

# JANNINGS IS NERO IN 'QUO VADIS' AT CIRCLE THEATER

Robinson and Bernard to Take Part in Radio Week at Ohio—Glyn's Latest Story to Be Seen at Apollo—Holmes to Play Lead in Melodrama.

Emil Jannings will be seen as Nero, who made fire insurance a necessity in Rome, in "Quo Vadis," new edition, at the Circle for the week beginning Sunday.

Robinson and Bernard, song writers, will appear in person at the Ohio next week in connection with "Radio Week" program.

Elinor Glyn's latest, "How To Educate a Wife," will be on view at the Apollo next week.

The feature movie at the Ohio will be "The Air Mail," a melodrama with Warner Baxter and Billie Dove.

## GREAT FOREIGN MOVIE OPENS SUNDAY AT CIRCLE

The Circle Theater's attraction beginning Sunday will be the new film version of the Sienkiewicz novel, "Quo Vadis," with Emil Jannings in the role of Nero.

The picture was staged in Rome on the actual scenes of Nero's tyrannies during his cruel and inhuman reign in the middle of the first century. Permission was obtained from the Italian government to make temporary rehabilitation of the most famous ruins of Rome—the Circus Maximus, the Palatine and others—in order to obtain proper realism for this picture.

"Quo Vadis" is said to be replete with thrills, picturing vividly the burning of Rome by Nero, as an inspiration for his stupid verses; the burning of Christian martyrs at stake, and the hurling of other helpless Christians into the arena to be destroyed by lions.

These latter cruelties were practiced in order to conceal from the people the fact that it was not the Christians, but Nero himself, who was responsible for the burning of Rome.

Jesus, giant slave of Lygia, the Christian maid is shown in battle with a savage bull, to whose back Nero had caused the girl to be bound when she refused to give up her Christian faith or accept his attentions.

The inhumanities of the tyrannical emperor are contrasted with the

love story of Lygia and Vinicius, the Roman general, who is converted to the Christian faith; and the supreme faith of the Christians in the teachings of their leader, Peter the Apostle.

The overture will be the Coronation March from "The Prophet," by Meyerbeer, played by the Circle Concert Orchestra, under the direction of Bakaleinikoff, and the Animated Circle News, Newspaper Fun and a Circle Comedy will complete the program.

## RADIO ARTISTS COME TO OHIO THEATER SUNDAY

J. Russel Robinson and Al Bernard, radio and phonograph stars, who have won fame as composers of many popular songs, are the featured entertainers at the Ohio Theater the coming week.

Robinson is an Indianapolis man who has written "Marge," "Blue-Eyed Sally," "Tomorrow," "St. Louis Gal," "Just Because You're You," and many other successes.

The two song writers head the "radio week" program, which also includes special music by the Charlie Davis Orchestra, with Cy Milder singing a novelty song and Lester Huff, organist, playing his original solo, "The Story of Organ Told."

The Mack Sennett comedy, "Bashful Jim," and a news weekly are added features.

"The Air Mail" is an Irvin Willat production featuring Warner Baxter, Billie Dove, Mary Brian, Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., George Irving, Richard Tucker, Guy Oliver, Lee Shumway, Jack Burch, John Webb Dillon and Lloyd Whitlock.

Byron Morgan, author of the famous Wally Reid automobile racing stories, wrote "The Air Mail," a story of crooks and the United States air mail service.

Russ Kane, using a borrowed medal which he pretends to have won in France, wins a berth in the mail service, to rob the mails. Sandy, a youngster with a mania for parachutes and aviation, makes a hero of Kane and a deep friendship is formed between the two. This starts the action of the story.

## ANOTHER GLYN MOVIE BOOKED AT APOLLO

Elinor Glyn's name is in itself enough to attract more than passing interest in connection with a photoplay, but when it is attached to a title as significant as "How To Educate a Wife," a comedy drama coming to the Apollo next week, movie fans may look forward with confidence to a picture a little out of the ordinary.

The character in "How To Educate a Wife" are "just folks." You meet them every day. Their problems are of a familiar type. The action centers around Mabel Todd, and energetic young woman, and her husband Ernest, who has made such a failure of the life insurance business that they are about to lose their home through foreclosure because of delinquency in payments.

In despair Todd takes a tip from a successful friend and starts training Mabel to help him.

Things move along smoothly until Ernest permits jealousy to overcome good judgment. What friend wife lacks in business knowledge she makes up in flirtation. The situations thus arising, are as can well be imagined, fraught with humorous possibilities. Monte Blue, Marie Revost, Creighton Hale, Vera

## LOCAL FILMLAND IMPORTANT PLACE NEXT WEEK



## LOOKING AT WHAT IS WHAT IN HOUSES ON GAY BROADWAY

Theaters Getting Ready for Annual Springtime—Ebb Tide.

By The NEA Play Jury  
NEW YORK, March 21.—The bluest period of the theatrical season falls to discourage the perennially optimistic producers. New offerings continue, and show at least average quality.

If anyone is curious to know what makes this period blue, he may inspect these items: Income tax came due and startled many players into a decision to economize. The inauguration interested millions and provided plenty of conversation at home for a couple of nights. Lent began. The weather in New York

## RAILROAD STORY ON VIEW AT ISIS

Among the big scenes of "Blood and Steel," a railroad melodrama, coming to the Isis the first half of next week is one showing a spectacular train wreck. William Desmond and Helen Holmes are co-stars in the picture, which was directed by J. P. McGowan. It depicts a battle between two rival roads for supremacy through a rich and fertile territory. Desmond is cast as Gordon Steele, a construction engineer, and Miss Holmes as Helen Grimshaw, daughter of the president of one of the roads. George Plymouth wrote the story.

added its bit, being first unseasonably cold and then unseasonably warm. One producer figures the recent controversy over stage morality cost the general run of plays a 20 per cent loss. Other discouragements could be thought up with slight effort.

The procession of new plays faces this storm cloud without apparent pessimism. However, the springtime ebb tide is due before long. Soon may be expected an increased number of ventures by the smaller producers who have been waiting all winter to find a theater at rental within reach. Opportunity is dawning for the unknown and novice.

## Makes 'Em Cry

Heretofore, Ernest Truex has utilized his smallness almost entirely for comic effect. In "The Fall Guy," he not only makes you laugh but he makes you cry, doing it naturally and with immense skill. He has good company, including Beatrice Noyes, Hartley Power, Ralph Sipperly and Joseph R. Barry, and they make the play better than its text.

The play is from the stage-wise pens of James Gleason, co-author of "Is Zat So?" and George Abbott. The little fellow accepts a suitcase which he thinks contains nothing but bootleg liquor, but when the detectives come it is full of "hop."

He works himself clear by a mighty effort. It is a good show.

## Taylor Returns

Laurette Taylor returns to Broadway for semi-weekly visits in a delightful pantomime, "Pierrot the Prodigal," and proves again what a versatile actress she is. For three acts, without speaking one syllable, she brings to life the wistful, appealing Pierrot, who goes forth so gayly to see life and comes back so sad and disillusioned, and invests it with all the pathos and sprightliness and beauty the situations unfold.

The production also brings back to New York another artist, George Copeland, the pianist. His musical accompaniment forms the substantial framework upon which the fantastic tale depends.

No. 1.—Billie Dove as she appears in "The Air Mail" at the Ohio next week.

No. 2.—Emil Jannings as Nero in "Quo Vadis" at the Circle all next week.

No. 3.—William Desmond in "Blood and Steel" at the Isis for the first half of the week.

No. 4.—Norma Shearer in "Lady of the Night" at the Palace, beginning Sunday.

No. 5.—Monte Blue in "How To Educate a Wife" at the Apollo next week.

## ROUNDING ROUND THEATERS

With Walter D. Hickman

WITH the dramatic season practically over in Indianapolis and with stock season right upon us, it is the duty of this department to pick the twelve best attractions of the season.

Kindly bear in mind that this list is my own. You, of course, have your own twelve best legitimate attractions of the year. I give the place of honor to "Hell-Bent For Heaven." The other eleven are to be considered on an equal footing of importance.

My twelve best for the season are as follows:

"Hell-Bent For Heaven" because it nearly approached perfection, as we know it from the standpoint of playwriting. Splendidly acted. At the Murat.

"Saint Joan" by Shaw because of its keen satire and brilliant acting of the entire cast. At English's.

"Rose-Marie," the musical winner of the season. At the Murat.

"Music Box Revue" because it combined splendid stage craft and satisfactory talent. At English's.

"The Pottery" because of the great acting of Donald Meek. At the Murat.

"The Rivals" with Mrs. Fiske and a wonderful cast. This would be on any list of the twelve best. At English's.

"Romeo and Juliet" as presented by Jane Cowl. Deserved much

more local support than it received. At the Murat.

"The Nervous Wreck," a noisy comedy but splendidly acted by Otto Krueger. At English's.

"Is Zat So," a comedy of the fight ring, well acted at the Murat. An easy winner.

"Meet the Wife," with Mary Boland at English's. Beautiful and smart comedy.

"Ziegfeld Follies," at great improvement over the other Follies we have had recently. At English's.

"Everyman" as presented by the Little Theatre Society at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. One of the impressive and worth while dramatic events of the season.

I debated at length whether I should include Otis Skinner, "Tarnish," Sissle and Blake in "The Chocolate Dandies" and Greenwich Village Follies in the list. After much study, I decided upon the above list.

The season's most terrible experiment was "Little Jessie James" as presented at the Murat.

The third annual orchestral season of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra Society, of which Ota B. Talbot is the guiding power did not pay for itself. In other words Mrs. Talbot has lost money in a noble cause.

With a loss, Mrs. Talbot is not discouraged as she has three of the place of honor to "Hell-Bent For Heaven." The other eleven are to be considered on an equal footing of importance.

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"Romeo and Juliet" as presented by Jane Cowl. Deserved much

With the help of the directors, the guarantors and the public, I am going to keep on bringing the best orchestras in this country to Indianapolis. Mrs. Talbot stated with determination.

And, that is the truth and the inside on the orchestral situation in this city. No one expects such an enterprise to make money, as the expense is too heavy for the talent alone, not including the rent of the theater and numerous other vital expenses.

It simply means that Indianapolis must buy more season tickets for the orchestral concerts.

Personally, I think Mrs. Talbot is doing a great something in giving this city orchestral concerts. Such noble work will put the name of Mrs. Talbot in the list of those that will never be forgotten.

And I mean every word that I say.

## Holding Has Chief Role

Thomas Holding, now playing a leading role in First National's "The Necessary Evil," which George Archainbaud is directing, and Pauline Frederick made their screen debut together in "The Eternal City," which was produced in Rome.

## BERKELL PLAYERS ARRIVE HERE FOR SEASON'S START

Manager Selects Many Fine Plays for Presentation in City.

With two new principals, three new players and many of the old favorites whose work is well known to Indianapolis theatergoers, the Berkell Players have arrived in town to prepare for the opening of the summer stock season at English's, starting Sunday night, March 23, in "Men Leave Home."

Ethel Elliott, leading woman, a Pacific coast favorite, and Milton Byron, leading man who received his training with the big eastern stock organizations, both new to Indianapolis, head the company this year.

## New Faces

Other new faces will be Robert St. Claire, juvenile roles; Martha Morton and Tommy Evans. Mr. Berkell has imported a new art director, too, in Eddie Eddie, who comes from Vancouver, B. C. Established favorites with the company are Isabelle Arnold, ingenue; Larry Sullivan, comedian; Robert Fay, Mary Hill, Al C. Wilson, veteran character man, and William V. Hull, director.

## Good Plays

Discussing plans for the season Mr. Berkell disclosed that he expects to present a wonderful line of plays here, among those already arranged for being the world famous "Lighthouse," which has just been released for stock; Guy Bates Post's success, "The Masquerader"; "The Green Beetle," in which George Archainbaud is starring; "Cobra," one of the outstanding dramatic sensations of the year in New York; "In the Next Room," a mystery thriller; "Channing Pollock's 'The Fool'; "Outward Bound," which was the talk of the theatrical world during its long metropolitan run; George M. Cohan's "So This Is London"; "The Silent Witness," "The Love of Su-Shong," "The Desert Flower," "Spring Cleaning" and such comedy hits as "The First Year," "Chicken Feed," "The Whole Town's Talking," "Polly Preferred," "Cheaper to Marry," "The Bride," "It's a Boy," "Connie Goes Home," "Dear Me" and "The Nervous Wreck."

## AMUSEMENTS

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**LYRIC**  
SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT OF  
**JOE ROBERTS**  
The WORLD'S GREATEST BANJOIST

"ON THE BOARDWALK"  
A COMEDY PLAYLET IN SONG AND DANCE,  
FEATURING THE FOUR AMERICAN BEAUTIES.  
**Tallman & Kerwin**  
NAVIGATORS ON THE OCEAN OF FUN.  
**Grace Doro**  
ASSISTED BY 10 FINGERS AND A BABY GRAND.  
**Scully & Caplin**  
"STEPPING OUT."  
**Les Klicks**  
"THE ENCHANTED FOREST."  
**Aerial Bartletts**  
A REVOLVING SURPRISE  
SUNSHINE COMEDY, "DANGEROUS CURVES," KINOGRAMS, GRANTLAND RICE SPORTLIGHT, "BY HOOK OR CROOK."  
DANCING IN THE LYRIC BALL ROOM AFTERNOON AND EVENINGS

POSITIVELY NO ADVANCE IN PRICES  
**PALACE**  
TINY MEN & WOMEN  
LIKE A NIGHTY ECLIPSE  
Mr. Lee Singer PRESENTS  
**SINGER'S MIDGETS**  
IN THEIR 1925 DELUXE PRODUCTION  
"SO THIS IS LILLIPUT"  
30 PRANCING PONIES—3 MIDGET ELEPHANTS  
3 CARLOADS OF SCENERY & ELECTRICAL EFFECTS  
OTHER BIG ACTS  
**POLLY & OZ** | **W.D. POLLARD**  
"SCENESONGS" | "UNCOMMON NONSENSE"  
PHOTOPLAY EXTRAORDINARY  
**"LADY OF THE NIGHT"**  
with **NORMA SHEARER** in a dual role of demi-mondaine and debutante

The HOME OF STARS | **B.F. Keith's** | The STARS ARE HERE  
AMERICA'S VAUDEVILLE STANDARD  
Offering the Only Keith-Albee Big Time Vaudeville in Indianapolis  
LOOK AT THE LINEUP OF STARS IN THIS WONDER SHOW.  
A PASSING PARADE OF FASHION, FUN AND FOLLY.  
**KARYL NORMAN**  
PRESENTS  
"THE TUNEFUL SONG SHOP."  
Assisted by Keno Clark and Bobbie Simonds.  
**JARVIS & HARRISON** | **MARINO & MARTIN**  
"THE LOVE BURGLAR" | The Letter from "PEETSA-BURGH"  
RETURN OF THE FAMOUS KEITH-ALBEE STARS  
**JULIA NASH & C. H. O'DONNELL**  
IN "STATIC"  
A Comedy Cartoon of the Current Craze  
**BLANCH SHERWOOD & BRO.** | **ROGER WILLIAMS**  
"AVIATING ANTICS" | "THE BOY FROM DIXIE"  
**PATHE NEWS TOPICS & FABLES** | **OSCAR MARTIN**  
SURPRISES SUPREME  
THE FAMOUS FUN FAMILY  
**THE FOUR DIAMONDS**  
Hughie, Phoebe, Thomas and Harold  
IN "A PERFECT SETTING."  
COMING WEEK OF **MAR. 29 HOUDINI** THE MASTER OF MYSTERIES