

CHARLIE'S FLAT FEET NOW MARCH IN LINE OF SOBERED COMICS

BY GENE COHN
NEA Service Writer.

NEW YORK, Jan. 19.—Charlie Chaplin just now is attempting a role at which lesser comics have failed.

So many clowns have come to speaking terms with despair that the world is wondering if the greatest of them all can juggle the fragile bubbles of scandal.

The "eternal Pagliacci," someone has called their status. Men and women who make the millions rock with mirth, but whose own lives get tangled in seamy skeins.

There was Mabel Normand whose career was broken over the Taylor murder scandal.

There was Edna Purviance, once Chaplin's leading woman, who figured with Miss Normand in another unpleasantness.

Disastrous Cocktails

There was Fatty Arbuckle, who went to disaster at a fatal cocktail party in San Francisco and who now is in the directorial anonymity of "Will B. Goode," maker of comic films.

There was Frank Tinney, the musical comedy jester, whose hom ewas disrupted over a lovely blonde chorine and whose life was all but snuffed out by illness as he plodded his way back to popularity.

There was Ed Gallagher, of Gallagher and Shean, whose health broke and who remains a pathetic invalid.

There was Max Linder, the French comic, whose fame traveled across several continents and who ended a suicide.

Alleged Forced Marriage

And now there is Charlie Chaplin—whose sad eyes seem perplexedly gazing into the fogs of surrounding scandal and trying to see what lies upon the other side. He has flirted with scandal before when marital craft went aground, but none so fraught with innuendo and sensation as that which came upon him when his child-like bride of an alleged forced marriage began to speak.

And how does the "best known man in the world" bear up under this?

Well, to begin with, one must remember that Chaplin has often been termed "the loneliest man in the world." In those articles by Jim Tully, which Charlie seeks to halt through libel action, there appears the comment that "behind the mask of the clown there is a defeated dramatist—a weary and sad man lost in a sea of wonder."

Baggy Pants Missing

Somehow, as he dodges about, pursued everywhere by cameras and reporters, one looks in vain for the baggy pants and the little derby.

This is the Chaplin that the public knows and screams at. Chaplin in his funniest moments—when the pursuit is on and the little, sad-eyed man dodges here and there, now losing his hat, now dropping his cane.

That's all very funny on the screen. But such is the slight margin between tragedy and comedy that all the wistfulness remains when life stages the chase—and very little that is funny.

Perhaps the audiences laugh at the symbol of defeat and frustration. Perhaps they see all of themselves and humanity held up to their most ridiculous mirror. That is a problem for psychologists.

Sad and Alone

I merely know that I have seen the real life chase on and I haven't laughed.

I have watched Chaplin, arming himself with a suavity that comes to hand easily, facing the armies of the press when it became essential to do so.

And of all the comics he seems to me the most sad and alone.



Confronted by his wife's suit, no smile brightens Charlie's face as he arrives in New York from California.

Arbuckle, red-faced and perspiring of forehead, would strut the corridors of the San Francisco courtroom, crying for a square deal and sometimes crying real tears—a truly tragic figure.

Mabel Normand would be defiant, tearful, nervous and friendly by turns. Miss Purviance would be tactful and direct. Tinney would jump to Europe to get away—and the rest would have their experiences according to type and character.

Chaplin approximates most all of these—but he has those melancholy eyes, that appealing wistfulness that have made him, upon screen and stage, one of the great clowns.

It seems that one would awaken to find that it's all very funny and that soon a comedy cop will appear and settle everything. Yet none does, nor will. It is in the smirking of scandal that the incongruity of his role lies.

And, yet, perhaps, it is the best performance I have ever seen him give.

GOOD BASKETBALL GAMES IN PROSPECT END OF THIS WEEK

Junior High Has Chance to
Take Southern Oregon
Title in Match
With Medford.

Basketball fans of the city are looking forward to the games on Friday and Saturday with the expectations of seeing two worthwhile games. Friday night the Junior high school meets the Medford team, while on Saturday night the Senior high school plays Corvallis. These games should be real exhibitions of basketball and will give the fans an exhibition of good playing.

The Junior high school team has been playing sensational basketball. Starting out with a brilliant and exciting game with Ashland, played here, Roseburg next trimmed Medford at Medford by a score of 12 to 8. Another game with Ashland was won by only one point, after extra time was taken to play off a tie score. If Roseburg can win from Medford Friday night the team will have secured the Junior high school championship of Southern Oregon.

Roseburg, however, is not looking for any easy victory over Medford, despite the fact that the team was defeated on its own floor. The Medford team is more experienced than Roseburg, but at the time the game was played had been practicing for only a short time, having had a late start in preparing for the season. Since the Roseburg game the team has been practicing regularly, and is the kind of a team that improves rapidly, as the players are all experienced, so that Roseburg will be facing a much stronger aggregation Friday than was faced at Medford and will have to work a good deal harder to win. The boys are determined, however, to win the championship which now appears to be practically within their grasp, so that they will make a determined fight to prevent the Medford team from winning.

The Senior high school game is also expected to be a good one. The Corvallis team is one of the strongest high school teams of the Willamette valley. They have had several games this year and have made good showings. The Roseburg team has apparently hit its stride, after getting a poor start, the ability of the squad having been shown in the game at Eugene where the University high school was badly defeated by the locals. The game Saturday does not count in the conference standing, but will greatly aid the local basketballers in preparing for their Southern Oregon contests.

The schools are endeavoring to secure the cooperation and support of the residents of the city in these games as a great expense is incurred in bringing in these outside teams. The division of the schools has crippled the athletic funds of the schools, so that the students must look to the sports fans of the city for support and cooperation. They have been furnishing a brand of basketball that is well worth the small admission price charged and are entitled not only to the encouragement of the residents of the city, but their financial support as well.

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Notice: Moroni Olsen Players' date changed to Wed., Jan. 26. Will appear on that date at Antlers theatre in "Outward Bound."

In the Nicaraguan Crisis



DR. ALEJANDRO CESAR



JOAQUIN CUADRA



FIORIO LA GUARDIA



WILLIAM E. BORAH

Dr. Alejandro Cesar, new Nicaraguan Minister to the United States, approved President Coolidge's stand in support of the incumbent Nicaraguan faction. Dr. Cesar was accompanied to Washington by Joaquin Cuadra, legation counselor. Meanwhile, Representative Fiorenzo H. La Guardia told Congress that seventy-five New York policemen could protect all American property in the southern republic, and Senator William E. Borah threatened an attack on the Administration policy.



Efficient Housekeeping
Laura A. Kirkman

TOMORROW'S MENU
Breakfast
Stewed Dried Peaches
Cereal
Broiled Slice of Ham
Pop Overs Coffee
Luncheon
Celery
Nut Rice
Tea
Rolls
Dinner
Roast Leg of Lamb
Brown Gravy
Potatoes Parsnips
Caramel Coffee Jelly
Grapefruit

Tomorrow—Home-Made Sausages.

A Reader: "Some time ago one of our Column Friends wrote that she was distressed by bed bugs. Here is a sure exterminator: Crush one pound of moth balls and place them in a two-quart glass preserve jar. Add gasoline to top of jar and let stand overnight (not near heat or flame because of danger of fire). In the morning apply to mattresses, closets, in fact any place, with a paint brush. It leaves no spots or streaks and destroys larvae. One good application should suffice."

Constant Reader: "Is there any known thing which will remove indelible ink from garments?"

Answer: No, there is nothing that will take out indelible ink marks. Some time ago a reader sent me a formula to remove this kind of ink and I published it without testing it. A short time later I received a letter from a prominent manufacturer of indelible ink enclosing samples of ink-spotted cotton material, in proof of the fact that my published formula had not been successful in removing his indelible ink. So, you see, the word "indelible" evidently means exactly what it stands for. We must simply guard against getting this kind of ink on our clothing by accident.

S. B.: "Can you or anyone tell me how to remove dark yellow spots from original pen-sketches which have been hung on the walls, covered with glass, for ten years?"

Answer: I am sorry to say I know of nothing that will remove such spots, but perhaps some Reader Friend may and will be kind enough to mail it to me, in care of this paper, for publication?

C. W.: "Have you a recipe for Potato Pancakes?"

Answer: Potato Pancakes: Wash four large potatoes, pare and grate them, adding one tablespoon of salt, one peeled and finely chopped onion, a pinch of pepper and one well beaten egg. Drop this mixture in hot fat and fry brown on both sides. Serve with maple syrup or accompanied by a dish of apple sauce.

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NO CROOKEDNESS ALLEGED AGAINST SPEAKER AND COBB

(Associated Press Leased Wire.)

CHICAGO, Jan. 19.—The principal charges against Try Cobb and Tris Speaker which caused President Ban Johnson of the American league to demand their resignations as managers, involved incompetency and not crookedness, Mr. Johnson said today. He called the Dutch Leonard charges against them inconsequential.

Johnson revealed a number of new angles to the celebrated case, which is due for a new threshing here Monday, but all related to laxness or over zealousness in managerial duties, and contained no hint of scandal.

The American league proxy, who severely criticized Baseball Commissioner Landis for making public the Leonard charges, mentioned Cobb's handling of players as "not to be tolerated in the American league," and his principal count against Speaker related to betting on horse races.

"Talk of crookedness had no part in our decision to demand the resignation of these two managers. They simply were not equal to their jobs, and so they had to go."

This new and vital sidelight on the Cobb-Speaker case, publicity around which led to the investigation of 1917 scandal charges, and the undoing of a host of rumors of other baseball irregularities, gave a rather wan aspect to the possibility that any sensational disclosures would be made here Monday.

A real row however seems to be brewing in two quarters. One relates to what will come to pass when President Johnson and his American league proxy meet here preliminary to the conference with Landis and the other what will come of the Johnson-Landis feud when the two baseball leaders face each other.

AMEE LEAVES ON TRIP, HER COURT CASE AT AN END



Thousands of admirers give Aimee Sample McPherson, Los Angeles evangelist, a sendoff as she kissed her daughter, Roberta Sample, goodbye before leaving on an eight-week tour of the east, starting at Denver following dismissal of all court actions against her because of her alleged kidnapping.

THEY'LL DECIDE WORLD'S BIGGEST TAX CASE



These three men will decide the world's biggest tax case—the effort of the Treasury Department to collect from Senator James Couzens of Michigan, certain heirs to the Dodge estate, and others nearly \$500,000,000 as an additional tax assessment on the sale by them of Ford Motor Company stock in 1913. The entire history of the Ford Motor Company will probably be related at the hearings. The judges, left to right, are Ernest H. Von Foss, John M. Sternhagen and John J. Marquette. They comprise the special division of the federal board of tax appeals.

NEA, Detroit Bureau