

The Silent Drama



David Powell and Ann Forrest in 'Love's Boomerang' at the Peoples



Mabel Normand in 'Head Over Heels' at the Majestic



Colleen Moore in 'Come on Over' at the Rivoli



Bethu Compton and Tom Moore in 'Over the Border' at the Liberty



Dorothy Dalton and Milton Sills in 'The Woman Who Walked Alone' at the Columbia



Richard Barthelmess and Lillian Gish in 'Way Down East' at the Circle

BY HAMILTON WAYNE. MORE healthy signs are being evidenced by the motion picture producers. Now they are beginning "to kid" each other! For a long time the various producers have taken themselves so seriously that it was almost depressive. Each male of the species particularly, from the inspired one who wrote the story up through the various stages of direction who shot it, and the man who produced it, they were exars. And ditto with a different gender for the feminine element. George Randolph Chester, some time ago, had an excellent article in "The Saturday Evening Post" on the making of movies, citing the fact that it was a chronic case of too many cooks--with the inevitable result.

BY HAMILTON WAYNE. just duo; have you noticed how considerate they are? Haven't you noticed now that the warm weather is with us--or supposedly so--they are releasing a fine assortment of "snow pictures?" Magazine editors usually run summery stories at this time of the year. Winter and Christmas stuff in the periodicals runs at a seasonal period of the year. But the motion picture producers reverse that, and while the managers are tuning up their ice-cooling plants to bring down the temperature in their respective theaters, the picture-makers are turning loose an abundance of northwest and Arctic snow films--mostly shot in the vicinity of Truckee, Cal.

with pirate ships and desert islands. Alice Calhoun is experiencing the thrill of depicting for the first time in her screen career the character of a bad, bad girl, in the person of Mag of the Alley, in her new feature, "Little Wildcat." Mag is the subject of some psychological experiments that effect a remarkable transformation in her character, and in the process--the psychologist, of course, forgets the psychology of the thing and marries the girl. There is a real plot, and some very fine acting in the feature, which unfolds swiftly and carries the interest from the first foot. As progress is made on the new feature, indications are that it will prove one of the most pleasing Vitaphone releases of the year with Patsy Ruth Miller as a Spanish senorita, and Earle Williams as a Spanish-American young blood, supplied with a cart-load of money and a sunny disposition, the two set in a sleepy little South American village; things are likely to happen. They do.

TODAY'S FILM FEATURES. Liberty--Bethu Compton, Tom Moore, 'Over the Border.' Majestic--Mabel Normand, 'Head Over Heels.' Rivoli--Rupert Hughes' classic, 'Come on Over.' Peoples--'Love's Boomerang.' Columbia--Dorothy Dalton, 'The Woman Who Walked Alone.' Hippodrome--'Poverty of Riches.' Circle--Griffith's 'Way Down East.'

Richard Barthelmess finds it necessary to use a cane in getting about nowadays. Richard has to ride a bicycle in his next picture. He wasn't born when these machines were so popular, and he experienced the same falls that all boys have in learning to ride the unmanageable silent steeds. Richard says art is all right, but he objects to backed spins, the loss of patches of skin and bruised bones for art's sake.

Lauded by the press as one of the most fascinating screen dramas, "One Clear Call" last week made its debut in Chicago where it crowded the big new Chicago theater to capacity at every performance. "One Clear Call" is John M. Stahl's latest all-star production. It is reported by critics as the greatest set of this able director's achievements to date.

But to give the producers their credit, it is to be commended, for now, it is said, he is tearing into the "shelling" tendencies of many producers. One big outfit has a company of expensive stars working down at Oxnard, Cal., on another "shelky" thing; and just about as close as professional ethics permits, Christie has a bunch of funmakers working on another two-reel up-ear "out-shelking" the much overdone sheik! The result will be awaited with merry anticipation.