

COLLEGE WIDOW PACKS GRAND

Cherry Street Theatre Crowded to the Limit Prescribed by City Ordinance to See the Football Play.

Ade Comedy Again Wins Success—"Dora Thorne," "The Tie That Binds" and "Peaceful Valley" at Other Houses.

When "The College Widow" opened its second engagement in this city last night there was hardly room enough for the people inside to laugh. Last year people fought for seats to see the remarkably clever George Ade comedy, and Manager Ford therefore booked "The Widow" for a whole week this time, and it will be none the wiser. It is a safe wager that the play will, on its nine performances in this city, break a good many records for receipts, both of the house and of its own takings in other cities.

The gallery last night was musical, as it always is on Sunday night. The downstairs people have grown to like the entire concert by the gods. Tomorrow night the upper tier will be jammed with students from the local "I." and the football team of Washington will occupy boxes, while the house colors will be hidden by festoons of purple and gold. Between Atwater, Blugham and Washington, a lively performance may be looked for tomorrow night.

It is the same old "College Widow." Those who have never seen it before cannot afford to miss it, while those who have, will not. Those who saw the play here last year may be tempted to say, of occasional characters: "He or she is not so good as the one who played it last year." But it must be remembered that a one-formed impression of the way a character should be played is hard to dislodge. It will be the general consensus of opinion that some characters are not so well played, while others are better played. The only proper standard of judgment is the ability of the present players, and the cast is strong throughout, with no flaws unless a person goes to look for them with a microscope.

Robert Kelly as Bolton and Louise Butler as the widow are highly acceptable, and leave no regrets whatever for Fred Truendell and Dorothy Tennant. At the end of Act II, Mr. Kelly should have had one curtain call all to himself. It isn't good stage business to raise the curtain three times on the same ensemble. Good support is lent by George E. Trimble as the elder Bolton, George C. Odell as the trainer, Alan Brooks as Bob Hicks and J. Eversford Hollis as the tutor.

All of the other characters are in good hands. The big football crowd of the third act was well handled and the settings were as fresh and picturesque as when first seen here. From a comedy viewpoint "The College Widow" has so many features of merit that it will stand as one of the country's most cherished theatrical offerings, at least so long as it continues to take the road under the banner of Henry W. Savage.