

At the Movies

"THE SHERIFF'S SON"

To be shown at the Dicke Theatre on Thursday, May 22.

Royal Heaudry, the son of a Sheriff slain when Royal was an infant, has inherited from his mother pre-natal fear which he finds it hard to master. After the death of his father in New Mexico, Royal is sent to the east by Dave Dingwell, his father's friend, to be educated. While at college the young man refrains from becoming a member of the football team because of his fear of injury, and he never fought as the other boys do.

One day after his graduation as a lawyer, Royal gets word that Dingwell, his benefactor, has been made a prisoner by the Rutherford band of cattle rustlers who killed his father years before. His help to rid the country of these malefactors is solicited. His fear prompts him to refuse, but he finally announces his intention to aid the law-and-order movement and returns to New Mexico.

While riding in the country one day, Royal finds Beulah Rutherford who has been caught in a wolf trap. He rescues her and when he escorts her home he is amazed to learn her identity. His fear returns when the Rutherfords suspect his identity and order him from the ranch. Royal learns that Dingwell is a prisoner in the cellar of Jesse Tighe's home and meanwhile, Tighe orders that Royal be killed. Beulah hears of the plot and tries to warn Royal of his danger. Dan Meldrum, a former convict and associate of the Rutherfords, shoots Royal in the shoulder when he conceals himself in an outhouse and Royal is assisted to escape by Beulah. They return to the Tighe house and release Dingwell who makes Royal a partner in his cattle ranch. Now follows encounters with Meldrum and later with the Rutherford boys. Gradually Royal teaches himself to put down his inherited cowardice and gains control over himself and becomes known as a handy man ready to take care of himself.

The old order in Huerfano Park is passing. Law and order is coming and it is up to the old offenders to move. Dan Meldrum starts for the Mexican border. Beulah, out riding, steps off her horse and while gathering flowers slides into an old prospect hole. She does not return and the alarm is sounded, and her father, Brad Charleton and brothers scour the mountains for her. Dave and Royal join in the hunt. Royal becomes lost and wanders away from the searchers and as night comes on hears Beulah calling and rescues her from the prospect hole.

In the meantime, Meldrum has also found her and, out at the Rutherford, he will not release her. He leaves her in the pit but is afraid to harm her. Meldrum slouches away and then Royal comes up and gets her from the hole. He returns and waits for Meldrum and when the latter goes back to the prospect hole Royal forces him into the hole himself. Unable to get back to the ranch Royal and Beulah camp in the hills for the night. He confesses his cowardice and when she refuses it he tells her of his love for her.

Back to the ranch Hal Rutherford and Royal have it out about the killing of Royal's father. Rutherford tells the story and then informs Royal that Beulah is not his daughter but his niece and that Roy's father as sheriff killed his brother and Beulah's father. Nothing but the memory of brave men who misunderstood each other and the law, stand between them and the marriage of the two brings the law-and-right into Huerfano Park.

"OUT OF THE FOG"

At the Curtiss Theatre Saturday, May 17th. Special Matinee.

In a small New England fishing village lived Job Coffin, a man of few words and narrow religious tendencies. His only relative was his young sister, Faith, a beautiful girl beloved by all, but especially by a fisherman, Luke Allen. All the village knew of the romance, except Job Coffin—from him their love was kept secret.

One evening during a raging storm, the simple love story came to a dramatic termination. The anxious watchers on the beach saw the little fishing boats come safely into port one by one, but Luke's was not among them and later his lifeless body was cast upon the coast.

That night, alone with her brother, Faith confessed that Luke was her lover—that they were to have been married in the Spring. The fury of the stern man was terrible, and his vengeance paralyzing.

"From now on," he cried, "You shall be an outcast from your kind, you shall live outside the world, seeing no one and being seen by none."

True to his word he took the brook-enhearted girl to a lonely lighthouse in the Caribbean Sea—Ception Shoals. Here little Eve was born, a pledge to the grieving mother of Luke's love. Her happiness was short-lived, however, for Coffin denounced the child to be the result of a consummate sin and vowed that she should pay the penalty of solitude. Constant brooding over the fate of her child drove the young mother to suicide and little Eve was left alone with the embittered man.

Here she grew into beautiful girlhood—a child of nature and moods—a daughter of the mists and solitudes, her only friends the wheeling gulls, her music the swell of the open sea. Her uncle's word is kept—she never sees any human being but Coffin.

Toward dusk one evening a heavy fog rolls in from the sea—blotting out all objects and dimming the beams from the light in the tower.

Eve, dressed in her habitual costume—a ragged shirt and still more ragged pair of trousers, makes her way to the beach. Through the drifting fog she sees a vessel stranded on the treacherous shoals of "Ception light. It is the yacht "Driftwood." A small boat puts out for the shore and soon a young man is standing on the beach beside her. The sight of the weird little figure brings a smile to the young man's lips but to her he is a revelation—a heroic figure from out of the fog.

The young man, whose name is Philip Blake, explains to Eve's uncle that the widow of the first mate is aboard the yacht and is expecting the birth of a child. He asks permission to bring her to the lighthouse but is sternly refused.

Braving the wrath of her uncle, Eve brings the party ashore. The baby is born and a strong tie of friendship develops between the young mother and the girl—the latter for the first time in her life realizing that she also is a woman. This knowledge makes her feel with shame the grotesqueness of her boy's costume and she remembers that there are some old clothes belonging to her mother in the attic. These she puts in and the transformation is such that Philip is struck with amazement at the beauty of the girl.

His love springs into being and he finds that it is returned by Eve. Job Coffin vows to keep them apart. When the Driftwood sails, Philip promises Eve that he will return soon and marry her.

As the days go by and Philip does not return Job tells Eve that Philip is dead. Months later when she sees the Driftwood drop anchor off the island, he hastens to hide Eve. When Philip asks for her Job tells him that she is dead.

Broken-hearted Philip returns to the yacht and is about to sail when he sees two figures struggling in the light tower. Hurriedly going ashore he finds Eve in the embrace of Jim Smoot, the bullying mate of the yacht. Knocking the man down he rescues Eve and goes to demand an explanation from Job. The excitement has been too much for the old man and they find him dead at the foot of the stairs.

With nothing to hinder them Philip and Eve leave the island which has been so long a prison for the girl, and soon after a quiet wedding takes place in the little church in the village.

BOYS' CLUBS TEACH THRIFT AND INDUSTRY AND HELP TO MAKE PROGRESSIVE FARMERS



Club Members Learn More Than Principles of Agriculture.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Agricultural production is not the sum total of achievement by members of boys' clubs in the South. Those youngsters below the Mason-Dixon line raise good crops; also, they raise fine baby beavers and standard pigs. Their sheep are of accredited breeds; their poultry is of the better types; and the gardens they cultivate are model gardens, many of them yielding very worthwhile produce. In dollars and cents, the result of those boys' efforts annually amounts up to many thousands; in food supply it is of incalculable value to the 15 Southern states.

But this is only part of the story—a bare enumeration of some of the activities of these Southern lads. The other part is, or should be, more interesting, for it deals with intangible commodities—character, high ideals, educational aspirations, civic pride—evolved from and developed through the training received in boys' clubs. In its effort to strengthen the agricultural extension organization the United States department of agriculture cites some instances to show the benefits of the boys' club work in the South.

Bonds and Bank Accounts.

In Texas there are 1,000 boys receiving higher education—the direct result of club membership. There are 20,000 club boys in that state who bought Liberty bonds, War Savings and Thrift stamps. The same number belong to the Red Cross, and 2,000 have bank accounts. Members of the boys' clubs in Oklahoma, over 13,000, own war securities amounting to \$112,818. Their bank deposits total \$67,931.96. Also West Virginia has 1,500 club members who have bank accounts. Many own lands and several hundred are in colleges. Arkansas has a record of hundreds of former boys' club members who are in college, and what is more to their credit, paying their tuition with money earned from the sale of their agricultural products and prizes won in agricultural contests.

A number of the Southern clubs have developed college professors, instructors in agricultural schools—men who learned the scientific method of farming and gained their experience in boys' clubs. Many club members are in the military service. "We have hundreds of club members that are officers in the United States army," writes a Mississippi state agent. Nor have modern business methods been overlooked by these young husbands. In some of the states co-operative buying, selling and marketing is the regular practice of boys' club members, and the use of banking facilities, a common custom—the kind of banking, by the way, which the character and faculty of the borrowers form the major part of the security. In this connection the testimony of the president of a bank in Mississippi is corrobative. Says he: "So far as my information goes, there is not a single piece of bad paper in the state as a result of loans to club boys." These instances are taken at random.

The influence club boys exert upon their fathers and upon the farmers in their neighborhoods is very marked, state and county agents say. It is the kind of influence that, through practical demonstration, turns skeptics into converts; that makes progressive farmers out of "the old-way-is-good-enough-for-me" types.

Influence of the Clubs.

But extension agents are not the only ones who note these transformations. Men of affairs have observed them, and right ready are they to tell of civic improvements, better schools, more active churches, marked increase in the demand for better merchandise, new business enterprises, pride in the appearance of their buildings, home grounds, the family acres, and a higher type of community morale—all brought about by boys' clubs and community co-operation.

Increased production, stimulation in every line of agricultural endeavor for the immediate and continued prosperity of their section is one of the important functions of boys' club work in the South. This is being accomplished by instruction and demonstration in correct agricultural methods by the extension service of the United States department of agriculture and the state agricultural colleges. And it is being done in the only way possible—through the organized efforts of the very boys who are to develop into progressive farmers and become the substantial producers of the future. However, quite as important a function of this work is the all-around development of the boys themselves. Great stress is laid upon this. Through the agency of these boys' clubs, the members are taught habits of thrift and industry. They are shown the real value of high character, the advantages of education, the possibilities of leadership, the dignity of labor, the importance of co-operation in civic affairs and respect for others' rights. The creditable desire for independence, for land ownership and beauty and orderliness in land possessed is inculcated in them, that they may have the privilege of remaining upon the very soil that nurtured them and become important factors in their country's development.

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JOINTWORM IS MOST DESTRUCTIVE ENEMY

Pest Ranks Next to Hessian Fly in Eastern States.

Small Grub Lives in Stems of Wheat, Sucking Juices of Plant—May Be Controlled by Plowing Stubble Deeply.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The most destructive enemy of wheat, next to the Hessian fly, in the wheat states east of the Mississippi river and in part of Missouri is the wheat jointworm. It is a very small grub which lives in the stems of wheat, sucking the juices of the plant and causing a swelling in the stem. Although this insect is sometimes more serious than the Hessian fly, occasionally causing complete destruction, very little is done at present to control its depredations. The insect has a number of natural enemies, but these should not be relied upon. Fortunately the jointworm attacks only wheat, which fact suggests one of the most reliable control measures, that of substituting crops. In the southern part of the Eastern wheat belt the insect may be controlled by plowing wheat stubble deeply after harvest when this does not interfere with the growing of red clover and grass.

The egg from which the jointworm hatches is laid in the stem by an insect resembling a small black ant with wings. When a wheat plant first becomes infested no outward sign may appear. The presence of the worm can be detected when the plant is nearly mature, by examining the inside of the stem, usually just above the second or third joint from the ground. Sometimes the point of infestation is very noticeable, there being wart-

like swellings on the stem. Another very good indication is the presence in the field of a number of fallen or lodged plants.

The larvae of this insect remain in the old stubble until November or December, when about 90 per cent of them change to the pupa stage. In this form large numbers are winter-killed in the Northern states, but severe weather also kills their natural enemies. Without the assistance of numerous parasitic enemies of the jointworm, wheat growing in the Eastern states of necessity would have been abandoned or the growers forced to adopt effective control measures, say department specialists.

When fall plowing is practiced the stubble containing the pest is buried deeply, thus preventing the insect from emerging the following spring. Whenever this method is adopted the badly infested wheat should be cut high, so that the greater majority of the jointworms will be left on the field in the old stubble and may be turned under and destroyed. In southern Kentucky, Virginia, Tennessee and other Southern and Southeastern states where double-cropping systems are in general use, it is possible to plow under the stubble without interfering with the cropping system. Where this is not practicable, as is sometimes the case in the more Northern states, substitute crops, such as rye, barley or buckwheat should be grown on heavily infested areas.

BETTER ROADS IN LOUISIANA

State to Spend \$4,674,000 in Making Improvements and Maintenance During Year.

According to figures compiled in the office of the state highway engineer, \$4,674,000 will be spent on road improvement in Louisiana in 1919 in the constructing of 753 miles of highway and maintenance of 470 miles already completed.

THE GREATEST EDUCATIONAL EVENT OF THE YEAR

No other event of the year or of a decade has been more vitally related to the development of the public school system than the passage of the increased revenue bill known as the Hick's bill. The schools were fairly strangling for want of sufficient revenue to maintain themselves. The passage of this law gives a ray of hope in an otherwise clouded and dark sky. It allows the Boards of Education to increase the tax levy for school and building purposes from 2 to 4 per cent by a vote of the people of the school district. Perhaps there is no district in the state so much in need of this extra one per cent as is Downers Grove District No. 58. More than 100 districts voted favorably on this proposition on the third Saturday in April. Others will follow. Let us all get behind this proposition and help the local schools which are so much in need of funds to properly carry on the work of the schools.

Sincerely,
G. C. Butler, Supt.