

## "YELLOW SANDS."

Last night's audience at His Majesty's Theatre thoroughly enjoyed "Yellow Sands," which was staged by the Brisbane Repertory Theatre Society as the first of its season's plays. The whole evening long everybody was smiling steadily over Eden and Adelaide Phillipotts' conception of the Varwell family—farmers, fishermen, and their women-folk, a thinker who worked and a thinker (self-styled) who idled—living on the coast of Devon. The time of the play was that when England's unemployed in receipt of doles stood at the million mark, but the chief character, the astute old lady, Jennifer Varwell, who celebrated her 80th birthday in the second act, still lived in a Victorian atmosphere. This was well reproduced in the setting of Jennifer's parlour. There is nothing like the expectation of benefit under a will to bring out the real character of a man or woman. And this comedy—much in the style of Eden Phillipotts' "The Farmer's Wife," is devoted to the exposure, the unveiling, or what you will, of a lot of outwardly simple folk.

Miss Barbara Sisley's study of Jennifer was serene and radiant. She realised to the full the old lady's quiet and penetrating wit. Mr. Jum Pendleton, as Jennifer's brother, Richard, won a laugh with almost every line. A character not unlike old Eccles in "Caste"—but not so sodden nor so rascally—he thoroughly enjoyed the grim jest played on him by the old lady in her will. Mr. Leo Guyatt played Jennifer's socialistic nephew, Joe, with a doggedness and a "rant" that made all the more amusing his bewilderment at the end of the story, when it was shown to him that the greater part of his aunt's legacy, divided amongst the million unemployed, would not give them a penny apiece. But to the last his slogan was "Justice to the under dog." Misses Hilda Hastie and Gwen Harrison were delightfully amusing as the twins; and another fine performance was that of Miss Christina Wilson, as Jennifer's brother's disgruntled and uncharitable widow, Mary Varwell. The other four characters were adequately played by Misses Darley Cooper, Clare Clarke, Messrs. Jim Felgate, Norton Stable, and Frank Harrison. Two songs sung in the second act by Richard Varwell were composed by Mr. Archie Day, and the entr'actes were played by Collings' orchestra.

"Yellow Sands," which is really a delightful comedy, will be repeated to-night.

delightful comedy, will be repeated to-night.