

# To Christen Wilkes Theater Tonight



Elsie Margaret Snyder, winner of the Ernest Wilkes Stock company's beauty contest.

**T**O little Miss Elsie Margaret Snyder, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bismarck Snyder, 621 First avenue, has come the title of "the prettiest little girl in Salt Lake," and also the honor of christening the new Wilkes theater at its formal opening tonight. Miss Elsie received the unanimous decision of the judges in the beauty contest conducted last week by the Ernest Wilkes Stock company.

The city editors of the four Salt Lake dailies acted as judges and all declared it no easy matter to decide the contest. In winning first place, they said, Elsie may consider herself highly honored, for "every contestant was pretty enough to christen anything." They all regretted that they could not see the little girls in person, as they doubted in several instances whether the pictures really did justice to the originals.

Miss Elsie will be the principal figure in the ceremony tonight. She will be presented to the audience just before the rise of the curtain on the first act, and then will break a bottle of champagne and bestow upon the theater its new name.

The new home of the Ernest Wilkes Stock company was originally built for the Orpheum circuit, but of late years has been known as the Utah. It is located on State street, just south of First South. Manager John M. Cook said the change from the Empress would be accomplished without a hitch today, as everything is in readiness. The house has been thoroughly renovated and several improvements made for the comfort of patrons. One of these is the rearranging of the balcony seats so as to give more "knee room" between the rows.

The opening day at the Wilkes is "Between the Lines," by Earl Derr Biggers. It is based on the present war, with the scene laid at Gibraltar.