

# THE STAGE

## AUCKLAND FIXTURES.

### HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

March 18 to April 3—"A Girl's Temptation" (George Marlow, Ltd.).  
 April 8 to 20—"Everywoman" Company.  
 June 24 to July 3—Pantomime "Sinbad the Sailor."  
 July 22 to August 3—"The Blue Bird."  
 September 30 to October 12—Oscar Asche-Lily Brayton.

### TOWN HALL.

Newbury-Spada "Pops"—Every Saturday night.

### PICTURE SHOWS.

Queen's Theatre (Continuous).

### OPERA HOUSE.

Fuller's Vaudeville.

### HIS MAJESTY'S.

GEO. MARLOW DRAMATIC CO.

THE VOGUE OF MELODRAMA.

Melodrama still continues to hold sway at His Majesty's. "A Girl's Temptation" has attracted like a magnet, and was only withdrawn on Wednesday after an eight nights' presentation. The machinations of the villain (Mr Herbert Linden), and the misfortunes of the heroine (Miss Louise Hampton, and the hero (Mr Cecil Mannerling), have been followed with bated breath by crowded audiences, punctuated with heartfelt interjections when the situations overcame them.

### "THE LUCK OF ROARING CAMP."

"The Luck of Roaring Camp" is a dramatisation of Bret Harte's well-known story, and deals with the characters and scenes in California sixty years ago. There is plenty of life in it, and no lack of excitement supplied by gold-diggers, cowboys, lynching parties, and the other thrilling concomitants that go to make up mining life as it was in the early days. Mr Cecil Mannerling as Will Gordon and Miss Louise Hampton as the heroine Nell Curtis again hold the strong interest of all with their capital portrayals, while Mr J. P. O'Neill (the saloon keeper), Mr E. Stephenson, Miss Harrie Ireland, and the minor characters all make good. This interesting mining drama will be played to-night (Thursday) and two following nights.

### "DRIVING A GIRL TO DESTRUCTION."

As suggested by the title, the above piece, which will be played on Monday till the remainder of the season, has the true melodramatic flavour. "Those who would sup on horror" (remarks a Sydney writer on its recent production) "will find the drama sufficiently highly flavoured to excite the most jaded appetite." There are the usual man and the maid, two scheming scoundrels, male and female, and four acts teeming with thrills. In the matter of sensations it promises to easily eclipse "A Girl's Temptation."

### "EVERYWOMAN."

A MODERN MORALITY PLAY.

More than ordinary interest is being evinced in the forthcoming production of "Everywoman," which commences at His Majesty's on Easter Monday under the direction of J. C. Williamson, Ltd. "Everywoman" made a great stir in Melbourne and Sydney, and was preached about in the churches. Though a modern

play as regards characterisation and action, it is fashioned after the model of the ancient morality plays, and symbolises the various abstract virtues. "It is not a sermon in disguise (wrote the author), neither is it a quixotic effort to elevate the stage. To every woman who nowadays listens to flattery, goes in quest of love, and openly lays siege to the hearts of men, this play may provide a kindly warning." Woman's quest of love is the motive of the play.

The principal characters are Nobody, an impressive figure who introduces the play; Everywoman, who leaves her home in quest of love; Youth, Beauty, and Modesty, her companions, who remain with her until she loses all of them; Flattery, who urges her to seek love in New York; Truth, disguised as a witch, who tells her that she will find love only at home; Love, Passion, Time, Wealth, Conscience, Vice, Vanity,

ward to, his new dramatic song "While Auckland is Fast Asleep," being a great draw this week. Dainty little Doreen D'Authrean helps to enhance the effect. Frank Yorke is still in constant demand and never escapes without several recalls, while the Driscoll boys are responsible for some excellent fooling which brings down the house. Other old favourites are appearing in new items, and a bright crisp programme is the result. Miss Ivy Akerstein's orchestra lends valuable assistance.

### TOWN HALL.

NEWBURY-SPADA CONCERTS.

FINAL ON SATURDAY.

Another big audience gathered at the Town Hall last Saturday even-

### THE AUCKLAND LIEDERTAFEL.

A BRILLIANT OPENING.

With every seat in the immense main hall filled, the initial Liedertafel concert in the Town Hall, was a brilliant success, the scene being an inspiring one. Over seventy members were present, and the result was an harmonious blending that was a revelation to many. Indeed, as the result of this innovation in holding the opening concert at popular prices, the membership with its attendant privileges, promises to be considerably increased. The Liedertafel items consisted of Storch's "Battle Prayer," Reveries, "The Long day closes," "Waltz of Dreamland," "Summer Lullaby" and "Comrades in arms," while encores were clamorously insisted on. Dr W. E. Thomas, who conducted was also heard in organ solos brilliantly rendered, evoking prolonged applause while Mr A. H. Ripley, Mr T. B. Rowe and the Lyric quartette (Messrs Aspinall, McElwain, Blakely and Ryan) gave delightful vocal items. Mr Leo Whittaker accompanied in his usual skilful manner. Every praise is due to the secretary, Mr Sydney Harbutt for his energies in promoting such a pronounced success.

### QUEEN'S THEATRE.

"A victim of the Mormons" has been drawing crowds day and night, the various exciting scenes being presented with life-like fidelity, and it could easily have run another week. To-day another new series will be commenced including "The Minute and Maid," "A Range Romance," "Three of a Kind," "Naughty Lea," "The Frontier of Tripoli," and the magnificent scenic series "London Day by Day." An innovation is the engagement of Mr Dan Llewellyn, the Welsh tenor, whose singing is heartily enjoyed, and is alone worth paying a visit to Queens.

### IN PERSONAL TOUCH.

Mr John Farrell is in town making arrangements for the appearance of "Everywoman" at His Majesty's on Easter Monday.

Mr Richard Stewart, who recently journeyed to Australia in charge of "The Chocolate Soldier" Company, will return to New Zealand as manager for the "Everywoman" tour.

Miss Hilda Spong, who will take the leading role in "Everywoman" which is to be staged for the first time on Easter Monday, had rather an exciting experience in Sydney recently. She was awakened during the "early hours" by hearing a noise in the drawing-room. She quickly put on her dressing gown to search for the reason, and came upon two burglars. Miss Spong never for a moment lost her presence of mind, as whilst calling for help she secured her revolver and actually fired five shots at the would-be robbers as they decamped.

William Desmond, who recently made such a success in the role of "Alias Jimmy Valentine," will support Miss Hilda Spong in "Everywoman."

Mr Andrew Maccunn, musical director of "The Quaker Girl," leaves Sydney next month for a holiday visit to London. He will disembark from the Osterley at Naples, to motor across Europe to Paris. He expects to be away about six months.



MISS HILDA SPONG as "Everywoman," and MR JOHN RALSTON as "Passion," to appear in the morality play opening on Easter Monday at His Majesty's Theatre.

Charity, Age, Greed, Self, Bluff, and others. Miss Hilda Spong, who gained great renown on the American stage, will enact the role of "Everywoman" while Mr William Desmond will take the part of "Nobody." The play will be one of the most sumptuously mounted J. C. Williamson, Ltd., has ever produced.

### OPERA HOUSE.

FULLER'S VAUDEVILLE.

Top-liners at the Opera House this week include two Japanese jiu-jitsu exponents, Shima and Kamaeda, who give a remarkable demonstration of strength, their contest arousing keen interest amongst the spectators. Miss Winnie Bond is a popular little lady, whose clever dancing makes a hit straightway, while she also sings with pleasing effect. Mr Marshall Palmer's items are always looked for-

ing to enjoy the attractions of the Newbury-Spada concert, Mr Philip Newbury delighted everyone with his masterly renderings, his items being "Ah, si ben mio" (Il Trovatore), "Let me like a Soldier Fall," "For you alone," and "There is a Flower that Bloometh." Madame Spada sang with exquisite taste, "Ave Maria," with violin and organ obligato (Miss Ina Bosworth and Mr Harold Gregson), and a Scotch song "Hame," with "Killarney" as an encore. Miss Phyllis Mills, solo pianiste, made her first appearance at these concerts, and shared honours with Miss Ina Bosworth, the brilliant young violiniste. Madame Markstedt, Miss Kathleen Major, and Mr Stanley Pritchard also gave highly enjoyable items which all demanded encores, while Mr Harold Gregson's organ solos were again a feature of the evening. Saturday March 30, will be the last of the "pops," and will be celebrated by a special programme.