SIDELIGHTS OF THE STAGE and SCREEN

Elsinore Theater

There are no pictures awaited more eagerly by the fan world than those which are made from the books of the late Gene Stratton-Porter. The newest of these to be released by F. B. O. is "The Magic Garden," which shows at the Elsinore theater April 27-28.

This beloved writer concerned herself chiefly with human nature; the hopes, happiness, griefs and faith of men and women. It is for this reason that her appeal is so universal; she understood the fullness of life, the story and heartaches that go into the making of every day. In this particular story the attention is centered upon a boy and girl who meet in their childhood in the boy's magic garden. It is there that the lad plays on his violin for the little girl, and together they pledge their youthful love. With the memory of this, the boy goes abroad for years of study, and his sweetheart meanwhile waits for the glorious day when his genius shall be proclaimed. The struggles, heartaches, beautiful dreams and hopes that befall the lovers during these years forms a theme that is filled with human interest and poignant realism.

The management of the Elsinore theater reports that the sale of tickets for the Portland Little Symphony orchestra is going very nicely. This orchestra will be in Salem for one day, May 7.

Oregon Theater

The immense popularity of "Ben Hur," which will be presented at the Oregon theater May 1-2, evidences again the remarkable vitality and well nigh universal appeal of General Lew Wallace's remarkable story. The cinema is the third medium of art through which the fascinating tale has been unfolded—it having been known as book and play for almost half a century—and in its most recent revelation it is reaching a far wider public than ever before.

The reasons for the long continued popularity of "Ben Hur" are, undoubtedly, that the story is based solidly upon the fundamental and enduring human emotions; that it combines the splendors of an historical tragedy with the intimate charm of an adyllic pastoral; that it is logical, and above all that it is interesting. The late Alfred Ayers, after 50 years of dramatic criticism, declared that "a perfect play is merely an interesting story, interestingly told in the idom of the theater." Such is "Ben Hur."

The cinema version of General Wallace's masterpiece naturally elaborates the pictoral and spectacular values of the story. The marine battle, in which scores of galleys are engaged, and the chariot race between Ben Hur and Messala and ten other characters are, in the moving picture presentations, as vivid and as exciting as reality itself. Neither these scenes, nor the religious scenes done in color have ever been equalled through the agency of the dramatic camera.

Among the important players who took part in the making of "Ben Hur," under the direction of Fred Niblo, were Ramon Novarro, Francis X. Bushman, May McAvoy, Claire McDowell, Kathleen Key, Carmel Myers, Nigel de Bruiler, Mitchell Lewis, Leo White, Frank Currier, Charles Belcher, Betty Bronson, Dale Fuller and Winter Hall. The presentations are to be accompanied by a magnificent musical score played by a large traveling orchestra of symphony musicians.

Leatrice Joy scored another genuine hit in her latest star comedy, "For Alimony Only," which shows at the Oregon theater April 27-28. The story deals with the alimony question and entertainingly pictures some of the evils that attend loveless marriages with consequent divorce and alimony. The picture is packed with swift-moving action and real thrills, mixed with wholesome comedy. Clive Brook, Lilyan Tashman and Casson Ferguson play featured roles with dignity and poise. Miss Joy is delightful as the second wife who goes to work to help pay alimony to her predecessor in the affections of her husband. The picture was superbly directed by William De Mille and in its way is a gem of the finest water.

Capitol Theater

There is nothing more entertaining than well performed farce comedy.

And there is no better example of farce comedy well done than "The Cheerful Fraud," the Universal-Jewel production starring Reginald Denny, which shows at the Capitol theater April 27-28.

Any farce must necessarily start with the star becoming involved in an embarrassing or difficult situation, and getting in deeper than ever when he tries to straighten it out.

The whole production, plentifully sprinkled with novel situations and superb "gags" is a tribute to the directional skill of William A. Seiter, who gets credit for making the production. There are no big mob scenes, lapses of time or spectacular settings for comedy. Instead, there are only six persons spending a week-end at an English country home and from this modest situation, the director has wrung a wealth of comedy to move one into almost dangerous stages of laughter.

Hoyt Street Improvement to Be Started at Once

The work on the Hoyt street improvement will be begun by county road builders this week. Mr. Culver, roadmaster, will place the county crew at work probably on Thursday. The county is doing the work without cost. The material is to be purchased by popular subscription. Nearly all the required amount is now on hand, but there is ned for more to make the job as good as it should be. A citizens committee representing several service clubs and interested parties has been getting the funds in shape.

It has been suggested that people who have loved ones in City View or Odd Fellows cemeteries would willingly contribute for this purpose, since the street is neither a city street nor a county road. Checks should be made payable to the county treasurer and forwarded to the committee chairman, Rev. E. H. Shanks, 549 N. Liberty street. Such contributions should be sent in at once.

The improvement includes a hard surface for Hoyt street from Commercial street to the entrance of City View, the opening of the road between City View and Odd Fellows cemeteries.

MAY CUT RIVER LEVEE TO SAVE NEW ORLEANS

(Continued from Page 1.)

passed Vicksburg, to join with the Red river from Arkansas and the Yazoo river from Mississippi.

Should a break occur on the east side of the river near New Orleans, the engineers said, that city would be inundated, with a tremendous loss of property and perhaps loss of life. Thus far the strengthened levees have held, but whether they could do so under the vastly increased pressure of water was regarded as doubtful.

While the question of protecting New Orleans was occupying the attention of engineers, federal and state officers, the overflow waters of the Arkansas and Mississippi were hourly making more acute the situation in both southeastern Arkansas and the Mississippi delta.

Conditions in Arkansas gave Red Cross officials here the most concern for the floods from the Arkansas river were spreading with alarming rapidity inundating six more towns—Calion, Watson, Endore, Kilso, Dermott and Tiller—and rapidly swelling the army of refugees.

Far to the northeast the situation also was made worse by two breaks in the Kochtitzke drainage district levee four miles south of Dell, a refugee concentration point. It was estimated that 20 square miles would be flooded with the probability that the waters would go into three more towns.

Arkansas City on the Mississippi river below Helena, was reported under from seven to 14 feet of water, with 3,000 refuges on the levee and about 3,000 marooned in the lowlands. The Red Cross dispatched the steamer Cairo to this town to remove the refugees.

Government Raises Funds for Columbia Beach Camp

ASTORIA, April 26.—(AP)—The secretary of war today telegraphed authority for expenditure of $11,000 additional to be used in paying for construction of the new national guard camp at Columbia Beach, south of here, Adjutant General George A. White of the Oregon national guard stated here tonight.

The war department had previously authorized the expenditure of $35,000 for construction of the new camp, but when the bids were opened April 20, it was found that the aggregate low bids totalled $46,000.

General White immediately asked authority for spending the additional $11,000 to meet the low bids.

The plumbing contractor has already begun work. General White expresses complete confidence tonight that the camp will be ready in time for the training period next summer.

ASTORIA, April 26.—(AP)—The war department has authorized expenditure of a sum sufficient to meet the low bids for construction of the new national guard encampment at Columbia Beach, south of here, according to Thomas McKay, president of the Seaside chamber of commerce, tonight.

Mr. McKay said the information was received in a telegram tonight by Adjutant General George A. White of the national guard, who is now at Gearhart. General White could not be located to verify the report.

The sum of low bids for the various contracts in connection with constructing the camp was $47,000. The bids were opened April 20, but no contracts were let as the way department's allotment for the camp was only $35,000.

Supreme Court to Hear 18 Cases in Eastern Oregon

Eighteen cases will be heard by the state supreme court at the spring term for Eastern Oregon which opens at Pendleton May 2.

The cases to be heard, follow:

May 2—Spokane Merchants association vs. Golliher, Sargent vs. Pendleton Auto company, Winn vs. Ransom, Farmers Bank vs. Ellis, Silveis river adjudication, Smith vs. Clark.

May 3—Owyhee river adjudication, State vs. Wright, State vs. Young, State vs. Wisdom, Wood vs. Davin and Freswold vs. Bank.

May 4—Lea vs. Blockland, Bank vs. Miller, Fordham vs. Stearns, Cunning vs. Locke, O.-W. R. & N. Railroad company vs. Willoughby, Dunn vs. Henderson.

Luncheoners View Reverse Movies on Forestry Work

Led by Mrs. R. M. T. Hester, Camp Fire girls of the First Presbyterian church furnished the luncheon program for Kiwanis club yesterday. Readings, songs, and short talks, all featuring forest conservation, were offered.

The vice and the versa of forest fire fighting was offered in a reverse comedy filmed by W. V. Fuller of the state forester's office. Failure to rewind the reel after his previous showing in Woodburn resulted in the peculiar showing.

Forest conservation will be discussed at the Rotary luncheon today in cooperation with the national movement.

RAMON NAVARRO AS BEN HUR

Oregon Theater May 1 and 2

MALARIA CASES SPREAD AMONG FLOOD VICTIMS

(Continued from Page 1.)

taking every measure to prevent an epidemic of pellagra and malaria among the hundreds of refugees being taken care of there. Emergency wards have been established and serum is being rushed there to check the spread.

First reports of the disease were brought here today by Lieutenant Griff McSwine of the government flying forces, who said there are 3,000 negroes and 1,000 white refugees being taken care of there. Of the white people, four-fifths are women and children, he reported.

Three Drowned

CALICO ROCK, Ark., April 26.—(AP.)—Three men were drowned in the swollen White river near here today while attempting to stretch a ferry cable. They were Will Collie, 40; Mack Flanery, 30, and Will Jones, 27. Their bodies have not been recovered.

NEW ORLEANS, La., April 26.—(AP.)—The entire Louisiana national guard was ordered out tonight by Adjutant General L. A. Toombs. The order, General Toombs said, was a precautionary measure to meet any possible developments in the flood stiuation.

Salvation Army Helps

PORTLAND, April 26.—(AP.)—Salvation Army corps of Oregon were ordered to join in work for relief of the Mississippi river flood sufferers in a message to Major A. E. Baynton, state commander from Evangeline Booth, national commander.

Money and clothing are needed by 80,000 destitute persons and the situation will remain acute for several weeks, said the message. Commander Booth's wire said Salvation Army workers were first on the field in giving aid in the stricken districts.

CHANGES ASKED BY G. N. IN COMMON USER PLANS

(Continued from Page 1.)

paper says, "has contended that while it probably would use the Paunina-Klamath Falls section more than one-fifth of the total usage, it was willing to pay one-fourth of the annual interest charge of 5 per cent upon the Southern Pacific's investment in this section of track, besides its share of operation and maintenance expense, based upon actual usage.

"The Southern Pacific, on the other hand, has held out for one-half of 5 per cent.

"The Great Northern suggests making this interest rental one-third of 5 per cent instead of one-half. It suggests, however, the provision that should the merger of the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern properties be effected as planned, the interest rental should revert to one-half of 5 per cent as demanded of the Oregon Trunk."

Continuing, the article states:

"The Great Northern's petition and proposed amendments to the Southern Pacific contract indicate that it was the Great Northern railway, acting independently, that purchased the new right of way into Klamath Falls."

The purchase of a right of way from Pelican City, about three miles north of Klamath Falls, along the lake front and down the west side of the Link river to the Oregon Trunk terminal property, was announced in the Oregonian Friday.

"Inasmuch as this property was acquired after the Northern Pacific had indicated its intention of withdrawing from participation in the extension project," the article says, "this fact is taken as indicating that the Great Northern is confident or else has definite assurances that its application to enter Klamath Falls will be acted upon favorably by the I. C. C."

LAND SETTLEMENT WORK REMARKABLE

A Showing for Oregon Distinctive for Results and Very Low Cost

"Maximum results with a minimum cost" is the policy of the land settlement department of the Portland Chamber of Commerce. According to the annual report submitted by W. G. Ide, department manager, 750 settlers have been placed on Oregon farms directly through the activities of the department coordinated with the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce, during the year ending April 1, 1927.

Considering that only $18,250 was spent by the department in its work of obtaining selected settlers, the cost of placing these 750 families amounted to less than $25 a family. This is a very low cost per family, when it is considered that railroad companies generally estimate this expense at $200.

The return to Oregon on this small investment is measured by the fact that 750 families brought capital to the state amounting to $2,748,778.

Over 900 additional families were interviewed, but no record obtained as to actual settlement. Information coming to the office fro local chambers and other sources indicates that a majority of these families have located in the state.

Getting Right Kind

Advertising carried since November, 1926, in farm journals in the east and middle west at a cost of $1837.47, brought to the department 6744 inquiries from prospective settlers.

An important feature of the methods used to obtain the names of prospects is the lists of friends and neighbors furnished by settlers already located and by those intending to come. Through this means the names of 1400 prospects have been placed on the mailing list. People of excellent quality have in this way been obtained as actual settlers without cost.

A Wonderful Showing

Since the beginning of the work of obtaining selected settlers in 1924, the department has located 2532 farm families who have brought to the state a total investment of $13,008,117. The new settlers have occupied over 50,000 acres of land, the greater part of which was not in profitable production—have produced more than $150,000 in new taxes, and increased the annual buying power of our farm population nearly three million dollars in food stuffs boots, shoes, clothing, furniture, farm machinery and other articles necessary for life on the land. During this period 67,735 inquiries concerning Oregon agriculture have been received, and 111,959 letters mailed out to prospective settlers.

A total of 224,334 packages of literature have also gone out during this time.

Man Missing at Seaside, in San Francisco, Report

ASTORIA, April 26.—(AP)—E. S. Prouty of Seaside, is in San Fancisco, according to a wire from him received today by Thomas McKay of Seaside, Mr. McKay stated tonight.

Mr. Prouty had been missing since Saturday, when he left Seaside on what he said was a business trip.

Unity—New 12-mile forest service telephone opened to Elk Creek.