

THE SILENT DRAMA



George Arliss in a scene from 'The Devil at the Revolt'



Otis Skinner in 'Kismet' at the Majestic



Mary Pickford starring in 'The Hippodrome' at the Liberty



Tom Mix in a scene from 'The Prairie Trail' at the Star



Dorothy Phillips in 'Man-Woman-Marriage' at the Liberty



Eugene O'Brien in 'The Wonderful Chance' at the Peoples



Thomas Meighan and Lila Lee in 'The Prince Chap' at the Circle



Scene from 'What's Worth While' at the Columbia

TODAY'S FILM FEATURES.
 Liberty—Dorothy Phillips, "Man-Woman-Marriage"; Columbia—Lila Lee's "What's Worth While"; Rivoli—George Arliss, "The Devil"; Majestic—Otis Skinner, "Kismet"; Peoples—Eugene O'Brien, "The Wonderful Chance"; Star—Tom Mix, "The Prairie Trail"; Circle—Thomas Meighan, "The Prince Chap"; Hippodrome—Mary Pickford, "The Hippodrome"; Globe—Mahlon Hamilton, "Half a Chance."

TODAY'S MUSIC FEATURES.
 Rivoli—Orchestra concert, under direction of Salvatore Santella at 12:30 o'clock.
 Liberty—Organ concert by Henri Keates, under auspices of the Portland Press club, at 12:30 o'clock.
 Majestic—Organ concert by Cecil Teague at 1:30 o'clock.

BY DON SKENE.

ONE of the most unique and interesting personalities in the moving picture world is visiting here in the person of Signor Luigi Montagna, known to film fans as "Bull" Montana, the toughest looking star in screendom.

Just four years ago this week an unexpected twist of fate sent Bull into the movies against his wishes. He had a job as chauffeur to a pair of truck horses and in the evenings worked as a "bouncer" in a nickelodeon in the New York Bowery that catered to a patronage so hard-bodied that the seats were chained down and the girl at the ticket booth carried a Colt automatic. Bull's duties of ousting unruly movie fans required his strict attention to the audience, and he had no chance to watch the screen and make the acquaintance of the film players who were later to be his friends and co-workers.

Bull's remarkable strength had another outlet. He became a boxer and wrestler and in the latter role soon gained a reputation among sport lovers in the east. He was training in an uptown gymnasium when Douglas Fairbanks came to New York to start work on a new picture. Fairbanks instantly recognized in Bull an extraordinary screen type.

A messenger from Fairbanks' headquarters suggested to Montana the possibilities of a career in the movies, where his unusual appearance, a combination of the work of nature and the ravages of punishment from opponents in the ring and on the mat, would bring fame and fortune. "Whose these knees, Doug Fairbanks?" asked the Bull, who knew nothing of the movie world and its celebrities. He was told that Fairbanks was a fellow who drew \$5000 or so a week to play before the camera. This satisfied the wrestler, for he now saw that the whole thing was a huge joke. He was finally persuaded to take the matter seriously, and was engaged by Doug to play the crook part in "In Again, Out Again." Bull surprised everyone at the studio by proving an apt pupil in the art of acting, and took to the new game like a Norwegian to ice skating. After completing the picture, Doug kept Bull on his staff as a companion and trainer, and they went to California, where the fierce-looking, big-hearted Italian won a host of friends and plenty of attractive offers from other film companies.

asset. He draws a weekly salary of \$500, and the ante will probably be raised to \$1000 a week in his next production. He possesses a remarkable pair of "cauliflower" ears, which he declares have a cash value to him of more than \$10,000. When Mary Pickford cuts her curls, Doug Fairbanks quills smiling, and Charlie Chaplin throws away his monstrous shoes, then Bull Montana will see about having his gnarled ears fixed up. Bull is different from many actors in other ways than looks, for he is modest to the extreme. And he realizes the type of work he does best and will stick to it. Slapstick comedies may have about playing "Hamlet," but nothing will make the gorilla of filmdom try to compete with Wallie Read and Tom Meighan in their special fields.

The knight of the twisted lobes has two particular hobbies. He loves organ music, his particular preference being grand opera selections and sentimental ballads, which is a natural taste for a son of Italy. Bull loves children, and the little tots reciprocate by showing intuitively a fondness for this cinema caveman who under the surface is a fun-loving playmate. Bull isn't married yet, although there is much talk around Los Angeles tea tables about wistful maidens in southern California and far-away Italy who are watchfully waiting.

Stripped of the soft Italian accent which marks the speech of the "Brother Sylvus" of the movies, here's a little gossip about picture-making activities of Signor Luigi: "My best work, I believe, was in my first picture with Fairbanks. I was working hard to make a living in those days, and I was really tough. I'm too happy now, and it's hard sometimes to look fierce when you really want to laugh.

"In the film version of Joseph Conrad's 'Victory,' they made me go without a shave for eight weeks, and in 'Three Sevens,' in which I worked with Tony Moreno, they shaved my head with a razor to get a convict effect.

"When I played the spe character in 'Go and Get It' it took two men five hours to put on my make-up. They painted my face and head with glue, and put hair over it. I suffered most when they pulled the make-up off. It took ten weeks to make the picture, but I did all the work in my part in about five days.

"My last picture is 'Crazy to Marry,' with Fatty Arbuckle. I start out as a convict, and operate as a surgeon, performs an operation which gives me a new brain. I then become a regular 'sissy' with peach collars, knitting needles and a peach complexion. I think it's the funniest thing I ever did."

California, Bull has his particular crowd of cronies, which he calls the Black Handers club. Bull claims that three of the gang, "Epike" Robinson, "Steve" Dalton and "Crooked Nose" Murphy, are uglier than he is. Ora Markham, well-known Portland

photographer who snapped Bull the other day, is probably willing to back Montana against all comers in a "beauty" contest, however. Bull has never forgiven the bunch for the time when they sent him to a masquerade party wearing a mask over his eyes but destroying all mystery by not covering his ears.

Bull got his sobriquet because of his neck, which he encircles with a size 22 collar.

After meeting Mike Yokel in a wrestling bout to be staged by Joe Reig Tuesday night at the armory, Mr. Montana will leave for filmland, where arrangements are pending to star him in a series of pictures.

"Behold the Man," a remarkable motion picture based on the life of Christ, was shown at the Hellia theater Friday afternoon before a representative audience invited by Billy Paezle, and received unofficial but enthusiastic endorsement from church and school workers, business men and women, and members of the press.

Arrangements have been made to show the picture at the municipal auditorium starting April 24 under the management of Mr. Pangle and Fred Normand, local branch manager of the Pathé company, which produced the picture.

The story is impressive and is based on the narration of the life of the Savior by a mother to her children. The film is made in natural colors by a newly invented formula, and has been called by critics in other cities, "The Passion Play of the Screen."

The production has a distinct dramatic appeal, besides the strong religious messages, and the great scenes of Bible history are vividly presented. If the showing of the picture at the auditorium is successful, plans may be made to stage a series of screen entertainments at this civic center.

The Liberty theater music contest for a prize of \$500 will start today with the Portland Press club sponsoring the programme to be played by Henr Keates, popular organist, at 12:30 o'clock.

According to the rules of the competition, a record of attendance at the theater from 12 o'clock until 1 o'clock will be kept. The first plan was to count attendance between 11 o'clock and 12:30 o'clock, but the hour was changed to 12 o'clock.

The programme submitted by the Press club for the opening day consists of a medley of Sousa's marches, including "Stars and Stripes Forever"; selections from "The Chocolate Soldier," featuring the hero song; the overture of "Zampa," and a medley of old-time favorites including "Annie Laurie," "Annie Rooney," "Sweet Alice Ben Bolt," and "When You and I Were Young, Maggie."

The scribbles will be aided in their efforts for the prize because of the feature picture today, "Man-Woman-Marriage," a spectacular production which should draw well.

The city council hearing on the proposed amendments to the motion picture ordinance, scheduled for last Friday morning, was postponed a week because of the community chest drive, which has required the attention of city officials and leading figures in the ordinance discussion.

The hearing has now been postponed three times for various reasons, but the temporary censorship board is functioning capably during the wait for a permanent settlement of the question.

What may be a solution to the problem of what to do with used safety-razor blades has been discovered by F. W. Teufel, manager of the Peoples theater and inventor of the "Teufel Cutter."

Mr. Teufel has fashioned a handy device for cutting materials, using a light aluminum handle and an old razor blade. Only one corner of the

blade is used, and when it becomes too dull for service it may be detached and one of the other three corners used. The device is being employed by film men to cut out cardboard lobby designs and photographs, but it would be useful to men cutting rubber patches or other materials. There may be a fortune in the "Teufel Cutter." Remember that everyone laughed at the idea of a telephone and an aeroplane.

Ralph Pielow replaced L. C. Chandler last week as manager of the local motion picture exchange, the new manager is well-known in the western territory, having worked for Robertson-Cole in Seattle and the Pathé office in San Francisco.

"Exploitation is the most important thing in the management of moving picture theaters now, and we will make every effort to co-operate with exhibitors in putting forward the exhibition value of a production in the most efficient way," said Mr. Pielow in discussing his plans.

The firm of Vogel and Meehan recently took over distribution of Hodgkinson features for 17 western and

southern states. "The Man of the Forest," by Zane Grey, "A Certain Rich Man," by Stewart Edward White, and "East Lynne" are the big pictures which Mr. Pielow will book in Oregon.

A telegram from Paul Noble, manager of the Liberty, was received Thursday morning by Ralph Winsor. The message was sent from Bakersfield, Cal., and stated that the Noble party had arrived at that point in their automobile dash to Los Angeles after 24 hours, 5 minutes, of actual driving time, showing that the speed king of Portland's film row is keeping up his record as a road burner.

The Motion Picture league of Oregon at the regular meeting Thursday noon voted to join the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce. The film men will also donate to the fund being raised to send Frank Branch Riley east to carry the message of the beauty of nature in the Pacific northwest.

Members of the league agreed not to buy or contract for any film that had not been viewed and passed by the local board of censorship. This action will make it necessary for film exchange men to handle the matter of censorship entirely.

Glady's Walton, ex-Lincoln high school student and now a famous movie star, may visit Portland this summer, according to an announcement by Manager Ely of the Hippodrome theater. Miss Walton's friends have been urging her to come here for the Rose Festival, and she has promised to do so if she can get away.

As the result of a canvass made by George Loane Tucker, famous director, it is learned that more than 5000 American and Canadian churches are now equipped with projection machines and are showing moving pictures to their congregations.

Scenario writers of Columbia university in New York call themselves "cinema composers." This is along the line of ushers being called "reception secretaries" and press agents styling themselves "directors of exploitation."

Julius Sax and Sons, owners of the New Grand and Princess theaters, have purchased a site on the corner of Third and Ankeny streets and will erect an 800-seat picture theater there. The firm has also purchased a location in Vancouver, Wash.

Cecil Teague, manager of the Majestic theater organ, will play the following programme at his Sunday concert today: "Standard Bearers" (Farbach), "Narcissus" (Nevini), "Metropolitan Echoes," arranged by C. T.; up-to-the-minute hits: "Home Again Blues," "My Mammy," "Honolulu Eyes," "Myoming," "Becky from Babylon," "Kentucky Blues."

A clarinet solo "Serenade," by M. Moszkowski and played by W. Skinner, member of the Rivoli orchestra, will be a feature of the noon concert today at the Rivoli. Salvatore Santella, the conductor, has prepared a programme of varied interest, which is as follows: Fantasia "Maritimes" (W. V. Wallace), scenes pittoresques

"No. IV Fete Boheme" (J. Massenet), selection from "Going Up" (Louis A. Hirsch), waltz "Jolly Fellows" (R. Vollstedt), request; overture, "Italians in Algeria" (G. Rossini). The concert number during this week, played afternoons and evenings, will be a selection from "Going Up" (Louis A. Hirsch).

Salvatore Santella, the pianist and conductor at the Rivoli theater, will hold the stage alone tomorrow evening in a special piano recital which will start at 9 o'clock. He has written a transcription in classic for the popular piece "I'm Always Chasing Rainbows," which is on the programme. Another of his compositions, "Apassionato," also will be played. The balance of the programme follows: "Concerto for Piano in D Flat" by F. Liszt, "Air De Ballet" and "Scarf Dance" by G. Chamade and "Etude de Concert" by Edward MacDowell. Mr. Santella has played his transcription for "I'm Always Chasing Rainbows" for records on the Ampico piano which has had wide sale throughout the United States.

ll she sees the original of the picture. She persuades her father to take her west on a business trip, and on meeting Elton her love increases by leaps and bounds. He is a practical, honest man's man, who tells her that he loves her too much to impose himself upon her as her husband. He goes abroad and returns in two years a polished, educated gentleman. Then Phoebe finds herself in a quandary and unexpected problems, with which most women are familiar, face her. How she overcomes them and finds happiness makes an interesting finish.

Claire Windsor plays the leading feminine role in "What's Worth While." Miss Windsor is a "recent discovery" of Louis Weber, who selected her to play the leading woman's role in his first independent production, "To Please One Woman." Miss Windsor's success in this production was such that Miss Weber selected her to play the feminine lead in "What's Worth While." The Columbia picture players furnish the feature with an intelligent musical accompaniment.

GEORGE ARLISS IS AT RIVOLI
 Actor Makes Screen Debut in "The Devil." Taking Part of Villain.

George Arliss, marking his screen debut in "The Devil," showing at the Rivoli theater, takes into his hand the destinies of an artist, a model, a banker and his wife. He has marked these people for his own kingdom of misery. Out of their truth and goodness he would create evil. But, that truth can, and does, overcome evil is one of the points of interest in this photoplay triumph.

Men and women were merely puppets.

(Continued on Page 5.)

VISITING FILM STAR GIVES PHOTOGRAPHER A THRILL



Photo by Markham. "BEAUTIFUL BULL" MONTANA.

PORTLAND GIRL HERE ON VACATION FROM FILM WORK

—Photo by Markham.
 Miss Nell Franzen.

An interesting visitor in Portland is Miss Nell Franzen, who is taking a vacation after six years' steady work in pictures in Los Angeles. Miss Franzen is a Portland girl and formerly appeared with the Baker stock. She is visiting her father, N. J. Franzen, and is a guest in the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Kavanaugh, 24 East 10th street north. During the war Miss Franzen appeared with Mrs. Tyrone Power in entertainments for the soldiers and visited nearly all the camps. She will return in a fortnight to Coronado, where her mother and sister live. The trip down will be made by automobile, in company with Neva Gerber, who is playing leads with the Berivilla company. Miss Gerber is driving to Portland and the two girls will return together to Miss Gerber's car.

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