

## HALF TEEN IS THE LATEST MOVIE HERO

Arthur Lake Brings to Life the Newest of the Juvenile Dandies: Jack Holt Has Leading Role in Pioneer Story at Apollo.

BY WALTER D. HICKMAN

HALF TEEN is the sort of character that represents the new type of a modern male flapper. Or, in other words, Harold is the 1928 high school sheik or whatnot. Harold is brought to life in a movie by the name of "Harold Teen," by Arthur Lake, a youngster in the movie game. He is long-legged and has a sort of natural awkwardness about him which has charm. Harold belongs to the flowing pants brigade. There probably is enough cloth in his trousers for a covered wagon. Harold's greatest champion will be the high school youngsters in the audience. Harold introduces one novelty in his high school career and that is the high school movie with members of the school doing the acting. There are some new novelty stunts in this part of the movie.

Here is the best juvenile burlesque we have had on the screen in many a day. But it does seem to me that the director or the story writer was wrong in changing the tempo of this burlesque to melodrama, that is the actual blowing up of a big dam. Harold has his own conception of a high school football game and the director here has again used some new tricks.

It seems to me when a movie accomplishes its purpose then that movie is not failure, miles away from it. "Harold Teen" brings a healthy modern high school hero to the boys and girls of this country. Harold talks their language and he gets a whale of a big response from his pals.

There is a freshness and yet a sincerity to the work of Arthur Lake as Harold that makes him a friend at once to every boy and girl who sees this picture. It seems to me that just as "It" made Clara Bow a sensation with the younger people, "Harold Teen" will do the same thing for Arthur Lake.

Harold is not old-fashioned, nothing ancient about this flapping flaming youngster. It is this element of youth that gives most of the winning qualities to this photoplay. The story is weak in spots, but I believe in all fairness that Lake covers up these weak spots. His support is mostly juvenile, headed by Mary Brian and Alice White, a girl that the movie lords hope to make another Clara Bow. She sure has the naughty eyes and knows how to use 'em.

There are three features at least in the stage show. The first is a medley of modern songs woven about "The Rhapsody in Blue." This gives Dessa Byrd, organist, a chance to play the piano on the stage while Ed Resner directs the orchestra. Dick Powell does some singing in this number. Two unusual dancers, Sanna and Wallace, if I have the name correct. Be sure and see this team.

The children in the audience will rave over the two little girls with Cannon. Another unusual act, the "Ginger" Rogers is back with her mixed up English cutie manner of delivery and her even more cute frown and smile. This girl knows how to get contact with her audience. She is a winner. It's her name in the big lights soon for this girl. The name of the man on the bicycle what you may call 'em has slipped my memory. He seemed to go over well with the majority when I was present.

The orchestra has a patriotic overture this week in keeping with the spirit of Fourth of July.

Now at the Circle.

CORINNE IS VERY GAY IN THIS ONE

This time Corinne Griffith is the gay and jolly little person.

Meaning that Corinne is not doing the sob sister stuff in "The Garden of Eden."

"The Garden of Eden" is a title given to a spicy little farce of probably European origin. It is just a little naughty, or I probably should say just a little rapid, but it is all done in the tempo of farce. The long distant camera angle is used in this picture to the extreme. So much so at times that I got the impression that things might be out of focus, but that is not true. This is probably used to contrast the more intimate closeups. Miss Griffith is cast as a happy little girl who longs for the bright lights, and she starts out to land a job in a midnight cafe. There she meets the lad of her dreams, but she treats him rather coldly at times. But love, you know, is just around the corner. This picture has a peach of a scene when Charles Ray late so unfortunate as to starring vehicles) proposes to Corinne while she is under the influence of sleeping powders. And it is just too bad when Charlie gets some of the same powders. I call "The Garden of Eden" just smart light modern entertainment. It is different and with the exception of so many long-distance camera shots it is a pretty good picture. Farce, you know, is mighty difficult to put on the screen. Lowell Sherman is present with his fine oil-like smile and manners. And our old friend, Louise Dresser, is present as the wardrobe mistress who becomes a real baroness for one week a year.

The stage show this week has several mighty well known names. Rome and Dunn, two singers of the type of Van and Schenck, are well known at the Palace. These men have an easy way in putting over a song. They do not become quite as dramatic in singing "Laugh, Clown, Laugh" as many others do. And that is a relief. Personally, I care for this song only once a season, but we will have it for many more because the public likes it and it gives singers a chance to act."

Ossman and Scheppe are banjo players, but they go beyond just that title, they are artists. This time they are featuring "The Indian Love Call," without the aid of the

leave their umbrellas and raincoats at home. Eddie comes in their house just as Nellie's mother was wishing for him. And poor Eddie died a victim of California.

A news reel showing and playing a tribute to the memory of Franz Shubert is also on the program as well.

At the Apollo. (By the Observer.)

### GOOD BILL IS OFFERED AT INDIANA

There have been stories and pictures of gangsters double-crossing each other, and there have been stories of them sticking together and here is a picture of "eggs" who think of the other "eggs."

"Ladies of the Mob" is built around the idea of a girl who had a deathly fear of the electric chair. Her father got "burned" and she doesn't want her man to get it the same way.

Ted Haley specialized in

Yvonne worked with him.

Orchestra. One has a chance to see the technique of these two men. They begin where most banjo players leave off. Their classic tropic song should be done in a louder voice because this type of song demands that intimate touch.

The stage set this week is one of those vast scenes and the color scheme and arrangement and the way the lights are used, absolutely prevents that intimate touch. A little too much vast scenery this week, especially when the success of the stage show depends upon that intimate touch. Joe Ross is a good dancer, in fact a mighty clever fellow. Emil Seidel is directing and mastering the ceremonies. The overture is one of the Hungarian rhapsodies.

Now at Loew's.

### PIONEER STORY

The spirit of pioneering, for a few to discover so that many shall benefit, is the spirit of the old timers that trekked across the country years ago.

Water, the golden treasure of the pioneers, was found by Old Man Ballard for his train of pioneers and kept by their children as their means of livelihood.

In a city to the south of the settlers there was a water famine. To "Happy Valley" came a representative of the mayor, to buy the water rights. But this representative, Murdoch by name, thought of his own gain, and tried to drive the settlers out of their country.

John Ballard, the son of the leader, was accused of killing one of his friends and also of selling out to Murdoch. He proves his innocence of the charges and then they all sell to the city and start again to look farther for new lands. They were "the Vanishing Pioneers." The first and last scenes remind one of "The Covered Wagon."

Jack Holt has the leading part of John Ballard. Ballard is an upright man and honest, young enough to be in love with June Shelby, a neighbor. Ballard is a hard-riding, quick-thinking man who wants to protect his friends. Holt does some good work portraying this westerner that stories are told about.

William Powell is cast as Murdoch, the sneak who finally comes to his deserved end. Fred Kohler plays the part of the sheriff, who is in the swindling game with Murdoch. They both do some good work.

Tim Holt, Jack's son, plays the part of Spuds, the brother of June. He furnishes some comedy with his real kid demeanor.

This picture is not a Vitaphone production.

In a talking skit Charles (Chic) Sales does the part of a preacher in a little church. All twenty-five members were there when the preacher was ill and the stranger, played by Sales, undertook to preach. The same droll comedy that Sales had on the stage is here in this picture. He tells the lovers to sit farther apart and gets a man with a broken arm to pass the collection plate. As the organ wheezes out the tune and the choir sings "They Are Taking Me Home" he walks down the aisle with two keepers from the insane asylum. Real comedy in this.

Jack Haley and Flo MacFadden have a song and comedy skit, with Haley doing most of the talking. Haley also does a tap dance after his song. It sounds as if it were on a stage.

May McAvoy and Richard Carter are in a playlet called "Sunny California." Nellie, played by Miss McAvoy and her husband, leave the East, where it is freezing, and go to California, where it is raining. Eddie, Nellie's brother, makes them

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PRODUCTION NEWS

APOLLO JACK HOLT

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"THE VANISHING PIONEER"

with Wm. Powell, Fred Kohler

VITAPHONE ACTS

MOVIEONE NEWS

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