

Screen World

by Ridgely Cummings

During the late unpleasantness that is now referred to as the first world war, there was a song making the rounds that went something like this: "Don't bite the hand that's feeding you . . . etc." It was good sound economic advice diverted to patriotic use.

We were never very good at taking good advice, however, and today we're going to take a few nips at the movies.

All right, so we get past the box-office and take our seats in the theater. It is dark. The atmosphere is hushed, concentrated. We watch the screen. Soon we become engrossed in the tribulations of the characters. We live with them, vicariously.

By Proxy

The villain mistreats the pure and lovely heroine. "Hey! Stop that!" we shout mentally. We are angry. The villain gets his just deserts in the end, but we haven't done anything about it. Our adrenal glands have secreted stimulating juices which had us all prepared to fight, and then the hero did our fighting for us. Also our love-making.

Where does that leave us? Behind the eight-ball, psychologically speaking.

Human beings, according to the psychology books, and we've been reading one lately by Floyd L. Ruch, University of Oregon graduate in the class of 1923—human beings have several basic emotional reaction patterns. Alumnus Ruch lists them as excitement, anger, fear, and lust.

Useful Men

In the days when man's life was precarious because of wild animals, limited food supply, and a generally hostile environment, these passions functioned to keep him and his race alive.

Chased by a sabre-toothed tiger, fear gave man that extra stimulus that enabled him to make a hundred yard dash to the nearest tree in something under 10 seconds flat. Lust kept him procreating in times of crisis when a more logical person would have been occupied trying to stop the leak in the roof of the cave.

Nowadays man's enemies are semi-inanimate objects like rent collectors, propagandists, depressions. Fear or anger aren't very useful in combating these things. In other words, these emotions are fine and dandy provided they are useful. Not used, they are disturbing, dangerous.

Our point is that going on a "movie jag" is apt to become a dangerous habit.

For too many people movies become an escape from reality, an antidote for the frustrations seemingly inherent to a machine age.

But we hope nobody takes these random thoughts too seriously. If nobody went to the movies then nobody would want to read about them, and then where would this column be?

Amusement is a worthwhile function, and one that the movies perform well. Then there are a lot of experiences that are broadening and educational when they come second-hand, but which are out of our reach actually.

What we're probably "agin" is horror pictures and super-thrillers for kids. The old folks are usually sophisticated enough to watch them detachedly, but the kids live them, and come out emotionally limp.

G W the Wind opened in Portland at road show prices

last week and is scheduled to stay there a month or so. It's an M-G-M production and will come to the Mac when it comes. Jimmy Watkins, assistant manager, tells us it is due here in March, also at road show prices.

This has the earmarks of being a musical week on the screen. First on our list comes Violinist Jascha Heifetz in "They Shall Have Music," at the Rex today in conjunction with Bette Davis in "The Old Maid." Andrea Leeds is playing opposite Heifetz in the musical number, and this looks like the best fifteen cents worth of entertainment in town.

Then at the McDonald today there is Allan Jones singing opposite Mary Martin in "The Great Victor Herbert." Miss Martin is the Texas songbird who sang "My Heart Belongs To Daddy" on Broadway last season. She made headlines when her daddy died and the producer didn't tell her until after the show, although half the audience knew about the tragedy.

One of the outstanding cultural events of the week is, of course, the V.I.T.'s night stand of "Pride and Prejudice," which takes place out at the fairgrounds starting Tuesday night.

Much has already been written about the production, but it will do no harm to reiterate that this department's favorite local actress, Virginia Mikulak, is playing the lead. It is a case of Miss Mikulak's pride against Bill Nash's prejudice. Mr. Nash, instructor in drama at the university, plays the male lead opposite La Mikulak, and the plot concerns itself with resolving the antagonism between the two.

Topping the State theater's program is "Lady of the Tropics." This is the one in which Robert Taylor is a sort of gigolo on a cruising yacht. The yacht stops at Saigon in French Indo-China and Taylor meets Hedy Lamarr-velous.

Their eyes meet and one of those phenomena which happens more frequently on celluloid than in Eugene takes place. They are in LOVE.

Taylor jumps ship, woos and wins the beautiful Eurasian, Miss Lamarr. But there is a fly in the ointment, or rather two flies. One is the barrier of race, for Hedy is half French and half some other unmentioned race, probably Malaysian. The other is a rich and powerful native admirer of Hedy's played by a menacing Joseph Schildkraut.

We won't tell you any more except that it is a moderately engrossing tale. If you are an admirer of Miss Lamarr, and this department is, if for no other reason than that we are fascinated by the problem of trying to figure out if there is a real brain under that marvelous exterior, then the picture is worth a couple hours of your time.

One of our Hollywood spies, or if that sounds too imposing one of the studio press agents who mail the Guard the latest chit-chat from the land of "never-never," tells us that blonde Ann Southern has recently acquired the most beautiful appendectomy scar ever carved on the human abdo-



THEY FINALLY got married. Wedding bells ring for Priscilla Lane and Jeffrey Lynn, above, in "Four Wives" which makes its local debut at the Heilig theater today. The rest of the family get married too in this sequel to the popular "Four Daughters."



ROBERT TAYLOR, above, looks happy. But you would look that way too if you were playing next to Hedy Lamarr in an exotic romance of the far east titled "Lady of the Tropics," at the State theater from today through Tuesday.

more uncomfortable he became. Finally, running his handkerchief around his collar, he turned and whispered: "It's awfully hot in here, isn't it?" "And at this the pianist remarked dryly: 'For violinists, maybe, but not for pianists.'"

THEATRE PROGRAM

McDONALD
Now through Tuesday
The Great Victor Herbert.
City of Chance.
Wednesday through Friday
Geronimo.
All Women Have Secrets.
Saturday
Swanee River.
20,000 Men a Year.

REX
Sunday through Tuesday
The Old Maid.
They Shall Have Music.
Wednesday through Saturday
Disputed Passage.
Crashing Through.

HEILIG
Sunday through Wednesday
Four Wives.
Sabotage.
Thursday through Saturday
Invisible Stripes.
Kansas Terrors.

MAYFLOWER
Now through Wednesday
That's Right—You're Wrong.
Thursday through Saturday
Four Wives.
Money to Burn.

STATE
Sunday through Tuesday
Good Girls Go To Paris.
Lady of the Tropics.
Wednesday, Thursday
Bridal Suite.
SOS Tidal Wave.
Friday, Saturday
Stranger From Texas.
Indianapolis Speedway.

ESCORTS

Two Kansas cowpunchers, chaperoning a shipment of Kansas horses to a peaceful looking Caribbean island that turns out to be a seething volcano of revolution, provide excitement in Republic's "The Kansas Terrors," coming to the Heilig screen Thursday. The three make up Republic's new Three Mesquiteer trio—Bob Livingston, Raymond Hatton, and Duncan Renaldo.

men. At least that's what she hopes.

It seems that Miss Sothern, having decided that no self-respecting cinemactress can be caught these days lugging around an appendix, went on a shopping tour for aesthetic incisions.

She learned that they came in all shapes and sizes—square, long, round, half-moon, V-shaped, and jagged. The crescent-shaped incision took Miss Sothern's fancy and that's what she ordered. She won't know what she got until the bandages are removed.

If the publicity men should let us down, we'll have to wait for her next picture.



LUCILLE BALL appears to be teasing the Ol' Maestro in this scene from "That's Right—You're Wrong," which remains at the Heilig theater through Wednesday with Kay Kyser doing his



ABOVE is a scene from "Geronimo," described as "the roaring of the ravaging savage who dared the might of a young nation." The picture, starring Preston Foster, comes to the McDonald theater Tuesday.

the great mixed choir of the decade!
SHRILL VOICES BLENDING IN A VAST CHORAL SYMPHONY!
HEAR
ST. OLAF CHOIR
Directed by Famous Dr. Mellis Christiansen
TUES. EVE., JAN. 30
McARTHUR COURT
RESERVATIONS NOW!
Reserved seats, \$1.25, \$1.00, 50c.
General admission, 50c.
Box office, McArthur Court (3330); tickets will be sold until concert time.
Portland Appearance Already Sold Out!

Tin Pan Alley Blushes Over Victor Herbert

"It's like asking a painter to touch up the 'Mona Lisa'" was the comment of Frank Loesser and Phil Boutelje, crack Hollywood song writers, when Paramount recently asked them to compose lyrics for three melodies by Victor Herbert!

The incident took place during the filming of the new musical romance based on the experiences of the famed Irish-American composer, "The Great Victor Herbert," now playing at the McDonald theater, featuring Allan Jones, Mary Martin and Walter Connolly.

Words for the songs were needed, so that Jones, Miss Martin and company could sing them. Loesser and Boutelje were commissioned to perform the miracle.

"And it was a miracle, if we could do it," Loesser explained. "The music practically defies the use of words. If any lyrics were suitable, or good enough, they would have been written long ago. But we tackled the job—on one stipulation. We've got it in black and white that none of those lyrics ever can be published. We wouldn't want to do that much harm to Herbert's music."

Under the spell of the new lyrics, "Puchinello" has become "Happy Day," a birthday song; "Al Fresco," written for the piano, becomes a solo for Miss Martin

STARTS TODAY
Bette Davis
Miriam Hopkins
RICH with DRAMA
666
OLD MAID
with GEORGE BRENT
A Warner First National Picture

(PLUS)
A FOUR STAR MUSICAL ATTRACTION!
First Time on the screen!
SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
JASCHA HEIFETZ
They Shall Have Music
with Joel McCrea, Andrea Walter, McCREA-LEEDS-BRENNAN
A FOUR STAR DRAMA on the SCREEN!
REX Theatre

McDONALD
DADDY'S HEART is in the MOVIES NOW!
A New Star
A Provocative Star
...Comes to the Screen!
MARY MARTIN
(SEE HEART BELONGS TO DADDY)

The Great VICTOR HERBERT
with
ALLAN JONES
MARY MARTIN
WALTER CONNOLLY
Lee Bowman • Judith Barrett
Paramount Pictures

(PLUS)
LADY LUCK
LIFE AND LOVE!
CITY OF GLANCE
with LYNN BARR
C. Aubrey Smith
Donald Woods

MAYFLOWER
ELEVENTH AT ALDER.
ONLY A FEW DAYS LEFT TO SEE

THE OLD PROFESSOR
—with all the prize pupils of the "College of Musical Knowledge," and a hand-picked bunch of screen favorites in the laugh-swing-story sensation of the season!
KAY KYESER * **ADOLPHE MENJOU**
"THAT'S RIGHT YOU'RE WRONG"
With
MAY ROBSON • **LUCILLE BALL**
DENNIS O'KEEFE • **EDWARD EVERETT HORTON** • **ROSCOE KARNs** • **MORONI OLSEN**
ALSO
"Gun Play" • "Monroe Doctrine"
CONTINUOUS SHOW ON SUNDAY FROM 12:45 UNTIL 12:00

HEILIG
BETTER PICTURES • PERFECT SOUND
Starts Today FOR 4 BIG DAYS!
And so the Four Daughters were married!
Priscilla Lane
Rosemary Lane
Lola Lane
Gale Page
"Four Wives"
The long awaited sequel to "Four Daughters" with the same cast, featuring
Claude Rains
Jeffrey Lynn • **Eddie Albert**
MAY ROBSON • **FRANK McHUGH**
DICK FORAN • **HENRY O'NEILL**
A WARNER BROS. — First National Picture
The Character of "Mickey Borden," as He Appeared in "Four Daughters" is Portrayed by **JOHN GARFIELD**
You'll see the same boys, the same girls playing the same unforgettable characters! It's gay, warming, wholesome... just what you want a motion picture to be!
Co-Feature
SABOTAGE
CHARLIE GRAPENIN • ANNE WHELAN
ALSO
Artie Shaw and His Orch. — Color Cartoon — News
CONTINUOUS SHOW DAILY FROM 12:45 'TIL 12:00