

Screen World

by Ridgely Cummings

Now that a communist paper back east has fired its movie critic because he refused to pan "Gone With the Wind," we ought to launch into a scathing review of some capitalist film just to prove that things are more liberal out here in the west. But if there was anything on the local screen fare last week that had a "class angle," we didn't see it.

Possibly one might maintain that Laurel and Hardy were underprivileged in the "Flying Deuces." Certainly they got into enough difficulties, but it wouldn't have been a comedy if they hadn't, for it is the comedian's lot to suffer. But others may feel superior and laugh. Incidentally, there was a lot of laughing at the Heilig in the early part of the week, and well directed in our opinion. Laurel and Hardy rank second only to Donald Duck as pantomimists now that Charlie Chaplin has apparently abandoned his baggy trousers and cane.

Different at McDonald

It was a different story at the Mac Wednesday night. Hedda Gabler and Elliott Lovborg suffered no end, but nobody laughed. Perhaps it was because no one felt superior.

Hendrik Ibsen and Eva Le Gallienne have at least one thing in common. They grow on one. If we were to criticize Ibsen, and perhaps it would be presumptuous for we didn't know till the other night that in his "Ghosts" the real villain is a spirocheta and not a supernatural visitor, we would say that he tends to make his characters just a bit too talkative.

In "Hedda Gabler," the first act and the first scene of the second act seemed devoted to setting the tragic mood of the play. There was a great deal of stage conversation while Miss Le Gallienne was striking in with deft strokes the neurotic character of Hedda.

Warm Second Act. It wasn't until the second act climax, when with hysterical laughter that bordered on the maniacal Hedda burns up Elliott Lovborg's manuscript that one began to feel the full impact of Ibsen, and of Miss Le Gallienne.

From then on the tragic denouement would have been clearly foreshadowed for even a ten-year old in the last row of the balcony.

An actor named Peter Capell was sufficiently sinister as Judge Brack who wants to be "cock of the walk," while Hedda had by that time established her ruthless ambition and independence so well that one knew she would never put up with being in the power of the judge, or anyone else.

The pistol shot that shattered the stillness of the stage in the finale came as a shock in spite of its inevitability. One walked out of the theater slightly chastened, thinking that perhaps there really was something to Ibsen and those old-timers after all. One had always thought well of Miss Le Gallienne, so that sentiment was only confirmed by her performance.

Sidewalk Incident. There's a reason for our attitude toward Miss Le Gallienne. The fact is one time, in New York, we believe we flirted with her.

It was like this. We were walking along 14th street, probably going to Union square, when a beautiful woman smiled at us. We stopped, startled. Then as if hypnotized we swung around in our tracks, reversed our field so to speak, and followed her.

She was wearing a tall black hat somewhat similar to the one Catherine Taylor was sporting around Eugene during the holidays. Before we could catch up the tall black hat disappeared in the entrance of what is familiarly known as the "Civic Rep," that is, the Civic Repertory theater.

On a poster we saw the face and name of Eva Le Gallienne. We read, and sighed, and turned away. But since then we've always felt friendly toward Eva.

Coming up this week, "Intermezzo," at the McDonald Wednesday, looks good. Then there is "The Private Lives of Elizabeth and Essex," at the Heilig during the shank of the week. Webster says "shank" means the lower part of an animal's hind leg, but we mean the early part of the week.

And if you saw Virginia Mikulak and Gerda Brown in the VLT's production of "The Women" and want to see how they stack up against Hollywood's Paulette Goddard and Rosalind Russell in the same roles, the movie version is playing at the Rex from today through Tuesday. We'll vote for the Eugene girls most all the time.

We see we made an error in last Sunday's column when we credited the wrong girl with the magnificent performance of Eliza Doolittle, drab little Cockney flower peddler who is transformed into a duchess in Pygmalion, one of the year's ten best movies. The right girl is named Wendy Hiller. She is a London stage luminary who was picked by none other than the incomparable G. B. S. to play the guttersnipe heroine in his play. We wrote Wendy Barrie, a slip of the typewriter possibly caused by some unconscious mental linkage between playwrights Barrie and Shaw.

But even that's not a good excuse for everyone knows that if Shaw's wit is as acid as a sour quince, then Barrie's gentle humor must be compared to a Burbank orange.



IN A TENDER SCENE from "Intermezzo," Leslie Howard, above, shows affection for Ingrid Bergman. The story of a romantic interlude in a musician's life opens Wednesday at the McDonald theater.

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Yes, you guessed it. The Very Little Theatre players are busy rehearsing their next offering. It is a dramatized version of Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice."

We saw Dr. Horn sitting in the directorial chair smack in front of the stage, giving soft-voiced guidance to the actors. Among the veterans whom we recognized running through their lines were Mary Staton, Otilie Seybold, and Ethel Sawyer.

But this is not to be another all women cast. There are at least three men in the line-up, for Art Poulos, who is designing the sets, told us that the three suitors who figure prominently in the play's action will all wear those tight fitting trousers with straps under the instep which were the vogue in 1805.

'Elizabeth and Essex' Opens Today at Heilig

"The Private Lives of Elizabeth and Essex," the new Warner Bros. Technicolor production starring Bette Davis and Errol Flynn has its first local showing today at the Heilig theater, carrying to still greater heights their parade of new show season his which has included such memorable films as "The Old Maid," "Each Dawn I Die," "On Your Toes."

Bette Davis, of course, is cast as the self-willed, vain and domineering Queen Elizabeth, torn between her love of England and its people and her overwhelming love for the handsome and dashing young Earl of Essex.

Flynn as Essex has precisely the type of role in which he has endeared himself to audiences the world over—that of a handsome, swash-buckling hero, as victorious in love as he is in war. But his victory over Elizabeth is short-lived in the film; for, loving him, she sends him to the executioner's block, because she realizes that if England is to live, Essex must die. Played against the spectacular background of the pomp and pageantry of the Elizabethan court, the love story is still the all-important theme on which the film is focused.

The brilliant supporting cast for the two stars includes Olivia de Havilland, Donald Crisp, Vincent Price, Henry Stephenson, Alan Hale, Ralph Forbes, Henry Daniell, James Stephenson, Nanette Fabares, Robert Warwick and Leo G. Carroll.

Remember the Movie—
"BE MINE TONITE?"
(You probably saw it several times and loved it!)

NOW see this star in person! hear him in concert!

THURSDAY EVENING Jan. 11 8 P. M.
McARTHUR CT.
PHONE 3300
McArthur Court ticket office. Reserved seats \$1.50, \$1.25, \$1.00 (tax exempt). Your phone reservations will be held until curtain time!

'The Women' Returns to Rex

All-star in its scope, "The Women," picturization of Clare Boothe's famous Broadway success of the same name, opens today at the Rex theater.

Taking its place along with such former stellar features as "Grand Hotel" and "Dinner at Eight," the film not only combed the outstanding talent of Hollywood but of Broadway as well to bring to the screen the most outstanding feminine talent available.

The cast, numbering one hundred and thirty-five women in all, is headed by Norma Shearer, Joan Crawford and Rosalind Russell.

Springfield Theater
TODAY'S SUPER BILL
Charles Laughlin in "JAMAICA INN"
Plus Another Feature
"NO PLACE TO GO"
Fred Stone and Gloria Dickson
Short Subjects News
On Stage in Person Sunday Night
"THE MEXICALI TODELERS"
Most Seats 15c Children 10c

sell, who tallied a triumphant hit with Robert Montgomery in "Fast and Loose."

GRIPPING

Said to be one of the most gripping pictures in film history, RKO Radio's "Five Came Back," now playing at the State theater, deals with the destiny of eleven persons marooned in a South American jungle by an airplane accident.

The all-star cast is headed by Chester Morris, Lucille Ball and Wendy Barrie.

REX Theatre

THE Female OF THE SPECIES... NOW!

when the men aren't watching!

Norma SHEARER Joan CRAWFORD and ROSALIND RUSSELL

"The Women"

CO-FEATURE

STOP LOOK AND LOVE

DOORS 12:45

McDONALD

The King of Song, and the year's most glamorous surprise star!

"Balalaika"

ILONA MASSEY

NEILSON EDDY

M-G-M triumph with CHARLIE FRANK LIONEL RUGGLES-MORGAN-ATWILL C. AUBREY JOYCE DALIES SMITH-COMPTON-FRANTZ

NICK CARTER, MASTER DETECTIVE

A Sensational story of America's sinister menace!

Walter PIDGEON Rita JOHNSON

Doors Open at 12:45

THEATRE PROGRAM

McDONALD
Sunday through Tuesday
Balalaika
Nick Carter, Master Detective.
Wednesday, Thursday
Intermezzo
Santa Fe Marshall
Friday through Tuesday
Gulliver's Travels
What A Life

REX
Sunday through Tuesday
The Women
Stop Look and Love
Wednesday through Saturday
Thunder Afloat
It Could Happen to You

HEILIG
Sunday through Wednesday
Private Lives of Elizabeth and Essex

MAYFLOWER
Thursday through Saturday
The Big Guy
Wall Street Cowboy

STATE
Sunday through Tuesday
Nugget But Nice
Five Came Back
Wednesday, Thursday
Pygmalion
Everything's On Ice
Friday, Saturday
New Frontier
Tell No Tales

Naughty but Nice

Spicy as a Showgirl's Diary!

THE LAST WORD IN STARTLING DRAMA!
Forced landing in jungle... Twelve marooned... Only five can escape!... What a WHICH FIVE?... Wait until you see!

FIVE CAME BACK

with CHESTER MORRIS LUCILLE BALL WENDY BARRE

WALT DISNEY CARTOON

MAYFLOWER
ELEVENTH AT ALDER.

NEW SHOW STARTS TODAY!
THE BIGGEST LAUGH RIOT OF THE SEASON!

"IF ABSENCE MAKES THE HEART GROW FONDER... I SURE SHOULD LOVE THAT GUY"

A FIRST RUN PICTURE!

Whenever she wanted him to make love... he was making headlines... solving another mystery!

MELVYN DOUGLAS * BLONDIE

The AMAZING MR. WILLIAMS

Directed by ALEXANDER HALL... Associate Producer EVERETT RISKIN... A COLUMBIA PICTURE

RUTH DONNELLY * CLARENCE KOLB EDWARD BROPHY * JOHN WRAY
Screen play by DWIGHT TAYLOR
SY BARTLETT * RICHARD BAUM

Continuous Shows Daily from 12:45 'til 12:00

STARTS TODAY!

FOR 4 BIG DAYS!

BETTE DAVIS **ERROL FLYNN**

The greatest actress of the screen as the queen who wanted to be a woman... more than the world's mightiest ruler!

"I AM YOURS... BODY, SOUL AND THRONE!"

"The Private Lives OF ELIZABETH AND ESSEX"

In greater-than-ever-TECHNICOLOR

with OLIVIA DE HAVILLAND

Donald Crisp • Vincent Price Alan Hale • Henry Stephenson

A WARNER BROS. Picture Directed by MICHAEL CURTIZ

MUSICAL: VINCENT LOPEZ AND HIS ORCHESTRA

HEILIG
BETTER PICTURES - PERFECT SOUND

CARTOON: LAND OF THE MIGHTY SUN UNIVERSAL NEWS

CONTINUOUS SHOW FROM 12:45 TO 12:00 P. M.