

The Silent Drama



Richard Barthelmess in Scene from "The Road Boy" at the Liberty.



Scene from "Love is an Awful Thing" Starring Owen Moore at the Blue Mouse



Anita Stewart in "Rose O' the Sea" at the Columbia.



Scene from "The Sin Flood" at the Majestic.



Milton Sills in Scene from "Burning Sands" at the Rivoli.



Scene from "The Storm" at the Circle.

TODAY'S FILM FEATURES. Liberty—Richard Barthelmess in "The Road Boy." Also George Larkin and Ollie Kirby in person. Majestic—"The Sin Flood." Blue Mouse—Owen Moore in "Love is an Awful Thing." Rivoli—Milton Sills in "Burning Sands." Columbia—Anita Stewart in "Rose o' the Sea." Auditorium—The Bible Pictures. This afternoon only. Hippodrome—"Silent Years." Circle—Houses Peters in "The Storm."

BY HAMILTON WAYNE. ARTISTIC team work is meeting with pronounced success in filmdom. There have been many stars, husband and wife, who have played opposite each other in pictures. Then the team work invaded another branch of the film production. Directors shouted through the megaphones at their wives. Yes, and there was an instance where the wife, belated orders to her acting husband through the megaphone. That was when Lois Weber was directing her own picture, and in which friend husband, Phillips Smalley, was one of the featured players. Miss Weber also wrote her own photoplays, the continuity, and then directed them. Then the writers began teaming. Possibly the first to meet with unqualified success was the team composed of John Emerson and Anita Loos. They began writing together on productions for Douglas Fairbanks, and later for Constance Talmadge. They were so markedly successful writing stories together that they subsequently both wrote their names on a very important document. Anita Loos in private life is now Mrs. John Emerson. Deane Stoumen, who was killed in France, where he was a major with the United States marines, was probably among the first to write both stories, plays and photoplays with his wife, who was Muriel Halsety, an artist and illustrator. His outstanding hit "The Power of the Press" was largely due to her help and inspiration, as he stated when called before the footlights to acknowledge the calls of "author, author." Alan Holubar, the director, and his wife, Dorothy Phillips, have long been noted for their artistic team work. Mae Murray, the star of toxy clothes and striking sets, is invariably directed—on the screen—by her husband, Robert Z. Leonard. The acting forces sometimes strike humorous situations. Recently some visitors were watching the filming of an intense love scene. The man behind the megaphone was shouting to the beautiful star who was in the arms of the handsome leading man: "Kiss him! Take her in your arms! Draw her close! Kiss her again—and do it like you mean it!" The camera clicked away the footage and the kiss was held. Then the director, getting as near the dead line of the lens as he dared, again took up the megaphone. "Keep it, hold that now," he shouted. "Great! Tighten your arms about his neck. Kiss her again—like a sweetheart, not a brother! Don't let go! That's bully! That's right, close your eyes, honey; make it dreamy. Fine, that's my girl!" The director got so personal with his "honey" and "that's my girl" that one of the women visitors was impelled to ask some questions. One of the studio officials calmly answered: "That's Walsh, the director. The

King, adapted for the screen Joseph Herresholmer's "To-able David," which was Mr. Barthelmess' first starring vehicle and was pronounced the best picture of the year. Elinor Fields has been signed by Universal to play the feminine leading role opposite Reginald Denny in the new series with which "The Leather Pushers" will clinch the welterweight entertainment championship. Production of the new stories will begin at once under the direction of Harry A. Pollard, the man who made the successful first series. With the popularity of Reginald Denny and his superb ability as an artist in snappy comedy drama, Universal is assured that the H. C. Witwer stories cannot help making a whirlwind success. Hayden Stevenson will again portray the whimsical manager, the fellow who couldn't penetrate the situation when romance interfered with his young pug's career. Mary Alden, famous for her mother roles in such films as "The Old Nest" and "The Man With Two Mothers," has achieved the distinction of reaching stardom. Possibly she is the first character actress to be so honored. United Artists corporation is starring her in "A Woman's Woman," adapted from the Naïves Barley story in the Saturday Evening Post. A fact that this star's art has hidden from the public in the past is that Mary Alden, although she has played mother roles, is a comparatively young woman. She is now at San Juan, Porto Rico, working in another production. Gladys Walton is to star in a story written by Shannon Fife, scenarized by George Randolph Chester and directed by King Baggot. "The Lavender Bath Lady" is an original story by Fife. Chester, the famous author of the "Get-Rich-Quick Wallingford" stories and master of the art of combining humor and pathos in a handful of syllables, prepared the screen continuity. King Baggot, who directed "Human Hearts," a spectacle of "plain America" that is astonishing such eastern critics as have been privileged to view it, will guide Miss Walton and a strong supporting cast in the filming. Baggot has been casting for several days, and no supporting names have been definitely announced. Virginia Valli has completed her leading role opposite Lon Chaney in the Universal-Jewel production, "Bitter Sweet." After a few days' vacation she will be recalled to Universal City, either to play a leading role of the sort of which any star could be proud in a super-production or to start work on her own starring vehicle. "Bitter Sweet" is a magazine

story by William Dudley Pelley and world at the time of the earthquake, with the characters drawn from the smaller towns, the depths of the slums and the general melting pot of life. Lambert Hillier directed its filming, with Miss Valli, William Welsh, Jack Mower and others in support of Chaney. It took Director E. Mason Hopper, of the Jackie Coogan productions, just two weeks to locate a type for Jackie's forthcoming and as yet untitled picture. Cesare Gravina, a little old gentleman whose knowledge of the English language is very limited indeed, is the man whom Director Hopper selected. He was once an opera singer in Europe and has the honor of having been a conductor at La Scala in Milan, a much coveted position. Oravina has piloted many of our now famous opera folk over the stepping stones to success. He was a dear friend of the late Enrico Caruso and at one time was regarded as one of Italy's foremost singers. William Strauss, stage and screen character actor, is producing "The House of Solomon," a drama of Jewish life somewhat, it is said, on the lines of "Humoresque." That it holds the same human elements, although the story itself is of a decidedly different turn. Ruth McNamara, who has appeared in several well-known screen plays, is a prominent member of the cast. She plays the role of a social secretary. Betty Blythe, "the Queen of Sheba," has started work on her second Whitman Bennett production entitled "The Darling of the Rich." In her support will be seen Montague Love, Gladys Leslie, Julia Swayne Gordon, Charles Gerard and Jane Jennings. When the picture is completed Miss Blythe is scheduled to make a number of personal appearances at theaters throughout the country. Vincent Coleman and Doris Kenyon have deserted the screen for a few months. Miss Kenyon is a well-known screen star, and Mr. Coleman is perhaps one of the very best known of the screen's leading men. He has appeared opposite Mae Murray, Corinne Griffith, Constance Talmadge, Constance Binney, Madge Kennedy, Alice Brady and a dozen

other woman stars. Miss Kenyon is playing the leading role in the William A. Brady stage production, "Up the Ladder." Edy Darceia, who created a sensation in the leading role of the Fox film spectacle, "Nero," has been featured in a new picture of Unity Productions, Inc., the title of which is "Why Do Men Marry?" The second picture of Unity productions will be "A Woman's Story." It is told in diary form. George Hackathorne, who played the role of the little minister in the Famous Players picture of that title, will not play any more cripple roles, after he completes his current characterization in the Elinor Glyn production, "Merry Go Round." He has played so many cripples in "Human Hearts" and other productions that many believe him to be a real cripple. He feels, however, in playing the hunchback role in "Merry Go Round" that the part is a worthy one. It is believed that this role will bring even more honors than "The Little Minister." Gustav Seffertitz, well-known screen heavy, now appearing on Broadway in two screen productions—"Sherlock Holmes" with John Barrymore, and "When Knighthood Was in Flower," with Marion Davies has departed from his villainous gowan for Goldwyn actor-see. Miss Wachner will also do reappear. In New York on the costumes for "Ben Hur," which will be produced on a magnificent scale. Incidentally, Miss Wachner, who was the first to forecast the present vogue in the length of skirts, facing the Pacific ocean several miles north of Santa Monica. It is somewhat shorter. She bases this on advance information she has received from Paris and other fashion centers. The man who will, perhaps, get most enjoyment out of the first studio showing of the unedited reels of a film which R. A. Walsh and his company just brought from Tahiti is Carey Wilson. Not merely because Mr. Wilson happens to be the author of "Pas-

ing which time she was used in slums of the sea, but because he traveled and spent some time in the mystic isles of the south, he says he expects to feel again in watching the projected scenes the glamour and romance of his months in that far land. The versatile Rupert Hughes is now setting styles for women, and after his went is introducing a highly original touch. The new mode is a bathing suit for kitchen wear in hot weather. In "Glimma," his latest, Major Hughes called for a bathing suit to be worn in the kitchen by Helene Chadwick in the role of a young married woman unacquainted with ranges and dish-pans. Some of the girls of the film cast have been asked to recommend it highly. Following the completion of his characterization of Shane Keogh in Marshall Neilan's "The Strangers' Banquet," Hobart Bosworth will take a few weeks' vacation before he resumes the production of his own picture in San Francisco by reappearing on the Orpheum circuit. Between "shots" in the Neilan picture at the Goldwyn studio Bosworth is cutting his latest production, which work was interrupted when Neilan induced him to play Keogh in the Donn Brynns story. Luella Ricksen wants it thoroughly understood that she is a child actress no longer. She has been engaged by Marshall Neilan to act a flapper role in his first production in association with Goldwyn, "The Strangers' Banquet," from Donn Brynns' novel. Luella is now 15 years old. She first acted in Goldwyn films three years ago in the Booth Tarkington "Edgar" comedies, appearing as Alice Littlefield, the sweetheart of Edgar Fomeroy. Carl Harbaugh just returned from Tahiti with Goldwyn's "Passions of the Sea" company, is writing a book about his experiences in the South Sea Islands. Tom Forman is organizing a cast of six-footers for a picturization of Larry Evans' original story, "Are You a Fa'ture?" Tom Santschi, who has a generous three inches more than six feet to his credit, Lloyd Hughes, who is but little shorter and Hardee Kirkland, slightly under Hughes, are the first three of the male members of the cast selected. Hollywood now is being secured for "extras" whose heads reach up to the mark set by the featured players already selected. A big Mexican hacienda was built by Johnnie Walker especially for the production of "Captain Fly-by-Night," his first starring vehicle for F. B. O. The structure was built facing the Pacific ocean several miles north of Santa Monica. It measures 499 feet in length, with a width of 85 feet. Two big log cabins were completely destroyed by fire to provide spectacular scenes in "The One Man," Harry Carey's third starring vehicle for F. B. O. In order to secure different photographic angles, two cabins exactly alike were constructed for the production. The flames made such rapid progress that Carey and his company, under the direction of Val Paul, did not have sufficient time to finish; a second cabin was built and the action completed while the first building was burning. Vola Vale plays the leading feminine role opposite Carey, with the supporting cast including Cullen Landis, Myrtle Stedman, Cullen Pegg, Nell Craig, Joseph Harris, Charles J. LaMoine and Charles Hill Matles. Jane Novak has completed the production of "Thelma," a screen adaptation of Marie Corelli's famous novel of the same name which created a sensation when it was first published a decade ago. Miss Novak is directed by Chester Bennett and her leading man is Vernon Steele, while Barbara Tennant plays an important role. Miss Novak's blonde beauty was considered ideal for this Marie Corelli story of the romance of a Norwegian girl of bygone days. The action shifts to the London of today, where the star displays the most amazing array of gowns and millinery in a gorgeous series of fashion scenes. David Terrence is getting lonesome because ever since coming to Hollywood he has been denied the company of lovable characters such as he has always played on the stage. In every picture in which he has appeared he has been called upon to play mean characters and he says it is becoming a veritable obsession with him to long for a chance to return to his normal class of characterizations. He played the sardonic Elias Graves in Mary Pickford's new "Tess of the Storm Country," and is just in the midst of his second "mean man" interpretation at Universal City, where he has been under the direction of Emile Chautard. Percy Marmont, who is the Mark Sabre of the William Fox screen version of "If Winter Comes," was born in England and has had a fine time revisiting familiar scenes and localities during the filming of the exterior in the land of his birth. Mr. Marmont spent his boyhood in Gloucestershire, but took long tramps around the country during his holidays and is well acquainted with the places mentioned in the Hutchinson novel. As a boy actor he played in many of the little provincial towns. Jean Hersholt, now enacting the role of Prince Otto in Mae Murray's "Coronation" at the Goldwyn studios, has just received from his mother, Claire Hersholt of Copenhagen, a letter in which she states it has been officially published throughout Denmark that the Danish Cinema company will discontinue producing motion pictures in the Scandinavian countries and will transfer all of its activities to Hollywood. This company has plans for specializing in producing unpublished works of several prominent active authors, including Ibsen. Will next season's styles in feminine attire be found in the small New England village before they reach the two big coastal Broadway? Helen Jerome Eddy, who is broadening the role of a New England village girl, is convinced that the remote corners of the country today (Continued on Page 11)