

# Outstanding Shows Seen In Local Theatres This Week



Janet Gaynor and Charles Farrell in the comedy "Sunnyside Up" now showing at Bligh's Capitol.

## HOME TOWNERS DRAWS LAUGHS

Clever Stage Play is Rollicking Screen Development At Hollywood

Two authors whose experiences embrace many years in the theatrical world, prepared the brilliant adaptation of George M. Cohan's celebrated stage play, "The Home Towners," to be seen now at the Hollywood and which Bryan Foy recently directed with an all-star cast at Warner Bros. studio.

The authors, Murray Roth and Addison Burkhardt, both at one time were one of Broadway's leading writers, and his lyrics attracted the attention of an important Hollywood producer. He made his bow in the film world with Fox studio where he remained for over five years as a comedy constructionist and writer.

Addison Burkhardt first rose to fame as the author of the book for the Shubert's big musical comedy production, "The Runaways."

"The Home Towners," which is Murray Roth's and Addison Burkhardt's adaptation, has in the stellar cast such well known stage and screen actors as Richard Bennett, Doris Kenyon, Robert McWade, Gladys Brockwell, Robert Edeson, Vera Lewis, Stanley Taylor, James T. Mack, Patricia Cannon and many others.

"The Home Towners" was a perfect comedy for the stage and the genius of these two clever young men, Burkhardt and Roth, has transferred to the totally different medium of the screen with all the gaiety and gusto that aroused audiences when it had its Broadway run.

The home towners are just people, the sort we all know.

The main characters are two men, now middle-aged, who have been chums from boyhood days. P. H. Bancroft has preferred to marry and settle down in the old home town. Vic Arnold has gone to the Big Town and become a millionaire, and is now, at a rather late date engaged to a beautiful girl Beth Calhoun, whose father has invented a bottle washer, and with it some semblance of a fortune. His son, Wally, has a good job in Wall Street, and there is no immediate need of augmenting the family income, and then the story starts.

Screen stars learn other film trades besides their own. Most of the reigning favorites of the films, if they suddenly found they couldn't act any more, could make successful livings right in the industry, in callings they've followed as hobbies around the studios while acting.

For instance, Lon Chaney, would be able to make good money as a cameraman. As a hobby he's been filming "movies" for years with his own camera; wild animals, celebrities, and even a play he produced and directed from his own story.

Buster Keaton, frozen-faced comedian with a mechanical turn of mind, is as good a projectionist as any in a theatre. He has his own projection machine at home, has experimented with it for years, can take it apart and reassemble it blindfolded, and has run millions of feet of film with it.

John Gilbert was a director before he became a star, and could go right back to directing if he wanted to and make a success of it, judging purely by the films he directed in the past. Cliff Edwards, makes records as a hobby, and is very expert at it; enough so to hold down a job in the sound department with the best of the workers there.

CHILD HAS RECOVERED

MONMOUTH, Feb. 1 — Mrs. Velma Smith and son, Donald, returned Friday from Portland where they went to consult a specialist for Donald, who recently underwent a nasal operation. His condition was pronounced highly satisfactory.

While in the city they were guests of Mrs. Smith's sisters, Miss Florence and Josephine Huffy, teachers there.

## Fox Elsinore "Big Four" Is Interesting Array Of Film Celebrities

The "Big Four" of the Fox Elsinore is surely imposing sounding. These offerings will start Saturday with "Love Comes Along."

With "Rio Rita" still a fresh memory it is a pleasure to find Bebe Daniels again on the list of pictures for this week. This time she will again appear in an exotic sort of picture, with a far-away island for the locale and a highly imaginative story for the plot.

Those who heard Bebe sing in "Rio Rita" and realized the great strides she is making in her profession will be pleased to again see and hear her. The character work is done by Montague Love, comedy is taken care of by Ned Sparks, who made a name for himself in "Street Girl" and Lloyd Hughes appears opposite Bebe. This is the first time Hughes has been heard in sound pictures.

The story is one of love and romance—just the thing for Bebe it would seem. Many nationalities and many occupations also make a bit different infusion into the life of the picture.

Yes, here are the Duncan sisters and they have to have room and freedom of expression and it would seem that they have both and plenty of it in "It's a Great Life" commencing at the Fox Elsinore Tuesday.

These two girls started on their fame tour a long time ago at Tait's in San Francisco. They were entertainers and soon needed more "room" than the sophisticated and fashionable house of Tait could offer. They started out for themselves and their wise cracking fame has just about spread around the world.

It is to be hoped that "It's a Great Life" is their best for in that case it will be something no one will want to miss. The theme of play is one of stage life and therefore a bit uninviting for the simple fact that there have been so many just such themes. But for that matter it is difficult to find themes that have not been used a great deal—even life is a repeater—the ones who make it worth while are the ones who have something the others have not. It is said that the Duncan sisters have that. Certainly they dance and wisecrack and act in such manner as to make many thousand folk enthusiastic.

The cast of players for "It's a Great Life" has only five people in it.

Here is handsome Ramon Navarro and he is again lit dressed up in gorgeous uniforms, and he wields a sword and wins the heart of a lovely maiden in the true Novarro style in "Devil May Care," the third of the Fox Elsinore's "Big Four."

There is to be added about Navarro—with the advent of sound one of the finest things about his work developed overnight, as it were, it gave him a chance to sing and an opportunity to make use of his charming speaking voice.

He was heard for the first time in "The Pagan" and his popularity with that measure in dollars and cents made the song writers alone, \$150,000.

"Devil May Care" is a story of intrigue and love during the time of Napoleon's How Novarro escaped a firing squad by a high jump, found refuge, fell in love, and won honor is a fast moving and exciting plot all woven into a musical romance that should afford much pleasure.

It is interesting to note that there are only seven characters in this cast, too.

The fourth of the "Big Four" is Maurice Chevalier in "The Love Parade," starting February 11.

"The Love Parade" is a musical comedy with a story of a man who falls in love with a girl who is a member of a circus. The picture is something more than a gripping story. George Arliss and his vitality, as it was lived by one of the greatest men England has ever known.

The story has to do with the determination of a man who pulls himself from the restrictions imposed upon the Jews into the most honored place in the English government outside of the King's seat.

All through the play is intrigue, masterful display of wit, humor—sometimes grim but very real, and there is romance.

SALEM'S BEST SOUND



Here is a group of "The Home Towners" in action, now to be seen at the Hollywood.

## GRAND SHOWS NEW MATERIAL

Little Known English Cast Will Present Irish Drama This Week

This week at the Grand there are to be presented three pictures which stand up under investigation. They offer variety of subject matter and the cast of players present many new faces which will add attraction to the pictures.

"Big News" will open Sunday's program and continue on through Tuesday. Robert Armstrong is the suspected reporter in this picture of newspaper life which includes the plot of the editor being killed and one of the reporters, Armstrong, appearing to be the murderer. Carol Lombard interprets the part of the wife of Lombard in this picture. The solution of the murder and the human interest and amusing sides to newspaper life that run through the picture are said to be quite different.

The awful truth is out—has been for some time but this is just a reminder—John Gilbert is married and to no less than Ina Claire and she is to be at the Grand in "The Awful Truth" beginning Wednesday.

It is hard to tell about the play—just how unusual it will be, but you may be sure that it will be genuine entertainment done with grace and finish, for Ina Claire made a brilliant success on the stage with this play; she is said to be the "best dressed and unmistakable clicking sound somewhere in advance of him and the reasons for it all were made known.

A motion picture camera had been hidden in some boxes on a large handcart, and this cart, with its turning camera, had been drawn down the street just in front of the group of which Bancroft was the central figure. Unconsciously he had been playing a part of some still unidentified German film producer.

"The Awful Truth" is a marital mixup. The story opens with a divorce court action between two people who are still in love but who through jealousy are unable to get on together. The ultimate reunion of these two people, Ina Claire and Henry Daniel, make the plot of the story.

Beginning with Friday the Grand will show "Lucky in Love" and with it is an unusual cast—most of the folk are English having been born in or near London and many of them have spent most of their lives in England. Then there are some Americans, one German, and one girl from Peoria, Illinois. People in Chicago would call that a foreigner, too.

The story is one of Ireland and therefore the cast should get everything out of it in terms of reality. The plot is one of love between a stable boy and a girl of nobility, daughter of the boy's employer.

The third angle of the triangle is a captain in the English army and a rascal.

Being Irish the play has many laughs and much quaint and appealing conversation as well as swift-moving drama. Kenneth Webb is the director of the picture and with the successful work which he has done in the past it seems reasonable to expect "Lucky in Love" to be a well done piece of work.

## The Call Board . .

By OLIVE M. DOAK

- GRAND
  - North High between Court and State Today—"Big News."
  - Wednesday—"The Awful Truth," with Ina Claire, Collins and Singer in "Too Good to Live."
  - Thursday—"The Awful Truth," with Ina Claire, Collins and Singer in "Too Good to Live."
  - Friday—"Lucky in Love."
- BLIGH'S CAPITOL
  - Today—"Sunnyside Up," Janet Gaynor and Charles Farrell.
  - Thursday—"Hot for Paris."
  - Sunday—"Disraeli," with George Arliss.
- FOX ELGINORE
  - South High between State and Ferry Today—Bebe Daniels in "Love Comes Along," Fanchon and Marco in "Hot Dominoes."
  - Monday—Bebe Daniels in "Love Comes Along."
  - Tuesday—Duncan Sisters in "It's a Great Life."
  - Saturday—Ramon Navarro in "Devil May Care," and Fanchon and Marco.
- HOLLYWOOD
  - North Capitol in North Salem Today—"The Home Towners."

There is one thing about the shows this week which appeals—many of the casts are small and for good work on the part of a few instead of the "mass production" with responsibility so divided that it is hard to tell which is good and which is bad.

Fanchon and Marco have a peculiar show about which to speak this week-end. It is interesting and amusing in spots, and to say the least it is unusual.

The illuminated puppet show against a black background is something to remember. It is well done and it is spectacular.

The children in the audience Saturday afternoon were breathless and as a little miss who accompanied me to the show remarked, "That was a good show, wasn't it?"

The voices were good in the singing numbers and the black-face comedian with an unusual song got a big hand. As usual the costumes of the Sunkist beauties are something to tell about when you get home.

Personally I thought the show moved too slowly and needed some more pep. For you I no doubt will be wrong.

As for the feature with Bebe Daniels in "Love Comes Along," if you don't remember a few of the wise remarks in that show, and remember them for a long time there will be something queer about it. Ned Sparks is a riot and Bebe again does some excellent singing.



Montague Love, Lloyd Hughes and Bebe Daniels in "Love Comes Along" now at the Fox Elsinore.

## Sound Theory Impractical; Action, Voice Correlated When Registering Emotion

"Theoretically possible, but not practical," is Hollywood's opinion of the statement, voiced at the Toronto convention of motion picture engineers, that "A speaking actor can remain silent during the filming of his film, then retire to an acoustically perfected room to speak his words to be later copied into the picture."

Actors, technicians and directors alike are protesting the idea. The general opinion is that while it seems possible, when figured on paper, it is absolutely impossible in actual practice. The human equation is given as the reason.

"It is not the loud speaker behind the screen, that makes the picture, but the illusion that is carried. It is, and always has been, possible to film a scene and put in sound afterward, but it is quite true that there is never a genuineness to such 'dubbed' sound."

"When an actor expresses an emotion for the talking screen, he does so both visibly and audibly. His expressions, his gestures, the inflections of his voice, all blend to tell a certain story. And—the physical expression and gestures, physical motion helps generate the emotion echoed in the voice. So that, when one takes first the movement, then the voice, one cannot get perfect coordination of the two—and there is no illusion."

"Talking pictures," said Harry Beaumont, director of "Broadway Melody," "may be divided into three classes. First, there is the vaudeville act type, where the actor is definitely talking to an audience. He sings his songs and

addresses his remarks directly to the people in the seat. It makes no bones about it. In such a case the illusion is only in the sound and motion. It goes no further.

"If all talking pictures were of this kind, perhaps the engineers' theory would hold good.

"Second, there is the filmed stage play, where the actors go through action with no regard to an audience, as though the audience were eavesdropping, as if the spectator was looking through a wall at them. There is an intimation to this type of picture, no demanding by the player; true drama in every sense and the ultimate in illusion. And this is where the dialogue picture gets in its greatest work.

"To carry this illusion coordination of physical action and speech must be very exact; in fact perfect, and this can only be accomplished by speech and action simultaneously accomplished. To first film the action, then the speech, would split two phases of a single action, and it would be impossible, to achieve absolute nature. That is why, no matter what engineers may accomplish theoretically, it isn't practical in point of fact and never will be."

A new idea in picture-making—the "dance meter" measures the distance one travels when one dances, down to a fraction of an inch.

The new invention wasn't designed for gauging the efforts of marathon dancers, however, but is an adjunct of talking picture production.

The apparatus gauges distances traveled to inform the cameraman as to his footage and his camera angles. It consists of a round hooplike apparatus set on a rod at a certain distance from the camera, and its graduations measure the distances traveled in the dance. Peverill Marley, cameraman, who incidentally is the husband of Lina Basquette, the dancer, perfected the device.

## SUNNYSIDE UP SHOWING NOW

Popular Song Hits and Laughs Make This Show Popular

Most of you have heard about "Sunnyside Up" and not a few of you can hum, sing and whistle many of the songs from it, therefore it should be good news that you may be able to see said show at Bligh's Capitol theatre beginning today and continuing on through Wednesday.

Janet Gaynor and Charles Farrell talk, sing and make love through this show and much of the time have a background of 100 chorus girls. Some of the songs already popular which will be heard sung by these folk are "If I Had a Talking Picture of You," "I'm a Dreamer" and of course the theme song "Sunnyside Up."

This picture is a musical comedy and in it Janet Gaynor and Charles Farrell are far from the Janet Gaynor and Charles Farrell which appeared in "Th Heaven."

The locale of the play in New York City, many blocks of the dear old city coming in for photographic display. And the theme is funny. The show makes no pretense to be anything but funny.

"Hot for Paris" which will be the feature beginning at the Capitol Thursday is a twin to "The Cook Eyed World." Not the same material, of course, but Victor McLaglen, El Brendel, and the far famed director, Raoul Walsh are all in "Hot for Paris."

The theme of the story is the escapades of two adventure seekers of shore leave—the adventurers being McLaglen and Brendel.

The story revolves around McLaglen, first mate of a windjammer, who buys a ticket which wins the big prize in the Grand Prix in Paris. He does not know he has won a million and the sweepstakes office where he purchased the ticket persistently hunts to find him. Believing that they are officers on his trial he eludes them and in running away encounters Fifi Dorsey, a singer and dancer in a cafe at Havre, falls in love with her and has many hilarious adventures leading to an amazing conclusion.

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Continuous Performance Sunday 2 to 11 P. M.

The funniest play ever conceived—It's an All-American All Laughing Follies

HOME TOWN FOLKS!  
HOME TOWN LIFE!  
HOME TOWN HUMOR!  
"Tell him I refuse to marry him!"  
"I'll be back!"  
"The Home Towners"  
RICHARD HENNING  
DOES EVERYTHING  
Also Our Gang Talking Comedy  
Pathe Sound News

**ELGINORE**  
Continuous 2 to 11

The Glorious Voice of "Rio Rita" in a New Singing Role!

**Love Comes Along**  
BEBE DANIELS  
LLOYD HUGHES

SUNDAY ONLY  
FANCHON & MARCO'S  
"HOT DOMINOES"  
IDEA WITH THE SUNKIST BEAUTIES

Tomorrow with "Love Comes Along"

REVIVAL OF "BEAU GESTE"

STARTS TUESDAY  
First of the Big 4

Better than a \$60 Broadway Show...

**The Duncan Sisters**  
"IT'S A GREAT LIFE"

LAUREL & HARDY  
in  
"HOOSE GOV"

Opens Today 4 Big Days

Now Playing Don't Miss It!

FOX MOVIE TON'S Greatest Musical Comedy Triumph

your favorite stars

**JANET GAYNOR**  
**CHARLES FARRELL**

making their singing debut

DAVID BUTLER

Hear the Song Hits "I'm a Dreamer, Aren't We All?" "If I Had a Talking Picture of You" "Turn On the Heat" "Sunnyside Up" "You Find the Time, I'll Find the Place"

**SUNNYSIDE UP**

ALL TALKING, SINGING, DANCING MUSICAL COMEDY

Thursday Brings "HOT FOR PARIS" It will give your funny bone a laughing treat

**Grand Theatre**  
Sunday - Monday - Tuesday

ROBERT ARMSTRONG - CAROL LOMBARD

**"BIG NEWS"**  
Sensational Mystery Drama of Newspaper Life—  
"BIG NEWS" is the Big Story of all Thrill Dramas  
FIRST TIME IN THIS CITY

And a Great Program of Short Subjects  
Pathe Sound News

"ROMANY LASS"  
A Beautiful Colored Sound Novelty

"BLACK NARCISSUS"  
All Talking Comedy Riot

"Why Gordias Leave Home"  
Comedy

SALEM'S BEST SOUND