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# THE

# "BELLE OF NEW YORK"

At University Hall chapel on Thursday evening, February 23, at 8:15 p. m., the curtain will rise on the big engineering production, "The Belle of New York." After weeks of preparation our beautiful maidens and handsome males are ready to appear before their large audience of admirers.

"The Belle" is a musical comedy written about the adventures of Harry Bronson, a young man who falls deeply in love with every beautiful female he meets. Harry's conduct is strongly disapproved by his father who is president of the Young Men's Rescue League. The older Mr. Bronson comes to New York to do a bit of rescuing by attempting to drag Harry from the clutches of two or three girls who have the foolish desire to marry him.

Meanwhile, Harry meets Violet, a very demure Salvation Army lassie. Violet is so beautiful that she is called the "Belle of New York." Naturally our hero falls in love with her—but alas—he is double crossed by the one he has trusted most during his entire life. Ichabod Bronson, Harry's own father, is the villain who attempts to deprive Harry of his love. The father, perhaps tired of rescuing, also falls in love with the sweet heroine and complications begin to develop.

We also find many other interesting characters in the cast. There is a very polite lunatic, Carl von Pumpernick, who has a strange mania. He desires to kill Mr. Bronson. Blinky Bill Mcquirk is a pugilist and Counts Patsi and Ratsi Rattatoo are Portuguese twins.

The cast will have an opportunity of displaying hitherto unrevealed charm and finesse in the numerous girl parts. The songs are really catchy and as for the dancing numbers—well, just wait until you see the boys' lithe bodies swaying to the tuneful melodies.

There will be cutaway coats, "leg o' mutton" sleeves, checked trousers, narrow white trousers with wide belts, spicy chorus "girls" in tights which extend from the neck to the hips, and "women" in skirts that brush the ground.

"Much of the humor of the play depends on using the correct type of costumes," said J. Clarence Sullivan, 52 East Rich Street, who will furnish the costumes. "They are being made according to pictures in a bound copy of Puck, printed in 1896."

The original script is being used and even the technique of the play is to be taken from the same period.

"Our biggest trouble right now is to get girls' slippers to fit the feet of the "girls' chorus," Mr. Sullivan said. "Some of the shoes will fit, but most of the boys' feet are too wide."

Artificial forms will be created for all of the men taking parts of women on which the costumes will be modeled. All of the "girls" will be required to wear corsets.

There will be three changes for each of the boys' choruses, four changes for the chorus "girls" and each of the principals will have two changes. One hundred and four costumes are being used.

Some of the musical numbers we shall hear are: "I Guess I'm Just a Wee Bit Woozy," sung by Elmer Johnson; "When I was Born the Stars Stood Still," by Carl Slabaugh; "Little Sister Kissie," by Roger Weider. Perry Gasnier will sing "Teach Me How to Kiss," "La Belle Parisienne," and "When We Are Married." Maynard Brugler will sing "I Hope I Do Not Shock," and "I'm Weary of Being So Prim and Sedate." Ernest Brownstead will sing "My Little Baby From Far Cohoes," and "The Beach at Narragansett." The principals will be supported by a singing and dancing chorus of rare beauty and talent.

## THE CAST

Ichabod Bronson.....	Ernest Brownstead
Harry Bronson, the son.....	Elmer Johnson
Violet, the Salvation Army Lassie....	Maynard Brugler
Carl von Pumpernick.....	Len Winkler
Fifi, a gay young girl.....	Perry Gasnier
Cora Angelique, queen of comic opera....	Carl Slabaugh
Count Patsi Rattatoo.....	Burell Shirey
Doc. Snifkins .....	James McDowell
Bill Muggs .....	Harold Claugus

The pianists are N. J. Broadway and Robert W. Harris. The orchestra is under the direction of M. J. Clymer. Mr. Bob Edwards is supervising the dancing.

This production has been substituted by the Engineering Council for the competitive departmental skits that have formerly been given as a part of the "Engineers Roundup." The cast has been rehearsing every night under the capable direction of Prof. John Younger, of the I. E. department, Asst. Prof. Tang, E.E., and Associate Prof. Wooster Field of the Engineering Drawing Department.