

'THE PETRIFIED FOREST' OPENS AT INDIANA ON FRIDAY

Stage Show's Star to Play Leading Role

Leslie Howard, Bette Davis
Featured in Film
Adaptation.

The picture adaptation of the famous stage play, "The Petrified Forest," starring Leslie Howard and Bette Davis, is to open at the Indiana Theater, starting Friday, according to an announcement made today by I. M. Halperin, Indiana-Circle general manager.

If Mr. Howard meant what he said recently, "The Petrified Forest," and "Romeo and Juliet," on which he just completed work, may be the last pictures the popular British actor will make for some time.

"I think people are fed up on seeing me on the screen," Howard said a week or so ago. "So I'm going to take a whir at directing."

The first picture to be produced under Mr. Howard's direction is to be filmed in his native country, England. He will not reveal the title but says it is a "famous old story."

Other Stars in Cast

In the cast of "The Petrified Forest," besides Mr. Howard and Miss Davis, are Humphrey Bogart, Charley Grapewin, Genevieve Tobin, and Dick Foran.

The original stage play was written by Robert E. Sherwood, and produced by Gilbert Miller at the Broadhurst Theater in New York. Mr. Howard took the leading role. Peggy Conklin played the part Miss Davis takes in the picture. Humphrey Bogart, who plays the gangster in the film, had the same role in the stage play. The play opened Jan. 7 last year, ran for 194 performances.

Played in Sherlock Holmes

After several years on music hall stages, Mr. Chaplin got his first legitimate role, Billy, the page boy in William Gillette's "Sherlock Holmes." Then he toured England playing juvenile roles and doing imitations of his favorite music hall performers.

At this time, Sidney Chaplin, Charlie's older brother, who already had made good in a few pictures in the United States, introduced Charlie to Fred Karno, a producer, who gave Charlie a variety of experience on musical productions. In these he toured this country for the first time.

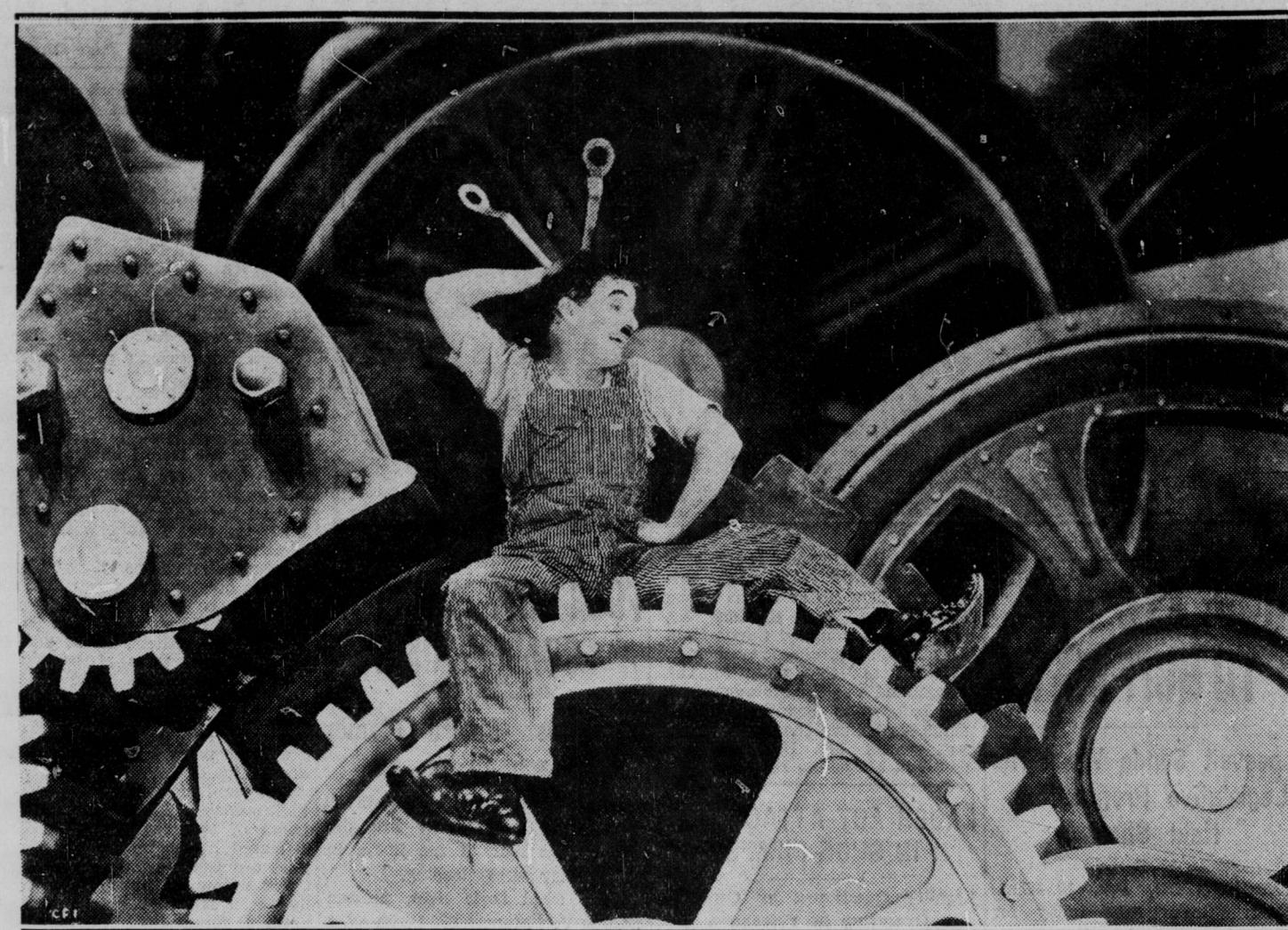
It was not until his return to the United States for a second series of performances with Karno's troupe that he made his first contact with the movies. He was signed for pictures by Mack Sennett, who at that time was setting new standards with his pie-throwing comedies.

After playing secondary roles in these comedies for some time, Charlie rose to stardom and then insisted upon directing his own pictures. Mr. Sennett at first resented this seeming usurpation of his power, but later consented and since that time Mr. Chaplin has directed all his own films.

During the two years he was with Sennett, Chaplin made 21 two-reelers and one feature, "Tillie's Punctured Romance," with Mabel Normand as his leading lady.

In 1915 he was associated with Essanay, the producer, for whom he made 12 two-reel comedies, and then went with Mutual Films, Inc., for whom he made "Floorwalker," and several others.

The magazine *Vanity Fair* some time ago featured a page of celebri-



ago. The incident shows that there almost is a complete generation who never has seen the comedian on the screen, and yet the legend of his antics lives through the years when he doesn't produce a picture.

There is much to attest to the magic by which Chaplin has been able to captivate young and old alike. One example is the row of shelves in the Chaplin home in Hollywood which is lined with scrap books containing press clippings concerning the comic. Charlie has talked less for publicity, and received more, than any other actor or actress—including Garbo.

Fifteen years ago imitators of Chaplin swept the country. On vaudeville stages, in musical comedies, among amateurs, any one who impersonated the funny little man with the cane, was sure of applause.

Recent clippings from Japan reveal that impersonations of the comic are still going on in the Orient. They tell of a contest for the "best impersonation of Charlie Chaplin," in which hundreds of natives took part, swarming the streets in Oriental interpretations of the film comedian. Like contests have been held recently in England.

There is a bridge in Rotterdam, Holland, with a large statue of Mr. Chaplin on the parapet. Puppets of Charlie are featured in both Tony Sarg's marionette show, and that of the Yale Puppeters.

The original costume which Charlie wore when he first donned the derby, stick, baggy trousers and large shoes, has been presented to a Los Angeles museum and may be seen there, draped about a sculptured figure of Mr. Chaplin.

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Above and below,
Charlie Chaplin
is shown in
scenes from his
new picture,
"Modern Times,"
which he directed,
produced and
for which he
wrote the
musical
background.

The story centers
around a poor
factory worker.



ties who play the violin for no other reason than that they like the instrument, and Charlie was listed along with Mussolini, Upton Sinclair and Einstein.

Paderewski, on his last visit to New York, remarked that he was disappointed because "none of the Charlie Chaplin films is showing here."

In Hungary several weeks ago a poll was taken by one of the leading newspapers in which it asked its readers if seven world famous figures were in danger and only one could be saved, who would they choose to rescue. Chaplin won by a large majority of votes.

Books, music and sports occupy what little time Charlie has left to himself.

A story is told about Charlie and Douglas Fairbanks at a time when the two happened to be together in Hollywood several years ago. Doug challenged Charlie to a race from their adjoining Beverly Hills homes to the United Artists studios, six miles away. At the start Doug took the lead but as they neared the studio he began to weaken. Charlie slowed down and finished a tie. Then as Doug slumped into a chair, Charlie sprinted ten times around the building. He hadn't told his friend that he won many ribbons as an amateur long distance runner in England.

Alexander Woolcott once said, "And we agree heartily."

"His like has not passed this way before and we shall not see his like again."

Misses Familiar Role

Myrna Loy, who was born in Montana and spent her girlhood on cattle ranches, never played a cowgirl on the screen.

Official Aids Producer

Inspector H. M. Powell of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police is technical advisor for "The Country Beyond."

Charlie Has Choice Library

Few of the visitors to Charlie's home know that his library contains some of the world's choice volumes. On his last trip to England the comedian bought the best books from the library of the late Arnold Bennett; first editions of "Frank Harris"; a complete set of "Punch" dating from its first issue, duplicates of which it is impossible to get now; and a first edition of Gray's "Elegy."

His Napoleonic collection boasts nearly every book ever written about the "Little Corporal." He has been

Daly's announcement caused a storm of controversy. While he undoubtedly had the legal right to duplicate the play Mr. Mansfield was producing, many persons questioned the moral right of the proposal. The situation grew more tense when it became known that Mansfield was paying Rostand some royalty while Daly was paying nothing for the use of the play.

The Daly production opened in Philadelphia but never reached New York. The Mansfield play gained heavily in popularity and finally Daly withdrew from the competition.

Cyrano de Bergerac was a real person although the author of the play took the usual dramatic license in constructing his hero's character. Cyrano in the flesh was a poet, an adventurer and a famous duelist. One of his literary efforts was "A Trip to the Moon," a little piece of fanciful writing which was the forerunner of many of today's imaginative essays.

The prettiest girl present at the Casino on Friday night is to receive a giant box of candy in connection with the "Dance of Love," planned as a special Valentine occasion.

Makes Two Films at Once

Ethan Laidlaw, one of the best all-round "heavies" of the screen, is currently supplying the menace of two pictures at once—"Silly Billes" and "Thoroughbreds All."

Stage Show's Star to Play Leading Role

Audiences Laugh More at Charlie Chaplin's Original Antics Than at New Scenic Effects in 'Modern Times', Coming to Loew's This Month

BY JOHN W. THOMPSON

A ridiculously flexible walking stick, an amusing undersized derby, two oversized shoes and a trick umbrella—that's about all there was to Charlie Chaplin and Co. when he started his career in movies before the World War.

And strangely enough, with all his new scenic effects and modern contraptions, those simple things were what the audience laughed most heartily at during the premiere of "Modern Times" in New York last Wednesday night. (Tickets were \$5.50 each.)

There is a Homeric uncertainty about the birthplace of Charlie Chaplin. But the blind poet is five up on the little fellow. Seven cities claimed the honor of being Homer's birthplace while only two, Paris and London, have claimed Charlie. But then Homer has something like a 2500 year start on Mr. Chaplin.

Charlie was born April 16, 1899 as far as anybody knows. The Parisian version has it that Mr. Chaplin first saw the light of day at Fontainebleau, the son of a French pantomime clown, and an English Jewess. Later, say the French, he sold papers in Covent Garden.

A London paper said recently that Charlie was born in Halworth, that his mother was Lily Harley, music hall vocalist (now an invalid living in Hove). His father, the report contend, was Charles Chaplin, well known singer of descriptive songs. So take your choice.

It seems that Charlie himself would lean toward the latter contention. At least he admits having made his theatrical debut at the age of six in a London music hall, when he was shoved on to the stage at the last minute to fill in for his mother who suddenly had taken ill. He sang a little song, "Jack Jones."

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WHERE, WHAT, WHEN

APOLLO

"The Jones Family" in "Every Saturday Night" with Jed Prouty, Spring, Byington, June Lang and Thomas Beck, at 11:58, 9:30, 5:55, 7:55 and 10:55.

CIRCLE

"Rose of the Ranch" with Gladys Swarthout and John Boles, at 11:40, 1:45, 3:50, 5:50, 7:55 and 10:10.

INDIANA

"Next Time We Love" with Margaret Sullivan, and his Cotton Club Orchestra, at 3:30, 6:45 and 9:30.

"Exclusive Story" on the screen at 11:55, 3:45, 7:55 and 10:20.

LYRIC

"Spices of 1936" featuring Count Berni, with the orchestra of "The Jones Family" in "Every Saturday Night" with Gladys Swarthout and John Boles, at 11:40, 1:45, 3:50, 5:50, 7:55 and 10:10.

OHIO

"Hands Across the Table" with George Lombard, Fred MacMurray and Ray Milland, at 11:21, 1:30, 3:37, 7:32, 10:15. Found Stella Parish, at 11:50, 2:55, 5:45, 8:32.

SHAWNEE

"The Big Broadcast of 1936" with George Raft, Rosalind Russell, Eddie Cantor, Bert Lahr, Eddie Foy, Jr., and the "Shuberts," at 11:40, 1:45, 3:50, 5:50, 7:55 and 10:10.

ST. CLAIR

"Mutiny on the Bounty" with Clark Gable, Bette Davis, and the "Shuberts," at 11:40, 1:45, 3:50, 5:50, 7:55 and 10:10.

STRAND

"The Perfect Gentleman" with George Raft, Rosalind Russell, Eddie Cantor, Bert Lahr, Eddie Foy, Jr., and the "Shuberts," at 11:40, 1:45, 3:50, 5:50, 7:55 and 10:10.

THEATRE

"The Fighting Pilots" with George Raft, Rosalind Russell, Eddie Cantor, Bert Lahr, Eddie Foy, Jr., and the "Shuberts," at 11:40, 1:45, 3:50, 5:50, 7:55 and 10:10.

WYOMING

"The Fighting Pilots" with George Raft, Rosalind Russell, Eddie Cantor, Bert Lahr, Eddie Foy, Jr., and the "Shuberts," at 11:40, 1:45, 3:50, 5:50, 7:55 and 10:10.

YACHT

"The Fighting Pilots" with George Raft, Rosalind Russell, Eddie Cantor, Bert Lahr, Eddie Foy, Jr., and the "Shuberts," at 11:40, 1:45, 3:50, 5:50, 7:55 and 10:10.

ZEPHYRUS

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