

DOUG BECOMES VERY MODERN IN THIS ONE

Senior Male Member of Royal Family of Hollywood Gives Public a Thrill in 'Reaching for the Moon.'

BY WALTER D. HICKMAN

The senior male member of Hollywood's royal family has gone very modern both in character and dress.

I am speaking of Douglas Fairbanks, the senior, and his latest talker, "Reaching for the Moon."

Just as some leading women of the screen appear in bathing suits and even more scant attire, so Doug goes in for the same type of dressing in his new movie.

Once a very estimable woman complained to me that it is only the men who "get the eye" in the movies and the "poor women in the audience" must be content with men in fur coats or full evening dress.

And now it seems that Doug, at his years, has heard the complaint more naked breast in "Reaching for the Moon" than he ever has on the stage, or the screen before.

Nothing wrong or suggestive, but it is just the idea of the head of the Royal Family of Hollywood doing such a thing because he has worn armor and the clothes of Robin Hood in the past. And so Fairbanks has gone very modern.

And only a very modern story would permit the star to wear such little clothes.

It is true that it takes the story some time to get under way, but when it does get its legs, it is as classy and even magnificent fun.

We are concerned with one Larry Day (Fairbanks), a powerful New York broker, who has never had time for women or holidays until Vivian Benton (Bebe Daniels) sets her eyes on him.

He then forgets his Wall Street, millions and all that, and he about jumps on the boat which carries her to Europe. Nearly all the story takes place on the boat.

Vivian won't listen and gives him the cold shoulder. This sets him wild, but wildness makes him meek when he learns that his holiday has caused him to lose his fortune in a Wall Street crash. Then Vivian becomes the real woman and we know that Larry will be happy.

The comedy scenes between Fairbanks and Edward Everett Horton as Roger, a modern "Peeping Tom" valet, are really comedy gems. At times the droll Horton just about walks away with the picture.

In one mad scene when Fairbanks drinks a love cocktail he goes "cave-man" and what he does to the boat and the attendants is nobody's business. This is great fun.

As I remember, Miss Daniels has only one song number and that is a jazz one. It has a swinging melody and her voice is adequate to the film demands. Her talking voice registers better in this one than in any previous talker. And she looks gorgeous in this one.

Fairbanks plays the first part of the picture in a sort of a business man's restraint, but he becomes athletic when he becomes wildly in love.

The photography is splendid, the dialogue in the major scenes is smart and the settings are magnificent.

Here is really a new Douglas Fairbanks and I hope that he stays "new and modern."

Now at the Palace.

HERE IS ANOTHER MOVIE OF NEWSPAPER LIFE

Now the question you are going to ask me is—'Scandal Sheet' as a movie as good as 'Front Page' was on the screen.

You may recall that when I saw 'Front Page' on the stage in the flesh I was quite wild over it, because it did bring certain types of newspapermen to the screen as they may and do exist.

"Scandal Sheet" does not give you the truth of the editorial room or a managing editor or a publisher as he exists ninety-nine times out of a hundred.

George Bancroft as the very yellow editor of a scandalous sheet. It is

his theory that he should publish every bit of scandal regarding all people regardless of the fact that his publication will not only ruin the principals but many innocent people as well. From the standpoint of fact and of realism "Scandal Sheet" is just melodramatic theater and not realism.

Bancroft as the managing editor even baffles his publisher and holds him in the hollow of his hand because Bancroft by his sensational methods has made the paper a circulation success and a financial victory.

But you do not get the real atmosphere of a real editorial room at any time. Reporters in real life have often died while on duty and even telephoning in a story, but their work has been appreciated.

Bancroft as the managing editor publishes everything and he gets a chance to test his strength. His own wife is caught by the photographer of the paper in the arm of a banker whose crooked dealings were exposed by Bancroft before the banker could put into effect a plan to pay back every cent to the depositors.

The managing editor goes to his own home, a palace, and confronts his wife. She tells him that she loves the banker.

The M. E. goes to the banker's apartment and shoots the banker dead. The M. E. goes to his newspaper, publishes the story of the shooting and the causes and then goes to jail.

His life is sent to prison for the rest of his life and sunshine comes into his life again when he is made editor of the prison newspaper. And the managing editor starts out to make the prison paper the most yellow in the business.

This story is not realism. It is only melodramatic theater and as such it has suspense at times.

You may not agree with my views. Be your own judge, but don't judge every managing editor in the world by the one in "Scandal Sheet."

Now at the Circle.

BEBE HAS A POOR ONE THIS TIME

Although Bebe Daniels does some smart and excellent work on another screen this week, she is guilty of doing some mighty poor and unconvincing work on the Apollo screen in "My Past."

The supposed box office bait to this one is that it is supposed to be based on "Ex-Mistress." If I remember the story correctly, the movie resembles the original as much as an elephant resembles a flea. And that is some resemblance.

There is mighty little sense to the story as unfolded on the screen. It hints at being sensational, but it gets no place. Miss Daniels is guilty most of the time of being rather lazy on the job and seems to sense the fact that the movie really has no story at all. She seldom ranges true at anytime in this picture. Lewis Stone is cast as one of the male events in Dora Macy's life, the part played by Miss Daniels. Ben Lyon, who in real life is Bebe's husband, is the lover of Dora. Their love scenes seemed rehearsed at home three years after a honeymoon.

The story just isn't there and without a story no man or woman in Hollywood can make it a hit.

Now at the Apollo.

SPEAKING OF AN OVERTURE AT INDIANA

Some months ago I voiced the opinion that I would like to see the

Races 'Big Bill'



Coroner Herman N. Bundesen of Chicago has announced as an independent candidate for mayor against William Hale Thompson and Anton Cermak, Republican and Democratic nominees.

Bundesen has been prominent in Chicago politics for years.

Indiana bring a well-known pianist to this city and team him up with the orchestra under the direction of Ed Resener.

This has been done, and Leonid Leonardi, Russian pianist, is playing George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" with the orchestra.

Here is an interesting work and one that opened up new avenues of musical thought. Resener and his men are doing splendidly with this unusual composition.

Leonardi catches the fire and spirit of the piece and he puts it over. Of course he uses certain tricks of showmanship, but essentially he is a good pianist who knows how to sell music. And that is certainly something nowadays.

I am grateful to Leonardi because he is helping Ed Resener to bring back fine orchestral overture moments to the Indiana theater. It is a pity that we haven't had these musical treats for the past months.

The men are there, the leader is there, the gift is there—let us keep on using them.

The following data has been given me regarding Leonardi, who probably will become a much discussed person at the Indiana. I hope so:

Leonardi, who is making a tour of the larger Warner Bros. theaters of the country, has been musical director for the last two years at the Hollywood studios of the First National Vitaphone and Warner Bros. film companies. Previous to that time, he was associated in the musical end of the producing firms headed by Arthur Hammerstein, Henry W. Savage and the Shuberts.

While in Hollywood, he compiled music scores, supervised orchestras and composed an occasional original number for many musical film productions. Among them are "No, No, Nanette," "Sally," "Song of the Flame," "Bride of the Regiment," and "May Be It's Love."

Leonardi was born in Moscow in 1901 and he came to this country in 1922 after having graduated with honors from the Paris conservatory. In Europe, he appeared with several important symphony orchestras while still a comparatively young man. At one time Leonardi was associated with Camille Chevillard, director, at the Grand Opera in Paris.

Leonardi, his father, received a title of nobility from the Russian czar for his singing at the imperial court.

On the screen is "Millie," made from the widely read and sensational account of a girl who suddenly graduated from petting parties (rather than sedate ones) at school to the home of a family cheating millionaire in New York.

Millie divorces her husband and very soon she becomes a wild plaything with rich men who like to forget "home" for a few hours at night.

Millie does murder when she kills the man who was attempting to ruin the school girl complexion of her own daughter. Rather melodramatic and the kind jury feels that Millie just wanted to keep her little girl simple and good.

Movie jurors have a way in handing out such "gorgeous acquittals."

Well, well, well—that's my idea of "Millie." Story is rather cheap in many spots, but the acting is good on the part of Helen Twelvetrees.

James Hall is having a pleasant and a comfortable time in the stage show, "Hollywood Revels."

Now at the Indiana.

Other theaters today offer: Billy Furl at the Lyric; "White and Tan Revels" at the Colonial; "Rar'n to Go" at the Mutual, and "Ex-Flame" at the Ohio.

DRAW A VAMPIRE AND WIN A PRIZE

\$50 in Cash Will Be Given for Best Picture of "Terror."

Just what does a "vampire" suggest to you? What sort of fantastic picture does your mind paint for you when you think of one?

The Times will award cash prizes totaling \$50 to the persons who within the next few days submit the best drawings of their impression of a "vampire."

By "best" necessarily is not meant most artistic. This contest is open to everybody and the strangeness of your idea may win a prize over some one very skillful with pencil.

As almost every one has a different idea about "vampires" and things of a supernatural nature this contest should bring in some very unusual pictures.

This contest is being offered in connection with the showing at the Circle, starting Friday, of a story dealing with "vampires." This picture is "Dracula," taken from the famous widely-read novel of the same name.

The story deals with mysterious forces that live in the dead of night and of one such force in particular that character in the story discover to be a "vampire" who carries on a series of the strangest romances the world has ever known.

This contest opens today. Just get a pen or pencil and sketch out your impression of a "vampire." And remember you do not have to be an artist to get in this contest. The

craziest sort of a drawing may be the one that gives the most uncanny idea of one of these terrors of the night.

Please hurry with your drawing, as the contest closes Saturday noon. All drawings must be in the hands of the "Dracula" editor, care of The Times, by that time, to be considered.

The rules are simple, so make your work just as simple as you can. Be sure your name and address is written plainly on your drawing.

YEGGS GET \$200, WATCH

Safe Is Blown at Downtown Bowling Alley.

Yeggs early today blew the safe in Beas's bowling alley, Ohio and Illinois streets, and obtained \$200 in currency and a watch. Detectives said the safe was rolled up in floor mats to deaden the sound of the blast. Entrance was effected through a door leading to a fire escape.

Medical Director Chosen

FRENCH LICK, Ind., March 2.—Dr. William Edward Fitch, widely known expert on mineral waters, has been appointed medical hydrologist and director of French Lick Springs, it is announced by the French Lick Springs Hotel Company.

Two Face Boozie Charges

Joe Modaffari, 40, of 231 South Noble street, and Patsy Rossi, 23, of 706 Lord street, today were held in default of \$5,000 bond on vagrancy charges in connection with a still confiscated by police Thursday at 22 North LaSalle street.

SENATOR CRITICISES AGRICULTURAL HEAD

Caraway Demands Speed in Use of Relief Fund.

By Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance

WASHINGTON, March 2.—Unless Secretary of Agriculture Hyde acts speedily, the chief purpose of the \$20,000,000 drought relief bill will be defeated, Senator Thaddeus H. Caraway of Arkansas asserted today.

"It seems to me and to a number of other senators from the drought stricken areas that Secretary

Hyde is taking no steps to make loans to individual farmers, as was contemplated in the bill," Senator Caraway said.

"A number of us are getting very restive under this delay. Valuable time is being lost, and if the intent of the senate, which was to help farmers in distress, is to be observed, it is time for him to show more action."

Store Bandits Get \$8,000

By Times Staff Writer

FT. WAYNE, Ind., March 2.—Loot of \$8,000 was obtained by three

bandits in the Wolf & Dassauer department store here, one of the largest in northeastern Indiana. The robbers held up L. H. Shelton, office manager, five girl employees and two Negro porters.

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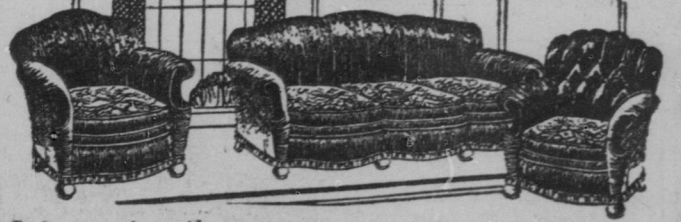
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