

HERE AND THERE ON STAGE AND SCREEN

Reviews of the Week

By *Thespian*

AMATEUR

"THE MOLLUSC"

Presented at the Little Theatre, Winnetka, by the Community Drama club on April 28 and 30, this comedy attracted rather small audiences. It is unfortunate that such was the case for those who stayed away missed some rather clever work by Mrs. Taliaferro Milton. In fact, I considered her better in this than in any of her previous attempts.

The play, requiring the services of but four characters, is a clever bit of work. It concerns the home life of a human mollusc and the attempts of a patient husband and a practical brother to change the habits and characteristics of the molluscous female. Their efforts to succeed produce comical situations and induce considerable laughter.

Barring occasional spots where slight hesitations and uncertainty as to lines played their parts, things went along smoothly. Besides the work of Mrs. Milton which has been mentioned, we found pleasure in following the delineation of the governess as given by Mrs. Edwin Ball, Jr. The quiet restraint called for by the part was very much in evidence. Mr. Buchanan was the brother from Colorado and Mr. Bryant the husband. Both were very good.

STAGE

"THE WHOLE TOWN'S TALKING"

A comedy by John Emerson and Anita Loos
Adelphi Theatre

If your constitution is none too strong or you have a pet aversion to laughter, stay away. But if you can stand an evening of continuous merriment and would drive away the blues, here's your chance.

This is good clean comedy presented by an excellent cast headed by Grant Mitchell. There is nothing so very new about the story but you forget that in viewing the way it is handled.

In order to win the object of his affections, a perfectly proper and upstanding young man finds it necessary to have a "past." And aided by his father-in-law-to-be he fakes one that is apparently bullet proof. But imagine the possibilities when the "woman" in his fictitious past appears upon the scene with a burly fiancé. And then father-in-law has a few troubles of his own that simply compound the laughs. It is fun all the way through and there is a surprise finish you are sure to like.

I think of no one, unless it might be Ralph Morgan, who could step into the part of Chester Binney and deliver as does Mr. Mitchell. And surrounding him is a cast that does all and more than is usually required in similar plays. Frank Lalor, as father, is worthy of special mention. There are spots where he really runs away with things. Lucia Moore, as the mother, presents the character in a somewhat new and attractive manner while Gerald Smith is the "cookie pusher" to the 'nth degree. "The Whole Town's Talking" is thoroughly good fun.

SCREEN

"A SON OF THE SAHARA"

First National Production
Chicago Theatre

If you saw and remember "The Sheik" you will not find a great deal of new material in this picture to interest you. Of course there are details somewhat new and original but on the whole there is a marked resemblance.

In the picture, Barbara, played by Claire Windsor, falls in love with Raoul, played by Bert Lytell. She believes him to be a Frenchman but when she discovers things which indicate he is an Arab over she throws him. Raoul, his anger aroused, dons his Arab robes and returns to the desert. There Barbara and her friends have a bad time with the Sheik dominating the situation. Barbara,

BOOKED FOR HOWARD THEATER



after coming through these terrible things in safety, finds herself again in love with the Arab. Of course it couldn't be left right there so letters are suddenly discovered which indicate that both of the Sheik's parents were white. And so all ends well. Personally, I was far from thrilled by the picture and aside from some rather good work by Mr. Lytell the cast was not particularly impressive. Perhaps you'll like it, however, especially if you are eager for desert pictures.

"THE CONFIDENCE MAN"

A Paramount Picture
McVickers Theatre

Can you imagine Thomas Meighan as a confidence man. Why the very sight of him precludes such a thought. Yet here he is pretending to be that very thing and before he has gone a hundred feet you just know he will be converted by the end of the picture. Which he is and the suspense just isn't there.

The story is conventional, there is very little action and if it wasn't for this same Thomas Meighan you might be tempted to class the picture as a rather weak affair. In the story Mr. Meighan as the confidence man sets out to skin an old skin-flint out of his fat bank account by trading worthless oil stock for it. But he is so pleasant and likable that all the small town people fall in love with him and in the end he sees the folly of his ways and gives up the game.

In the picture is a rather weak love affair between Meighan and the village belle which naturally ends as such affairs should end. Laurence Wheat and Virginia Valli give the star good support and George Ade wrote some excellent sub-titles.

Neighboring Theaters

COMMUNITY HOUSE

"The typical American Boy!" That is what the critics say of Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., who will appear with Theodore Roberts in "Stephen Steps Out" at Community House next Tuesday. Considerable interest has been aroused by this production because it is the first appearance of "Young Doug" and shows that he has inherited his father's ability along with the famous Fairbanks smile. This is strictly a comedy and was taken from a story by Richard Harding Davis.

On Friday, May 9, "The Arizona Express" will be the feature. This is a real honest-to-goodness melodrama from the pen of Lincoln J. Carter. As the title implies, it is a story dealing with the romance of railroads, and especially with the mail express trains which thunder through every city in the country. In addition to this, a special presentation of Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata" has been arranged in observance of National Music Week.

There will be a matinee both days at 4 p. m. and evening shows at 7:15 and 9 p. m. Children are requested to attend the matinee performances.

HOWARD

"Flowing Gold," film dramatization of Rex Beach's famous novel of that title, will be seen at the Howard this weekend. Anna Q. Nilsson and Milton Sills have the leading roles in this virile drama.

No. 4 of the popular H. C. Witwer "Telephone Girl" series will be an added attraction on Friday and Saturday.

Harold Bell Wright's great story, "When a Man's a Man," will be offered Howard patrons on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, May 4, 5, and 6. John Bowers and Marguerite De La Motte are starred in this elaborate production. The comedy feature for those three days will be Larry Semon's latest, "Trouble Brewing."

"Rupert of Hentzau," a George Barr McCutcheon production, has been secured for the Howard for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of next week. Elaine Hammerstein is the star in this exciting drama. She is ably supported by Bert Lytell and Lew Cody. It is a story of courts and kings.

COMMUNITY HOUSE

MOTION PICTURES

TUESDAY

Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.

in

"Stephen Steps Out"

"OREGON TRAIL" No. 17

FRIDAY

Lincoln J. Carter's

"The Arizona Express"

and

Special Presentation

of

BEETHOVEN'S

"MOONLIGHT SONATA"

ADELPHI

"Painted People," in which the amazingly versatile Colleen Moore does some of her most effective screen work, is holding forth at the Adelphi Friday and Saturday of this week. An Our Gang comedy is also on the bill.

"A Society Scandal," latest of Gloria Swanson's elaborate productions, comes to the Adelphi for showing on the Sunday, Monday and Tuesday programs. An

extremely interesting depiction of modern society life with Miss Swanson at her best.

Ben Turpin, in the "Daredevil," provides the comedy.

Irene Rich, Monte Blue and other stars are seen in "Flaming Passion," which will be the feature attraction at the Adelphi on Wednesday and Thursday, May 7 and 8.

"Neck and Neck" is the comedy billed for those days.

NEWELL & RETCHIN

The House of Harmony HOWARD

N. W. "L" Station at Howard

Friday and Saturday

MILTON SILLS

ANNA Q. NILSSON

"Flowing Gold"

TELEPHONE GIRL NO. 4

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday

HAROLD BELL WRIGHTS

"When a Man's a Man"

with JOHN BOWERS

MARGUERITE DELA MOTTE

LARRY SEAMON

"Trouble Brewing"

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

ELAINE HAMMERSTEIN

in

"Rupert of Hentzau"

With

Bert Lytell and Lew Cody

Pick of the Pictures ADELPHI

7074 North Clark St.

Friday and Saturday

COLLEEN MOORE

In

"Painted People"

"Our Gang Comedy"

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday

GLORIA SWANSON

"A Society Scandal"

BEN TURPIN

"The Daredevil"

Wednesday and Thursday

IRENE RICH

"Flaming Passion"

"Neck and Neck"

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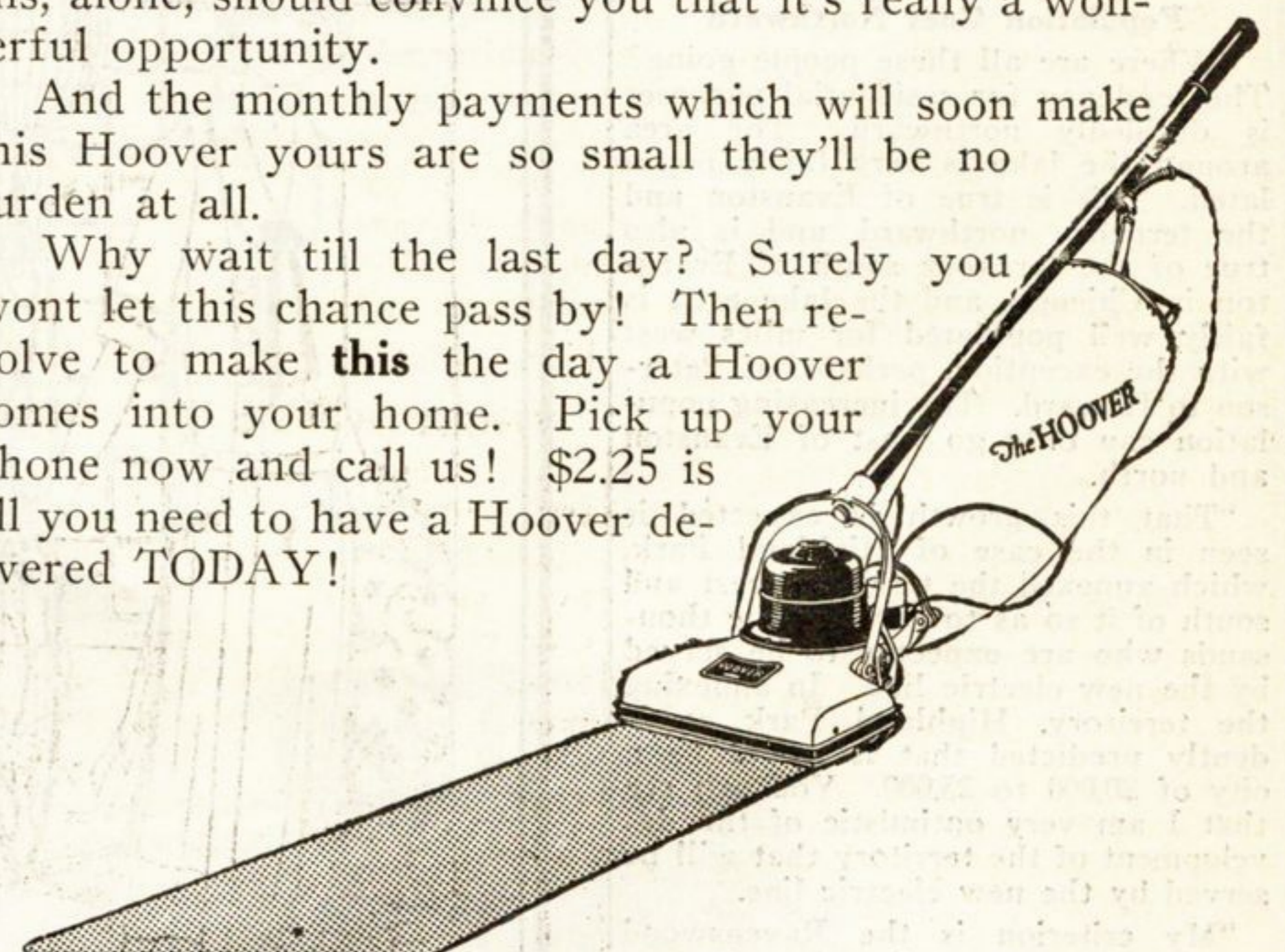
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