

Tom Mix Becomes a Male Pollyanna; Beban Turns Out Another Sob Drama

By WALTER D. HICKMAN

EMALE POLLYANNA'S have been frequent visitors on the stage and screen.

Today we have a male Pollyanna. Tom Mix, our big hatted cowboy, becomes quite sentimental, and all for "dear mother."

"Ladies to Board." The title of this new Mix photoplay would make one suspect that it is straight comedy, but there is more emotional melodrama in it than straight comedy. William Dudley Pelley is said to have written the story for the western star, but I suspect that Mix did a lot of "mixing" in the plot before the picture was completed. Mix, while roughing it in the West as a cowboy, receives word that his mother has inherited a fortune if he will manage an old ladies' home way up in Vermont. Tom and his friend, Buck, go to the home. This Buck person, who suffers with his "dogs," meaning, in the language of the street, "his feet," furnishes most of the comedy of a hokum nature.

Mix discovers that a sort of an "Over the Hill" mother is cleaning the floors and dreaming of the day when her wild son will come to her. Mix and Buck take it upon themselves to treat the erring son so rough that he goes to the home and falls into his mother's arms. The son realizes what a "dog" he has been and repents at once. Much rejoicing. Then both Mix and Buck clope with the idol of their dreams. Result—love in a cottage ending.

"Ladies to Board" is the regulation Mix brand of a photoplay. He sticks closely to his regulation brand. This story is terribly overdone in theme at times, but one expects such things in a Mix movie.

The bill includes Our Gang in "The Buccaneers," a news reel and Virgil Moore's Orchestra.

At the Apollo all week.

BEBAN AGAIN PINS FAITH ON SOB DRAMA

George Beban must believe in the sob drama.

He seems to be so sure of his grounds that he goes for the sob drama on the screen and in person.

Beban some years ago hit on the idea of allowing a movie to go to a certain big scene, then lift the screen and permit himself to carry the action on in person.

This season he has enlarged his idea by doing an entire scene with others of the movie cast present in person. At the Circle this week Beban permits the movie "The Greatest Love of All" to work up to the court-room scene.

Then Beban and members of the movie cast act this scene as a spoken drama. When this is completed the screen is low.

George Beban

Paul Whiteman Shows How to Play a Modern Rhapsody

By WALTER D. HICKMAN

Paul Whiteman gave us much to think about yesterday at the Murat when his modern American orchestra was presented in two concerts by Ona B. Talbot.

Whiteman does not attempt to burlesque modern music. He attempts by musical contrasts to increase appreciation for better popular music.

His musicians do not throw instruments up in the air and neither do they go insane with acrobatics while playing. They seek to present music with a modern dignified touch.

Whiteman conducts his orchestra with as much dignity and legitimate attention during his program proper that one would expect from the conductor of a great symphony orchestra.

That is exactly what Whiteman is attempting to do—to elevate modern music by making a symphony out of it.

I was most interested when George Gershwin at the piano played his "Rhapsody in Blue" with the orchestra. As I understand it, this is the first rhapsody ever written for piano and the modern American orchestra.

This rhapsody might be called a modern symphony and contains both its weak points and at the same time it shows the real possibilities of modern composition and treatment. I believe that this composition opens the door for the real modern American symphony.

In the third programmed group Whiteman showed us how the modern touch may be applied to Handel's "Messiah."

Ross Gorman and Michael Pingatore will be remembered as fine examples of soloists with the modern orchestra.

A Serious Thought

I noticed that the real ovation at the afternoon concert did not come while Whiteman was playing his programmed numbers. When the program was completed, Whiteman announced that if people like the music "such as it was," he would play some of his record music.

This resulted in a demonstration from the audience and calls for "Clover Blossom Blues" and "Three o'Clock in the Morning" were made. Whiteman obliged, and it was then that he struck the expected big responsive mood of the audience. It was when he spoke to us in terms of phonograph records that he made his greatest popular appeal.

That is interesting, because it shows the marvelous influence that the phonograph is having upon American music.

There is a rare artistry about Whiteman and his orchestra which makes this organization different from all the others. The Murat was nearly filled yesterday afternoon and I understand it was capacity last night.

ered and the action resumed as a movie.

"The Greatest Love of All" does not have the ring of sincerity to it that "The Sign of the Rose" had. The "Love" movie is so plainly theatrical, it doesn't ring true to me for one second. Everything appears to give Beban his chance to "tear up" on the sob stuff.

The trouble as I see it is that this movie and the scene done in person by Beban and his cast are too sentimental. In my reporting days I know that no court would permit such actions as Beban acts on the stage in the courtroom scene.

Such movies gives me the impression that there is no justice of any kind in the court when every one in the audience knows that the defendant in the cast is innocent. Everybody is wise to the fact, but the movie jury and the movie judge.

This movie is too sentimental to consider it of any lasting importance in the history of the movie theater. Have your own opinion. You have mine.

The cast is as follows:

Dist. Atty. Kelland.....J. W. Johnston
Mrs. Kelland.....Wanda Lyon
Her Daughter.....Baby Evelyn
Maid Simpkins.....Nina Oliver
The Cobbler.....Nettie Belle Darby
His Daughter Trixie.....O. Zarrilli
Joe the Jewman.....George Beban
His "Sweetheart" Benedetta
The Presiding Judge.....William Howat
Atty. for the Defense.....Robert M. Doll
Court Officer.....George Humbart
The bill includes music by the orchestra; organ music, "The Ant" and a news weekly.

At the Circle all week.

GISH MOVIE BEING SHOWN AT POPULAR PRICES

"The White Sister" with Lillian Gish is being shown this week for the first time in this city at popular prices.

It was first shown here at a legitimate theater during its regular season.

The late F. Marion Crawford wrote "The White Sister" and the producer thought best in making it a movie to have it acted in Italy. It is a big theme and rather confusing today but the producer has as much as possible kept away from any religious controversy.

It gives Miss Gish a chance to be sweetly emotional. That I previously discussed when the picture was first shown in the city. It is a big picture and it cost a bunch of money to produce. Crawford when he wrote this story was in a serious mood and the movie director has not attempted to destroy any of the seriousness of the author.

Besides Miss Gish the cast includes Ronald Coleman, Gail Kane, J. Barney Sherry, Juliette La Viollette, S. G. Sherry, Alfredo Bertone and numerous others.

The volcano scene is splendidly handled. There is a lot of dramatic action in this picture.

Bill includes a news reel and organ music by Lester Huff.

At the Ohio all week.

CAREY APPEARS IN "THE NIGHT HAWK"

The chief movie offering at Mister Smith's this week is Harry Carey in

"The Night Hawk," a Western story.

Others in the cast include Claire Adams, Joseph Gerard, Douglas Carter and others.

Interest in the story centers upon "Panther" Gann, known as a gentleman crook, who is forced out of New York and goes West to revenge the murder of his brother.

Bill includes a news reel and a comedy. At Smith's all week. (By Observer.)

JOHN GILBERT FEATURED IN "A MAN'S MATE"

The Isis for the first half of the week is featuring John Gilbert in "A Man's Mate."

Most of the scenes are laid in Paris and the action centers about the efforts of a young artist to win the love of an Apache girl who acted as his model.

On Thursday the feature will be

Neal Hart in "Lawless Men." (By Observer.)

ABORN OPENS SEASON TONIGHT AT KEITH'S

The Aborn Opera Company will open its first summer season of musical stock at B. F. Keith's tonight with "Sweethearts" as the opening bill.

Other attractions on view today include: "Polly Preferred," at the Murat; "The Man Who Came Back," at English's; Oiglette Brothers at the Lyric, and "China," at the Palace.

Benson's Orchestra plays tonight and Tuesday at the dance palace in Riverside Park. At Casino Gardens, the Miami Lucky Seven is playing nightly.

Summer Camp Dinner

Frank B. Flanner, campaign chairman to raise \$15,000 for the Salvation Army fresh air camp north of the city, announced today that more than 200 persons are expected to attend a dinner Tuesday night at the Hoosier Athletic Club when final plans will be completed for the drive. Churches of the city have been asked to send representatives.

BIRTH RATE IN UNITED STATES SHOWS DECREASE

Indianapolis Ratio Slightly Increased in 1923 as Against 1922.

The birth rate in United States is decreasing, according to a survey just made public by the United States Department of Commerce.

The survey shows birth rate for 1923 was lower in twenty-one of the twenty-seven States from which figures were taken.

The highest birth rate, 34.8 per 1,000 population, is shown in cities of Wyoming, while the lowest, 15.6,

is in rural districts of Montana. Death rates are slightly higher in 1923 than in the preceding year, the highest rate being in cities of Mississippi, 20.3 per 1,000 population. The lowest death rate is 6.5 in 1,000 population in rural Idaho.

In Indiana the birth rate for 1923 was 21.7 per 1,000, while it was 21.4 in 1922. The death rate in 1923 was 12.9 per 1,000 as against 11.9 in 1922.

The birth rate in Indianapolis, 1923, was 20.7 per 1,000 as against 19.9 in 1922. The death rate, 1923, was 14.1 per thousand, and 13.2 in 1922.

Wayne birth rate in 1923 was 22.7; death rate, 12.9. At Gary, birth rate was 24.5 and death rate 12.5. Evansville birth rate, 19.3; death rate, 11.7.

The Rev. G. K. Smith Speaker

The Rev. Gerald K. Smith, pastor of the Seventh Christian Church, will be the principal speaker tonight at the annual banquet of the Marion County Young People's Council at Central Christian Church, Walnut and Delaware Sts. Special music will be provided.

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Business as Usual During Iris Flower Exhibit.

To stimulate a general interest in flower gardening and city beautification, and to give the general public an opportunity to become acquainted with the better varieties of garden flowers, the Bankers Trust Company next Saturday, will transform its banking rooms into a bower of blossoms. The occasion is the first of a series of five garden flower shows that will be staged this season by the company. The first show is devoted to the iris. At the same time a show for professional growers of iris and other garden flowers, will be going on in the lobby of the second floor of the Bankers

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While the flower show is on in the banking rooms, business will be transacted all through Saturday without interruption. The bank is open from 8:30 a. m. to 8 p. m. on Saturdays. The winners of the Iris competitions will have been determined by the judges on Friday night.

The winners of various classifications will be presented with garden plants and bulbs donated by professional growers. Grand sweepstakes prizes attractive silver flower baskets also will be awarded.

CHIROPRACTIC IS HELD IN ESTEEM

Scores of Local Residents Have Been Benefited.

Dr. John J. Bibler and Dr. Mabel Foster Bibler, 906 State Life Bldg., have had much to do with the elevation of chiropractic science to a position of esteem in which it is held today in Indianapolis. When the Drs. Bibler came to this city, after graduating from the Palmer School of Chiropractic, the work of the chiropractor was scarcely known here.

Much of the work of both these chiropractors has been of an educational nature since they have been practicing in Indianapolis. They have endeavored to build for themselves a reputation for the careful handling of every case. In every case where unusual conditions are present both the doctors make examinations. These two examinations are made separately, neither knowing of the findings of the other examinations have been completed and the records compared and carefully checked against each other.

Scores of residents suffering from rheumatism, and other complaints here, have successful adjustments of the movable segments of the spine.

School Population Grows

The total number of persons of school age in Marion County this school year was 78,802 and the number attending the schools 58,732. This is an increase both in attendance and in eligibles, according to report of W. A. Hacker, director of attendance, to Lee E. Swails, county superintendent. Last year there were 66,574 in school and 76,889 of school age.

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