has sent us for many a long time." The Sun: "Miss Jessie Masson is an extremely able player and it was a pleasure to listen to her intelligent interpretations and skilful presentations of her pianoforte solos." Similar opinions were expressed in the other centres, so that Auckland music-lovers can anticipate an exceptional treat. Four concerts will be given, the company giving their final performance on Saturday.

## KING'S THEATRE.

### "EAST LYNNE."

Saturday's heavy rains did not deter East Lynnettes from seeing their favourite play, and interest did not slacken through all its emotional stages. Most people are familiar with the plot. Lady Isabel Carlyle's jealousy of her husband, her elopement with Sir Francis Levison, her subsequent disillusionment when he tires of her, her return in disguise to her old home and the death of little Willie make rich incidents for melodramatic weaving, and the Brandon-Cremer presentation satisfactorily met all expectations, handkerchiefs being well in evidence in the final pathetic scenes. Miss Kathleen Arnold was the central figure in the dual roles of Lady Isabel and Madame Vine, and evoked affectionate sympathy through her trying ordeal. Mr. Maurice Tuohy created another excellent impression with his manly bearing as Archibald Carlyle, while Mr. Edga Kenna imparted his customary vigor in exploiting the villainy of Sir Francis Levison. Little Violet Milne gave the correct pathos to the part of Willie, and the other well-known characters were creditably sustained. The scenery and setting showed careful attention to detail, and Miss Abbie Taylor's orchestra lent additional interest to the production.

### "THE BLACK FLAG."

The next production will be Conquest and Merrit's four-act drama "The Black Flag." This play is one of the class that delights the patrons of this theatre. An instance of an unjust accusation and a mistake concerning the identity of the criminal give the foundation of a play of thrilling interest, in which there are many



MISS CECIL BRADLEY AND CHORUS IN "SO LONG, LETTY."