

Salem Theatre Fans to See Marie Dressler This Weekend at Elsinore

MARIE DRESSLER HERE IN 'EMMA'

Woman who Kidnaped Nation's Vice President Comes To Elsinore Today

A woman who will "kid" anybody, even the vice-president of the United States. That's Marie Dressler!

Miss Dressler "kidded" the Hon. Charles Curtis when everybody else was making long speeches about the honor he'd paid them in coming to Hollywood—incidentally to see Miss Dressler awarded the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences prize for the best performance of an actress for 1931. And Curtis admitted he got a tremendous kick out of it.

Miss Dressler was in the midst of work on "Emma," her latest character drama which is now playing at the Elsinore theatre, when the Academy honor was paid her. Banquets, broadcasts, luncheons and official receptions were crowded in between her work on the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer talkie stages at an airport where a big scene with Richard Cromwell was enacted.

Asked how she dared "kid" so important a personage as Curtis, Miss Dressler replied: "Why not? A vice-president is only human—and this one is more human than most people!"

Miss Dressler's latest drama was written by Frances Marion, also the author of "Min and Bill," the picture which won her the Academy award. It is an intimate story of American family life depicting the career of a devoted housekeeper who becomes the victim of a bitter will contest. The production was directed by Clarence Brown and prominent supporting roles are filled by Richard Cromwell, Jean Hersholt and Myrna Loy.



Now this is something—take a look at these profiles and then decide about the chances for success of Paul Lukas, Sidney Fox and Lewis Stone in "Strictly Dishonorable," now showing at the Elsinore.

Paul Lukas Starred in "Strictly Dishonorable" Which Comes to Capitol

Paul Lukas is one foreign actor who was not shunted into obscurity by the advent of the talking picture. And this in spite of the fact that three years ago he could speak only one word of English—and that word "steak."

The handicap of language was not sufficient to do more than effect a temporary halt in a swift upward rise which began in the era of silent pictures.

No role that Lukas has ever had, however, has done so much for him as the role of Count Gus in "Strictly Dishonorable." It is by general consent the prize role of the year. The Paramount company tried to buy "Strictly Dishonorable" for Paul Lukas' use, and when Universal wouldn't give it up, a compromise was effected whereby Universal borrowed Lukas to play the role in its production of "Strictly Dishonorable" in association with Sidney Fox as the southern girl and Lewis Stone as the judge. Immediately after the assignment of the role, Paramount announced Paul Lukas as an independent star, instead of a featured player.

"When the entire motion picture industry fell headlong into the production of talking pictures," said Lukas recently, "I realized at once that only heroic measures could prevent the immediate ending of my American screen career. Many European players, their contracts cancelled, were already making preparations

to return to their native lands. Under the conditions, I could expect nothing except that I must go with them.

"I had but recently come from Hungary, and my command of English was almost a minus quantity. In fact, when I crossed the Atlantic on my way to America and Hollywood, I had beefsteak for every meal, because that was the only English word that I could say.

"And so, I disappeared. For seven months I kept away from the studios, and all this time I was diligently at work mastering the English language. Realizing that merely taking a daily lesson would be too slow a process, I engaged a young college graduate who accompanied me everywhere I went. Since we were together all day, and he spoke nothing but English, it was not long before I was able to carry on a simple conversation in English.

"At the end of seven months I went back to the studio an English-speaking actor. To be sure, I spoke with a slight accent, and will probably go to the end of my days, but that has not proved a very serious handicap. Possibly it has been a help, though I am not sure of that. At least I escaped oblivion."

For many years a stage actor in Budapest, capital of Hungary, Lukas later appeared on the stage in Vienna and Berlin, and in the latter city made his screen debut as Samson in the UFA production, "Samson and Delilah." Eventually he was brought to America under contract, and achieved instant success in silent pictures—but the talkies brought him to the height of his career.

Lukas' last appearance before stardom claims him is in a fea-



Here is a scene from one of the screen classics, "The Big Parade" which is coming back in sound and will be shown for the first time in Salem as a sound picture at the Hollywood today.

Billy Gable, Mill Hand Of Silverton, America's Leading Film Hero Now

By RICHARD H. SYRING
SILVERTON, Feb. 20.—"Who is the sheik that just registered?" Louyse Scott called over to her mother who was adjusting a new page in the large book.

Mrs. Charity Scott, proprietress of the "Cottage Hotel," a small family hotel here, adjusted her glasses and ran her finger down the column of names.

"The name is W. C. Gable, and he's registered from Portland. I sent him up to room No. 5," Mrs. Scott answered.

"A nice-looking fellow, isn't he?" Louyse continued.

"Yes, he is, but doesn't look much like a fellow who had worked in sawmills, does he?" was Mrs. Scott's rejoinder.

That was late in November, several days after Thanksgiving, in 1922. The man in question was William Clark Gable, later known to the hotel crowd by the abbreviated title of "Billy—the ham actor."

Today, of course, he's Clark Gable—the famous actor!

Later Appeared On Stage in Salem
Silverton and Marion county played quite an important part in the life of Clark Gable ("Billy" Gable to all who knew him then) in 1922 and 1923. He worked in the sawmill here, picked hops at the Horst yard near Independence, and spent many enjoyable days at the farm home of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Doerfler on the Victor Point road southeast of here.

Later, while working in Portland, he came to Salem on several occasions to present vaudeville skits. It didn't take the newcomer, at the "Cottage Hotel" long to mix with the rest of the boarders. They liked him and he liked them, although at times they became vexed with his continual acting.

"Billy" Gable was continually mimicking somebody. First it was someone at the mill. Then someone he had seen on the streets. Whether at the hotel or at the mill, the mimicking, all in good fun, continued. Hence the title—"the ham actor."

Gable first went to work for the Silver Falls Timber company here on Tuesday, December 5. At the mill W. C. Gable became worker No. 243 in the shipping department. He worked 20 days and five hours in December, earning \$66 after hospital fees had been subtracted. His rate was the lowest in the mill at that time—\$2.20 a day. In January, 1923, he worked 11 days and three hours, drawing down the stupendous paycheck of \$35.15—an amount he probably draws now for one hour's work!

Wore Riding Boots To Work in Mill
Mrs. Scott will never forget the morning he first went to work. "Do you know what he had on?" she queried. "Well, they were peg-topped riding breeches and riding boots. You can imagine what some of these other millhands thought! Fellows who had been handling lumber for years. Gable wasn't delicate or anything like that. But the idea of a fellow going to work in a sawmill in such an outfit was nearly too

much for them. But Gable didn't mind. He went to work with that outfit on, and also wore it on other occasions."

At the boarding house the appellation of "ham actor" stuck. Full of fun, Gable continued with his mimicry. Not only did he act, but he continually talked about the stage, his experiences in playing with stock companies in various parts of the country, and his ambitions. These he made known to all. It was not the motion picture then but Broadway—the great white way—with millions of white lights flickering the name of Gable in big letters.

"You know," Mrs. Scott recalled with a smile, "if Billy was late to dinner or absent, I'd overhear some of the boarders saying, 'Well I wonder where the ham actor is!'"

But it was all in fun. Never anything contemptuous or sarcastic. "What some of the other boarders couldn't understand was a fellow going to work at the mill, wearing clothes just as good, if not better, than they wore on Sundays."

Life of the Party At Country Dances
With the day's work done, it meant fun and excitement for Gable. Many times he went to dances and parties with Mrs. Scott's four children, Louyse, Mae, Wilbur and Sammy. Gable was always the life of the party, they will all tell.

Then, there was a trick tooth! In those days, Clark had a one-tooth removable bridge. And what fun that tooth caused! "One night Wilbur, Clark and myself went out to Scott's Mills to a dance," Sammy (now Dr. S. F. Scott of Salem) remembered. "The dance was upstairs over a garage. When things started to get dead, Clark, or rather Billy, livened them up with that tooth. He would be dancing with a girl and during the rest he would put his tongue behind that tooth and push it so it would stick straight out! Then the girl would scream! 'Now look,' Gable would say, 'see, it is all gone, pushing the tooth back in place.'"

"After the tooth gag started to wear off," Dr. Scott continued, "Wilbur and Gable thought up another. Wilbur was to be a blind man and Clark, his promoter. Somewhere Wilbur got a tin cup, and started to stumble around the dance hall. During an intermission Clark got up on the orchestra platform.

"Ladies and gentlemen," he began, 'we have in our midst a poor blind fellow, who will now pass the cup among us. Let us all give.' "That lasted all right for a few minutes, but we were nearly kicked out of the hall."

(Continued next Sunday)



"The Last Parade" is the feature which will be shown at the Grand Friday and Saturday. Jack Holt is featured.

'THE BIG PARADE' IS AT HOLLYWOOD

Revival of Most Heroic of Pictures is Brought About by Demand

"The Big Parade," one of the most heroic and stirring pictures ever filmed, will make a triumphant return to the Hollywood theatre starting today, the revised version of the celebrated King Vidor production having been made doubly thrilling by the addition of sound effects.

During late years, according to officials at the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studios, there has been a definite public demand for the revival of "The Big Parade," which prompted the producers to present it with the sound embellishments which were unknown when the picture was originally released.

Such effects as the sounds of the cannon, machine guns, airplanes, trucks and tanks add tremendous realism to the stirring war scenes and further realism is achieved by sound in the sequences in which war is first declared and made apparent to the people by the ringing of bells and the sounding of factory whistles.

Also in the current version of "The Big Parade" you will hear the soldiers as they sing such robust marching songs as "You're in the Army Now," all of which gives the picture an entirely fresh aspect.

Together with the new sound effects, the new version retains the original musical score as presented at the opening of the picture at the Astor theatre in New York. This was personally directed by Dr. William Axt, its creator, with a 100-piece orchestra for the audio version.

"The Big Parade" is the picture which launched John Gilbert as a star and no player was more fortunate in the choice of a first starring vehicle, for the picture is a tremendous and authentic portrayal of the war, a masterpiece of emotion and a great human comedy as well. Renee Adoree as Melisande, the French girl; Karl Dane, Hobart Bosworth, Claire McDowell and Tom O'Brien play outstanding roles.

Florence McKibben is Surprised on Birthday

AIRLIE, Feb. 20 — A surprise party was given in honor of Miss Florence McKibben's 21st birthday anniversary Wednesday night at the home of her parents.

Present were: Hazel Evert, Harold Tredemier, Dean Davis, Doris and Vaughn Whitaker, Steve and La Verne Tarter, Elmer, Alvin and Leonard Henon, Lester McAlpine, Wayne Williamson, Norman Brown, Lois Norton, Evelyn Staats, Charlie Wendell, Charlotte Santa, Vernon, Ray, Jarrod and Evelyn McKibben, and the hostess, Miss Florence McKibben.

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'Last Parade' is Coming to Grand Late This Week

When a girl believes that she is equally fond of two men, so much so that she might marry either one of them, she is confronted with a difficult problem to solve. That is one of the major situations in the Columbia picture, "The Last Parade," which starts Friday at the Grand. The leading players in this attraction are Jack Holt, Tom Moore, Constance Cummings and Gaylord Pendleton. Miss Cummings portrays the girl who faces the decision; Jack Holt and Tom Moore are the rivals for her hand.

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SHE HAD NO CHILDREN OF HER OWN... BUT A GREAT AFFECTION FOR THOSE INTO WHOM SHE SPANKED THE FIRST BREATH OF LIFE AS BABIES. LAUGH THROUGH YOUR TEARS AT...

MARIE DRESSLER IN Emma

ADDED "WASHINGTON—The Man and the Capitol" "TAGAN MOON" "BLONDE PESSURE" Warner Bros. News