

1910



The Quealys
Theatre Feb. (1915), 43.

Wal Cottier presented a musical sketch titled *The French Conductor* at the Alhambra Music Hall (Syd) during June. Although the July issue of the *Theatre* records that Cottier "himself can write a first-rate farce" (16), this particular piece may well have been adapted from W. Horace Bent's (undated) musical sketch of the same name.

Harry and Nellie Quealy presented their musical sketch, *Fun in a Kitchen*, on at the Tivoli (Syd) beginning 3 September. The first production was so successful they ran it up until the end of the month.

Musical sketch artists, Tom Armstrong and Priscilla Verne presented their turn on James Brennan's circuit during the year. One of the works known to have been staged by them was: *The Telegraph Office* (National Theatre, Syd; 1 Oct.).

THE AUSTRALIAN GOLD DIGGERS: [musical sketch] Txt/Mus. [n/e]

Believed to have been staged for the first time at Harry Rickards' Sydney Tivoli Theatre, *The Australian Gold Diggers*, was staged around a camp pitched in rugged bush land. The *Sydney Morning Herald* notes that the voices of the quartette of leading vocalists blended well and seemed in harmony with the setting (5 Sept. 1910, 3).

1910: Tivoli Theatre, Sydney; 3-30 Sept.

- **Prod.** Harry Rickards

- **Cast:** A. Sharples, H. Powell, E. Harrison, J. McKellar.

"**Tivoli Theatre.**" *Sydney Morning Herald* 5 Sept. (1910), 3.

THE MODERN BLUEBEARD: [aka BLUEBEARD] [pantomime] Lib/Mus. Harry Taylor.

Described as a "pantomime extravaganza," this Harry Taylor musical comedy/pantomime production is first known to have been staged at the Royal Standard Theatre in September 1910. The *Sydney Morning Herald* review notes that it was "light and distinctly catchy in character... and refreshingly free from the vulgarity of allusion, which stains too many of its more ambitious kindred" (22 Sept. 1910, 12).

Edward Jasper's Pantomime Company toured the pantomime over 1913 and 1914 (billed under the alternate title, *Bluebeard*). Reviews and advertising also indicate that Taylor had revised and updated the production.

The 1917 version (sometimes referred to as *Bluebeard's Harum*), was described as a small-scale production, with the storyline resting largely on Widow Bunce, who becomes the tenth wife of Bluebeard after a mix-up over a love potion. The potion had been intended for her daughter, Fatima. Widow Bounce gathers the other hard-done-by wives together and they give Bluebeard a very bad time. Songs incorporated into the 1917 production included: "Bright Eyes" and "Over the Garden" (sung by Mattie Jansen) and "Memories" and "Sweetheart" (Emili Dani).

NB 1: *Bluebeard* was the feature production for the 1913-14 Jasper's Pantomime Company tour and as such opened each season. The entries below identify only start and/or length of seasons (where known). One the nights (invariably the last), would have included another production (e.g. *The Jam of Cathay*).

NB 2: Although it has not yet been confirmed, the 1917 version would have likely been another revised and updated adaptation of the original 1910 pantomime. While this version is known to have been first staged in Australia in December by the Taylor and Coleman Pantomime Company (following its return from New Zealand), it may well have been part of the company's Dominion repertoire.

1910: Royal Standard Theatre, Sydney; 21-22 Sept.

- **M Dir.** Harry Taylor; **Mngr.** E.M. Ireland; **Lse.** Harry Clay;

S Mngr. Will Thomas.

- **Troupe:** The Macaroni Musical Comedy Co.

- **Cast** incl. Dave Thomas (Bluebeard).

1913: Queanbeyan (NSW); 6 Oct. -

- **Prod.** Edward Jasper; **Adv Rep.** Harry Barton

- **Troupe:** Jasper's Pantomime Company.

- **Cast** incl. Ted Stanley, Ida Ingersole, Charles Howard, Olive Robinson, Ailsa Sherbrook, H. Dickinson.

- The company reportedly comprised 30 performers.

- Tour also included *Bluebeard*.

1913: Town Hall, Parramatta (Sydney); 17-18 Oct.

- **Troupe:** Jasper's pantomime Company.

- **Cast** and production as for Queanbeyan season.

STANDARD THEATRE, CASTLEREAGH-STREET.
Under Distinguished Patronage.
THE MACARONI MUSICAL COMEDY COMPANY
will produce
A Pantomime Extravaganza, entitled
"THE MODERN BLUEBEARD,"
Written and Composed by Harry Taylor.
Under the Management of Mrs. E. M. Ireland.
Prices: 3/, 2/, and 1/; Children, Half Prices.
TO-NIGHT AND TO-MORROW NIGHT.
Box Plan at O'Reilly's, 333 George-street.

Sydney Morning Herald 21 Sept. (1910), 2.

SOMETHING NEW.
JASPER'S
Musical, Comedy, and
Pantomime Co.

Big Attraction for **SHOW WEEK,**
commencing
Monday Next, October 6th.

In this busy work-a-day world you want hilarity and mirth—something that will make you forget your worries and get to work in the morning in a brighter frame of mind. Well, that's what we're here for, just to **MAKE YOU FEEL GLAD.**

Note Central Location,
Where you will witness the Glorious and Gorgona Spectacle of a new edition of the Fairy Story

BLUE BEARD.
Book and Lyrics by Mr. Harry Taylor.

SECOND PRODUCTION:
The Jam of Cathay.

Nothing old or worn out, but every-thing spick and span.

PRICES AS USUAL.
Book sent beforehand at Fallick's, and avoid inconvenient crowding.
HARRY BARTON, Advance.

Queanbeyan Age 3 Oct. (1913), 3.

- 1919:** Alhambra Music Hall, Sydney; 14-20 June [as *Bluebeard's Harem*]
- **Dir.** Harry Taylor; **Prod/Mngr.** Harry Taylor and Alf Coleman; **M Dir.** Wally Smith.
- **Cast** incl. Bert Desmond, Joe Charles, Maud Shipp, Harry Taylor, Mattie Jansen, Emili Dani, Florence Walker, Dot Holroyd, Elsa Thornton.
- This was the first production staged during Taylor and Coleman's school holiday pantomime season at the Alhambra. The other pantomimes were *Little Jack Horner* and *Hello Cinderella*.
- 1923:** New South Wales regional tour; ca. Jan.
- **Prod.** Stanley McKay; **Dir.** Alf Coleman.
- **Troupe** McKay and Coleman's Aldwych Theatre Company.
- **Cast** incl. Bert Desmond, Mattie Jansen.
- Itinerary incl. Guyra, Tenterfield, Glen Innes, Quirindi and Tamworth, NSW Northern Rivers.
- Other productions staged incl. *Bo-Peep*, *Mother Hubbard*, and a new revue - *Around the World*.

"Alhambra Theatre." *Sydney Morning Herald* 16 June (1919), 7.

"Amusements: The Theatres." *Sydney Morning Herald* 21 Sept. (1910), 11.

"Entertainments: *Bluebeard*." *Brisbane Courier* 27 Dec. (1917), 6. [see also prevs. - 22 Dec. 1917, 8; 24 Dec. 1917, 7; and 26 Dec. 1917, 9]

"Modern *Bluebeard, The*." *Sydney Morning Herald* 22 Sept. (1910), 12.

"Pantomime Under Canvas." *Everyone's* 24 Jan. (1923), 33.

BO-PEEP [aka LITTLE BO-PEEP]: [pantomime] **Lib/Mus.** Harry Taylor

Subtitled *The Girl Who Lost Her Sheep* and billed as a gorgeous adult pantomime in two acts, Stanley McKay's 1910 Christmas season in Sydney was to be the only pantomime staged in the city over the holiday season, and indeed the first for several years. The story "deals with the love episodes of Bo-Peep, who in this instance has not suffered the loss of sheep, but of a worthy wooer... Jack Straw, the two fond hearts [having been] kept apart by the orders of the Shah." He eventually relents but only on the condition that Jack perform a heroic deed - in this instance the recovery of a watch stolen by the witch Fly-By-Night (*Sydney Morning Herald* 26 Dec. 1910, 3). The settings were: Sc 1. The Witch's Haunt; Sc 2. The Home of Widow Bumpkin; Sc 3. The Palace of the Shah; Sc 4. The Enchanted Castle; Sc 5. Under the Waves (transformation scene).

McKay's 1910/1911 Australian regional tour was presented in a "mammoth moving theatre," utilising a huge mining tent with some 2,200 seat capacity. Other productions (authorship unknown) which were toured included *The Carnival Girls* (2 act musical comedy) and *The Circus Queen* (3 act musical comedy). In his 1916 *Theatre Magazine* interview McKay indicates that the libretto and music for *Bo-Peep* were written by Harry Taylor in four weeks (42).

- 1913:** Opposite Couhlan's Store, Singleton (NSW); 13 Nov. -
- **Troupe:** Jasper's Pantomime Company.
- Cast and production as for Queanbeyan season.
- 1914:** New South Wales regional tour; ca. Jan - Mar.
- **Troupe:** Jasper's Pantomime Company.
- **Cast** incl. Con Moreni (Frascati,), Ida Ingersole, Charles Howard, Olive Robinson, Ailsa Sherbrook, H. Dickinson.
- Tour incl. Penrith (28 Jan. -)
- 1914:** Queanbeyan (NSW); 31 Mar. -
- **Prod.** Edward Jasper; **Adv Rep.** Jack Howard.
- **Troupe:** Jasper's Pantomime Company.
- Cast and production as for previous Sydney suburban tour.
- 1914 tour incl. *Bluebeard* and *The Great Ragtime Revue*.
- 1914:** Market Square, Grafton (NSW); 5 May -
- **Troupe:** Jasper's Pantomime Company.
- Cast and production as for previous Sydney suburban tour.
- 1914:** McCardell's Paddock, Wangaratta (Vic); 15 Sept. -
- **Prod.** Edward Jasper; **Adv Rep.** Jack Howard.
- **Troupe:** Jasper's Pantomime Company.
- **Cast** incl. Con Moreni (Frascati,), Ida Ingersole, Charles Howard, Olive Robinson, Ailsa Sherbrook, H. Dickinson, Ernest Lashbrook, Stella Cazalla, Mollie King, Gloria Gould.
- By September the tour repertoire also included *Humpty Dumpty*.
- 1917:** His Majesty's Theatre, Brisbane; 26 Dec. 1917 - 5 Jan. 1918
- **Dir.** Harry Taylor; **Prod.** Harry Taylor and Alf Coleman; **Lse.** J. C. Williamson's Ltd.
- **Troupe:** Coleman and Taylor's Great Xmas Pantomime Company.
- **Cast** incl. Bert Desmond (Widow Bunce), Kathleen Mack (Prince Topaz), Mattie Jansen (Fatima), Charles Howard (*Bluebeard*), Joe Charles (*Abracadabra*), Maudie Shipp (*The Widows Maid*), Emili Dani (*Fairy Azalia*), Cathie Cansdell, Vera Henderson, Violet Romaine, Iris McKenzie (solo dancer), the Two Cliffs.

Bo-Peep was the feature production toured by the company known variously as Stanley McKay Pantomime Company, the Royal Pantomime Co, Stanley McKay's Mammoth Moving Theatre and Stanley McKay's No 2 Pantomime Company (the name used to distinguish it from the Jim Gerald-led company which toured between 1914 and 1916). Among the performers most

associated with the *Bo-Peep* company were Bruce Drysdale, Phyllis Faye, Vicky Miller, Ella Miller and Esme McLennan. Other notable members included Walter Cornock, Harry Little, Jim Gaffney, Kathleen Mack and Rita Webb. Between 1915 and 1916 the newly formed No 1 company (with Jim Gerald and Essie Jennings) also included a version *Bo-Peep* to support their feature pantomime, *Mother Goose*.

The music for the songs and dances was performed by a small orchestra which toured with each company. One of the songs originally written for the pantomime, "It's Cheap at Half the Price" (sung by Drysdale and Francis), included topical hits at the new State Labor government - "when we double their screw, what a lot they'll do" (*Sydney Morning Herald* 26 Dec. 1910, 3). Songs incorporated into the 1914 productions included "Oh! The Sea," "I'm Little Bo-Peep" (Webb), "Down a Shady Lane" (Mack and Webb), "On the Farm," "Pearl of Persia" (Terry) "Throwing Myself Away," "I'm the Shah, Tarantara" (Cornock), "My Bo-Peep" (Mack), "Arcadia," "The Fowls in the Farmyard," "Lotus Land," "How Are You?" and "Little Miss Turpentine."

Northern Miner (Charters Towers) 19 June (1911), 1.

In 1926 McKay toured a pantomime and operatic company around New Zealand and Australia, with *Bo-Peep* as one of the productions. On 25 October it had the honour of being the first pantomime ever to be staged in Canberra - with this occurring at the city's Causeway Hall.

While exact production dates for *Bo-Peep* are difficult to identify during most of the years below, it was certainly the feature production toured by McKay's Pantomime Moving Theatre Company between 1910 and 1911 (and also during the 1913-14 New Zealand tour). In this respect it generally opened each season. Between 1912 and 1916 it appears to have been included as a support production after several new pantomimes were introduced. All other dates are approximate, and generally align with the established season dates. For a more extensive and inclusive inventory of engagements see the entry for [Stanley McKay's Royal Pantomime Company](#)].

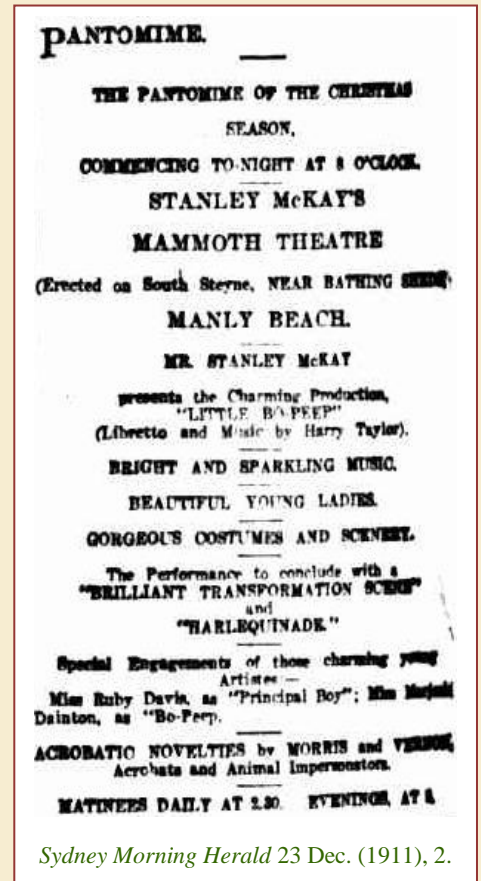
NB 1: The *AusStage* website incorrectly records that J. C. Williamson was the producer of the Wellington (NZ) season beginning 16 October 1913. No contemporary reports have yet been found which suggest any involvement in the staging of *Bo-Peep* by that firm. Whenever the production aspects are mentioned during the 1913-14 tour only the names George Stephenson and Alf Linley are mentioned. The *AusStage* information appears to have come from the National Library of Australia's [J.C. Williamson Pantomime Program collection](#). However, Wellington's *Evening Post* newspaper records in its 11 October 1913 edition that the J. C. Williamson Opera House season was to end three nights later (on Monday 13 October), with Stephenson and Linley's Royal Pantomime Company to follow at the same theatre on the 16th (3). While it is possible that Williamson's had the lease of the theatre and sub-let it out to Stephenson and Linley, such an arrangement would have negated production credits. This is especially the case with the *Bo-Peep* company, which undertook the New Zealand tour under the management of Stephenson and Linley in association with McKay.

NB 2: The *LBP* abbreviation is used below to indicate known productions dates for *Bo-Peep*. All other dates identify only the start and/or length of seasons (where known). These may or may not have included performances of *Bo-Peep*. Other productions may have included *OMH* (*Old Mother Hubbard*).

- 1910:** New South Wales regional tour; 14 Nov. - [premiere: 14 Nov. Mudgee]
 - **Prod/Dir.** Stanley McKay; **S Art.** Harry Whaite; **Cost.** Zenda.
 - **Troupe:** Stanley McKay Pantomime Company.
 - **Cast** incl. Richard Hardy, Lizzie Jamieson, Dot Ireland, Ruby Davies, Vicky Miller.
 - Tour itinerary incl. Mudgee (14 Nov., premiere) • Gilgandra (late Nov.) • Dubbo (Wingewarra St, next to James' Hotel; 2 Dec. - *) • Bathurst (ca. Dec.)
- 1910:** Exhibition Building, Sydney; 24 Dec. 1910 - 7 Jan. 1911
 - **Prod/Dir.** Stanley McKay; **S Art.** Harry Whaite; **B Mngr.** Walter V. Hobbs; **Cost.** Zenda.
 - **Troupe:** Stanley McKay Pantomime Company.
 - **Cast** incl. Bruce Drysdale (Belinda Pumpkin), Phyllis Faye (Dinazaidee), Vicky Miller (Bo Peep), Ruby Davies (Jack Straw), Dot Ireland (Simple Simon), Ailsa Sherbrooke (Syb), James Kay (Fly-By-Night), Edith Gershon (Hag O' Dale), Marie Andrews (Will O' the Wisp), Fred Francis (Camaralzman, aka The Shah of Cashmere), Ella Miller (Hassan), Esme McLennan (Naurati), Lillia Adams (Star-O-Night), Rosie Davidson (Moonshine), Olga Partridge (Break-O' Dawn), Norma Godfrey (Rising Sun), Ethel Melbourne (Mountain Mist), Millie Dawson (Rainbow), The Kreutz Brothers (Carl and Gustav).
- 1911:** New South Wales regional tour; ca. Jan. - May.
 - **Troupe:** Stanley McKay Pantomime Moving Theatre.
 - Cast and production mostly as for previous Sydney season.
 - Tour itinerary incl. Singleton (next to Imperial Hotel; 23-24 Jan.) • Lismore (9-11 May > *LBP* 9-11) • Grafton (Market Square; 15 May - *)
- 1911:** Queensland regional tour; ca. June-Aug.
 - **Dir.** Stanley McKay; **Prod.** Stanley McKay in assoc. with Harry Clay; **B Mngr.** Jimmy Boyle; **T Mngr.** Walter V. Hobbs; **S Art.** Harry Whaite; **Cost.** Zenda.

- **Troupe:** Stanley McKay Pantomime Moving Theatre.
- Cast and production mostly as for previous Sydney season. Changes included: Esmee McLennon (Jack Straw), Lily Harvey (Simple Simon) and James Kay (the Shah). Cast members not identified with the Sydney season were Edith Kays-Price, Daisy Nash, R. Orton.
- Tour incl. Charters Towers (cnr. Mary and Mosman Sts; 19-24 June) • Townsville (no details)¹ • Cairns (cnr. Abbott and Shields Sts; 10-15 July) • Chillagoe (no details) • Irvinebank (no details) • Mackay (Wood St, near Post Office; 2-5 Aug.)

- 1911:** New South Wales regional tour; ca. Aug. - Dec.
 - **Dir/Prod.** Stanley McKay.
 - **Troupe:** Stanley McKay Pantomime Company.
 - Cast and production mostly as for previous Queensland tour.
 - This tour began in the Riverina after the company travelled directly from the North Queensland town of Mackay (a distance of 1600 miles).
 - Itinerary incl. Wagga (21 Aug. - *)
- 1911:** South Steyne, Manly (NSW); 23 Dec. - ca. Jan.
 - **Dir/Prod.** Stanley McKay.
 - **Troupe:** Stanley McKay Pantomime Company.
 - Cast and production mostly as for previous Queensland tour.
- 1912:** New South Wales regional tour; ca. Mar. - May.
 - **Dir/Prod.** Stanley McKay.
 - **Troupe:** Stanley McKay Pantomime Company.
 - Cast and production mostly as for previous Manly season.
 - Tour incl. Liverpool (Easter Encampment; 9 Apr. - *) • Grafton (Market Reserve; 6 May -) • Lismore (next to Moylan's Hotel; 18 May - *)
- 1912:** Queensland regional tour; ca. June - Aug.
 - **Dir/Prod.** Stanley McKay.
 - **Troupe:** Stanley McKay Pantomime Company.
 - Cast and production mostly as for previous NSW tour.
 - Tour incl. Rockhampton (Alley's Paddock; 1-8 June) • Nambour (Alhambra Hall; 26-27 June - *OMH*)
- 1912:** New South Wales regional/metropolitan tour; ca. Aug.
 - **Dir/Prod.** Stanley McKay.
 - **Troupe:** Stanley McKay Pantomime Company.
 - Cast and production mostly as for previous NSW tour.
 - Tour incl. Wagga (22 Aug. - *) • Queanbeyan (opposite Commercial Bank, 22-23 Oct.) • Lismore (Festival Building; 5-7 Nov. - * > *LBP* 6 Nov.) • (South Steyne, Manly; 23-31 Dec.).
- 1913:** New South Wales regional/metropolitan tour; 1 Jan. - Sept.
 - **Dir/Prod.** Stanley McKay.
 - **Troupe:** Stanley McKay's Royal Pantomime Company.
 - Cast and production mostly as for previous NSW tour.
 - Tour incl. Manly (South Steyne; 1 Jan. - *) • Parramatta (Bennington's Theatre; ca. 7 June - *) • Grafton (Market Square; ca. July).
- 1913:** New Zealand Dominion tour (ca. Oct. - Dec.).
 - **Prod.** George Stephenson and Alf Linley (in association with Stanley McKay)
 - **Troupe:** Royal Pantomime Company.
 - Cast incl. Kathleen Mack (Jack Straw), Rita Webb (Bo-Peep), Bruce Drysdale (Widow Pumpkin), Cora Terry (Princess Dinazadice), Esmé McLellan (Grand Vizier), Walter Cornock (The Shah).
 - Itinerary incl. Wellington (Opera House; 16 Oct. - * > *LBP* 16 Oct.) • Hastings (ca. Oct.) • Gisborne (Opera House; 25 Oct. - * > *LBP* 25, 27 Oct.) • Hawera (ca. 10 Nov.) • Wanganui (Municipal Opera House; 19-22 Nov. > *LBP* 19-20 Nov.) • Christchurch (27 Nov. - *) • Ashburton (Theatre Royal; 23 Dec. - * > *LBP* 23 Dec.).
- NB:** The *Evening Post* (Wellington) records that the company travelled to the South Island in late November after a most successful and prosperous time in the North Island towns" (29 Nov. 1913, 11).
- 1914:** New Zealand Dominion tour; 1 Jan. - 13 Mar.
 - **Prod.** George Stephenson and Alf Linley (in association with Stanley McKay)
 - **Troupe:** Royal Pantomime Company.
 - Cast and production mostly as for 1913 engagements.
 - Tour itinerary incl. Picton (17 Jan.) • Blenheim (19-21 Jan.) • Auckland (His Majesty's; 24 Jan. - 2 Feb.) • Whangarei (Town Hall; 3-4 Feb.) • Thames (King's Theatre; 5-6 Feb. > *LBP* 5 Feb.) • Lower Hutt (King George Th; 12 Mar. > *LBP*).
- NB:** The Lower Hutt engagement was the first ever professional production to be staged in the town. The company departed New Zealand for Australia the following day.
- NB:** McKay's newly formed No 1 Pantomime Company began its operations around March/April 1914, touring through NSW until August. No reports of *Bo-Peep* being staged during that tour have been located to date.



¹ See *Daily Mercury* (Mackay) 2 Aug. (1911), 8.

- 1914:** Regional Victorian tour; ca. Sept - Dec.
 - **Troupe:** Stanley McKay No 1 Pantomime Company.
 - **Cast** incl. Jim Gerald (Widow Bumpkin), Essie Jennings (Jack Straw), Rosie Coleman (Bo-Peep), Carmen Coleman (Simple Simon), Richard Dunbar, Rupert Green (Fly-by-Night), Ruby Raymond (Queen of the Fairies), Will Rayner (Shar of Cashmere), Maie Lloyd (The Shar's Sister), Annie Lillimund (Vizier), Leslie Hocking (Bull Finch), Jessie and Dolly Miller, Herman and Shirley.
 - Victorian tour incl. Wangarata (cnr. Reid and Ovens streets; 14 Sept. - *) • Beechworth (3-5 Oct.) • Euroa (12-14 Oct. > *LBP* 14 Oct.) • Shepparton (behind Post Office; 26-27 Oct. > *LBP* 27 Oct.).
- NB:** While it is still unclear when Jim Gerald took over the role of director/stage director, this most likely occurred by the time the company arrived in Melbourne in late 1914.
- 1914:** Melbourne suburban tour; 2 Nov. - 31 Dec.
 - **Troupe:** Stanley McKay No 1 Pantomime Company.
 - Cast and production mostly as for previous Victorian tour.
 - Tour itinerary incl. St Kilda (Lyric Theatre; 2 Nov. - * > *LBP* 7-13 Nov.) • Brunswick (Stadium Grounds; 21 Nov. - *) • Footscray (Barkley Th; 26-31 Dec. > *LBP*).
- NB:** The company's whereabouts between 19 and 25 December have not yet been established (the Barkely Theatre presented a vaudeville programme for that week).
- 1915:** Melbourne suburban tour; 1 Jan. - ca. Apr.
 - **Troupe:** Stanley McKay No 1 Pantomime Company.
 - Cast and production mostly as for previous Victorian tour.
 - Tour incl. Prahan (Empress Theatre, Melb; 2 Jan. - * > *LBP* 9-15 Jan.) • (Barkley Theatre, Footscray, Melb; 16-22 Jan.) • (Bijou Theatre, Melb; 13-31 Mar. - > *LBP* 13-26 Mar.).
- NB:** It is unclear when McKay and the Fullers began their joint association. This would have certainly started by the time the company played the Bijou Theatre and continued through until the 1915 season in Auckland, New Zealand. Whether the New South Wales of Victorian tours were joint productions is yet to be ascertained.
- 1915:** Crystal Theatre, Broken Hill (NSW); 3-9 Apr.
 - **Dir.** Jim Gerald; **Prod.** Stanley McKay in association with Fullers Theatres.
 - **Troupe:** Stanley McKay No 1 Pantomime Company.
 - Cast and production mostly as for previous Melbourne season.
- 1915:** King's Theatre, Adelaide; 8-14 May
 - **Troupe:** Stanley McKay No 1 Pantomime Company.
 - Cast and production mostly as for previous Melbourne season.
 - The Adelaide season ran from 1-21 May.
- 1915:** Tasmanian regional/metropolitan tour; ca. Apr. - June.
 - **Prod.** Stanley McKay.
 - **Troupe:** Stanley McKay No 2 Pantomime Company.
 - Cast incl. Phyllis Faye (Jack Straw), Bruce Drysdale, Dora Lyell, Eileen Jacoby, Harry McDonna, Larry Hertz.
 - The *Examiner* records that the company played the West and North-West Coast circuit prior to its (return) season in Launceston.
 - Production dates incl. Hobart (Theatre Royal; 3 Apr. -) • Launceston (ca. 20 Apr.) • Launceston (Albert Hall; 22 May).
- 1915:** Melrose Theatre, Perth; 29 May - *
 - **Troupe:** Stanley McKay No 1 Pantomime Company.
 - Cast and production mostly as for previous Melbourne season.
- 1915:** Western Australian goldfields tour; ca. June-July.
 - **Troupe:** Stanley McKay No 1 Pantomime Company.
 - Cast and production mostly as for previous Melbourne season.
 - Tour incl. Boulder (Town Hall; 12 July - *) • Kalgoorlie (Town Hall; 15 July - *).
- 1915:** New South Wales regional tour; ca. July-Aug.
 - **Prod.** Stanley McKay in association with Fullers' Theatres Ltd.
 - **Troupe:** Stanley McKay No 2 Pantomime Company.
 - **Cast** incl. Bruce Drysdale, Phyllis Faye, Harry McDonna, Ivy Marsden, Marjorie Ivy, The Fontenoy Girls, Florrie Horan, The Three Greshams.
 - Tour incl. Grafton (Market Square; 15 July - *) • Dubbo (Empire Theatre; 31 July -*).
- 1915:** Queensland regional tour ca. Aug - Oct.
 - **Prod.** Stanley McKay in assoc. with Fullers' Theatres Ltd and Birch and Carroll (and Coyle).
 - **Troupe:** Stanley McKay No 2 Pantomime Company.
 - **Cast** incl. Bruce Drysdale, Phyllis Faye, Harry McDonna, Ivy Marsden, Marjorie Ivy, The Fontenoy Girls, Florrie Horan, The Three Greshams.
 - Tour included: Townsville (Theatre Royal; 23 Aug. - *) • Charters Towers (Theatre Royal; 30 Aug. - 4 Sept. * *LBP* 3) • Longreach (Theatre Royal No 2; 13-16 Sept.) • Barcardine (Shire Hall; 17-18, 22 Sept.) • Aramac (20-21 Sept) • Blackall (22-23 Sept.) • Longreach (return season; Gaiety Theatre; 24-28 Sept.).
 - Other productions staged during this tour included *Mother Goose*, *Cinderella* and *Fun on the Bristol*.
- 1915:** Princess Theatre, Sydney; 14 August - * [*LPB* 28 Aug. -]



Phyllis Faye
Morning Bulletin 30 May
 (1936), 5.

- **Dir.** Stanley McKay; **Prod.** Stanley McKay in assoc. with Fullers' Theatres Ltd.
- **Troupe:** Stanley McKay No 1 Pantomime Company.
- **Cast** incl. Jim Gerald, Essie Jennings, Ruby Raymond, Will Raynor, Rosie and Carmen Coleman, William Speed
- Other productions incl. *Mother Goose* and *Old Mother Hubbard*.

1915: Victoria Theatre, Newcastle (NSW); ca. Sept.

- **Dir.** Stanley McKay; **Prod.** Stanley McKay in assoc. with Fullers' Theatres Ltd.
- **Troupe:** Stanley McKay No 1 Pantomime Company.
- Cast and production mostly as for Princess Theatres season.

NB: The No 1 Pantomime Company undertook a tour of New Zealand between Oct 1915 and March 1916. No productions of *Bo-Peep* have yet been located during that tour.

1916: Bridge Theatre, Newtown (Sydney); 8-14 Jan.

- **Dir.** Stanley McKay; **Prod.** Stanley McKay in association with Harry Clay; **S Art.** Alec. Stagpoole; **S Mngr.** Ted Gabriel.
- **Troupe:** Stanley McKay's No 2 Pantomime Company.
- **Cast** incl. Bruce Drysdale, Phyllis Faye, Harry Little, Daphne Leigh, Jack West, the Greshams, the Fontenoyes.
- Other productions included *Old Mother Hubbard* (26 Dec. 1915) and *Mother Goose* (1 Jan. 1916).

NB: The No 2 Company is also recorded as having played a season at the Star Theatre, Parramatta beginning 22 January.

1916: Theatre Royal, Brisbane; 12 Mar. [1 pfm only. *Bo-Peep* (billed as *Little Bo-Peep*)]

- **Dir.** Percy St John; **Prod.** Stanley McKay in association with Holland and St John/Fullers; **S Art.** Ray Phillips.
- **Troupe:** Royal Pantomime Company (aka Stanley McKay's No 2 Pantomime Company).
- **Cast** incl. Bruce Drysdale, Phyllis Faye, Harry Little, Esme McLellan, Jim Gaffney, Maud Shipp, Anita Cohen, Willie McDonald, Maisie Green, Constance Wallis, Miss Ray Barnard, Janet Hopkins, Ethel Wilson, Nellie Hall, Eva Morris, Bessie Utting, Dora Tate, Marjorie Ford, Aileen Wills, Jessica French, Anna Collins, The Fontenoyes (singers), Mdlle Beebe (continental danseuse), Phil Levarto (magician).
- The Royal Pantomime Company's Brisbane season also included *Old Mother Hubbard* (beginning 5 Mar.) and *Mother Goose* (beginning 13 Mar.).

NB: Stanley McKay closed down his operations in 1916 to join the war effort. He restarted touring sometime around 1919/1920.

1922: New Zealand Dominion tour; ca. Jan. - June

- **Dir/Prod.** Stanley McKay
- **Troupe:** Stanley Pantomime Company.
- **Cast** incl. Lulla Fanning, George Harpur, Ethel Osborne.
- Itinerary incl. Hawara (Opera House; 1-2 Feb.) • Whangarei (Town Hall, 26 June -)
- Repertoire incl. *Bo-Peep*, *Old Mother Hubbard*.

1922: Sydney suburban tour; 23 Dec. - ca. Jan. 1923

- **Dir/Prod.** Stanley McKay.
- **Cast** incl. Bert Desmond (Pansy Hubbard), Lulla Fanning (Robin), Mattie Jansen (Bluebell), Ethel Osborne (Fairy Queen).
- Itinerary incl. Strand Theatre (Leichhardt, Syd); 23-28 Dec.
- Repertoire incl. *Bo-Peep*, *Old Mother Hubbard* and *Bluebeard*.

1923: New South Wales regional tour; Jan. - ca. May

- **Dir/Prod.** Stanley McKay.
- **Troupe:** Stanley McKay Pantomime Co.
- **Cast** incl. Will Raynor, Rosie Brennan, Vera Walton, Laurie Leod, Germaine Cassier, Richard Dunbar, Jack Dwyer, Arthur Meredith, Eileen Madigan, Splash and Splosh, Musical Blanchards, Clivall's Dog, Pony and Monkey Circus
- Itinerary incl. Guyra, Tenterfield, Glen Innes, Quirindi, Tamworth, Lismore (Federal Hall; 16 Apr. > *LBP*) • Casino (S of A; 18 May) • Bangalow (19 May) • (Byron Bay (22 May -)
- Productions staged incl. *Bo-Peep*, *Aladdin* and *Old Mother Hubbard*.
- The company made two return visits to Lismore (27-28 Apr. and 12 May) but did not present *Bo-Peep* on either occasion.
- *Everyone's* reports in its 24 January issue that the NSW tour was to be co-produced by McKay and Alf. Coleman under the name the Aldwych Theatre Co. No reports relating to that company or of Coleman's involvement have yet been found during the Northern Rivers leg. It is also unclear if the revue, *Around the World* (also mentioned in the *Everyone's*), was ever staged.

STRAND THEATRE.

Direction: Strand (Edout Pictures, Manager A. E. CARRELL

THE LAUGHING SEASON HAS COMMENCED:
HA! HA! HE! HE! HO! HO!

STANLEY MCKAY'S
BRILLIANT METROPOLITAN COMPANY.

Presents for the first time in Rockhampton the Charming Chinese Pantomime—

"ALADDIN."
OR—"THE SLAVE OF THE LAMP"

Absolutely the most gorgeously staged Pantomime ever
city.

(200) MAGNIFICENT COSTUMES (200)
(Direct from the Leading Costumiers, Sydney).
BEAUTIFUL SCENERY.

Specially painted by Robert Vaughan, Sydney, and the play interpreted by the following talented Cast:—"Aladdin" (Vera Walton), "Princess Lilli Pili" (Laurie McLeod), "Keremese, Slave of the Lamp" (Germaine Cassier), "Abanazar, the Fictitious Uncle (Will Raynor), "Emperor Ping Pong" (Richard Dunbar), "Widow Twanki" (Jack Dwyer), "Silly Billy" (Arthur Meredith), "Pekoe" (Muriel Green), Supported by—

A CHARMING BALLET AND CHORUS AND THE EXQUISITE EIGHT.

Will Raynor (the Golden-voiced Tenor) will sing "Will O' the Wisp" and "An Irishman's Dream." Rosie Brennan (the brilliant Soprano) will sing Gems from her Repertoire, and Laurie McLeod will perform "DANSE CLASSIQUE."

**THE MUSICAL BLANCHARDS—(direct from Tivoli Theatre, Sydney).
CLIVALL'S DOG, PONY, AND MONKEY CIRCUS.**

Hear the Fascinating Maori Song Scene "Canoeing on the Wanganui!"

THIS PANTOMIME IS THE STAR ATTRACTION IN THE CITY TO-NIGHT.

PRICES: 4/-, 3/-, 2/-, and 1/- (plus tax). Book your seat, at Munro's.

MATINEE — WEDNESDAY, AFTERNOON.
"LITTLE BO PEEP."

Morning Bulletin 18 June (1923), 2.

1923: Queensland regional tour; ca. June-July

- **Dir/Prod.** Stanley McKay
- **Troupe:** Stanley McKay's Pantomime Company (aka Stanley McKay's Brilliant Metropolitan Co).
- Cast and production mostly as for previous NSW tour.
- Itinerary incl. Rockhampton (Strand Theatre; 18 June - * > *LBP* 20 June)
- Repertoire incl. *Bo-Peep* and *Aladdin*.

- 1923:** New South Wales regional tour; ca. Aug.-Dec.
 - **Dir/Prod.** Stanley McKay.
 - **Troupe:** Stanley McKay's Pantomime Company (aka Stanley McKay's Brilliant Metropolitan Co).
 - Cast and production mostly as for previous NSW and Queensland tours.
 - Itinerary incl. Dubbo (Empire Hall; 7-8 Aug.) • Lismore (Howell's Paddock, Woodlark St; 20 Nov. -)
 - Repertoire incl. *Bo-Peep*, *Aladdin*, *Old Mother Hubbard* and *Babes in the Wood*.
 - The company made a return visit to Lismore on 8 December but did not present *Bo-Peep*.
- 1926:** New South Wales regional tour; ca. July-Dec.
 - **Dir.** Walter George; **Prod.** Stanley McKay.
 - **Troupe:** Stanley McKay's Pantomime and Opera Company.
 - **Cast** incl. Ruth Bucknall, Laurie McLeod, Frank Perry, Walter George, Ernest Barraclough, Maud Stewart, S. Meredith and the Eleven Wonders.
 - Itinerary incl. Narrandra (ca. Oct.) • Goulburn (19-21 Oct.) • Queanbeyan (22-23 Oct.) • Canberra (25-26 Oct.)
- **NB:** Ruby Raymond's Christian name is sometimes spelled Rubee.

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 "**Bo-Peep Pantomime.**" *Daily Mercury* (Mackay) 2 Aug. (1911), 8.
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 "**Bo-Peep Pantomime.**" *Northern Miner* (Charters Towers) 19 June (1911), 4.
 "**Bo-Peep Pantomime.**" *Northern Miner* (Charters Towers) 20 June (1911), 3.
 "**Bo-Peep Pantomime.**" *Press* (Christchurch, NZ) 22 Nov. (1913), 16.
Everyone's 24 Jan. (1923), 33.
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 "**Entertainments: Bo Peep.**" *Dominion* (Wellington, NZ) 13 Oct. (1913), 9.
 "**Entertainments: Bo-Peep Tonight.**" *Evening Post* (Wellington, NZ) 16 Oct. (1913), 3.
 "**Little Bo-Peep.**" *Ashburton Guardian* (NZ) 24 Dec. (1913), 3.
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 "**Little Bo-Peep Pantomime.**" *Poverty Bay Herald* (Gisborne, NZ) 22 Oct. (1913), 4.
 "**Little Bo-Peep: Pantomime at the King's Theatre.**" *Mail* (Adelaide) 8 May (1915), 18.
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 McKay, Stanley. "What about the Rabbits?" *Theatre Magazine* Sept. (1916), 41-43.
 "**Pantomime: Bo-Peep, The.**" *Cairns Post* 11 July (1911), 8.
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Expanded and updated from Clay Djubal, "What Oh Tonight" (Appendix C), Ph D Diss (2005) U of Qld.

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