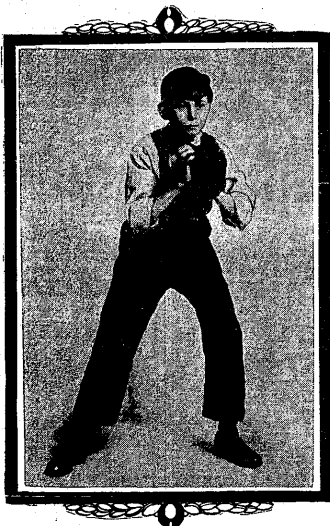


# A Noisy, Funny Town, "Fifty Miles From Boston"

## Amusements Tonight

MOORE THEATRE—"Fifty Miles From Boston."  
GRAND OPERA HOUSE—Murray and Mack.  
ORPHEUM—Vaudeville.  
LOIS THEATRE—"Strongheart."  
SEATTLE THEATRE—"In Wyoming."  
THIRD AVENUE THEATRE—"The Train Robbers."  
PANTAGES—Vaudeville.  
STAR—Vaudeville.  
SHANNON'S THEATRE—Cam-eraphone.



Percy Helton, "the boy around the barn," in "Fifty Miles From Boston."

VERI<sup>1</sup> Cohanesque, is "Fifty Miles From Boston," the newest product of the prolific George M.' to be seen in Seattle. It opened last night at the Moore to an unusually big house, and will undoubtedly be a favorite all week. George says there's more drama in this piece than in anything he has ever written, and if he had said melodrama he would have been nearer right, for that's what it is; melodrama spiced with fun and decorated with songs and dances. Following his usual methods, the versatile George has given us something different. He has two villians in his melodrama; one you sympathize with and the other you begin by hating, and end by laughing because of his cheek, ditto hero is according to schedule, ditto the heroine; and the comedy is simply fed for by the fathers of the boys and by the village busybody.

"Fifty Miles From Boston" is Brookfield, where they have a volunteer fire department, band concerts in the evening, a baseball team and other organizations to furnish items for the society columns of "The Chronicle." The pride of the village is "Joe Westcott." Joe has gone to Harvard, plays on the baseball team and wins a big game for the university. The curtain rises on "Joe's" welcome home. "Dave Harrigan," the village dudo, is "Joe's" rival for "Sadie Woodis," the petite and pretty postmistress. "Sadie's" brother, "Jed," has a job in the postoffice, where he steals time to be absent from Harvard on the game. When he loses the money he appeals to "Dave" to lend him enough to cover the shortage. "Dave" is willing, provided "Jed" will get up in response to an imperative encore, should have been in such poor taste. Hazel Lowry is a dandy and attractive postmistress, and "W. Douglas Stevenson" a very natural college youth. Walter P. Richardson was capital as the nervy and laudent villian. Thomas Emory played well the thankless role of "Jed Woodis." Percy Helton, the boy around the barn, belongs in with the principals. "Fifty Miles From Boston" is bright and amusing. If you want to laugh, see it.

Joe Westcott.... W. Douglas Stevenson  
Nathan Westcott.... Charles Willard  
Dave Harrigan.... Walter P. Richardson  
Tim Harrigan.... J. Joseph M. Sparks  
Missy Helton.... Fred Seaton  
Eddie Moseley.... Percy Helton  
Jed Woodis.... Thomas Emory  
Fat Boy.... Russell Pincus  
Foreman Brookfield High....  
Nathan Westcott.... Stanley G. Fields  
Brainard.... Lester Templton  
Sadie Woodis.... Hazel Lowry  
Mrs. Westcott.... Ella Seaton  
Mrs. Tibfoot.... W. Douglas Stevenson  
Nellie Harrigan.... Mae Helton  
Aunt Kate.... Kathryn R. Perry

cal comedy comedian of capability and shared the honors with the stars. Abe Freindland has a very funny song, "On the Stage," in the second act. Helen Clark is a statuesque beauty with a good contralto voice and Carolyn Ryas is most charming in the soubrette part.

The program of songs and things includes several notable numbers. "My New Motor Boat," by Miss Clark and chorus introduces a very pretty scenic effect. There is a "Broadway" song which the gallery was encouraged to whistle and which probably will be a popular air on the streets. "The Horse Dance" is a ludicrous affair by the Wentz brothers, and Murray & Mack and Mr. Stokes have a specialty in the second act which is encored several times. "The Girl With the Winning Smile," by Mr. Stokes and chorus introduces something new. The stage is darkened and apparently in the atmosphere appears a pretty girl's face which smiles and winks, following the words of the song and finally joins in the chorus. "Bahar Bahar," by Mr. Backus and chorus is another good number. Mr. Backus is in the chorus for most of the show, but in the second act, his truly fine voice is twice given an opportunity.

There is just one thing to mar an unusually good show of its kind and one of the two stars is the offender. A couple of Otis Mack's "crackles" in the first act are of the talented wit variety and in a first class house could be very easily spared.

The cast:  
Michael O'Toole, a bricklayer.....  
.....Chas. A. Murray  
Henry O'Connell, a hogcarter.....

and most life-like production put on at that playhouse since it entered the popular-priced class. The cast, too, is capable and the audience can experience a genuine thrill without trying, and doesn't have to force a laugh. The play is brimming with humor of the wholesome kind, the action is always spirited and there isn't a single drag. Willard Mack, actor and playwright, is the author of "In Wyoming." The scene is a cattle ranch near Lander, some time in the early 50s. There is the homely ranch house with the boss and his wife and the cow punchers, who are whole-souled, care free and not very bad. A pretty school teacher arrives, as is usually the case, and two men at once fall head over heels in love with her. She cares for the good one and spurns the other. The other man is a cattle rustler and a fugitive from justice, living under an assumed name. He conceives the insane idea of carrying away the girl and he does so only to be run to earth a few hours later. That's the story without any of Mr. Mack's interesting details.

Cecil Kirke plays the part of "Bob Ricketts," the cowboy that loves the schoolgirl and wins her and plays well. Neilson Leavitt, as "Steve Gordon," is tall, supple and good looking; just the kind of a bad man one likes to see on a stage. He is bad all right, and the author doesn't fail to remind one of the fact early in the first act. But "Steve" doesn't wear any black moustache or shiny silk hats and plays with man's admiration from an audience that is generally ready to hiss a villain off the stage when he turns any nefarious