

HERE AND THERE ON STAGE AND SCREEN

Reviews of the Week

By *Thespian*

STAGE

"SWEET LITTLE DEVIL" Garrick Theatre

Somebody ventured the opinion that "Sweet Little Devil" was more or less of a duplicate of the many and various musical comedies which have visited the Garrick. And this with particular reference to the show that left that theatre last week. Just as a matter of diversion let me venture my opinion that it is not at all a duplicate of its predecessors.

As a matter of fact it has much that is original and pleasing with the result that it is probably one of the best things of its kind which has been at the Garrick in some time. To be sure it starts slowly and one has early misgivings as to the ultimate result but before the end of the first act it hits its stride and things speed up in fine style. Consequently there is a very pleasant time for all concerned.

There is a story, that is, as much of a one as is necessary for a show of this kind. It has to do with two young men who have invented something and who come to New York to collect a fortune. They have some difficulty in that direction but do acquire two young ladies. It is around these four and another young miss that the fun centers. Of course the right girl gets the right man and the fortune is won in the end.

"Sweet Little Devil" serves to bring Miss Constance Binney back from the movies where she has been working for some years. She has had considerable stage experience in addition but her musical comedy ventures have been limited. In this endeavor she is about as cute as they make 'em and while not strong of voice has a way with her that pleases the audience. In addition she does not a little dancing and does it well.

But if she was well liked there were others who fared equally well. I have in mind William Wayne and Ruth Warren who are simply great. Their knock-about dancing and good natured kidding is the life of the party. One of their numbers called "The Jijibo" made the gallery whistle for more and practically stopped the show on Monday night. Bobby Jarvis, who looks not unlike Ernest Truax, has a number of comic moments and Irving Beebe makes a formidable lover.

The songs are tuneful and several will be whistled in the loop quite generally. Particularly in this true of "Virginia" and "Jijibo." In addition the show abounds with new "nifties," each good for a laugh. None of them have been in general use although one or two may have had occasional expressing.

Taken as a whole Messrs Mandel and Gershwin, who are responsible for "Sweet Little Devil," deserve much credit for turning out such a clever and diverting entertainment.

SCREEN

"THE ALASKAN" Paramount Picture McVickers Theatre

Filmed in Canada with many of the scenes taken near Banff and other spots along the Canadian Pacific, "The Alaskan" is a scenic success as well as telling intelligently a fair story about the north country. It also serves to take Thomas Meighan out of the somewhat weak roles which have been his recent lot and put him where he belongs.

The story concerns itself with a battle between the hero and powerful interests to wrest from the former certain valuable lands in Alaska. They lead you through that country, show Meighan appealing to a committee at Washington, introduce a boat trip on which he meets the woman who is to be the heroine and throw in a lot of excitement at the end. There is a bit of surprising mystery and a free for all gun fight that is well done.

From the standpoint of the cast Thomas Meighan takes the major honors. He is sincere, vigorous and extremely likeable. He knows how to argue, to fight and, I guess, to make love.

But in addition to its somewhat interesting story, "The Alaskan" is a good picture of the great outdoors. In that regard lies its greatest strength as there are times when it is inclined to drag just a little. But when they really land in Alaska your interest is firmly held to the end.

Estelle Taylor, John Sainpolia and Anna May Wong are in the cast. James Oliver Curwood wrote the book and Herbert Brenon directed it as well taking a small part. It is worth seeing.

"FEET OF CLAY" Chicago Theatre

Here is an unusual bit of work, the kind you would expect Cecil B. DeMille to bring out. You don't feel just like applauding when you go out but an average human being is inclined to do a little thinking.

Starting out in the somewhat conventional way with society in all of its pastimes including fine clothes, fancy balls and beautiful women, it details the scandal which attaches to

two young people. When there seems nothing left to live for they decide to turn on the gas and end it all.

This they do, individually, only to find themselves wandering in an afterworld with thousands of others. The march leads them to the Keeper of the Rolls who tells them that an unfinished life has no place in Great Hereafter. From a photographic standpoint "Feet of Clay" is an exceptional movie. There is much that is novel and the last half of the proceedings is well worth seeing. Cecil B. DeMille was in charge of the picture and it was patterned after the story by Margaretta Tuttle.

In the cast are such excellent people as Rod LaRocque, Ricardo Cortez, Robert Edeson and Vera Reynolds.

AMATEUR

Announcement has been made of the program for the coming season by the Community Drama Players of Winnetka. Beginning with the Pageant which they will give in connection with the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Congregational Church on October 23 and 24, the other events on their calendar are:

Nov. 12—"A Successful Calamity."
Jan. 7—"A Marriage Proposal."
Feb. 11—"Come Out of the Kitchen."
March 10—"Don."
April 7—"Milestones."

Each production will be given on two dates, the first exclusively for members of the Community Players. The second performance in each case will be open to the public at a small admission charge. In addition to the above program the Players will put on a Christmas play at the church called "Eager Heart."

All who enjoy a good film fight will rejoice when Richard Dix's Paramount picture, "Manhattan" comes to the screen. Director R. H. Burnside has not only one fight to film, but rather a series of battles in a poolroom between Richard Dix and George Siegmann, Dix and two yeggs, Dix and the cashier of the poolroom, as well as an assortment of minor scuffles with Gregory Kelly and Jacqueline Logan opposed to the henchmen of Bud McGinnis, the boss of "Hell's Kitchen," and one or two free-for-alls.

As a result almost the entire cast displays the gory marks and disheveled appearance of the victim of a gang war.

VAUDEVILLE

Majestic Theatre

A. The Original Indian Jazz Band, a headline attraction, featuring some ten Indians from the Pine Creek Reservation proved very effective. In addition Princess Lillian, with a marvelous voice, sang topical songs.

B. Lutes Bros proved to be a most remarkable armless wonder who does things with his feet better than you or I can with our arms.

C. Pitzer and Day, the young girl and the old man in some familiar patter and a song or two.

D. Antrim and Adamson, in a

At The Howard



Lew Cody and Pauline Frederick in "THREE WOMEN," AN ERNST LUBITSCH PRODUCTION

sketch about a summer home which has a number of good laughs in it.

E. Lee and Romaine, two gentlemen with pleasant voices singing some of the late ballads effectively.

The beautiful Grethe Rutz-Nissen, who plays H. R. H. the princess in "A Kiss in Xanadu," the pantomime in "Beggars on Horseback," now selling out at every performance at the Adelphi, is a Norwegian whose only alighting places in this country are New York and Chicago. She has been invited to participate in the Leif Erickson celebration. Among her own countrymen in Chicago Miss Rutz-Nissen is famous by reason of her dancing in the ballet at Copenhagen.

Neighboring Theaters

HOWARD

Two favorite comedians, Larry Semon and Charlie Murray, are brought together for the first time in "The Girl in the Limousine," which comes to the Howard theatre for one day only, Sunday, October 5.

But while their respective screen careers have been for spart in the past Semon and Murray are old friends. Murray was playing in a touring company headed by Larry Semon's father thirty years ago and since then has been active in vaudeville, musical comedy and motion pictures.

In the cast of "Three Women," which will be the attraction Monday and Tuesday, there are May McAvoy, Marie Prevost, Pauline Frederick and Lew Cody.

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