

CURTISS THEATRE

THIS SATURDAY JUNE 30th

Beautiful Dorothy Gish

in her recent success
"THE LITTLE YANK"

A Civil War Picture with a punch.

She's a real live girl and she took a thrilling part in the struggle between North and South. She was a border girl torn between loyalty to the Union and love for a Southern officer. Its the different story of the Civil War exciting and appealing; on the same bill

A FUNNY KEYSTONE COMEDY

and Curtiss Vaudeville including

Beauclaire & Roberts singing DeLuxe and others

SPECIAL! 4th of July Show at the Curtiss.

Matinee 2:30. Seats 10 & 15c. Night all seats 15c

We are pleased to announce that we have booked for the 4th the big picture **"LIBERTINE"** featuring John Mason and Alma Hanlon and a Special Vaudeville Entertainment.

NEW CURTISS THEATRE Downers Grove

THIS TUESDAY, JULY 3rd

A BIG THRILLING RAILROAD DRAMA

"MEDICINE BEND"

Featuring the ever popular star **HELEN HOLMES**

This is a picture which will appeal to you; Nature provides the scenery and Helen Holmes at the throttle.

ON THE SAME BILL

BEAUTIFUL MRS. VERNON CASTLE—in her success **"PATRIA,"** also Patriotic Community singing and Curtiss Vaudeville Tuesday

WHITE & HARRIS the Hot Dog Colored entertainers. They make you forget your troubles, and

BROWN & CARBONET Australian singers of Merit.

DON'T FORGET!

Wednesday matinee and night **Libertine** and on Thursday, July 5, **Charity** and the **Brookfield Local Talent C. B. & Q. 4.** Part of receipts go to Downers Grove Red Cross. Every Man, Woman and Child in the Grove should see this wonderful show Thursday, all seats 10 and 15 cents.

CURTISS THEATRE, WEDNESDAY, JULY 4th

MATINEE at 2:30

THE BIG HOLIDAY SHOW

NIGHT 7:15

CURTISS VAUDEVILLE—plenty of it and the big picture—LIBERTINE

You have all read or heard of this wonderful picture—New York Tribune says **Libertine** is one of the best pictures ever screened. Breathless attention from start to finish; it teaches a great moral lesson; it's amazing and sensational. Based on the old and true saying, Life is just what we make it. The play that has set the whole world thinking.

Tomorrow, Thursday, July 5th—**Charity**, a great picture, and **C. B. & Q. Local Talent 4.** Benefit for Downers Grove Red Cross, seats 10 and 15c.

New Curtiss Theatre, Downers Grove, this Thursday, July 5.

Today's the the day, if you haven't got 10 or 15c go borrow it for you are going to see a wonderful show for your money—the best we have yet had the pleasure of offering you. Part of proceeds on Thursday go to your Red Cross.

We take pleasure in announcing

"CHARITY"

by Mrs. David Wark Griffith

A wonderful play true to life. Mrs. Griffith appears in the play also

Creighton Hale and Sheldon Lewis.

Charity tells the story of Jimmie Flemming and his Mary, two children capable of the best human service under decent conditions.

In connection with Charity on Thursday we have several little tots from the

Brookfield Hip Hip Hooray Show

and **Master Kaiser,**

the Boy Wonder on the violin. A rare musical treat.

Don't forget to come early and get a good seat Thursday!

CHARITY?

Powerful Drama to be Presented at The Curtiss, Thursday, July 6th.

The plot that carries Mrs Griffith's heart-breaking story of child abuse, is one that cannot fail to hold the interest. Of course Jimmy has his romance begun in the sordid precincts of the orphan asylum, carried on thru the days of his regeneration and brot to fruition in his ultimate triumph over fate.

Jimmy in his New Yorkesek frock coat, with the natty topper on his handsome head, is a tremendous contrast to the dirty-faced boy of the squalid Bleeker street tenement in which locale he is first presented, but the transition is convincingly brought about. The little orphan girl, Jimmy's first love, emerges from her chrysalis of rags and makes her final bow as an exceedingly beautiful young woman, Fifth Avenue gowned. Veta Searle is the capable impersonator.

Sheldon Lewis, known as the "arch villain of the screen," and more especially for his fame as "The Clutching Hand" in "The Exploits of Elaine," is also to be remembered as the "Iron Claw" in the serial of that name.

In all these productions Lewis has fought hard and continuously against Creighton Hale, who figures as his son, Jimmy, in "Charity?" These two clever actors have been fighting friends in more than half a dozen screen productions.

Mrs. Griffith's best picture in her career in 1918 when she appeared in "An Adventurous Doll," the first picture ever produced for her by David Wark Griffith, whom she later married.

The keynote of the play is misuse of charity funds. Here, to begin with, is a topic that is engaging the attention of many thousands of public spirited men and women in all the large cities of the country. As the story of cowardly stealing from the mouths of defenseless babes, doomed to live under charity's banner during the formative years of their lives, "Charity?" is probably the most powerful blow struck in many years against the world's most despicable form of graft.

"Charity?" tells the story of Jimmy Fleming and his sister, Mary. These two children, capable of the best human service under decent conditions of development, become inmates of a graft-ridden, pseudo-public institution, in which scores of little girls and boys are slave driven by a conscienceless matron at the behest of a political slave superintendent, portrayed most admirably in this instance by John Dunn.

Jimmy, the handsome but ragged son of a drunken father, whose mother has died of neglect, strives to maintain his sister Mary and four little brothers and sisters, but fails. The

father, in an attack on his son, falls downstairs and is killed. The public charity agent sends all the young Flemings to the orphan's home.

Here they become the victims of a regime of dirty food, vermin infested beds, a prison discipline that has nothing to do with charity or decency; of beatings and bickerings and miseries that child nature cannot endure and survive. So Jimmy jumps the walls and runs away, determined to return later and rescue his sister and the little sweetheart he has met in the asylum. But Jimmy falls among evil companions, is falsely accused and sent to prison. Mary, after a weary apprenticeship, graduates as a scrub girl, and is turned loose to make a living alone in New York.

The district attorney, convinced of Jimmy's innocence, procures his release from prison. The lad studies law under the wing of his new protector and becomes a member of the bar. When, later, his sister is arraigned for alleged child murder, Jim defends her and secures her acquittal.

WILL NOT MARRY ON FRIDAY

Most Women Still Cling to This Old Superstition But French Girls Think That Day Fortunate.

There is no period in a woman's life that so completely changes her whole existence as marriage, and for that very reason she is apt to be more superstitious and fanciful at that time than at any other, and while superstitions are fast becoming a thing of the past there are few women who will not hesitate before making Friday their wedding day, says London Tit-Bits.

June and October have always been held as the most propitious months, a happy result being thought by some to be rendered certain if the ceremony is timed so as to take place at the full moon or when the sun and moon are in conjunction.

In Scotland the last day of the year is thought to be lucky and if the moon should happen to be full at any time when a wedding takes place the bride's cup of happiness is expected to be always full.

The good people of Perthshire who have had their bumps published at the end of one and are married at the beginning of another quarter of a year can expect nothing but good things.

The day of the week is also of great importance, Sunday being a great favorite in some parts of England and Scotland. And although an English lass would not marry on Friday, the French girls think the first Friday in the month particularly fortunate.

Military Organization of Jews.

The military organization of the Jews began with their departure from Egypt. Every man above twenty years old was a soldier. Each tribe formed a regiment with its own banner and its own leader. Their positions in the camp or on the march were accurately fixed.

THE RIGHT DIRECTION

Vivian Martin Is Featured in an Interesting Waif Story Issued Under the Morocco Banner.

There are good human touches in "The Right Direction." It is a waif story. Vivian Martin has the leading role, that of Polly Eccles, a child who starts out to push a baby buggy containing what is left of her household "goods" and her brother "Billy Boy," as well. It is a great little team. There is a fund of interest centering about the pair—trio it might be said. For we must not overlook Rags, a regular dog picked up by Polly early in her wanderings. There are, it is true, in the working out of the story, a number of coincidences, perhaps an unusual number, but they are well hooked up. The titles, too, are a feature, showing skill and literary ability.

There is realism in the first reel, where the father of Polly, home from a vacation of thirty days on the Island, throws a flatiron and snuffs out the flickering light in the eyes of a consumptive mother. It is a brutal phase of life, but it is true to life, nevertheless. It is then Polly sets out on her journey for California, but Billy Boy may be rescued from a bad line like that to which the mother and her son are subjected.

Colin Chase is Kirk Deems, the collector whose lines in L. F. so frequently cross those of Polly. Herbert Standing is his father, the owner of the big mine. Alven Holmsworth is Big Bill, the tramp who befriends Polly. Billy Mason, of pleasant memory, is the chum of Kirk. That is a cast speaking for itself.

Miss Martin fits the role of the child Polly. She has charm, naivete, Billy Boy, played by Baby Jack White, is a show in itself. It is a hard role he carries, but he carries it in such a manner as to win the heart and hold it. And thinking of Billy Boy, we come back to Rags.

There are unusual mining scenes, taken around a big California plant hundreds of miles from the studio. There are flashes of the miners descending the big runway; we see the men at work below ground, in the background of one of these figures "3400" standing out, presumably indicating the depth below the surface. There would have been no occasion for regret had more of the life far underground been shown. The picture is well staged, with striking contrasts in high and low life.

Will be shown at the Dicke Theatre Wednesday, July 4th.

BELL HAD EARLY STRUGGLES

Inventor of Telephone Experienced Common Fate of Pioneers in His Early Manhood.

Next to the reaping machine, which drove famine from the world, America's greatest gift to modern civilization has been the telephone. The name of its inventor, Dr. Alexander Graham Bell, will live down the ages after all but two or three present-day Americans have been forgotten.

Unlike most famous inventors, Doctor Bell did not spring from obscurity and poverty. His father was a scholar and scientist of note, and young Bell received a ripe education. But he did not escape the common fate of inventors and pioneers. His struggles with poverty came in early manhood instead of in boyhood. And they were struggles as trying and as protracted as fall to the lot of few men. At one time, while fighting to establish his ridiculed "toy" as an article of genuine use, he was reduced to the extremity of borrowing occasional half-dollars for a meal, sharing this lot with his dynamic colleague, Theodore N. Vail.

The world first learned of the telephone at the Centennial exposition at Philadelphia in 1876. On January 20 of that year a young college professor of Salem, Mass., Alexander Graham Bell, had executed specifications and a claim for an invention embodying an improvement in telegraphy, which in reality was a telephone, and on February 14 his application for the American patent was filed at Washington.

The first telephone message of which there is record was this: "Mr. Watson, come here, I want you." It was sent on March 10, 1876, by the inventor from the top floor of a Boston boarding house to a colleague, Thomas A. Watson, in a room below. Watson heard every word and rushed to apprise Bell of the fact. Almost 40 years later, on January 15, 1915, Doctor Bell sent this same message to Mr. Watson, only this time Bell was in New York and Watson in San Francisco.

Sparrows Eaten in England. Sparrows are often eaten by English country persons. They are captured easily in fine mesh nets stretched over the ground and baited with grain, or in nets hung at night around their roosting places in ricks, hedges and ivy-clad walls. Also, the ground can be baited and a crowd of feeding sparrows laid low with a gun, using fine shot for the purpose.

SHE HITS MAIL ORDER HOUSES

A mail order house at Peoria solicited the business of a woman in an Illinois town, who wrote the concern the following letter. It is a clear and logical argument for the support of local merchants. The letter follows:

"Referring to the subject of home loyalty which you call a bogie, held up by local merchants. You suggest that it would be better for me to send my money to mail order houses and keep the retailer's profit myself than to buy goods at home and let our home stores make the profit."

"Your essential premise is that you sell to me at the same price the local dealer pays at wholesale. That is a vital point which I am not ready to concede, except for the sake of argument.

"But assuming your premise to be correct, has it ever occurred to you what the consequence would be if myself and my neighbors should begin to send their money to the mail order houses, in order to keep the profit for themselves? Let us suppose that: M. husband dries in a store. Mrs. Smith's husband dries the department store.

Mrs. Brown's husband is cashier in the local bank.

Mrs. Jones's husband teaches in the village school.

Mrs. White's husband preaches in the village church.

And we all stop trading at home. Suppose all the women did the same? What is good for one is good for all. What would be the result?

First the stores would close up. My husband would lose his job. We would have to move—probably to some big city.

Mrs. Smith's husband would lose his job, and they would move away.

The stores being closed and local business suspended, the bank would be driven into liquidation and Mrs. Brown's husband would lose his job and move away.

All the families in town having been driven away, the school would of course close up and Mrs. Jones's husband would lose his place.

The church would die and Mrs. White's husband would be looking for a new pastorate.

And we women by organizing our soap clubs, and by distributing our mail order catalogues, have practically discharged our own husbands and separated us and our children from our bread and butter. The small town would be dead. We would have to go to the farm or to the big city to exist.

Of course I realize, as you also realize, that such a condition is not likely to come to pass—but this is not your fault. Your policy, if carried out to its logical end, would mean just this.

Would it help me to "save profits" at such cost?

Your claim that the prices quoted in your catalogs are the same as the local merchant pays at wholesale are not well founded.

Furthermore, I am inclined to believe from inquiries I have made that I could go to our home stores and by buying in \$10 lots, paying cash, and taking the goods home with me, I could save enough out of a \$10 order to duplicate the premiums you offer, considering the cost of shipping and delivery of goods from Peoria. Besides, I would be buying at home, save several weeks of delay and waiting, avoid the risk of loss and would know in advance by personal examination, just what I am getting.

Referring again to the matter of profits, let me say this: I do not know of any merchants in the small towns of Illinois who are making unreasonable amounts of money if appearances count for anything. These merchants live modestly and seem to practice the usual economies. Mail order houses on the other hand, are multi-millionaires the profits of their companies increasing by millions in each annual report.

Who is making the big profits? I ask you to give me the names of a few of these "wives of small merchants" who are acting as secretaries of soap clubs so I may write to them. You refuse to do so because you say they fear publicity.

You also say you have to ship out your goods in plain, unlabeled boxes and your letters in plain envelopes sealed and without printing.

Out here in Illinois we know exactly what that means. The Illinois city whiskey and beer houses send their advertising matter in plain sealed letters."

An Old Subscriber

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