Bogart and Mary Astor Score in Hit **Mystery Picture**

Fast Moving and Packed intricate plot is masterfully woven to Maltese Falcon."

be at the Broadway theatre Thursday, emerges as swell entertainment for Friday and Saturday, Dec. 18th, 19th the whole family. and 20th, brings together one of the season's most able casts in one of the season's most entertaining pictures. Based on a novel by Dashiell Hammett whose "Thin Man" stories are well known to sareen patrons, "The Maltese Falcon" is interlaced with comedy and romance in that author's inimitable fashion. As for the mystery, even the a hard time putting the finger on the murderer before the screen detective

In the role of the detective, Humphrey Bogart comes over to the side of law and order with commendable grace, and his performance as a hardboiled private investigator with a weakness for women is one of the best of his career. It is a characterization which required the deftest of handling, because it hits a middle road between hero and heel, and Bogart has done the job to perfection. Able assistance is given him by Mary Astor, as the lady in the case.

Bogart has bucked some pretty merchant of menace, he meets his ablest adversary. When these two clash, the resulting excitement is well worth watching. Others in the cast of the picture include Gladys George, as a favourite pastimes because riding was blonde widow with a roving eye for one of those natural things to her. the males. Lee Patrick as Bogart's all- She was almost born in the saddle, she and Elisha Cook, Jr., as highly plaus- saddle she would find the key to the

tible villains, and various other wellknown players.

"The Maltese Falcon" of the title is a small black porcelain statuette, of fabulous worth, and the story centres about the various attempts that are made to get possession of it, and the murder and intrigue involved. The with Suspense is "The maintain suspense up to the very end. John Huston who adapted Hammett's novel for the screen and also directed the production, has done ex-A fast-moving, suspense-packed my- | tremely well at both jobs, with the ree'ery, "The Maltese Falcon" which will sult that "The Maltese Falcon"

Ann Sheridan Rode a Horse to Fame at Hollywood

most able armchair detectives will have Starring Now in "Navy Blues," at the Palace.

> Ann Sheridan, Warner Bros.' 'oomph' girl like Lady Godiva, rode to fame on

Ann rode the spectacular avenues of Burbank, Calif, clothed in glamour. Ann had ambition to be a movie star. Her horse carried her along the path which eventually led to fame and for-

Ann Sheridan, who appears in Warner Bros.' new comedy feature, "Navy Blues," at the Palace Theatre, Dec. 18 h to 20th, was born and bred in Denton, Texas. Her name then was Clara Lou. Typical of so many Texas girls she was big boned, broad shouldered and husky voiced. She excelled in swimming, basketball, tennis and of all things-football.

Riding isn't mentioned as one of her knowing secretary, Sydney Greenstreet said. Little did she dream that in the

Paramount News



gates of fame and fortune. It all hap- riding and little acting. pened this way:

parts for a while which meant lots of after Warner Bros. tagged her its News-Record.

One day she quit, got an agent and While a student at North Texas State free lanced. She played in stock com-Teachers' College in Denton she won a panies, acquired experience in acting, trip to Hollywood and a movie screen dialogue and singing, and then she test. Her ambitions to gain recognition fought for recognition until Warner in the movies soared and when she Bros. took notice of her possibilities.

"oomph" girl. She didn't like the name country and added that there is a times is notsy at night, though not so at all, but admitted that it had the place in the reserve army for every bad as New York. In the blackout, it Midas touch and flung her into the man not on active service. milky way along with the other stars. With the battalion now on a war cars. Taxi and bus drivers must find In "Navy Blues" Ann joins the Navy, establishment, there is pay provided for their way largely by instinct. Her new uniform is a delight to all who its full wartime strength of 799 officers | The cab stopped under some kind see it. That some will hardly note the and men, and there is room for about of roof. A man with a tiny pocket

Algonquins Make

Appeal for More

Recruits at Once

Taken.

ments of self-defence.

Full Wartime Strength.

officer of the Second (Reserve) Bat-

talion of the Algonquin Regiment, is-

sued an appeal for recruits, last week,

to bring the regiment up to their full

wartime strength. The commanding

and 50 years, should start now to pre-

pare himself to defend his home and

uniform on account of watching the half of that strength at the present flashlight helped us out and called for wearer is a fact all right, but will not | time. There is no reason why more , someone to take the bags. We passed detract from the happiness of "Navy than that amount of men couldn't be one by one through a revolving door Blues." This new comedy of Warner trained if they are available. Bros," "Navy Blues," will be at the The appeal was particularly ad- light of a hotel lobby Palace Theatre Thursday, Thursday dressed to Northern Ontario men as There was something familiar about

midnight, Friday and Saturday, 18th, the Algonquin Regiment is the only the place. The feeling persisted even

More equipment has been distributed ago. to the regiment steadily, the lates being the addition of two new Bren Guns. Training will be stepped up to Company to be Raised to two nights each week after Christmas British Council came around in an old and in the summer each recruit will be car and drove us around the central required to spend two weeks at a mili- part of the city, particularly that part Men Between 18 and 50 tary camp in Southern Ontario.

In "D" Company of the Regiment, troyed by the Great Fire in 1666 and which is located in Timmins, there is rebuilt better than it had been. Now Lt.-Col. K. A. Mahaffy, commanding room for about fifty recruits to bring the regiment up to its full strength.

SWEET TONGS

Mr. McPherson gave some advice to available, asserting that the day when friends to tea.

"Just mind, Jeannie," he said, "to put "it can't happen here" is past and that the suggar-tongs in the basin, an' not at this time it is important that every able-bodied man should learn the ele- a spoon.

"But we have no lump sugar in the It was pointed out that every able- hoose," she expostulated. "We have bodied men, between the ages of 18 only granulated."

"I was mindin' that!' said McPherson. -Edinburgh Scotsman

London in the Blackout

sions of the Nazi Bombing. Furious at the Wanton It was burned in a concentrated blitz Destruction of Homes and Churches. Little Damage one week-end before the Londoners

This is the fourth of a series of arti-tailed map of the railway line. cles about conditions in Great Britain, thought of the girl in the censor's are showered down by hundreds and and other countries visited by a group, office and my map. But I never saw of Canadian newspaper editors. It was another one on a British train. Most slate roof. It is two minutes or so bewritten for the weekly newspapers of of the railway stations have had the fore they burst into flame. Every secwas asked to ride in Western pictures | Her leap to the pot of gold at the Canada by their own representative on names obliterated or the signs torn ond counts. The incendiary bomb can she felt at home. She played small bit end of the movie rainbow happened the tour, Hugh Templin, of the Fergus down in the hope that invaders might be conquered in the first two or three

London in the Blackout

The train was about half-way to London when blackout time arrived The first thing that any visitor to at about half-past six. The guard came England wants to see is the damage in and pulled down heavy blinds over done by the bombs. I was no excep- all the windows and doors. Even the tion. The airport where our plane had door out into the corridor had a blind dropped us down on British soil was on it. It was the first hint that there interesting in its way, but much like is nothing half-hearted about the

types, though there were a few familiar state of semi-darkness. One was a ation, I had the feeling that the Ger-Avro Ansons, and the buildings were white light, set high up in a deep protected against the blasts from bombs funnel in the roof. The other light, more exposed, was blue and did not It is thought that they tried to wipe The customs examination was brief, give enough light to make it possible out the whole of London's fire fighting

it necessary to take to England with more vivid than that of my arrival in me. I had a short brush with the London in the blackout. There was lady censor. She took away all the some doubt about whether the train letters I had carried from Canada and had reached Paddington station or appeared to be horrified that I had not but everybody seemed to be gettaken along a map of the British ting out. One of the editors opened Is'es. Apparently, I had unwittingly a door. There wasn't a thing to be seen committed a grave crime and she said except three scattered blue bulbs in a ceiling high overhead. Moving shapes Evidently, a few girls get that way came past the door and one of them

Nobody who hasn't been there will

Somehow, our hosts from the British Council found us, and they knew what to do. In a few moments, they had a porter hunting for a taxicab. Where he went, I'll never know, but he came back with two, and in the light of later experience, that was something

Our staxi driver was old and his call was ancient. Four persons and their luggage seemed like too much of a load, but we entrusted ourselves to him, hoping he knew what to do.

The only outdoor lights in London are traffic signals and the shelter signs. Even the traffic lights are cov-As our car entered the city, we all ered, except a tiny cross in the centre. The shelter signs have only a dim

"S" showing on them. An Uncanny Quietness

The feeling persisted that this could not possibly be the world's largest city. Sometimes the taxi would stop and a bus or some more taxis would a newspaper office, I watched the go across the intersection. Each had The first blitzed house stood on a one dim headlight, fitted with shutters so that it threw a circle of semi-dark-

would disappear and be replaced by a green one and the driver would start up again, some of the editors I thought to myself: "This is exactly familiar with London in the past, asked him questions about the localities. Only once, at the corner of Hyde Park,

I am told that London in normal possible.

is quiet. There seem to be no priva e

and emerged suddenly into the bright

Northern Ontario regiment in the after I had been taken to my room army. The headquarters company of and had looked into the bathroom with the regiment is at Kirkland Lake and its Roman bath and Royal Doulton fixthe other four companies are at Hailey- tures, reminders of past splendor. bury, North Bay, Huntsville and Tim- Then I remembered. I had seen this

famous hotel in moving pictures long Bomb Damage in London

The next morning, I saw London for the first time. Our hosts from the of Old London which had been de-

it has been destroyed again. East of St. Paul's Cathedral and north of Fleet Street, there is an area of almost a square mile with hardly a building standing. Perhaps you have seen that remarkable photograph which shows the great dome of St. officer asked for every able-bodied man his wife when they were expecting Paul's standing up above a mass of smoke and flames, which in the foreground the walls of ruined houses are silhouetted against the fire. I had wondered sometimes if that photograph was not faked. In a room of the Press Club in London, I saw the original, Walking through the ruins of the old City of London, it is still easy to pic-

ture that terrible night. Many of the walls which stood up in that blackened area since the big blitz last December have been torn there are basements, they have been cemented and turned into water re-

servoirs for fighting future fires, This was an area of office buildings and publishing houses, with a number of fine old churches and some of the most famous griministrative buildings. bomb. I don't think it could ever happen again. A large bombing plane I might carry a thousand of them. They are just heavy enough to go through a minutes. After that, it takes the fire brigade to do anything about it.

Strangely enough, the things that touch the heart of the observer in desolate areas like this are the small things. In ruined houses, it is dolls or other toys lying around; in former office buildings, it is battered typewriters piled up, a dozen or so together, or some other evidence of the normal life that was once carried on

Yet even in the midst of this desolman bombers had failed. They had not even tried to hit military targets. apparatus. They didn't succeed. The fire brigades were massed in that small area and more bombers came over. dropping high explosive bombs. Suddenly they stopped coming. It is said that a mist arose back over the Channel and it was feared they could not return safely. Whether that was the reason or not. London's fire fighters escaped to fight another day.

Seeing other parts of London later. felt again and again that the German bombers had failed. They destroyed thousands of houses and stores and offices and dozens of churches They did get many factories along the to take away two picture postcards I in the blackout at the time of the new Thames. But they not only failed to had bought in the Azores on the flight moon. Three blue bulbs really give frighten the British people: they also

> For instance, every bridge over the Thames is in operation. It is said not one has been hit though thousands of bombs have gone into the water in an attempt to cut traffic. There are temporary bridges which can be quickly finished if any bridge is destroyed They have never been needed.

I wandered through the dock area near Tower Bridge one day. The little houses in the East End have taken e bad punishment. In two places, I saw vacant lots piled high with bricks that must have come from hundreds of houses. But the docks were still in operation as usual with convoys going out the Thames. It was obvious that Tower Bridge itself had never been hit. The Tower of London has lost only a corner of one small bastion.

There hasn't been any bombing in London lately. It is now five months since the last bombs have fallen on the capital. Only once while I was in London did an enemy plane ever come near the city. From the roof of flashes of the anti-aircraft guns away to the east. The German never got

There was bombing going on all that time, but it was around the coasts of Britain. I came through a bomb-The tiny red cross at the corner ing one night in Bournemouth, and will tell of it in a later story. But conditions have obviously changed. The Germans no longer have superiority in the air. Defences are stronger. It doesn't seem likely that the British will be "blitzed" again as they were last winter; actual invasion seems im-

Amazingly Black, Quiet!

Canadian Weekly Newspaperman Tells of His Impres-Done to Military Objectives.

a dozen others I had visited in Canada. British blackout. It's black. There were only two apparent differ- Inside the railway carriage, two dim ences: the planes were of different lights kept the compartment in

the examiner did show some to read a newspaper. interest in the things I had thought Of all the first impressions, none

when given some brief authority. I answered the question: 'Is this Padmet censors several times during the dington?" with a short, "Yes, sir." next six weeks, but none like that young lady. She even went so far as ever believe how dark London can be across the Atlantic. After a brisk no light at all: they just intensify the missed many of the most tempting argument, in which the customs man darkness. And London was not only targets. took my part, I got the map back, dark, but quiet as well. This didn't The letters and post cards arrived by seem like a railway station. Outside, mail at my hotel in London a week not a light allowed in the city. later, after being censored.

First Impressions of Bombing It was only a few miles to the nearest city, a seaport on the westcoast

of England. I had never been across the Atlantic before, so I watched with interest for the things I had been told about so often-the small fields of an achievement. enclosed by hedges, the slated or tiled roofs, the little locomotives pulling long trains of tiny wagons. Nothing really seemed strange, for photography had made them all familiar. Only the barrage balloons floating over the nearby hills showed that England had

looked around curiously for signs of damage. Rumours in Canada said that this ancient port was practically destroved. German versions said that the dock area was rendered useless. As we crossed a bridge over the river, I looked at the shipping and saw no sign of damage to the docks.

corner. Or it had stood on the corner. for not a thing was left except a pile ness on the pavement. The windows of bricks in the basement. The houses of the buses were covered. They were on either side seemed undamaged, ex- just dim outlines as they passed. cept for a few boarded-up-windows. but the corner one was gone as cleanly as though it had been carved out with a big knife.

what I expected to see: it looks just like the pictures." In the next block, another house had did one of them guess correctly.

been hit. It wasn't as thoroughly destroyed. One side wall remained, and up it at irregular intervals were the fireplaces which had once supplied a bit of heat to its rooms. Part of the floor of one upstairs room hung in the air, with a bed on it. Again there was that feeling that

this was just what I had expected. It remained while we drove down a long street, with a dozen houses missing at more or less regular intervals. After my feelings began to change. Perhaps it was the ruined churches. Several of them had nothing left but blackened walls. On the main business treet, many stores were without windows; others were hollow shells.

It made me angry before long. This wanton damage seemed so annseless. Obviously, military targets had not been hit or they had been repaired so quickly that the effect was slight. It was the houses that had suffered most and the churches.

The train to London was crowded, but the six of us got a compartment to ourselves. On the wall was a de-

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Last Showing To-Night—Thursday, December 18th "BLONDIE IN SOCIETY" Starring-PENNY SINGLETON and ART LAKE 2nd Hit—"THE MAD DOCTOR" Starring-BASL RATHBONE and ELLEN DREW SERIAL-"Green Hornet Strikes Again"-No. 12

Friday and Saturday, December 19th and 20th "SHE KNEW ALL THE ANSWERS" Starring-JOAN BENNETT and FRANCHOT TONE 2nd Hit-"CHEROKEE STRIP" Starring-RICHARD DIX and VICTOR JORY SHORT: The Lone Mountie

Monday and Tuesday, December 22nd and 23rd "TIME OUT FOR RHYTHM" Starring-ANN MILLER and RUDY VALLEE and ORCHESTRA 2nd Hit—"PHANTOM SUBMARINE" Starring-ANITA LOUISE and BRUCE BENNETT SHORT-"Jai Alai"

Wednesday and Thursday, December 24th and 25th "TEXAS RANGERS RIDE AGAIN" Starring-JOHN HOWARD and AKIM TAMIROFF 2nd Hit-"TILLIE THE TOILER" Starring-KAY HARRIS and WM. TRACY SERIAL- "Green Hornet Strikes Again"-No. 13



THREE SHOWS DAILY at 2.30, 7.00 and 9.00 p.m.

To-Night, Midnight To-night, Friday and Saturday,

December 18th, 19th and 20th ANN SHERIDAN and JACK OAKIE in "NAVY BLUES" SHORT-Coloured Cartoon

SPECIAL NEWS RELEASE! JAPS vs. U.S. AT WAR! - Savagely and without warning the Japs attack U.S. Pacific outpost with severe loss of life and property .- F.D.R. asks for a War Declaration. SEE ALL THIS IN THE NEWS, AND MORE.

Sunday Midnight, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, December 21st, 22nd, 23rd and 24th JEFFREY LYNN and CONSTANCE BENNETT in 'LAW OF THE TROPICS"

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News of the World

Thursday, Thursday, Midnight. Friday and Saturday, December 25th. 26th and 27th YOUR CHRISTMAS DAY ATTRACTION EDGAR BERGAN, CHARLIE McCARTHY, FIBBER McGEE and MOLLY in "LOOK WHO'S LAUGHING"

SHORTS Latest War News Coloured Cartoon A "MARCH OF TIME" Titled "THUMBS UP TEXAS"

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HOP-A-LONG CASSIDY in

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No. 8-"THE MYSTERIOUS DR. SATAN"

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DOUBLE FEATURE PROGRAMME SHOWING TWO

FIRST RUN PICTURES

LLOYD NOLAN AND ALEXIS SMITH in

SECOND HIT

RAIMU in

"THE BAKER'S WIFE"

SHORT-Exploring Space"

Thursday and Friday, December 25th and 26th DOUBLE FEATURE PROGRAMME SHOWING TWO

FIRST RUN PICTURES

ROBERT PRESTON, ELLEN DREW, NILS ASTHER in

"THE NIGHT OF JANUARY 15TH"

SECOND HIT

JINNY LYDON, JUNE PREISSER in

"HENRY ALDRICH FOR PRESIDENT"

SHORTS-"Frozen North"-a Cartoon

"STEEL AGAINST THE SKY"

SHORTS-"Robinson Crusoe Jr"-Cartoon



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