

# AT THE LOCAL THEATRES

## Marx Bros. Director Ought to Know What Makes Folks Laugh

## Others Will Know if They See "Go West" at the Palace This Week.

What makes people laugh? Well, any ought to know and Edward Buzzell man who directs the Marx Brothers is that man. He directed them in the successful "At The Circus" and again was behind the megaphone in the production of their latest laugh opus, "Go West", at the Palace theatre on Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 10th and 11th. "Real life comedy is the favourite to-day," asserts the director, "The ridiculous and outlandish aren't so important as they were in slapstick, big-brother days, although exaggeration has to enter in some way because all comedy is slightly altered from actualities."

**Not Wholly Inane**  
"On the surface, most persons believe that the Marx Brothers participate wholly in insane nonsensical comedy. That is far from true. They do wild and mad things to be sure, but most of our story conferences are spent in making things plausible. Perhaps they don't happen in your life, but they can happen and audiences, realizing that, laugh the louder."  
"Buzzell, who began his career playing a country hick in the big city and thinking himself pretty smart until he heard better points, and that sympathy is sometimes sought for every comedy character. With the Marx Brothers, Harpo and Chico are lovable fellows often the victims of circumstances and

their own mistakes. Groucho in the wise fellow who gets stung and later goes parading for the cause of right. "The under-pup and the turning worm who rises to slap down the villain the haughty of those inflated with their own importance, get the biggest laughs today," he says. "The biggest comedy stars get a little pathos in their characters and then start to work bolting their taunters."

**Foil The Villain**  
"The Marx Brothers are not rough on innocent bystanders. Hence the most important persons in their casts are the villains. Their stories have mean characters trying to do dire things to the hero and heroine, and along come the Marxes to help out the nice folks who are about to be cheated."

Buzzell calls attention to the fact that in "A Night at the Opera" the Marxes humbled a plotter to give opera change to the hero and heroine. In "A Day at the Races" they saved a sanitarium owned by the heroine from the clutches of the swindlers in "At the Circus" they kept the boy and girl from losing a circus while in "Go West" their efforts are turned to thwarting villains from stealing a deed to some land from the two sweethearts. "In 'Go West' there are three men who are heels and three girls who are scheming sirens," he says. "That gives the Marx Brothers six folks on whom to practice their manhandling. The Marxes try to give the public vicarious thrills. They live the suppressed desires of the public. We all would like to knock the silk hats off the heads of the snooty pompous fellows, but we don't dare. The Marxes do it in their pictures and we laugh with sympathetic pleasures. The fall of the mighty is often the victims of circumstances and

## Timmins Men Given Signal Honour by Mutual Life Co.

## Mr. Fred Stock One of the Very Few to be Similarly Rewarded.

Mr. W. M. Ritchie and Mr. Fred Stock of the Mutual Life of Canada have just returned to Timmins from North Bay where they attended a Regional Conference of the company's leading representatives from Northern Ontario and North-Western Quebec. Also in attendance was another representative from Timmins, Mr. Neil B. O'Connor who is temporarily engaged in Military Training at North Bay but who obtained special leave of absence for the day.

The conference was devoted principally to a consideration of the outstanding financial statement just released by the company covering their operations during the year 1940, as well as a discussion of the new problems of sales and of service to old policyholders occasioned by war conditions.

Several of the chief officials were present from the Head Office of the Company and an incident of interest to the residents of the Porcupine Camp took place when Mr. A. E. Pequegnat, Assistant General Manager, presented Mr. Fred Stock with a gold emblem symbolic of his attainment early in 1940 of the status of a "Master Builder" of the Mutual Life of Canada. This is a signal honour since qualifications are based, not on the achievements of any particular or brief period of time but on successful results covering a long term of years. Among other qualifications a representative must be providing personal service to policyholders on more than \$1,000,000.00 of life insurance which he has sold himself. The distinction is one which has been granted by the company to only a small number of men and Mr. Stock's many friends in the Porcupine Camp will be pleased to know he has been thus honoured by his company.

### A MEAN TRICK

An old lady approached a porter at a busy railway station.  
"Can you tell me when the next train leaves?" she inquired.  
"Where do you wish to go?" the porter asked.  
"That's none of your business," was the old lady's reply.  
"But I can't tell you when the train leaves, if I don't know where you are going," the porter explained.  
"Well," said the old lady, "if you must know, I'm going to Edinburgh."  
The porter then told her when the train left, and soon after he saw her looking out of the carriage window.  
"Ha, ha!" she laughed, "I've tricked you this time. I'm going to Buckingham."—Sudbury Star.

the installation of new machinery and equipment. With him are H. Haggart and Elmer Moore, son of J. B. Moore, of Nipissing an expert Diesel man and several others.

Under present conditions, considerably over 80 per cent of the refractory products used in the manufacturing of high-grade clay products, is imported by Canadian manufacturers from United States. Company officials are confident, once this property swings into production that ready markets will be available for its products.

"With such vast markets available for the produce of our property, it would appear that a splendid future lies in store for Misnabi Clays," C. S. McGaughey, company president said today.

**Wide Uses for Products**  
Mr. McGaughey revealed that the products have many uses among which are the manufacture of fire brick, refractory shapes, silica brick, crucibles, glass and general industrial furnace work, now amounting to more than \$5,000,000 a year. They are also used as filler in the manufacture of paper and other industrial products, pottery, artware, porcelain, sanitaryware and numerous other industrial purposes, running into millions of dollars annually.  
"We feel," said Mr. McGaughey, "another milestone in the development of the Northland has been passed and we are confident this may well be the beginning of another major industry for the North."

## "KITTY AND I HAVE BEEN MARRIED!"



It is a critical moment for Kitty Foyle, who has just become Mrs. Wyn Stafford the Sixth, in this scene from RKO Radio's pictorialization of Christopher Morley's best-seller, "Kitty Foyle." Back from the runaway marriage to her socialite husband, she has now to face his family, one of the pillars of Main Line Philadelphia society. She is Gladys Cooper as Mrs. Stafford, Ginger Rogers as Kitty and Dennis Morgan as Wyn Stafford, at the Cartier all this week, Feb. 10th to Feb. 15th.

## T.C.A. PLANE IS TWISTED WRECKAGE AFTER CRASH



(Copyright, 1941, Star Newspaper Service.) Jagged silver wreckage is all that is left of the Lockheed air transport operated by T.C.A., where it lies in a swamp a mile south of the emergency airport at Armstrong. It was coming in for a landing when

the fatal crash occurred. The photographer fought his way through barriers of snow and brush to take these fine pictures of the tragedy in which 12 died. The pictures were flown from Armstrong, the plane being forced down twice en route.

## Second Concert at South Porcupine for the Bomb Victims Fund, Big Success

### Programme an Unusually Attractive One. Artists for Evening Included Gold Belt Band, Miss Margaret Easton's Pupils, Finnish Choir, Buffalo-Ankerite Quartette, and Several Talented Individual Artists.

South Porcupine, Feb. 9th. Special to The Advance.  
The second Sunday evening concert given by the South Porcupine Club for assisting the bomb victims of England was held on Sunday evening in the Mascioli theatre. It was a thorough success, the theatre being well filled with an enthusiastic audience. We may be proud of our local talent, which supplied every number on the programme, all of it was good, some numbers being of real excellence.

The Gold Belt Band gave selections during the evening which were well received; Rover scouts ushered; members of the Home Guard in uniform appeared on the platform in patriotic tableau for the National Anthem; and Master George Pera, in typical John Bull costume, gave colour to his performance as announcer of items (by card).

Without doubt Miss Margaret Easton's pupils (dancing) were the outstanding features of the evening. They gave splendidly trained and received unstinted applause from the audience with each number from the Bilka Filppua, one of the cleverest small acrobats we have seen, did some marvellous feats, finishing by making her small self into a hoop, taking her toes in her hands (backwards) and rolling round. This child is wonderful.  
Little Helen Rhea Channen in a ballet solo dance was prattly graceful and won much applause.

Two tap dancers, Elsie Yates and Shirley McDivitt, were quite good, and Mayzell Menear in a Military tap-dance was much applauded.  
Christine Rose, Mayzell Menear, Claire Fluet, Joan Jeffries, Vera Shields and Lois Montgomery were graceful in a pratty toe dance.

The programme was enriched by selections by the Finnish Choir, beautifully rendered and plaintively sweet—from "Finlandia" and "O Dear Finland," with Mrs. Pikkusaari conducting.  
Len Pacione sang "The Desert Song" really well.  
Mrs. Stanlake's beautiful voice was heard in "Break o' Day" and (by request) "When Apples Grown on a Lilac Tree."

A Buffalo Ankerite quartette of male voices—A Barrett, K. Leibold, A. Humphries and V. Nely—blended beautifully in "Bullfrog on the Bank."  
Wilson Thompson gave "Paddy McGinty's Goat," and (by request) "The Porcupine Emigrant" in his own inimitable style.

Teena Yorke sang two solos very nicely—"Sympathy," and (by request) "Wish Me Luck."  
Mrs. Bessette gained much applause in her solo "In Berkeley Square."  
Mr. Tom Kelly sang "Boys of the Old Brigade" well, and Mrs. Scott sang a solo—"In My Albee Blue Gown."  
Mr. W. Rensick was heard in a trombone solo, accompanied by the Gold Belt Band.  
Mrs. Schultz gave a solo "Keep on Hoping," which was well received and Mr. A. Barret received a rapturous encore when he sang "Till the Lights of London Shine Again."  
Mr. J. Killen, of the Buffalo Ankerite (who is blind) has a magnificent

baritone voice and sang "Rose in the Bud"—and as encore "Captain John McPherson."  
Alec Rubenitz, who is a master of the accordion, gave a splendid solo which was encored.  
Request numbers were given by Mr. Clarence Anderson, Mr. S. Perkman (song in Swedish), Mr. N. Ihander (song in Finnish), Wilson Thomson (Bugle Call), Len Pacione (Thanks a Million), Mrs. Libby (Recited "Hitler's Dream"), Mrs. Stanlake, Mrs. W. Kellow ("Carry Me Back to Old Virginia") and the Finnish Choir.

Mr. W. G. Skinner, who acted as chairman, expressed the thanks of the club to the Mascioli theatre, Dalton's Busline, and others, and the artists, and told the audience that \$695 has already been sent to the Lord Mayor's Fund to date, and that \$900 had been raised so far. These concerts will be monthly affairs for some time to come.

## Some Stories

**HE WHO COMES FIRST**  
A farmer had a son at college. At the end of the first year the son came home in high feather. He stood second in his class.

"Second?" said his father. "Second? Why didn't you stand first? What do you think I'm sending you to college for?"

The young man returned for his second year, determined to win first place. At the end of the year he returned home and announced his success to his father.  
The father looked at him for a few minutes in silence, then shrugged his shoulders, and said: "At the head of the class, eh? Well, it can't be much of a school after all."—Sudbury Star.

**WONDERFUL MANKIND**  
The landscape architect was showing an ignorant, newly-rich woman over a formal garden.  
"What's that?" she asked.  
The landscape architect told her it was a sun dial.

"What's a sun dial?"  
Whereupon her companion patiently explained how the sun, moving through the heavens, casts a shadow which is

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**MARX BROS. GO WEST**

★ **To-day and Tuesday** ★

recorded on the dial, indicating the time of day.  
The woman beamed with interest.  
"My! What will they be thinking of next?" she exclaimed.—Exchange.

**BUSINESS-LIKE**  
There was over 600 employees in the works, but the "boss" kept a kindly eye on them all. Presently he noticed one young man developing very expensive tastes in clothes, but said nothing until the lad turned up to work in a smart little car. Summoning him to his office, the boss said kindly:  
"How are you managing so well on your wages? I hope you're not running into debt."  
"Oh, no, sir," replied the young man brightly. "You see, sir, I raffie my pay envelope every week, and all the other men take a ticket!"—Montreal Star.

**FAIR WARNING**  
Bad Actor (in Wild West touring company)—I'll be hanged if I act here again.  
Local Manager—Yes, or shot.—Exchange.

**WHAT A HOPE!**  
For months he had been her devoted admirer. Now, at last, he had collected up enough courage to ask her the most momentous of all questions.  
"There are a lot of advantages in being a bachelor," he began, "but there comes a time when one longs for the companionship of another being—a being who will regard one as perfect, as an idol, whom one can treat as

one's absolute property, who will be kind and faithful when times are hard; who will share one's joys and sorrows."  
To his delight he saw a sympathetic gleam in her eyes. Then she nodded in agreement.  
So you're thinking of buying a dog," she said. "I think it's a fine idea. Do let me help you choose one!"—Sudbury Star.

**HEAVEN PRESERVE**  
Or did you hear what the one strawberry said to the other strawberry? Well, the way we heard it the one strawberry says to the other strawberry... "Saaaaaay he says... 'You'd better come and see what a jam father is in!'—North Bay Nugget.

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"Blondie Has Servant Trouble" Penny Singleton and Arthur Lake  
"Little Bit of Heaven" Gloria Jean and Robert Stack  
"The World in Flames" The Truest and Mightiest Film of the Day  
"Pioneers of the Frontier" With Bill Elliott

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**ALL THIS WEEK**

Christopher Morley's Sensational Best-Seller!—  
**GINGER ROGERS**  
—as America's White-Collar Girl—  
**Kitty Foyle**

with **DENNIS MORGAN** and **JAMES CRAIG**  
Eduardo Ciannelli, Ernest Cossart, Gladys Cooper  
Directed by Sam Wood

Produced by DAVID HEMPSTEAD, HARRY E. EDINGTON, Executive Producer, Screen Play by Dalton Trumbo, Additional Dialogue by Donald Ogden Stewart.

**ALSO PLAYING WEDNESDAY**  
French Film  
**"ACCORD FINAL"**  
Also French News

## YOU'RE HELD UP—TO LAUGH!



It's a case of "your laughs or your life" when the maniacal Marx Brothers invade the Wild West. Here are Groucho, Harpo and Chico in a scene from "Go West", their new rib-tickler which is currently attracting roars of laughter at the Palace theatre Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 10th and 11th. It's a new hilarity high!

## Death of Oliver Varette Well-Known in the North

The following from the latest issue of The Rouyn Noranda Press will be read with sad hearts by large numbers in Timmins and district:—

**Death of Oliver Varette**  
Oliver Varette, one of Ed. Horne's associates of the Tremoy Lake Syndicate that sold its claims to Noranda Mines died in Ottawa last week at the age of 58. Complications followed an operation.

He had been born at Sndenham Ontario, spent his youth working in many parts of the country as a clerk and bookkeeper and settled down in New Liskeard for Hill Clark Francis Ltd. While there, he put money into the Tremoy Lake Syndicate and was its secretary-treasurer. The syndicate sent Ed Horne out prospecting and among the claims he staked in the syndicate's name was a group on the north shore of an arm of Lake Oskisko, then far off in the northwestern Quebec bush.

Holder of units in the Syndicate did well for they obtained Noranda Mines shares for their interest. Mr. Varette had for a time a considerable amount of money. In 1928 he moved to Ottawa idle for five years he worked as bookkeeper for F. E. Cummings of Westboro, an Ottawa suburb. Three years ago he worked in the sales department of Hill Clark's Noranda branch and while there made many friends.

He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Joseph Varette Sydenham; his widow, the former Elizabeth O'Hara two sons, Joseph and Walter, and two daughters, Mary and Betty; as well as two brothers, Captain Kelsey Varette King (on and Joseph Sydenham.  
The funeral services were held from the family home to St. George's church for requiem high mass. Burial was at Sydenham.

## A FINAL WORD

After the shipwreck, a sailor was washed up on a lonely tropical island. Thinking himself the sole survivor, and full of dread that this might be the abode of cannibals, he went exploring. Presently he saw smoke ascending from a clump of shrubs. Just as he was preparing to bolt, he heard a voice say:  
"Why the... did you play that card?"  
"Thank Heaven—they're Christians!" he exclaimed joyfully