

# HERE AND THERE ON STAGE AND SCREEN

## Reviews of the Week

By Thespian

### STAGE

#### "THE GREEN HAT"

Selwyn Theatre

Three clever people combine at the Selwyn to make "The Green Hat" a play that will be much talked about this spring. Miss Katherine Cornell, Miss Ann Harding and Mr. Leslie Howard are the three I mean. Each is a star so far as clever stage work is concerned and each gives his and her best to this production of Micheal Arlen's novel which has been so widely read this winter.

The story is so well known by those who read that it is perhaps unnecessary to relate it in detail here. In the play we find a first act dealing with "Boy" Fenwick's death and with Iris casting a slur on her own life to save the idol her brother has erected concerning "Boy." It is apparent that she is just one of the "mad Marches" and Napier, who has loved her, seems to have no difficulty in persuading himself that what she seems to admit about herself is true, especially when his father adds his influence by refusing to listen to a marriage between them. By word of mouth at least, Iris becomes a notoriously wicked woman, during the action she nearly breaks up the impending marriage of Napier and Venice and the story ends as perhaps such a story would end when one considers the woman involved.

Miss Cornell is fascinating as Iris. She makes the role of this unhappy woman seem entirely credible and her eyes, voice and manner are so carefully handled that one forgets the actress and lives the part with her. Miss Harding is a rare example of a game young woman and how she would act in the part of the young wife. Mr. Howard as the unhappy husband has a role difficult to handle but one which finds him not wanting in ability. I liked him particularly in his moments with Iris. Mr. Paul Guilfoyle, as the boyish young March, also showed to good advantage as did A. P. Kaye as the practical doctor.

"The Green Hat" as a play misses much that you found in the novel but it makes up for it in other ways and you will find it a gripping thing admirably played by the best cast in town.

#### "THE KNIFE IN THE WALL"

LaSalle Theatre

Here is an old story in new clothes; clothes which are interesting, as well as new. The man who hurriedly leaves for war after an hour with the girl he has just married, the report that he is dead, the soldier's unexpected return to find that his wife is apparently in love with his cousin—this has been a favorite theme of previous plays. But here one forgets the theme in contemplation of its surroundings and characters. For the play opens in the back stage of an Italian marionette theatre in New York's east side district, and through three acts it deals with what goes on there, including a most interesting exhibition of how the puppets are manipulated in a marionette show.

Nicky is the young owner of the theatre, marrying Angela suddenly as he is called to war. Bruno, his cousin, also adores her and when word comes that Nicky is dead she loves Bruno in return. Deaf from shell shock, Nicky returns but fails to recognize the real situation until his hearing suddenly returns when he finds out what is going on, shows Bruno up as a coward and wins his wife's respect and affection. In and through it all there stalks the piano player, Frank, who is interested in white slave traffic and has plans of his own in connection with Angelica. Also there is Sandro who runs the show, Mamie and others who manipulate the puppets and Rosa, who makes the dolls. There is considerable action, several tense moments and a cast that is well able to handle each situation without overdoing things. So far as I was concerned Mr. Ralph Locke took the major honors with a performance that rang particularly true. Frederic Burt, who was so good in "Minick" is "Nicky" and gives a good account of himself while seeming to struggle a little with an Italian accent. Frederic March is an earnest and plausible Bruno. Dwight Frye is Frank, the piano player, and in make-up and dramatic moments he is almost as bad as the "Lounge Lizard" of recent memory. In his quiet moments he is very plausible. Elizabeth Taylor as Mamie is a scream.

### Neighboring Theaters

#### THE NEW CAMPUS

While the leading comedy roles in "Cheaper to Marry," which comes to the New Campus theatre on Monday and Tuesday, May 4 and 5, are handled by Louise Fazenda and Claude Gillingwater, three other well-known comic folk of the screen will be seen in this Robert Z. Leonard production. Opportunity to insert some humorous situations was presented to Mr. Leonard while he was directing the scenes in an exclusive Women's Athletic club.

Hank Mann, Mathilde Comont and Louise Carver were engaged to handle

the fun making roles, and the results were exceptionally good. The leading players in the cast are Lewis S. Stone, Conrad Nagel, Marguerite De La Motte, Paulette Duval and Richard Wayne.

Wednesday and Thursday, May 6 and 7, William Fox's gigantic thrill production, "The Cyclone Rider," a Lincoln J. Carter melodrama will be the attraction at the New Campus theatre.

Hoot Gibson star of "Let 'Er Buck," Universal-Gibson special coming to the New Campus theatre next Friday and Saturday, May 8 and 9, really played two parts while the picture was being made. Possibly it is better to say that he played one part for the screen, and lived another for his own gratification, for the picture was made in a town where some years ago Hoot won a fame which he values more than he does his fame as a motion picture star—the fame accorded to him as all around cowboy champion of the world.

So it was that when in September 1924, Hoot and his company that made "Let 'Er Buck," arrived in Pendleton, Oregon, virtually on the eve of the famous Annual Round-Up held in that city, he came as one who, by reason of former prowess had an unqualified right to mingle with the pick of the country's best cowboys.

"Let 'Er Buck" was adapted by Edward Sedgwick and Raymond L. Schrock from Charles Wellington Furlong's novel. Hoot thus able to star in a picture made on his old stamping ground, and scheduled events on the Round-Up program were incorporated in the story as part of the plot.

### VILLAGE THEATRE

Milton Sills and Viola Dana are together again. They will be seen in "As Man Desires," which comes to the Village theatre next Monday and Tuesday, May 4 and 5. It is a great picture, and something a little out of their usual lines.

The salt tang of the South Seas mingles with the mysticism of the Orient in this strange romance, adapted from Gene Wright's novel, "Pandora La Croix." Sill and Viola Dana occupy the center of interest.

Unlike "The Sea Hawk," however, this production introduces Sills as a British army surgeon in the Indian service. It shows him falsely emmeshed in a murder by a woman who had failed in forcing her love upon him, and compelled to flee for his life.

It picks him up again as a swash-buckling captain of a dingy pearl fishing schooner in the South Sea Islands, giving two-fisted, six-shooting battle for pearl bed rights and hating all women because of the one who had betrayed him.

A Christie comedy, "Fast and Furious" will be shown with it.

Wednesday and Thursday the first National picture "If I Marry Again" will be seen with a truly all-star cast. In this picture are Doris Kenyon, Anna Q. Nilsson, Hobart Bosworth, Myrtle Stedman, Frank Mayo and Lloyd Hughes. Some cast! With it will be shown a Pathe Review, Pathe comedy and Cross word puzzle.

Wesley Barry, beloved of children and grownups alike will be seen Friday and Saturday in his "first real picture," as it has been described.

Wesley Barry, his childhood behind him but his freckles as prominently in the foreground as ever, has grown up to the dignity of long pants and a love affair. Though "Battling Bunyan" is a picturization of a Saturday Evening Post story by Raymond Leslie Goldman, the role of the mechanic who becomes the fighting fool of the prize ring fits young Barry like the proverbial glove. Perhaps no other actor is so suitably endowed with the personality for the part. Molly Malone, Frank Campeau, Chester Conklin, Johnny Relasco and two stars of the ring—Al Kaufman and Frankie Fields—play prominent roles in "Battling Bunyan."

Other features on the bill are a Gang comedy, "Goat Getters" a Grantland Rice Sportlight and a Pathe news reel.

### NEW EVANSTON

Frederick Lonsdale's immensely popular Broadway stage play, "Aren't We All," comes to the screen, at the New Evanston theatre next Monday as "A Kiss in the Dark," a Paramount picture featuring Adolphe Menjou, Lillian Rich and Aileen Pringle.

The story, a highly entertaining comedy of marriage, is laid in Havana and New York. Menjou is cast in the role of Walter Grenham, a regular devil with the ladies. Because of his philandering ways, Janet Livingstone, played by Miss Pringle, refuses to take him seriously when he proposes.

The arrival of pretty Betty King, in love with her husband and also interested in men in general and Grenham in particular, messes things up a bit. Betty, warned time and again by Grenham, refuses to discontinue the flirtation and the upshot of the whole affair results in her being stranded on the dock, after returning with Grenham to her hotel after a bag she had forgotten, while the boat with her husband and Janet aboard pulls out for the States.

Even now Betty refuses to accept the situation as serious, rather she anticipates an interesting evening alone with Grenham.

Here's the situation. Betty is on Grenham's hands. Janet, on the boat, believes that he planned Betty's tardy arrival at the dock and is furious. She sends a wire to Grenham saying that because of this latest escapade everything is at an end between them.

How Grenham teaches Betty the error of her ways, manages to reconcile the irate husband and patches things up to Janet's satisfaction makes "A Kiss in the Dark" one of the season's big laugh pictures.

Here's Menjou wading through the hearts of a dozen women. It's great stuff!

Kenneth MacKenna, seen opposite Bebe Daniels in "Miss Bluebeard," heads the supporting cast of "A Kiss in the Dark," directed for the screen by Frank Tuttle. Others include Ann Pennington, Kitty Kelly and other prominent Broadway players.

### HOYBURN

The movie extra is passing out of the picture.

Either that or good supers are on the decline.

Despite the vast army of people who try to break into the movies, suitable extras are fast becoming "extinct."

It may come to the critical situation where producers will be compelled to use dummies when huge casts are necessary.

M. C. Levee, producer of "One Year to Live," the new First National film to be shown at the Hoyburn theatre next Monday points this out apropos of the difficulty he encountered in getting suitable people to make up the large cast called for in the picturization of the John Hunter story.

The type of extras who answered the producer's first call for people were not at all to his liking. They lacked the appearance and spirit of the extra of past days.

"It seems that the kind we do not want are the neos most charged with energy and persistence," declared Levee.

"The eligible material doesn't seem to have much tenacity and has been quietly slipping away during the past months. At one time we were overcrowded with good extras, potential actors and actresses. Now they seem to be waning."

As proof of his discovery is the practice among Hollywood producers of placing extras under contracts for several weeks at a time as a means of insuring their availability throughout the making of a picture in which they are needed.

Aileen Pringle, Antonio Moreno and Dorothy Mackaill head the big cast of "One Year to Life."

### HOWARD

Tom Mix, often termed moviedom most popular star will be seen at the Howard next Sunday, May 3, in a film entitled "Oh! You Tony."

Constance Talmadge has five leading men in her new comedy, "Learning to Love," which will be at the Howard next Monday and Tuesday, May 4 and 5. Leading Man Number One is Antonio Moreno. But Constance also makes love to Johnny Harron, Ray Hallor, Wallace MacDonald, Byron Munson, and is also suspected of making love to Alf Goulding.

MacDonald plays the role of a love-smitten college professor; Ray Hallor that of a young college boy; Byron Munson, a coo-coo French count; and Johnny Harron, a very earnest young man who carries business into his love-making and stands for no nonsense.

Moreno, the fifth of Constance's screen sweethearts, varies the program by refusing to make love of any nature to her. When she forces him into marriage by trickery he even refuses to live with her. Whereupon she goes to Paris for a divorce.

In "Learning to Love" Constance shows modern girls the various ways to capture a husband. The new comedy is a First National attraction written for Joseph M. Schenck Productions by John Emerson and Anita Loos. Sidney Franklin directed.

Buster Keaton will be seen in his hilariously funny film called "Seven Chances" at the north limits theatre next week-end Friday and Saturday. Joseph Schenck presents this up and coming young funny film funny man in "Seven Chances," which is a Metro Goldwyn picture based on David Belasco's famous stage comedy by Roi Cooper Megrue.

In it Buster has been given 24 hours in which to win a bride. There is a crowded church of willing women. And but one man to be the husband. Explosions of mirth are bound to burst forth at this point. It is claimed that there is a laugh in Buster's every step toward the altar.

### PRESENT "MARY THE THIRD"

On the evening of May 18 at the Highland Park Woman's club, the North Shore Theatre Guild will present "Mary the Third" with the same cast that produced it so successfully last season.

## Revive "Fashion"

The Drama League of America, with headquarters in Chicago, will present the North Shore Theatre Guild in its successful revival of "Fashion," by Cora Mowatt, at the Eighth Street theatre, Chicago, Tuesday, May 5, at 8:30 o'clock.

Commencing on the forthcoming performance, The Drama Magazine has the following to say:

The revival by the Provincetown Players of New York and by the North Shore Theatre Guild of Chicago, of one of the earliest American comedies, Fashion, by Anna Cora Mowatt, met with such great success that the latter group of players is soon to give another presentation of it in Chicago under the auspices of the Drama League of America, the National organization.

The author of this most amusing and satirical comedy was born in France of American parentage in 1819. When she was still a child, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Ogden, returned to their former home in New York. The youngster, christened Anna Cora Ogden, was destined to become better known under the name of Mrs. Mowatt. That she was a precocious young lady is evidenced by the fact that her marriage took place when she was fifteen years old and the following year she published her first novel. By the time she was twenty-one, she had published her first play which, so far as is known, had only private presentation. After that, during the next few years, she turned out several novels. Just when she wrote what was to become her great success, Fashion, or how long a time she spent on this play before it was produced, is not known. The important fact is that the comedy was given its premiere at the old Park Theatre, New York, on the twenty-fourth of March, 1845, where it ran for three weeks—which at that time was regarded as sufficient to label the engagement as a successful one. (In this connection it is interesting to note that the population of New York City at that time was between 300,000 and 500,000, with, one fancies, a comparatively small percentage of theatregoers).

Although later, Mrs. Mowatt herself became an actress, she was not a member of the original cast of Fashion. Her debut was made as Pauline in Bulwer-Lytton's The Lady of Lyons, and nine

years later when she made her farewell appearance, it was as Pauline. In the meantime, however, she did play the joyous role of Gertrude, the governess, in America and in London.

Fashion, or Life in New York, contains all the characters that apparently were dear to the play-goer of the middle-nineteenth century. There is the aspiring social climber who wishes her daughter, a modest violet in love with a hero, to marry a so-called count. You know when you look at the Count that he is a bad 'un; he has that dirty look. There is the honest American husband of the climber. He loves his "little girl" and wants her to be happy. And then, most important of all, there is Gertrude, the governess. That Gertrude is a lady

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## Village Theatre

Your Home Theatre  
J. B. Koppel  
Managing Director

Mon. and Tues., May 4 and 5  
Evenings, 7:30 and 9:00  
Matinees, Tues. and Thur. 3:30

Milton Sills and Viola Dana

in  
"As Man Desires"  
"Fast and Furious"  
2-reel comedy

Wednesday and Thursday

Doris Kenyon

in  
"If I Marry Again"  
Pathe Review and Comedy  
Cross-Word Puzzle

Friday and Saturday  
Sat. Matinees, 2 and 4 p. m.

Wesley Barry

in  
"Battling Bunyan"  
Our Gang Comedy  
"Goat Getters"  
Pathe News and Sportlight

Newell & Retchin

## The House of Harmony HOWARD

Continuous  
Every Day—2:15 to 11:15  
N. W. "L" Station at Howard

Sunday, May 3

Tom Mix

"OH YOU TONY"

Monday and Tuesday

Constance Talmadge

"LEARNING TO LOVE"

Wednesday and Thursday

Virginia Valli

"UP THE LADDER"

Friday and Saturday

Buster Keaton

"SEVEN CHANCES"

Saturday Matinee

in addition to the regular show  
Art Hoxie

"ROARING ADVENTURE"

All North Shore Trains Stop at  
Howard

## NEW CAMPUS

Fountain Square Evanston

Con. from 1:30 to 11 P. M.

Mon., Tues., May 4-5

Lewis Stone Conrad Nagel  
Marguerite De La Motte  
in

"CHEAPER TO MARRY"  
Walter Hiers Comedy News

Weds., Thurs., May 6-7

Lincoln J. Carter's

"THE CYCLONE RIDER"  
Bobby Vernon Comedy  
Pathe News

Fri., Sat., May 8-9

Hoot Gibson's  
Greatest Success  
"LET 'ER BUCK"

Added

Go-Getters Review in Colors  
Pathe News Aesops Fables

May 13-14-15-16

Buster Keaton  
in  
"Seven Chances"

## New Evanston

Mon., Tues. and Wed.

Adolphe Menjou

Lillian Rich

"A Kiss in the Dark"  
Comedy—Review—News

Thurs., Fri. and Sat.

Jack Pickford

"Waking Up the  
Town"  
Comedy—Sports—News

Daily Shows at 2, 4, 7 and 9—Saturday Continuous 2 to 11 P. M.

## Hoyburn

Mon., Tues. and Wed.

Antonio Moreno

"One Year to Live"  
Comedy News

Thurs., Fri. and Sat.

Virginia Valli

"Up the Ladder"  
and

Lloyd Hamilton in

"Good Morning"