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"Sitting Pretty" Is A Rare And Rollicking Screen Treat

COMING TO THE POPULAR RICHMOND THEATRE NEXT MONDAY AND TUESDAY

In "Sitting Pretty" which will be snowing as the feature attraction next Monday and Tuesday at the Richmond Theatre, Richmond Hill, Twentieth Century-Fox has come p with a rare and rollicking screen treat that will have the local citizenry bursting at the seams with irrepressible mirth. Not since "Miracle on 34th Street" has there been a movie so delightfully original, so packed with powerful laughs, and flooded with such rich, human warmth.

Originality — fresh and scintillating — is the keynote of this hit; originality that doesn't take off on a flight of fantasy, but, instead, has its roots in a down-to-earth problem and its hilarious complications with which every family is familiar. That problem is the universal one of getting a reliable baby-sitter. You may have had luck with your baby-sitters, but imagine, if you can, suave, sophisticated Clifton Webb coming to your door and imperiously demanding to be shown to his room — insisting that he is the resident baby-sitter you advertised for. Robert Young and Maureen O'Hara's first impulse, of course, is to throw him out as a weird impostor. But you don't do that to the Belvedere — not Clifton Webb's Belvedere, at any rate. Belvedere stays, but not before he blandly informs the brow-beaten couple that (1) he's a genius, (2) he hates children, and (3) will have no trouble at all handling their three obstreperous offspring. All of which turns out to be true in a manner that will shatter your funny bone.

But that's only the beginning in the hilarious trials and tribulations of Harry and Tacey King. There are complications: in addition to being a startlingly efficient baby-sitter, Belvedere is also a man of mystery, keeping himself occupied behind his bolted door hours on end. Harry King is a jealous man, and having to go out of town on business and leave Tacey alone in the house with Belvedere makes him feel sort of funny. And then there's Mr. Appleton (Richard Haydn) — as snooty a snooty as ever gasped gossip over a backyard fence. Now the time bomb is set, and with every tick, the hilarity mounts higher and higher until it explodes in an uproarious climax that blasts the pyram and pompous community of Hummingbird Hill to smithereens, and will all but hurl you into the aisles with laughter. Certainly it was a stroke of sheer genius on the part of Director Walter Lang, Producer Samuel G. Engel and Scriptwriter F. Hugh Herbert (who must have visualized it in the first place) to cast Clifton Webb in the role of Belvedere, the baby-sitter. Webb has played the part to its hilarious hilt in just about the keenest comedy characterization you're likely to enjoy in a long time.

As a harassed Harry King, Robert Young once again displays his unusual flair for comedy with telling results. Maureen O'Hara as Tacey is utterly refreshing in a modern type of role such as that with which she scored so highly in "Miracle on 34th Street." Orchids are also in order to Richard Haydn, and to Louise Allbritton who plays Tacey's girl-friend, as well as

to Randy Stuart, Ed Begley, Larry Olsen, John Russell, Betty Ann Lynn, and Willard Robertson. In brief, "Sitting Pretty" is a grand, grand picture, one for the entire family to see, to enjoy and to love. Don't miss it at The Richmond next Monday and Tuesday.

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LANGSTAFF

The Langstaff Home and School Assoc. held their regular meeting in the Langstaff School Tuesday, January 11. The meeting was presided over by Mrs. Worsdale, the president. Several members of the St. John Ambulance Association and Brigade were present. Miss Turner was the guest speaker. She explained that the St. John Ambulance Brigade had undertaken to blood group (gratuitously) every person in Canada. This can best be accomplished through industry, Federal and Municipal authorities, Fraternal Societies, Service Clubs, Ladies' Auxiliaries, Colleges, Schools, or other groups. This is a precautionary measure to take care of victims requiring a blood transfusion as a result of industrial accidents, accidents in the home and on our highways. Knowing the blood group of the patient and donor at the time of an accident or serious illness is often the means of saving life.

Thirty members and school children from the senior room were blood typed by the brigade. Each of these persons were given an identification card showing to which blood group they belonged. Plans were discussed by the Home and School members for the organizing of Handicraft classes to be held in the school. Further details will be forthcoming next month. A social half hour was spent after the conclusion of the programme. Tea and cookies were served by Mrs. Hicks and her committee.

UNIONVILLE SHORT COURSE ATTRACTS MANY YOUNG MEN

During the first weeks of the Annual Agricultural Short Course now in session at Unionville under the Ontario Department of Agriculture, an average of forty young farm men attended each day. Several of the senior farmers were also attracted to the course for special periods and the younger men came from communities as far away as Maple, King and Pickering township in Ontario county.

Lectures were given on Farm Problems, Principles of Breeding, Grain Crops, Plant Diseases and others by the regular instructors, W. M. Cockburn, Agricultural Representative and his Assistant A. L. McKenzie. Mr. Floyd Perkins of Richmond Hill gave instruction on Repairing Farm Machinery and Tractor Maintenance and other practical periods on rope splicing, handy farm knots, seed judging, were included. The Leitchcroft Farms and Kingsdale Jersey Farms were visited for stock judging. This week feeds and feeding, hay crops, livestock management and weeds, and their control are being featured. Mr. Frank Marritt, County Weed Inspector will be instructing in the weed periods.

In the class elections Ray Ingelton, of Agincourt was elected President with Jim Miller of Unionville, secretary-treasurer. The course continues for the full month of January with interesting lectures, special features and outside trips.

NORTH YORK TEMPERANCE FEDERATION

The Executive of North York Temperance Federation convened in Richmond Hill, January 11th, 1949. This annual meeting was largely attended and laid plans for the County Convention to be held on March 4th, in Wesley Church, Vaudor. In connection with the report of the Department of Children and Youth, deep interest was expressed in undertaking a School for the Study of the Alcohol-Problem. It was unanimously and enthusiastically decided to establish this School in the following five centres of North York, under the auspices of North York Temperance Federation in conjunction with Ontario Temperance Federation: Newmarket on Jan. 31st; Richmond Hill on Feb. 2nd; Stouffville on Feb. 9th; Aurora in week of Feb. 13th; and Keswick on Feb. 23.

The following outstanding speakers have been secured: for Newmarket, Rev. Albert Johnson, acting Gen. Sec. of O.T.F.; for Richmond Hill, to be announced later; for Stouffville, Mr. Royal Moulton, Field Sec. of O.T.F.; for Aurora, Mr. Lorne Shewfelt, M.A., Youth Leader; for Keswick, to be announced later. Dr. J. P. Wilson, President North York Temperance Federation; H. E. Wellwood, Secretary North York Temperance Federation; Rev. R. A. Whattam, Field Sec'y, O.T.F.

BOY SCOUTS AND CUBS

Don't forget the Father and Son Banquet to be held on Wednesday evening, February 2nd, at 6:30 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church. We know you will enjoy yourselves and we look forward to seeing all the fathers there and thus get better acquainted. Don't forget to mention it to Dad now, if you haven't already done so. The eats are being provided and served by the Scout Mothers' Auxiliary, so it's bound to be good eating. Don't forget the date, the place and your Dad. So long and God Scouting.

I gave him a bridge for his violin. What for? To help him get his music across.

AROUND TOWN
(By The Observer)

Walked up street to the Post Office the other night and was nearly scared out of our wits by the squealing of brakes. When we turned around we saw a big transport skidding to a stop halfway across the Yonge-Centre intersection. Last year, if memory serves right, the village council promised to erect yellow backboards to make the lights easier to see from a distance. Might be an idea if they did so before the summer traffic is on us. Could be that warning signs a hundred feet or so would help. Number of people have commented on the narrow escapes because the lights are hard to see from a distance.

Reading about the formation of the Bantam Hockey League calls to mind the town leagues of 15 years or so ago. Some of the chaps now coaching the hockey teams will remember since they used to play in them. The town lacrosse league went over big and really gave the youngsters something to do. Provided a lot of fun for the spectators too. Hope some public-spirited citizens will get behind the hockey league this year and also start a softball league for the summer months. It pays dividends.

Spent some time looking over the new bus schedule. Can't see much change for the better in the Richmond Hill run. Heard lots of complaints about the slow speed of the buses trying to keep to the old streetcar schedule. Why can't the commuters have advantage of the superior speed of the bus and save ten minutes in the run to and from the city? And increased speed, (not over the limit of course) will help prevent the traffic tie-ups on the narrow section of Yonge St. too.

Another beef about the bus system. Why don't the TTC and its officials make the Richmond Hill bus an express to Steele's in all rush hours. No stops for pickups or discharges either. Let the "in-betweeners" take a local bus to Steele's and then transfer to the Hill bus. Too many short trippers squeeze on the Hill bus and jam it to the doors. With the more frequent service to Steele's there's no reason why they can't wait for the next one instead of crowding the Hill buses. Some Hill travelers have been left behind because of this and 40 minutes is much longer than 10 or 15. Seems to us there's a rule about "no blue tickets" on the Richmond Hill bus. Why not enforce it? North York residents get the better of the deal anyway. And that York Mills bus costs money to run for the benefit of a few. Why should the folks north of Steele's pay for it? Incidentally, looks as if the buses will stay. Why? Because, North York apparently has a majority interest and its residents are getting better and more frequent service than ever. They can and likely will swing the decision IF it comes to a vote of the people.

This controversy over television in Canada boils down to one or two definite things, first, we won't get it in Canada for a year or more at least. Even if the CBC lets private interests go ahead it would take about that long to set up the necessary stations. CBC isn't anxious to let private backers get a toe-hold in the field. Also it fears they may bring in too many American shows because of the expense of developing local programs. CBC isn't ready to go ahead itself because it means more money than they have in the kitty. And the only way they can get more is from the Government or increased radio fees. The latter is the more unlikely although it's doubtful if they will be able to get enough additional funds from the Government itself.

Then another factor is the cost of the television receivers which some estimate at around \$700 in Canada. Because of the nature of the short wave television broadcast, its effective range is about 50 miles radius, which limits the first listening areas to such places as Toronto and Montreal. U.S. broadcasters are experimenting with various methods of linking relay stations to provide greater coverage. Guess we'll stick with the radio and records for awhile and rely on the Richmond for our movies.

JERSEY ANNUAL MEETING

At a meeting of the Executive of the York County Jersey Club held at Unionville last week it was decided to hold the annual meeting of this association in the Agricultural Office at Newmarket on Friday of this week, January 21st commencing at 10:30 a.m. Following the presentation of reports lunch will be served by the club at noon.

In the afternoon the new directors will be elected and an address given by A. M. Barr, Association Director of Extension, Department of Agriculture, Toronto. The club has had an active year including a very successful sale in which several head were sold to American breeders.

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