

PEARLING IS SUFFERING NOW

Unsettled Conditions in World Ruin Industry of South Sea Islands.

SIDNEY, New South Wales, Sept. 5.—(Delayed.)—Pearling, formerly one of the principal industries of the South Seas, has fallen upon dead days because of the unsettled conditions throughout the world. James Clark, of Brisbane, who is known as the "Australian Pearl King," told a Royal Commission investigating the pearling industry here recently.

All pearling boats at Thursday Island are laid up and at Broome, Western Australia, only about 100 boats instead of 400 are working. Clark said: "A contributing cause of the diminution of activities is the failure of Germany and Russia, to purchase a great amount of the pearl-shell, as they did prior to the war, he said."

"At present there is about 2,000 pounds worth of shell in the London market," he said. "This cost between 200 and 250 pounds a ton to produce and it probably could be purchased for about half that price. Another handicap is the new Japanese method of producing pearls in the Japanese of trochus shell in manufacturing buttons. Trochus can be produced more cheaply than pearl."

He suggested that the Australian government should take control and stabilize the pearling industry, pointing out that four-fifths of the world's supply of premier shell comes from the Commonwealth. He expressed the opinion that the government would be able to market the shell much more advantageously than private interests.

Clark showed the Royal Commission a pearl which he said he believed to be the most valuable of its

kind in the world. It was as large as a pigeon's egg and was valued, he said, at 10,000 pounds. He said it was worthy "of a place in a monarch's crown" and recommended that it be added to the crown jewels of the British Empire.



LATEST DE MILLE PRODUCTION
PRIMAISED IN NEW YORK

Just what is in store for them at Sherry's today and tomorrow is shown by the press comments made by newspapers throughout the country. Here is what some of them say:

Cecil B. DeMille's latest photoplay, "Something to Think About," has been made with deftness, beautiful photography and a skill of cast and acting. . . . You should really see "Something to Think About."—American, New York.

The course traversed by the story of the new picture on the Criterion theater's screen "Something to Think About," . . . keeps itself round nearly every known element essential to a successful film production. But that is not wholly responsible for the fact that the latest Cecil B. DeMille picture is an unusually good one. He has given touches that add to the effect of the scenes. He has in this effort succeeded in describing on the screen states of mind and emotion. The story itself, centering about the village smithy's daughter, played by Gloria Swanson, leads its chief excuse for being into weakness, and her weakness brings on troubles that grow. The first promise of an end to these troubles works out slowly and only comes true when the miracle worker, Love, lifts the scales from the eyes of the blind, gives strength to withered legs and opens shut hearts. There is a strain of religion. The best characterization is that by Theodore Roberts of the blacksmith.

POPULAR COMEDY AT THE ARCADE WEDNESDAY

The Swedish comedy Ole The Swede will be the offering at the Arcade Theatre, Wednesday night. This play is billed as one of the biggest laugh hits on the stage—it has no long, tedious scenes or dialogue, but is quick moving and laugh inspiring from start to finish.

The story is in three acts and with Dave Williams in the title role furnishes a succession of hearty laughs that few comedies can duplicate. In the plot, plenty of material is supplied for the quaint, unsophisticated

Swede to make laughable blunders and mistakes, all of them plausible in a green character like Ole.

Two or three dramatic situations that are well carried out, add interest.

Ole The Swede has had a long, successful career and leaves a trail of laughter wherever it appears. Bright and breezy—it will please father, mother and the children alike, with its old fashioned simplicity and cleanliness.

All your cares will be forgotten when you see Ole. Reserved seats are now on sale at Silverthorn's drug store. Prices are \$1.00, 75c and 50c, plus 10 per cent war tax.

"MADONNAS AND MEN" AT ARCADE LAST TONIGHT

Seldom, if ever, has such a remarkably fine entertainment as "Madonnas and Men" been presented in this or any other city. It is filled to overflowing with all the elements that go into the making of the finest kind of photodramatic entertainment and it is no wonder that it was received with such enthusiasm by last night's audience at the Arcade Theatre where it was given its initial presentation in this city.

A powerfully dramatic story, dealing with ancient and modern times, is enacted by a cast of unusual excellence in which Evan Burrows Fontaine, the noted "Ziegfeld Pollie" favorite is seen as a dancing girl, Edmond Lowe, who played opposite Lenore Ulrich in Belasco's "Son-Deughter," has one of the leading roles as well as Anders Randolph, who scores the hit of his career in the part of the revenge seeking millionaire. Dainty Fairs Binney and beautiful Rave Dean are also seen in captivating roles while that noted character, Gustav Von Seyffritz, offers the most astounding bit of characterization ever seen in the role of the father who devotes his life and fortune to finding his lost daughter. In addition to these featured players thousands of others appear in the massive scenes depicting the Roman amphitheatre and other elaborate sets.

There is not a moment during the presentation of "Madonnas and Men" when the interest is allowed to lag for a moment. Throughout its showing the spectator is held spell-bound, is completely carried away by the great production, story and playing of the cast. To see "Madonnas and Men" is to see the last word in photodrama. This super attraction will be shown at the Arcade Theatre tonight for the last time.

"OLE THE SWED" AT ARCADE WEDNESDAY EVENING.

The possibilities of comedy seem very great in a play based upon a Swede who has lately come to this country, and who finds himself confronted by new and perplexing problems. So one can easily imagine the mirth-provoking blunders and mistakes that would be made by such a person.

When a character like Ole is presented on the stage, it is a very easy matter to exaggerate and overdo in order to gain laughs, but no such mistake is made by Dave Williams, he never departs from the true to life idea and the result is a funny play with no low comedy to mar the plausible.

Yes, it has a plot—there is a will, a villain, and a government detective sleuthing around; there are also other excellent characters, but they are often lost sight of in the contagion of Ole's side-splitting mistakes and the absurd situations in which he finds himself.

The public loves to laugh and they are certainly granted their desire when they see "Ole the Swede" at the Arcade Theatre Wednesday night. Tickets for this attraction are now on sale at Silverthorn's Drug Store.

OLD EWES SELL FOR \$1.00; . . . FREIGHT AND FEED, \$1.50.

On his return from Chicago last week, where he went with a shipment of his lambs, Frank Gildersleeve told of some sales of sheep at very low prices at the great central stock market. One lot of old ewes from California sold for \$1 a head and the expenses for freight and feeding were \$1.50 a head.

The market for lambs has been good at Chicago but broke recently under pressure of heavy shipments, as is a common thing each summer. Mr. Gildersleeve's first lot got to market before the break, but he had a second shipment which did not fare quite so well. He went to Portland Sunday afternoon.

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HOME TRADE IS GOOD IN BOOZE

Prohibition Director Says That Home Immunity Is Taken Advantage of by the Lawless.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 5.—Bootleggers have been doing a large and lucrative "home" trade ever since it was announced that prohibition agents may not enter a man's house unless they have a warrant obtained after knowledge that liquor is being sold there, according to Prohibition Director E. F. Mitchell.

"Every time prohibition agents enter a bootlegging establishment," says Mitchell, "the officers are told the place is a private home. To carry out the pretense the owners fit out a room back of the bar as a so-called home. There is a bureau, a table, a bed, a few clothes and other personal effects. Sometimes there is even a sign labeled, 'Home.'"

"The liquor is kept in this 'home.' When the customer enters the place, the proprietor or waiter goes out into the back room or home, where the moonshine is stored, fills up the necessary number of glasses, and returns to the bar."

"The liquor is consumed instantly and there is no evidence in the saloon. Agents may search the bar, but may not enter the bootlegger's home."

"But we will get them in the end. Believing themselves immune from search, the bootleggers are getting bold and careless. It will be easy to prove the sale of liquor. Then arrest and trial will follow."

It Is Worth While.

It is worth while to notice the price of Ice Cream today and from this day on at Silverthorn's—50c a quart, for the best home made ice cream that can be made. That should sound good to everybody. The first time such a price has been made in years on the whole Pacific Coast for first class home made ice cream, which is always the best.

BOOZE MAKERS' SECRET KNOWN

Government Officials Know the Ins and Outs of the Manufacture and Can Find out Much.

NEW YORK, Sept. 5.—Secrets of the "hootech" maker who manufactures synthetic whiskey or gin are as an open book to the government chemists who test the products of violators of the Volstead law.

Evidence seized from rum-runners and bootleggers is brought to them for examination. How the chemical tests are conducted was disclosed today by R. A. Edison, chief chemist of the government laboratory in the federal building. The walls of his office are lined with shelves filled with bottles of every kind and description containing every kind of beverage forbidden by the Volstead Act.

A fringe of stills seized in raids decorates the top of the shelves and there is a big pile of them in a corner. In the past year more than 8,000 samples of liquor, good, bad and indifferent, have been tested here and the results produced later in the federal courts.

The first thing to be done by the chemists when a sample of suspected liquor is brought in is to test it for alcohol. Usually the prohibition agents try to get at least half a pint of whiskey and a pint of wine for the chemists to work on. But occasionally an agent comes in with a small bottle of liquid which, he explains, is a drink of whiskey which he bought at a bar and had to hold in his mouth until he could spit it out into a bottle without being observed by the bartender. And that is tested too.

When the sample is large enough the hydrometer is used to find the amount of alcohol present. The hydrometer is a thermometer-like instrument of glass with the specific gravities marked on it. It is floated in the sample and the markings read. Alcohol being lighter than water the hydrometer sinks farther in a mixture of alcohol and water than in plain water. The amount of alcohol can thus be accurately determined by reading the markings.

Small samples of booze are tested by means of the pycnometer. A measured quantity of the suspected liquid is weighed and its weight compared with that of an equal quantity of water. By means of a few computations the amount of alcohol can easily be found.

For rapid work on beer and wine with small percentages of alcohol the ebullimeter is used. The evidence is heated and the boiling point learned. Water boils at 100 degrees Centigrade and alcohol at a much lower temperature. A mixture of alcohol and water boils at a lower temperature than water and thus the chemists can rapidly calculate the amount of alcohol.

After the test for alcohol has been completed in the case of whiskey the color of the sample is tested. Whiskey that has been held in bond for some time has a color of its own due to the inside of the whiskey barrels being charred before the whiskey is put in. The manufacturing bootlegger making an artificial whiskey of grain alcohol and water uses caramel made of burnt sugar to color his product. The Marsh reaction shows if the col-

or of the whiskey sample is genuine or artificial. A quantity of amyl alcohol slightly acidified with phosphoric acid is mixed with the liquid to be tested. Amyl alcohol being lighter than ethyl alcohol, an ordinary grain alcohol is called by the chemists, rises to the top of the mixture. If the whiskey is genuine the color will mix with the amyl alcohol and rise to the top of the mixture. If the color is due to caramel it will stay in the bottom of the mixture. Test is made for wood alcohol if there is any suspicion of its presence.

Mr. Edison said that 90 per cent of the liquor seized by the prohibition agents and brought to the laboratory to be tested is synthetic whiskey made of alcohol and water and a little color or just plain "hootech."

"We can usually tell whether the stuff is genuine or not by just smelling of it," he explained. "The synthetic stuff has a distinct smell of raw alcohol which is not present in genuine whiskey no matter how bad it may be."

"Lately we have tested a number of samples of synthetic gin. It is made of alcohol and water with a little oil of juniper to give the characteristic gin flavor. But the juniper flavor is ranker than genuine gin and I don't think anyone gets much pleasure from drinking such stuff. The bootleggers put in too much of the oil of juniper. There is some artificial wine seized by the prohibition agents. It is usually made from alcohol and water flavored with fruit juice of some kind. The home-made wine that is submitted for test is very poor stuff. Usually there has been insufficient fermentation of the grapes after they are pressed and sometimes putrefaction has started. Such wine will contain about 7 to 9 per cent of alcohol.

"Most whiskeys contain 40 to 50 per cent alcohol. Scotch whiskey has less alcohol than the other whiskeys. We have found small quantities of creosote in some of the artificial Scotch whiskeys that have been seized. The creosote is put in to imitate the peat-smoke flavor of the genuine article."

"The making of home-made grape-juice is dangerous from the standpoint of the Volstead Act unless precautions are taken to prevent fermentation and the consequent production of alcohol. The best way is to sterilize the grapes by pouring hot water over them or by boiling the juice. There is a wild yeast present on the grapes and floating in the air at grape-picking time and it is the wild yeast that starts the fermentation."

The government chemists have even tested Chinese wine, or ngkapy to determine for the government if it was suitable for human consumption. A large quantity of the wine consigned to Chinese merchants here was held up by the customs officials on the ground that it smelled so bad it was not fit for human consumption. The government's chemists found the wine was made from rice spirits and a decoction of herbs. They said it was all right for Chinese medicinal purposes so it was allowed to be brought in.

A Price on Candy.

Notice that fine lot of candy in the show window at the Palace Confectionery. And notice their price on this candy specials for Saturday.

Use Observer Want Ads.

STOCK BUSINESS IS IMPROVING

ONTARIO, Sept. 6.—"The situation is gradually improving for the stockman," said United States Senator R. N. Stanfield who was in Ontario last week.

"There is still a long way to go before conditions will be satisfactory, but they are gradually improving, and there is no doubt but further improvement will be noted."

"It cannot be otherwise in view of the actual shortage in livestock in the nation. There are today less than half the sheep there were in the United States in 1910, and that means that ultimately the sheep industry will come back strong. The same is true of the cattle business."

"The loans of the bank pool of fifty million are a starter and with the resumption of the work of the war finance corporation there should be a marked improvement. Aside from the upward trend due to a decrease in the stock on hand, the sheep and cattle industry both will feel the effect of the betterment of conditions in other lines of industry which is to be noted in the eastern manufacturing centers."

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