

D.A.R. BETTER FILMS COMMITTEE REVIEW

"After Office Hours." Cast: Constance Bennett, Clark Gable, Stuart Erwin, Billie Burke. Thursday, April 30. An editor falls in love with a society girl who wants to be a reporter and uses her to gain the entrance to her set so that he can expose a scandal and solve a murder. Comedy touches. Adults.

"The Widow from Monte Carlo." Cast: Warren Williams, Dolores Del Rio, Louise Fazenda. Sunday, Monday, May 3, 4. An implausible story of the unconventional meeting of a young widow and a young English major and their hectic romance. A day spent at Margate and a costume party afford opportunity for comedy for Louise Fazenda and Herbert Mundin which is obviously used to cover up deficiencies in dialogue and ideas. Adults.

"A Tale of Two Cities." Cast: Ronald Colman, Elizabeth Allan, Edna May Oliver, Henry B. Walthall, H. B. Warren. Wednesday, Thursday, May 5, 6, 7. Once again Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer has transmitted to the screen a Dickens classic retaining, with authenticity, the story and maintaining throughout the beauty and interest of the original. A notable and capable cast serve as a fitting background for Ronald Colman's unforgettable portrayal of Sydney Carton. Finished, expert, realistic direction, very fine photography, sustained suspense. All add to the interest. Excellent for the family, but not for small children.

"Land of Promise" Depicts Jewish Life in Palestine. In the "Land of Promise" which is now in its Chicago premiere at McVicker's theatre, the dramatic story of the Jews recreating their national life in Palestine, is vividly depicted. The film ranges over the entire field of Jewish interests in the Holy Land. Pioneers, exiles and refugees, imbued with a nation-building spirit, are shown working shoulder to shoulder.

The German exiles, in particular, despite their sad plight, have thrown themselves into their new life with their customary tenacity. Many of them, physicians and professors in Germany, have completely shed their pasts and can now be seen as laborers, farmers, street cleaners and a thousand and one other occupations not at all compatible with their education and training.

In the excitement of building themselves a country, the Jews have not neglected their culture. This culture marches hand in hand with more material pursuits. There are scenes in the "Land of Promise" of the Hebrew university, a performance of Haydn's Oratorio in the natural setting of Mount Scopus in Jerusalem, modern dances of the pioneers sharply contrasted to the older oriental forms, a hundred other evidences that the Jews are creating a cultural, as well as economic society.

"The Land of Promise" received the International Motion Picture Award in Venice several months ago. It has been widely acclaimed all over Europe.

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"Here Comes Trouble!" Cast: Paul Kelly, Arline Judge, Mona Barrie. Friday, Saturday, May 1, 2. Jewel thieves and disguised "high-jackers" on shipboard. Excellently photographed. This film gives its comedy from the antics of a perennially drunken passenger and a much more attractive and intelligent monkey who solves the plot. Some good characterizations. Adults.

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I never heard of a home gardener who didn't want to grow roses... and yet I know lots of folks who think they can't. But roses are not hard to grow; you yourself can have them in your own garden... easily!

Think about your garden for a minute. Have you a spot that gets sunshine about six or seven hours a day? A spot that's protected somewhat from strong north and west winds? Then that's the place for your roses. And you can grow them there, if you'll just follow these simple rules.

First of all, consider the soil. Roses prefer a bit of clay, but that's not absolutely necessary. But it must be fairly well drained. Make this easy test: dig a hole about a foot and a half deep and fill it with water. If the water is gone within a reasonable time, drainage is satisfactory. If the water stands for a long time, you'd better dig down a couple of feet and put in a six-inch layer of gravel, or better, cinders.

Now, as to what varieties of roses you should try to grow, you'd better consult a reliable nurseryman in your own vicinity. Be sure he gives you hardy varieties; field-grown stock two years old is best.

You can plant roses either early in the fall or early in the spring, but I've had better luck with spring planting, myself. Only be sure it's really early—just as soon as the ground is workable and danger of frost is past. Dig holes plenty wide and deep enough to spread the roots out well. Cover the plants with soil to at least an inch above the first crotch, mix a complete plant food into the soil around them, and water them thoroughly.

Pruning is most important with roses. When planting them, take a sharp knife and remove all bruised or decayed roots. Then, when the roses are in the ground, cut out all but five or six canes, and cut those five or six back to about six inches long. Cuts should be made slantwise, just above a bud. You have to be ruthless about pruning roses; it's removing the unnecessary wood that gives you larger blossoms and more of them.

As a rule, established roses do better if you cut them way back every spring. One exception to this rule is bush roses, which only need to have some of the older wood thinned out. Rambler and climbing roses should be pruned in late summer, after they've finished blooming.

Caring for roses through the summer is no trick at all. Just cultivate them to keep weeds out, and when you water them give them a thorough soaking. Cut the flowers regularly, using a sloping cut. Don't take all the stem; leave about two inches.

About keeping roses alive through the winter... don't force them right up to the end of the season. Stop cultivating them and feeding them early in the fall, and don't water them so often. That way they'll slow down and become dormant before they freeze. Then cover them to keep them frozen. Alternate freezing and thawing is what kills roses—and other things, too!

One more thing you have to remember, if you're going to grow roses successfully. Roses are heavy feeders; they're constantly drawing quantities of food from the soil. Eleven different elements of food... and if even one of these eleven becomes exhausted, your roses will grow sickly, may even die. So be sure you feed them a complete plant food, one that supplies all of these vital elements in balanced proportions.

"Chalk Dust" Plays at The Great Northern. With its third production, "Chalk Dust," now on the boards at the Great Northern theater, Chicago's new repertory company—Theater Number One, Federal Unit—is well on its way towards its aim of supplying the need for a permanent professional theatre at popular prices.

Theater Number One is professional—critical comment on the productions thus far leave no doubt of that. Its price scale of fifteen to twenty-five cents, with reductions for clubs and other groups, certainly brings it well within the reach of the average individual. Their current production, "Chalk Dust," with its lively and thought-provoking story of a metropolitan high school, illustrates the ability of Theater Number One to handle the work of modern playwrights. The previous production, "Faust," showed similar proof of the ability to translate older dramatic values into modern terms, and the opening play, Ibsen's "An Enemy of the People," showed a restrained and sensitive appreciation of classical theater.

This unusual Chicago theatre venture, named thus oddly in recognition of its position as the first unit organized under the national Federal Theater, is under the direction of Theodore Viehman, noted director of Broadway and experimental theater productions. The Federal Theater is headed by Hallie Flanagan, of New York, with the well-known Chicagoan, Thomas A. Woods Stevens, as assistant administrator.

Theater Number One is a great deal more than a new professional repertory company," explains Director Viehman. "It might be described as a simultaneous experiment in three aspects of the theater—plays, play production and audiences.

In production we are following a modification of the continental repertory system, with emphasis on a finished ensemble rather than any starring personalities or performances. There is no question that this system in Europe and when

attempted in America has always resulted in the production of better actors and higher acting standards. "In the selection of plays," continued Mr. Viehman, "Theater Number One proposes to alternate great classics with new plays by known and unknown authors. We are particularly interested in new plays using experimental techniques."

Director Theodore Viehman is probably best known to Chicagoans for his productions of "A Comedy of Errors" and "Midsummer Night's Dream" at the Globe Theater at A Century of Progress. Among his recent achievements on the commercial stage are: "The Curtain Rises," with Jean Arthur; "Every Thursday," with Quennie Smith; and "Hedda Gabler," with Blanche Yurka.

Dedicate Doorway Sunday at St. Paul's. The dedication of a memorial doorway at St. Paul's Evangelical church, Deerfield, will take place on Sunday morning, May 3, at the 10:30 o'clock service, with Rev. F. G. Piepenbrock delivering the dedicatory service. The doorway is a memorial to the late William (Billy) Carl Ott, who willed a sum of \$500 for that purpose.

This service had been scheduled for last winter, but severe weather and illness caused its postponement. Mr. Ott has three sisters and a brother, who live in the village. They are Mrs. Charles Selig, Mrs. Fred Selig, Mrs. Bred Schwab, and John Ott Sr., who will be in attendance at this service.

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Christian Science Lectures To Be Given on Radio. A series of four electrical transcriptions presenting interesting facts about Christian Science will be radiocast on four successive Sunday afternoons beginning May 3, over Station WROK (1410 Kc—500 watts), Rockford, Illinois, from 4:00 to 4:15 o'clock. These transcriptions were prepared under the direction of the Christian Science Board of Directors of The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Massachusetts, and are presented under the auspices of the Christian Science Committee on Publication for Illinois.

The subject for May 3 is entitled "Questions and Answers on Christian Science." The subject for May 10 is entitled "An Interview with Walton Hubbard, M. D." The subject for May 17 is entitled "An Interview with Reverend Irving C. Tomlinson." The subject for May 24 is entitled "An Interview with Mr. Bliss Knapp."

HAROLD MOLTER, Committee on Publication for Illinois.

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Deerfield School Presents 3 Programs. The annual gymnasium festival of the Deerfield Grammar school will be held Friday evening, May 1, at 8 o'clock to which the community is invited. The Spring Music concert, under the direction of Miss Virginia Engels, will be held on Thursday and Friday evenings, May 7 and 8. Music pupils, orchestra and glee club are to appear in the recital, which will be an entirely different program on each evening. The fifth grade room, of which Miss Irene Evenson is teacher, will give an operetta on Friday evening May 15. Cast for "Aunt Drusilla's Garden." Aunt Drusilla—Constance Koebelin; Aunt Prudence—Laverne Krase; Nelda Alvenis, their niece—Rose Marie Barrett; Pat, the gardener, Frank Harris; Bob, leader of the gang—Jack Gayne; Tad, member of gang—Jerry McGuire; Tiny Little—Robert Blaine; Boy's chorus and Girl's chorus.

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