

Stage and Screen

"LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN"
English"APRIL SHOWERS"
Circle"PRIVATE LIVES"
English"HIGH WALL"
Loew's"TO THE VICTOR"
IndianaBACH CHOIR
World War Memorial"AN IDEAL HUSBAND"
LyricNew Swedish Star Makes Bow;
Psychiatry, Music, Comedy BilledViveca Lindfors in Indiana Vehicle; 'High Wall' at Loew's;
'Ideal Husband' at Lyric, and 'April Showers' at Circle

A NEW STAR swims into our ken when "To the Victor" opens next Wednesday at the Indiana.

She's Viveca Lindfors from Sweden, and there'll be more to say about the picture in a moment.

ON THE SAME DAY Loew's will offer "High Wall," a combination psychiatric and murder mystery, starring Robert Taylor, Audrey Totter and Henry Marshall, and the Lyric will start "An Ideal Husband," British-made film version of Oscar Wilde's famous comedy, starring Pauline Goddard.

The Circle's Thursday attraction will be "April Showers," a musical starring Jack Carson and Ann Sothern.

"To the Victor," which was filmed in France for accurate background, has to do with post-war black-market racketeering. In it, Miss Lindfors is co-starred with Dennis Morgan. Incidentally, one of the Warner Bros. press book plugs says that ex-GIs will be able to see Omaha Beach again in the film. That might seem to be a dubious recommendation for those who were in the thick of the landing.

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THE THEME of the lady psychiatrist and the gentleman patient still fascinates Hollywood. "High Wall" is another variation on it, in which Mr. Taylor is an ex-bomber pilot and Miss Totter the psychiatrist.

Mr. Taylor is accused of having murdered his wife. A bad case of amnesia prevents him from reconstructing the events leading up to the tragedy, but eventually, with Miss Totter's help, he succeeds in establishing his innocence.

Hollywood gives us the lady psychiatrist and the gentleman patient a-courtin', but never 10 years after marriage. Presumably daily psychoanalysis at the breakfast table is something even Hollywood wouldn't care to contemplate.

IN "AN IDEAL HUSBAND," Miss Goddard has the role of the scheming Mrs. Cheveley who throws late-Victorian London society into panicky jitters with her intrigue and attempted blackmail. An Alexander Korda job, it should be expertly done.

"April Showers" returns to 1912 vaudeville for its story. Mr. Carson and Miss Sothern, hitherto successful, are losing out in San Francisco because their act is stale. Their son (Bobby Ellis) joins them and makes a great success of the trio.

Through ups and downs and plenty of music, the story goes on to a happy climax.

Big Money Plugs Songs

HOLLYWOOD, Apr. 3—Behind the song you hum or whistle is always a song-plugger, and \$50,000 to \$75,000 worth of song-plugging.

"Many beautiful melodies and lyrics never reach your ears because their 'plug' has not been guaranteed in advance," says Richard Hageman, scorer of the movie, "War Party."

The "plug" is repeated playing of a tune, arranged by "song pluggers." It is designed to get you to know a tune so you can ask for it when you buy sheet music and records.

Since movies have acquired the reputation of being the most effective of song pluggers, few tunes become song hits without having been played in pictures, Mr. Hageman said.

GALLERY OF ARTISTS—The lady with the parasol, the new look and the spun-candy hat is Cornelia Otis Skinner, playing the role of Mrs. Eryllynne in "Lady Windermere's Fan" (English's, Apr. 15), with David Manners in the background. Emotional tangles between public and private lives are illustrated by Tallulah Bankhead and Donald Cook in Noel Coward's "Private Lives" (English's, next Thursday). Familiar to Symphony-goers is Leon Zawisza, Fabian Sevitzky's concertmaster, who will be soloist with the Indianapolis Bach Choir at 8:30 p. m. next Wednesday in World War Memorial. On the movie side S. Z. Sakall seems to be scaring Ann Sothern and Jack Carson with a bill in "April Showers" (Circle, Thursday). Other screen figures are: Robert Taylor and Audrey Totter in "High Wall" (Loew's, Wednesday); Michael Wilding and Paulette Goddard in "An Ideal Husband" (Lyric, Wednesday) and Viveca Lindfors and Dennis Morgan in "To the Victor" (Indiana, Wednesday).

Roy Doubles His Pay

By Erskine Johnson

HOLLYWOOD, Apr. 3—No deflation for Roy Rogers, the screen's top cowboy star. His peace treaty with Republic Studio, just signed, gives him a 100 per cent increase in salary.

Roy just turned down an indorsement of a razor blade for fear the youngsters would be encouraged to meddle with them.

When he recently indorsed a dog food, dozens of unhappy mamas wrote in to say that junior had tried eating the stuff because Roy had okayed it.

Another cavalcade of Hollywood coming up in "The Mack Sennett Story" at M-G-M.

If the studio goes through with its plan to incorporate some old Sennett bathing girl reels in the film, you'll be seeing Mrs. Darby Zanuck in a bathing suit. She was a Sennett bathing queen under the name of Virginia Fox.

HENRY FONDA, who is Broadway's dreamboat these days in "M. Roberts," has a clause in his contract that he can be home for Christmas.

John Dall is giving Margaret Whiting a big rush via a daily dozen roses.

Two Final Major Attractions Due At English's in Next Two Weeks

Tallulah Bankhead to Open With 'Private Lives' on Thursday;
Cornelia Otis Skinner in 'Lady Windermere's Fan,' Apr. 15

By HENRY BUTLER

THE NEXT TWO weeks bring the two final major attractions to the English. "Private Lives," Tallulah Bankhead's current vehicle, opens next Thursday. That Noel Coward comedy of modern marriage and its upssets will be followed Thursday, Apr. 15, by "Lady Windermere's Fan," starring Cornelia Otis Skinner.

IN OSCAR WILDE's play about a woman's threatened reputation in late Victorian strait-laced society, Miss Skinner has the role of Mrs. Eryllynne, the woman with a past.

Unless some "Tobacco Road" or "Maid in the Ozarks" comes in unexpectedly, the forthcoming two plays will just about wind up the professional stage season.

The Civic will have two productions, the first of which will be "Thunder Rock," billed as the only fantasy on the Civic's program this season and scheduled to open April 16.

WITH THE SYMPHONY season ending tonight, there still are some important musical events coming. Next Wednesday at 8:30 p. m. the Indianapolis Bach Choir, George Frederick Holler, director, will return to World War Memorial Auditorium for a concert.

Mr. Zawisza and Mrs. Munger will be heard in J. S. Bach's Sonata No. 1 in G minor, Brahms' D minor Sonata and Beethoven's "Kreutzer" Sonata. The choir will sing the "Liebessieder" Walzses of Brahms and the same composer's Motet, Op. 29, No. 2.

THE MATINEE MUSICALE will present Edna Phillips, coloratura soprano, as soloist in the last of the current artist-series programs at 2 p. m. Friday in L. S. Ayres' Auditorium. Miss Phillips will be assisted by Nathan Price, pianist.

Beginning its fifth season, the Ensemble Music Society will present the Juilliard String Quartet in concert at 8:30 p. m. Wednesday, Apr. 14. The scheduled program will include Haydn's G major Quartet, Op. 54, No. 1; Berg's "Lyric Suite" and Beethoven's Quartet in F, Op. 135.

Mrs. Lenora Coffin, secretary of the society, has announced that memberships for the fifth season still are available. Coming attractions in the series include: The Alma Trio, Nov. 12; the New York Piano Quartet (string quartet with Mieczyslaw Horszowski, pianist) Jan. 12, and the Budapest Quartet, Feb. 9, 1949.

As already announced, the Symphony's 1948-49 season will have an additional two pairs of subscription concerts.

OTHER INNOVATIONS in what appears to be Fabien Sevitzky's most ambitious schedule to date include two guest conductors and a guest orchestra.

Guest conductors will be Jose Vasquez, director of the Orquesta Sinfonica de la UNA, Mexico City, Dec. 4 and 5, and Sir Ernest Macmillan of the Toronto, Canada, Symphony, returning here as guest Mar. 5 and 6, 1949.

The guest orchestra will be the Chicago Symphony, Eugene Ormandy conducting, Jan. 29 and 30.

SOLOISTS will include: GINETTE NEVEL, violinist, Nov. 6 and 7; Pierre Fournier, cellist, Nov. 20 and 21; William Kapell, pianist, Nov. 27 and 28; Jennie Tourel, mezzo-soprano, Dec. 18 and 19; Josephine Bloch, Indianapolis-born pianist, Jan. 1 and 2, 1949; Martial Singher, baritone, Jan. 8 and 9; Jascha Heifetz, violinist, Feb. 26 and 27, and Menahem Pressler, pianist, Mar. 19 and 20.

The coming season's schedule has eliminated the Friday concerts. All the subscription series will be presented at 8:30 p. m. Saturdays and 3 p. m. Sundays in the Murat.

Kiddies, It's Television

HOLLYWOOD, Apr. 3—Television has turned Cesar Romero's home into a kindergarten.

The actor bought a television set so his invalid father, 75-year-old Cesar Julio Romero, could be entertained. His troubles began then.

"My father can't get near the television set," Romero said. "There have been more kids in my house than in school."

A nephew and a niece, 7-year-old Bob and 4-year-old Holly Hope, live with Romero. The television set for them is an all-day trip to the movies.

"Every kid in the neighborhood haunts the house waiting for the show to go on," Romero said.

They never play outdoors any more. My mother bakes cookies constantly to keep them fed. The neighbors get mad because they can't get their kids home for dinner. When I come from the studio I can't find any place to sit down in my own front room."