

FILM PEOPLE TELL VIEWS OF FATTY ARBUCKLE CASE

(From Los Angeles Times.)
Statements made by representative members of the local film colony on the Arbuckle case demonstrate that such orgies as are described as taking place in San Francisco are not countenanced by the profession as a whole.

A large number of leading lights of picturedom gave The Times their views on the Arbuckle case. Many of them are his friends who insist that he is innocent of the charge preferred against him, expressing the deepest sympathy with his plight, and all reiterated their desire that the world should know that most of the players are like other folk, hard working, straight-thinking, clean-living people. Leaders in the film profession expressed their views as follows:

Abraham Lehr, general manager of the Goldwyn studios: "I can vouch for it that most of the film folk are right-living people. The failure of one bank cannot be used as a criterion by which to judge the whole financial system of a country. The Arbuckle matter is terribly regrettable, because, an actor being a

servant of the public, any affair like this gets far more prominence than if the person involved had been an unknown citizen.

Compares Classes.

Bayard Veiller, author of "The Thirteenth Chair": "Society people pull far worse things than the picture people. I know both sets. I resent deeply, as one who has associated for many years with stage folk, and as one now engaged in picture work, the manner in which people outside the business talk about people of the screen and stage—the wholesale condemnation which is so fashionable among people outside the picture profession when talking of the profession. Just because one clergyman is convicted of a crime or lesser infraction of the law, do they say there should be no churches? I heard a preacher the other day at the meeting of ministers with censors say that he would not let his children go to see a man play a hero on the screen unless he was really a hero! Can you imagine that? Well, this man didn't look like Christ, nor talk like Him. I'm

not standing up for lawlessness. I'm only asserting that the majority of the picture people stand for what is decent.

Bryant Washburn: "People outside the profession have got into the way of believing that picture people are all fast. I found that out in course of my last tour of personal appearances through the east and south. I feel very sorry about the Arbuckle matter, knowing Arbuckle and what a prince he is in so many ways. But I regret tremendously that such a thing should have happened in the profession, inasmuch as it furnishes just that much more ammunition for those who are only too glad to believe that none of us lives quietly at home with his family.

Bulk Is Law Abiding.

Irving Thalberg, general manager of Universal City: "If Roscoe Arbuckle isn't guilty, he has been badly treated. But it is unfortunate that isolated cases of misbehavior and crime cast so black a shadow on the business that the thousands of quiet, law-abiding people who form the rank and file of the profession, should have to share in the disgrace of one or two. This is unjust. The few overly gay parties we hear about as taking place in Hollywood do not, I am sure, by any means represent the social activities of the entire crowd. Very, very far from it. Indeed, I think

the life of the picture actor fosters clean, happy home life. Tom Mix: "I keenly resent the published statement of San Francisco officials that whether wrong or right, innocent or guilty, the influence and money of the Los Angeles picture colony will be behind the accused in this San Francisco case merely because Arbuckle is a picture actor. This isn't the case. I want to say that there are in this city a great number of honest, earnest, conscientious and home-loving picture players, and happily they represent 90 per cent and more of the screen actors who do not countenance this sort of thing, nor would they uphold a man charged with a violation of the law just because he is a picture player. We don't want such men among us.

There are those of us who work in the pictures and who live decent lives, who have gained and who hold the respect and friendship of our neighbors, and who are useful and respected citizens, and I try to be one of them.

All the picture world must be condemned because there may be one black sheep in the flock. There is a growler in every gang, a kicker in every crowd and an assassin in every assembly. Even one of the 12 apostles was a Judas, and it is neither just nor right for these San Francisco officials to say we are all behind this man—wrong or right—because he is a picture player.

I have recently returned from the east, and to my way of thinking there is just as much decency and as many good, upright, manly citizens in Hollywood as in any of the places I visited, and that takes in New York, Washington and Chicago. Half of my life in earlier years was spent as an officer of the government apprehending law-breakers, and I don't like 'em any better today than I did then.

As it happens some other friends of Arbuckle together with myself tried to patch up matters between his wife, Minnie Durfee, and him, a few months ago, and we nearly succeeded in doing it. But Roscoe is just a big kid, and someone is making up of the two fell through.

Harry Myers: "I don't know anything about the case. I only read the Christian Science Monitor.

Unfortunate Effect.

Robert Brunton: "This terrible incident will naturally have an unfortunate effect on the business. Certainly these wild parties we occasionally hear about are not representative of the social life of the picture people, most of whom lead as humdrum lives as the rest of the world's workers. Such happenings as these furnish ammunition to the enemies of the picture business.

Buster Keaton: "I worked with 'Fatty' Arbuckle for years in his comedies, and I always found him a prince. We haven't worked at our studio for the past two days—since hearing about this awful thing that has happened to our friend. Some of us expect to go north to visit him. I don't believe he is guilty. I never knew him to pull any really wild parties. He was always hospitable, and liked to have the boys and girls drop in. I think it's terrible to ruin a man before he is fairly heard. I'm a quiet, domestic young man, and I don't stand up for what's not right, but I don't believe in condemning a man before he's heard.

Maxwell Karger: "I know Roscoe Arbuckle, and I shall never believe him guilty until he is actually proven so. My family are all very fond of Roscoe, and in common with thousands of other film workers, my family and myself stand for decency and a right life.

Rex Ingraham: "I know Mr. Arbuckle only slightly, and must refuse to discuss the case.

Chet Withey: "I'll talk about any other subject in the world with you. We all deeply regret the tragedy in connection with which Arbuckle is held.

Betty Blythe: "I'm terribly sorry for everybody involved in this awful thing. My husband, Paul Scardon, and I would like the world to know that we personally stand for the upholding of the law, but we cannot but hope that Mr. Arbuckle will be found not guilty. We would like to say, too, that we know personally scores and scores of picture players who lead ideally clean, wholesome and happy lives.

Jack Mulhall: "I am completely at a loss to know what to say. I'm so sorry for both Roscoe and the girl! I'm sure, though, that no wild happening of the sort of party described in the reports is at all representative of picture folks' life in general.

Alice Lake: "All I can say is that when I was struggling along to make a name for myself, and was playing in Roscoe Arbuckle's comedies, he was wonderfully kind and helpful. I can never say anything of him that is not good. He was always doing kind things, and was certainly ways one of the first to help at benefits for poor people and other unfortunate ones. He also did much in the Liberty bond sales. I wish that not to be forgotten.

Viola Dana: "He was like a big brother to me. I don't believe he is guilty.

Benjamin Hampton: "Comment in regard to the case that is attracting the attention of the entire country will be withheld here. The case is now in the hands of the officers of law, and it would not be best to discuss it. It is inevitable that the picture profession and the industry will suffer temporarily from general, indiscriminate criticism aroused by this terrible affair. Many people in their hot resentment of conditions that made the tragedy possible may be prone carelessly to criticize the entire business. Such an attitude of mind would be unfair and unjust to the extreme. It would be equally unfair to condemn all members of the legal or medical profession

because an occasional lawyer or doctor proves to be a scoundrel.

The Los Angeles motion picture colony has suffered for years because of a small minority of black sheep. Men and women who really know the personnel of the colony know that the fast set forms only a small percentage of the profession; but unfortunately these speedy individuals keep themselves in the public eye constantly, and the public, not taking time to get at the facts, thoughtlessly draws conclusions that are completely at variance with the truth.

The simple truth is that every student of sociology who studies the Los Angeles colony is convinced that the moral and ethical standards of the colony will check favorably with those of any social class in any large city. The overwhelming majority of picture workers live quiet, decent lives. A small but noisy minority drives high-speed motor cars to high-speed drinking places and supplies the material for gossip and scandal reflecting on the great army of well-behaved, honest, sincere, generous, kindly people.

Within the last two or three years a profound change has been slowly but steadily working in the motion picture colony. The players, directors and other film people are buying homes, raising families, joining churches, engaging in charitable work and in the general social and philanthropic activities of the community.

Any fair minded man or woman who takes the time to learn the truth soon realizes that picture people are in no way different from other human beings, and those who know the Los Angeles colony best will earnestly testify that picture people are just as good citizens and just as upright in their lives as are other professional and business people.

This awful affair at San Francisco has shocked everyone. The overwhelming comment in the studios today is one of horror and disgust at the disgrace brought upon the industry. There is no doubt in the world that from this day forward the noisy, high speed, careless, unthinking minority will conduct itself much more carefully than it has in the past.

Want Discrimination.

I would like to urge the people of Los Angeles and of America to learn to discriminate between the individuals or groups of classes in the industry. We urge that sober-minded, responsible, intelligent, fine men and women who are in the greater majority receive the credit that is due them, and that their actions and activities be not confused for a moment with the tiny minority that sets itself into the scandal columns of the newspapers.

The motion picture industry deserves this treatment from the public. During this present year a great reform has taken place in motion pictures. Doubtful pictures have been driven from the screen by the sentiments of the producers, the players and the directors themselves.

The industry has cleaned its house of doubtful pictures; it will clean its house of doubtful personalities.

William S. Hart: "This is a very sad and terrible thing that has befallen, not only Arbuckle and Miss Rappe, but the picture business. In spite of the fact that there is no doubt that there is a fine spirit among the majority of picture people toward domesticity and clean living, one scandal casts its shadow over all. I have been in the picture business many years, and know how fine the players are as a whole. But the world unfortunately does not discriminate. The fine women in our business especially must be protected against scandal. And the number of the fine ones is legion.

Carmel Myers: "The stories and allegations that have been printed during the last few days in connection with the unfortunate occurrence which has placed Roscoe Arbuckle in the toils of the law, tend to cast a definite reflection on the decent and law abiding members of the motion picture profession. For one thing, it has been reported that virtually every motion picture star in this city has at some time or other been either a guest or host at private entertainments which were shady in their character, to say the least. Such reports are essentially unfair to the large number of respectable persons who are connected with the motion picture profession.

I, for one, feel keenly the stigma that attaches to the decent members of my profession as a result of the Arbuckle imbroglio, for I know for a fact that there are scores of motion picture folk in this city, besides myself, who not only have not attended the entertainments imputed to Mr. Arbuckle, but have never attended or acted as hosts at any but the most proper sort of entertainments.

It may also interest the public to know that I personally have never attended any social function unless I was accompanied by my mother or some other member of my immediate family. There are many other motion picture actresses whose public and private conduct is beyond reproach.

So, in justice to these latter members of the profession, not to mention the thousands of truly reputable motion picture actors and actresses who have not yet achieved stardom, and more especially for the purpose of dispelling the erroneous impression that the public is inclined to get of the private lives of the members of my profession—by reason of the unfortunate affair mentioned, permit me to add my humble words of fact and protest.

The young housekeeper walked into the butcher shop and rapped smartly on the counter. "I want a chicken," she said. "Do you want a pullet?" asked the butcher. "No," replied the young housekeeper. "I want to carry it."

SILVERTON PERSONALS AND BRIEFS

SILVERTON, Ore., Sept. 17. — (Special to The Statesman.) Miss Marie Tinglestad is spending a few days visiting at the home of her brother who lives at Jefferson.

Orvan Towe had his tonsils removed at the Silvertown hospital the early part of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Gail Jones of Salem visited at Silvertown this week.

Chris Duniss and John Johnson of Portland are stopping at the home of Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Moe.

Mrs. Vida Bennett entertained at an informal sherry party at the home of her father, Rev. J. Bennett, on North Water street, Friday afternoon. Those present were Mrs. Frederick Treadgold, Mrs. Merlin Conrad, Miss Ina Hubbs, Miss Blanche Hubbs, Miss Josephine Richardson, Mrs. Laura Hubbs, Mrs. J. A. Bennett, and the hostess, Mrs. Vida Bennett.

Dr. E. C. Hickman of Kimball College of Theology of Salem, has been secured to give the morning address to the Silvertown district Sunday school convention at the Methodist church, October 16 at 10 o'clock.

Mrs. Kathryn Chrysler Street, contraalto soloist and vocal teacher will again open classes in voice culture at Silvertown this fall. Mrs. Street has conducted vocal classes at Silvertown during the past three years.

Orval Towe received a painful cut on his finger last Monday which has necessitated his taking a week's vacation.

Mrs. S. Trovand entertained a group of friends at her home on the Pudding River road Saturday afternoon. Among those present were Mrs. Marie Bunness, Mrs. Lawrence Larsen, Miss Marie Carhouse, Miss Lulu Gopelrud, Miss Carrie Quislet, Miss Ruth Ormbreck, Mrs. Oscar Saterm, Miss Helen Theodora Henriksen, Miss Vivian Bunness, Mrs. George Henriksen, Mrs. Alma Tarvend, Mrs. Andrew Hall, Miss Lucile Hall, Mrs. Martin Hattberg, Mrs. John Moe, Mrs. Bert Iverson, Mrs. E. Refsland, Mrs. Chris Bolis, Miss Esther Larsen, Miss Cora Saterm, Miss Alice Jensen, Miss Lillie L. Madsen. Refreshments were served at 4 o'clock.

Olaf Hillard and Amos Benson made a business trip to Portland today. The trip was made by automobile.

Brush Creek school opens Monday, September 19.

Mrs. A. O. Legard left for Portland today to spend a few

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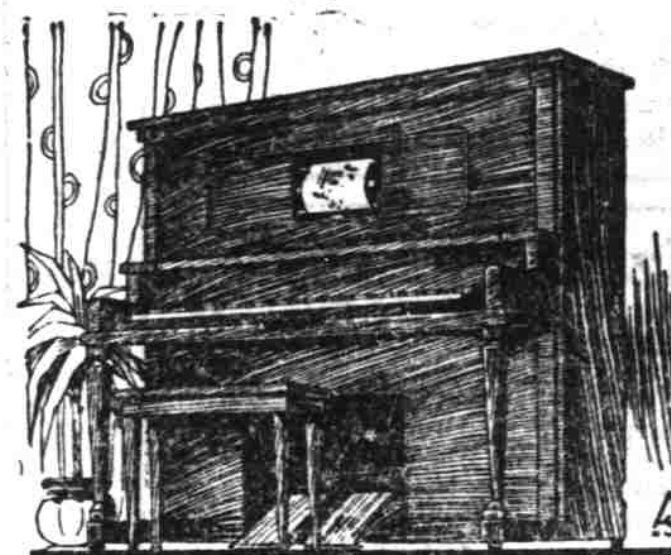
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