

## 'BEAU SABREUR' IS A STRANGE MOVIE

The Companion Photoplay to 'Beau Geste' Does Not Approach the True Theater of the First One of This Type of Film.

BY WALTER D. HICKMAN  
'Beau Sabreur' is not another 'Beau Geste' due to unsympathetic direction and the failure of the director to catch the real spirit of the story.

This movie was made as the 'answer to 'Beau Geste,' which was a box office sensation.

This companion movie to 'Beau Geste' does not introduce us to the characters that we met and became so interested in in the first movie of this type of entertainment.

Of course this story has its greatest appeal in the work of our hero being true to France. Many of the desert scenes have been done in a lavish manner. Some of these scenes have several hundred riders and horses.

Noah Beery makes the sheik of the low comedy type, and the director has not helped matters by permitting the two white women who appear in these to look like they just came out of a beauty parlor. As I understand deserts, such parlors are many miles away.

I am quite sure that some people will contend that 'Beau Sabreur' is really a satire on sheik stories, but to me the story is romantic melodrama and should be played in that tempo.

The director has so modernized the desert scenes that I expected to see the sheik using a radio to pick up a fox trot or get the market quotations.

William Powell is the villain and he is a good one and a mean one. This man is a splendid type actor. He is at his best at the very beginning of the movie.

Gary Cooper is the hero of the story. He is a good rider, even on a camel, and he is a good swordsman, but I can not say that he is a great actor in desert stories. He might be all right in westerns, but he will never be another Valentino.

Evelyn Brent makes the heroine a little flirt who has no place in the desert. It is not a heavy part, and she does very little with it.

As usual, by your own judge. To many who do not take their entertainment seriously 'Beau Sabreur' may be interesting entertainment, but I am sure that it does not approach at any time the good theater that 'Beau Geste' contained.

The bill includes a news reel, a Hay Roach comedy, Emil Seidel and his orchestra, Ray Winings at the organ and other events.

At the Apollo all week.

### COMEDY OF WAR AT OHIO

'The Gay Retreat' is another of these comedies of the war. The basis of this one is a young man who walked in his sleep and his father's butler and chauffeur who went to war with him to keep an eye on him.

Bob Wright, being a sonambulist, is refused by the Army and Navy, but goes as an ambulance driver, as do his two pals, for pals they become. They get into more trouble than one could imagine possible.

Nosenbloom and McSniff, the two pals, get pretty well 'oiled' in a French cafe and get on a train to the front when the M. F.s get after them. Wright also gets on the same train. Finally they wind up in the enemy headquarters and save their regiment from being blown up. To top it all off, they capture several companies of the enemy.

Wright fell in love before he left home and he fell in love when he got to France. The American girl he fell in his father's care, but when he comes home he brings a French wife and tries to explain to the first girl, but she has married his father.

The whole thing is farce of the first water, but it is clever and funny. Nosenbloom is taken by Sammy Cohen and McSniff by Ted McNamara. The rest I don't know, but they serve as foils for these two comedians.

Comedies and news reels complete the bill, with Connie's Band serving some more melody.

At the Ohio.—(By the observer.)

### NEW GILBERT MOVIE AT CIRCLE

'Man, Woman and Sin' is one of these pictures that has very little climax. It is merely an episode of life woven around a newspaper office. This is the story of a young man who finally discovered that the world was more than a dream. He awakened with a jolt that was nearly his finish. He discovered love and discarded it.

The young cub reporter, Al Whitcomb, was raised in the alleys of Washington and had no companionship but that of his mother. After he got his job on the paper, he and his mother took more pretentious quarters. And then

he was sent to a ball as the escort of Vera Worth, the society editor. He fell in love with her knowing that she was very intimate with several other men. And then he accidentally killed his employer. He was finally saved by a confession of Vera.

This in short is the story of the life of the cub reporter as played by John Gilbert. The fault that I find with the picture is that it isn't Gilbert's type. He is made to lay himself at the feet of the society editor, Jeanne Eagles, and beg to be trampled on. In short Gilbert is made to look 'sappy,' and that is far from his line.

The child life of Whitcomb is rather lengthy in order to lay a foundation for further events, and near the end the action lags pitifully. When the prison gates open to free him, the boy goes home in a daze with his mother, who is far too adoring. The girl waits for him, but either he does not see her or he does not want to.

The picture leaves you with a feeling that something important is lacking. You feel that a point is being driven home but that it is not clinched. Quite an unsatisfactory feeling, I think.

The work of Miss Eagles is good, but her part is weak, so that the balance is rather more on the negative side. I would say that 'Man, Woman and Sin' is a mediocre picture.

On the stage is Ossman and Schep, who play several of the hits of the last year on the banjo. These two are exceptionally good, playing some difficult pieces in connection with the Circle Orchestra. Frank Nussbaum sings 'The Song Is Ended.' The overture is composed of hits of the last year and the ones being carried over into the new.

I sat through one show and part of the next anxiously waiting to hear Les Sims, but I waited in vain.

Vitaphone reels, comedies and news reels complete the program.

At the Circle.—(By C. G.)

### GOLF COMEDY AT THE INDIANA

'Spring Fever' was successful as a stage play. It was good clean comedy. The film offers much more opportunity for comedy than did the stage, and this opportunity is taken advantage of in a goodly fashion.

William Haines has the part of Jack Kelly, a young man who is a crazy about golf. Kelly worked for Mr. Waters, who was also a golf fiend. But there the similarity stops.

George Fawcett plays Mr. Waters as a crabby old man, who had but one desire in life, to make a hole-in-one.

In the course of events Kelly is given a guest membership to a golf club by his employer.

er, and falls in love with Allie Monte. Joan Crawford is Allie, and a very 'Ritz' little girl she is at first until Kelly thrusts his attentions on her. But Martha Lonsdon, a young widow, would like to have him play around with her. It all gets very complicated.

Kelly and the club champion, Johnson, who is in love with Allie, play a match and Kelly wins, and also breaks the record of the course.

And then Kelly decides to marry money so he can play golf the rest of his life, and gets ready to propose to Allie when she tells him that her father has lost all his money. But he marries her anyway.

This is comedy-farce of the best kind. There are enough laughs and suspense to go around. Haines is especially good as the very aggressive Mr. Kelly, who clowns his way into love and nearly out again.

The majority of the comedy is supplied by George Fawcett and George K. Arthur. Arthur is Eustace Tewksbury and is crazy about the widow, and that is enough said.

On the stage is the first Public Annual Revue, which is one of the most elaborate revues brought to the Indiana so far. Nine girls, each magnificently gowned, represent different melodies. They are accompanied by a dancer and a violinist. Norma Maxan is the dancer and Ada Synajko the violinist.

Roy Cropper, who was at one time with the 'Student Prince,' sings 'The Song Is Ended' and 'A Shady Tree.' Cropper has a beautiful voice and a personality to go with it.

The Lime Trio have a novelty act with one of the men representing a dummy. He certainly is the most limber man I have seen in a long time. The dummy deception is carried to the end by the way his partners throw him around.

The Runaway Four are always starting to do something and never finishing it. They start to sing, to dance, to do some acrobatics and other things, and leave you with the impression that they are mas-

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## In Cast of 'Prince of Pilsen'



When the Civic Opera Association presents 'The Prince of Pilsen' on Monday and Tuesday nights the cast will include Mrs. Christine Donaldson and Joe Foy.

ters of each thing; but they never do more than start. This troupe is composed of real showmen.

Sylvia and Clemence are a couple of clever little dancers who work with the company.

The Three Kermays have a novel idea in acrobatics. They have a series of tableaux, but every move is made before your eyes, and nearly all the work is done on the shoulders of the bottom man. A beautiful act.

Charlie Davis and his band accompany the revue. There is no need to go into detail, for Davis is getting better all the time.

At the Indiana.—(By the Observer.)

Other theaters today offer: 'Gay Paree at English's,' 'The Prince of Pilsen' at the Athenaeum, 'Sugar Babies' at the Mutual, 'Stepping Along' at the Lyric, Weaver Brothers.

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## \$577,000 SPENT ON CITY PARKS

Report Made on Work of Board in Last Year.

The park board spent \$577,000 from the general fund for maintenance and improvements during 1927, Superintendent R. Walter Jarvis said today.

In 1926 the department disbursed \$537,878 from the general fund. Municipal Gardens, formerly Casino Gardens, which was financed by a \$45,000 bond issue and several playgrounds were the chief acquisitions of property during the year.

An \$80,000 bond issue made possible the Brookside Community House which is under way. Completion is expected in spring.

Roofing of the Riverside shelter house which stood without a roof since 1913 cost \$10,000 which was taken from the general fund.

Most of the general fund was used for maintenance and operating expenses, however some minor improvements were drawn from it, according to Secretary Clarence Myers.

Improvements were made at the South Side Golf Course and the Coffin course. The Sarah Shank golf course, started during the pre-

vious administration, has been developed during the past year. W. Thirty-Eighth St. from Northwest-ern Ave. to Boulevard Pl. was resurfaced by the board.

Additional ground was purchased to develop Douglas Park through a \$59,500 bond issue and a site for a west side park was purchased with a \$18,500 issue. The twenty-five acre park will be developed on a tract bounded by Olin Ave., Michigan St. and Grande Ave. Seven comfort stations were built in parks.

Woman Held in Slaying  
By Times Special  
EAST CHICAGO, Ind., Jan. 2.—

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## Free of Fee

By Times Special  
LA FORTE, Ind., Jan. 1.—Justice of the Peace Archibald C. Austin and Henrietta J. Moore were married here without a cent of cost for the ceremony. A fellow justice, Henry J. Weber, pronounced the man and wife words, refusing to accept a fee. However, he extracted a promise that when he gets married, Austin will return the favor of a free ceremony.

vious administration, has been developed during the past year. W. Thirty-Eighth St. from Northwest-ern Ave. to Boulevard Pl. was resurfaced by the board.

Additional ground was purchased to develop Douglas Park through a \$59,500 bond issue and a site for a west side park was purchased with a \$18,500 issue. The twenty-five acre park will be developed on a tract bounded by Olin Ave., Michigan St. and Grande Ave. Seven comfort stations were built in parks.

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