

OIL PRODUCTION CURB FOUGHT IN OKLAHOMA BILL

Battle May Determine Future of Proration in All States.

OKLAHOMA CITY, March 9.—A proration battle that may determine the future of the oil cur in all principal oil producing states is being waged in Oklahoma.

Investigations into the motives and methods of proration supplement the fight on the Jones bill, introduced in the legislature, which would virtually strip the corporation commission of its authority to regulate crude production.

Opponents of the Jones bill claim that its passage would ultimately result in the breakdown of proration in all other states.

Such a condition, they have told a legislative committee, would ruin the oil industry.

Called Price Fixing

Proponents contend that the bill's passage is imperative to save the small independent producer from bankruptcy, claiming the oil proration regulations amount to a "price fixing" scheme, instead of a conservation program.

Those who claim proration should be lifted have made unsuccessful flights before the corporation commission, the state supreme court and the federal district court.

They then turned their attention to boosting for the Jones bill. The Oklahoma Oil Association was formed to fight the curb. It is headed by E. B. Howard, former congressman, who believes an oil tariff and not proration is the solution to oil problems.

Sinclair Against Bill

Harry Sinclair, chairman of the board of directors of the Sinclair Oil Corporation, has announced his opposition to the Oklahoma proration law.

An investigation was ordered into allegations certain companies are allowed to flog their wells open in the large Oklahoma City field.

The legislative committee reported proration regulations were being violated and that some royalty owners were not receiving the proper amount of money.

A request has been made that if proration is to be continued Governor W. H. Murray be allowed to name proration umpires. Present umpires are named by the corporation commission on the recommendation of oil companies that petition for the oil curb regulations.

Governor Murray has remained silent in the controversy except to say he believes if there is to be an oil curb principal oil producing states should adopt a uniform proration plan.

Boys and Girls

Do you know how to take care of, and treat properly, that pet animal or bird you own? Many pets are valuable, and all are priceless to their owners. Our Wash. Bureau has a packet of its authoritative, interesting and informative bulletins on the care of various kinds of pets. The titles are:

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I am a reader of The Indianapolis Times. (Code No.)

OLD-FASHIONED HIT TRIES TO COME BACK

A Modern Cast, and a Strong One, Struggles With a Mighty Tough Dramatic Situation in 'East Lynne.'

BY WALTER D. HICKMAN

WHEN the producer and director took the mothballs out of "East Lynne" and dusted it off as a 1931 melodramatic dish, they handed a mighty tough job to the cast.

The fact is that probably nobody could have done a better job in bringing this old-fashioned play back to life on the talking screen than Ann Harding, Clive Brook as the alleged understanding friend and Conrad Nagel, a regular mess of a husband.

Many times I thought that I heard the bones of this ancient play crack and even moan as a modern cast tried to put life and color into this melodramatic corpse.

The fact is this cast of good actors in the talking screen version would not dare to attempt to revive this old play in the flesh on Broadway. Where angels would fear to tread on the legitimate stage, modern actors seem to have no fear on the talking screen. I would expect to see "East Lynne" in a legitimate theater in the sticks or under a tent in the summer time but not in the big city.

"East Lynne" is as even as a talker with a small smacks of being ten, twenty and thirty-cent entertainment, and a capable cast can make it a leopard change its spots. The story today appealed to me as being silly and terribly overdrawn. I would never expect a modern wife to take the insults of her husband's sister as the poor wife does in "East Lynne."

And the good acting of Conrad Nagel as the impossible husband could get no sympathy from me. The character is impossible and the situations he creates are impossible.

And does our villain (he starts out to be an understanding one and turns out to be a snake in the grass) treat our Nell nicely. He does not. He is about as much a rotter as the husband. Clive Brook makes the unconventional lover a very dashing person as long as he has money.

The fact is that Miss Harding gives a splendid performance of the weeping heroine who picked only lemons for her companions. And does she suffer? She does and how.

When I was present I noticed that many women in the audience were using their handkerchiefs while others were very frankly laughing at all the suffering.

It will be interesting to see if the old-fashioned melodramatic plays can stage a comeback on the modern talking screen. I for one doubt it.

Now at the Apollo.

LAURA MURDOCK SUFFERS SOME MORE

Poor old Laura Murdock is being made to suffer again for her indiscretion in love and for her lies.

Laura, you recall, was the suffering sob sister in "The Easiest Way," which was a best seller on the stage many years ago. Laura is a youngster compared to the long-suffering wife in "East Lynne" but Laura is brought up to date in "The Easiest Way" and I fear that she should have kept her years and not become quite so modern. The bones in this old play break at times under modern treatment.

Now at the Indiana.

"DRACULA" BECOMES A TALKING MOVIE

In bringing "Dracula" from the legitimate stage to the talking screen, the director has been much more successful than either the di-

play or the stage.

Story is not new, nor is it startling. There are some laughs present with Erroll handing out most of them.

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CAMPAIGN FUND CURB EXPECTED

Congress to Consider Nye Bill at Next Session.

By Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance WASHINGTON, March 9.—A definite attempt to curb the use of money in election campaigns will be made at the next session of congress, senators predicted today.

Bills embodying the lessons learned in the senate's investigation of campaigns in Pennsylvania, Nebraska, Tennessee, North Carolina, New Jersey, Delaware, Alabama, Kentucky, Minnesota, Montana, Massachusetts and Oklahoma will be introduced by Senators Gerald P. Nye of North Dakota and Bronson Cutting of New Mexico.

sugar daddy and support herself for six months.

Laura attempted it, but she failed to her rich man again. I lost all sympathy for Laura when she lied to Menjou and to Robert.

Laura is one gold digger who just couldn't play square. And I think that the movie director gave this a much too happy ending.

"The Easiest Way" is just plain melodrama at times. It has been beautifully produced, but it didn't get into one like the stage version did years ago.

I do think that this movie is box office.

Now at the Palace.

INDIANA ORCHESTRA PROVES ITS WORTH

I predicted last week in this department that some interesting things were going to happen in the Indiana concert orchestra in the pit

since Ed Resner and Leonid Leonardi, guest conductor and pianist, are getting their heads together. This week Leonardi is conducting the orchestra through an overture called "Light Opera Gems," selections belonging to "The Firefly" and "Chocolate Soldier" school. Leonardi has a lot of fire and showmanship in his method of directing and he is getting good response from the men in the orchestra. Resner plays a violin solo and he does it splendidly. Let us have more of this combination. It is excellent.

It really is worth while to go to the Indiana this week to hear this overture. Also Dessa Byrd helps to get the musical effect by playing the pipe organ with the orchestra. Resner and Leonardi have an excellent chance to make these overtures the talk of the town. Keep on Please.

The outstanding number of the stage show is the acrobatic and strong man work of the Les Gheggs, two remarkable men in a most remarkable demonstration. They serve to stop the show and they do.

James will aid in putting some comedy in the rather serious efforts of the Hill Billy Kid, who plays and sings old fashioned Hill Billy music.

On the screen is "Finn and Hat" a comedy that is clean. Mitzi Green a wise-cracking child; Leon Erroll as the muchly married husband, and Zasu Pitts as the wife of Erroll.

This trio goes to Europe and two types artists nearly make a bum out of Erroll. Erroll is about the whole show. Miss Pitts seems to have trouble in being funny. She shines only once and that is in a scene scene.

Story is not new, nor is it startling. There are some laughs present with Erroll handing out most of them.

Now at the Indiana.

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Concerning a Great Recital

BY WALTER D. HICKMAN

BY presenting Harold Kreutzberg and Yvonne Georgi in a dance recital at English's, Mrs. Nancy Martens brought her first season of fine concerts to a close Sunday afternoon.

In fact, the house could be called a capacity, because there were only a few vacant seats, and most of those were sold on the season basis.

The patronage given these Sunday afternoon concerts of Mrs. Martens guarantees the future for this woman, who is doing great work in bringing the most renowned artists to this city. I was glad to see English's about filled yesterday, in spite of the terrible weather.

Georgi support fine things, even in bad weather and in a depression.

Again I can safely say that Kreutzberg and Georgi make the best dancing team on the recital stage today. They need only a black drop, a piano and a pianist and some costumes to interpret every mood of the dance.

Kreutzberg today is even a finer and more sensitive creative artist than he was last year. His technique seems to be more definite.

His greatest individual triumph yesterday was a new dance "King's Dance." His costume and makeup were perfect. He developed a majestic and even savage tempo to this dance.

The audience liked the dancers best in "Persian Song," one of the prettiest dance pictures I ever have seen on the stage. Kreutzberg and Georgi danced it beautifully. So much so that the ovation was so great that they had to repeat the dance.

Their "Pavane" dance to Ravel's music was another artistic triumph. Their fine sense of comedy was well demonstrated in "Burlesque," which opened the second group.

These dancers seem to be at the height of their talent and still growing. Yesterday was one of the most charming afternoons I have ever spent in the theater.

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\$1,700 VALUE OF ROBBERS' LOOT FOR WEEK-END

Jewelry, Radios, Clothing, Hardware Are Among Stolen Articles.

Jewelry, clothing, cash, groceries, radios and hardware comprised loot valued at more than \$1,700 obtained by burglars and holdup men in the city over the week-end, according to police reports today.

For the third time in as many months, burglars stole dresses, jewelry