

# Spectacular Effects to Mark Screen Productions

Tremendous Settings and Thousands of Actors to Enhance Power of Plot in American-Made Films, Indications Show—Ince, Neilan, Griffith and De Mille to Follow European Plan.

**S**PECTACULAR effects in the form of huge settings and thousands of actors will feature forthcoming productions, a prospectus of conditions among film studios on the coast indicates.

Heart interest stories and snappy comedy-drama have been the forte in the film firmament during the past few years on account of the tremendous expense of producing spectacular scenes. Unusual mob scenes and expensive settings in the past few years have been confined to films in Europe where labor in building sets was cheap.

From the dramatic standpoint the strength of the spectacular in one of the screen's greatest possibilities. Emotion of an infuriated mob adds much to the power of a plot. The same handling of such plot material in the American-made photoplay in the coming year is bound to advance cinema art.

Marshall Neilan, Thomas Ince, David Wark Griffith and Cecil B. De Mille are all planning spectacular scenes in forthcoming plays.

The value of spectacular scenes is revealed in "Broadway Rose," featuring Mae Murray at the Rialto theater this week. "Manslaughter," starring Thomas Meighan, at the Strand theater this week, also carries a series of tremendous sets to enhance the appeal of the plot.

"Manslaughter" at Strand. In spite of the fact that there were no photographers to record the dress and customs of the masses during the years of the decadence of the Roman empire, Cecil B. DeMille is said to have faithfully reproduced a scene of the barbarian invasion of Rome in his latest picture, "Manslaughter," which opens at the Strand theater today.

The episode alluded to is a brief historical cutback, but it depicts vividly the arrival of Alaric's hordes in the Eternal City. Leatrice Joy, who is one of the principals of the modern portion of the story, is the hostess at a lavishly beautiful Roman bacchanal which is interrupted by Thomas Meighan in the role of the leader of the Goths, Lois Wilson, John Milner and Casson Ferguson are the other members of the notable cast appearing in this sequence.

The story deals with a young American girl of wealth who is a speed maniac and who is the cause of the death of a motor policeman. The district attorney who prosecutes her, loves her, but he believes that the only way to save her from herself is to punish her. She goes to prison and when he calls upon her, she treats him with contempt. He disbelieves and later when the girl is released, she is the means of reforming him. The two are united after many thrilling incidents transpire.

Mae Murray at Rialto. With Mae Murray in the stellar role of "Broadway Rose," which plays this week at the Rialto theater, motion picture fans will see the beautiful star in an elaborate production which is said to surpass even "Peach Blossom" and "Fanny Hill."

As in the latter pictures Miss Murray is provided with a role which gives prominence to her ability as a dancer and affords opportunity for striking costumes in great profusion. The story concerns a country girl who, by her extraordinary ability as a dancer, becomes the idol of Broadway. The heir of an aristocratic Fifth Avenue family falls in love with her, urges her to marry him and, seeking only happiness with the man she loves, Rosalie consents. To avoid an open rupture with his family the marriage is kept secret but the discovery of the situation by the father precipitates a crisis which almost wrecks Violet's life.

"Wall Flower" at World. The time, the place and the girl met when Rupert Hughes wrote "The Wall Flower," which was produced at the Goldwyn studios with Colleen Moore in the role of the ugly duckling who turned out to be a swan. The picture, which will be shown this week at the World theater, is a variation of the old Cinderella story, a tale that never grows old and may always be presented in a new way.

Rupert Hughes has shown his ingenuity in making his Cinderella a wall flower. She is just that. Nobody loves her. She is only a drudge. However, even a drudge may have wonderful times. The realization comes to her that she is only the sport of her friends—and that is tragedy. Nevertheless, there are others who discern the swan in the ugly duckling, and through their efforts change the rough brown feathers to smooth white ones. And, as in the fairy tale, the prince comes to claim his princess, and they live happily ever after.

Eugene O'Brien at Empress. Eugene O'Brien in a melodramatic comedy, "Chivalrous Charley," opens today at the Empress theater for four days.

Romance, adventure and thrills are the outstanding features of the screen play which gives Mr. O'Brien hitherto uncharted fields for his splendid comedy talents. A fashionable girl's school figures prominently in "A Girl's Desire," which will be shown at the Empress beginning next Thursday. In order to secure the best possible results, her director secured permission to film scenes at one of the most elite finishing schools for girls in southern California.

The cast chosen for support of Miss Calhoun embodies some noted stage players, including men and women most admirably adapted for the comedy parts which enter into the picture. Warner Baxter, a typical looking young American of most pleasing appearance, plays opposite Alice Calhoun as Lord Dymally.

Norma Talmadge at the Moon. "The New Moon," featuring Norma Talmadge at the Moon theater the first four days of this week, is the story of a Russian princess, Marie Pavlova, who falls to a neighboring prince when her castle is attacked by marauders and takes refuge in a small stone in the guise of a peasant girl. When the prince returns to his native land, he finds women in the country to register in order to be nationalized, the princess refuses to register and incites the other women of the town to follow her example. The authorities discover the true lineage of the peasant girl who is leading the women to revolt and try to force her to register, with dire results to themselves.



**World**—"The Wall Flower." Rialto—Mae Murray in "Broadway Rose."  
**Strand**—"Manslaughter."  
**Moon**—Today until Thursday, "The New Moon"; beginning Thursday, "Experimental Marriage."  
**Sun**—Charles Ray in "Smudge."  
**Empress**—Today until Thursday, "Chivalrous Charley"; beginning next Thursday, "A Girl's Desire."  
**Muse**—Today, "The New Moon"; tomorrow and Tuesday, "The Beauty Shop"; Wednesday and Thursday, "Find the Woman"; Friday and Saturday, "Experimental Marriage."

Charles Ray & Leatrice Joy - Sun

John Milner - Strand

**Hitchcock at Muse.** Raymond Hitchcock, comedian, is featured in "The Beauty Shop," which plays tomorrow and Tuesday at the Muse theater. The play is a musical comedy.

Norma Talmadge graces the screen of the Muse theater today in "The New Moon," a story of Russian love. A dramatic story of New York police, society, bright lights and a woman is told in "Find the Woman," which takes the screen at the Muse theater next Wednesday and Thursday.

Richard Dix, handsome screen leading man, has played in but one picture in which he did not propose to the leading lady—acceptably. Helene Chadwick has been the object of his love three times, while May Collins and Leatrice Joy have both yielded to his pleas. Now comes Colleen Moore in "The Wall Flower," at the World theater this week.

Larry Semon has long been known as a king of comedians; now he actually appears in "A Pair of Kings," which will be shown as an added attraction at the Sun theater this week as a king, or some sort of high and mighty potentate. Larry dons an epauletted coat covered with medals and gold braid, claps a monocle in his eye, and in fact, acts regally all through the worded funmaker. Pretty Lucille Carlisle plays opposite him.

Constance Talmadge is featured in "Experimental Marriage," which is the chief attraction at the Muse theater next Friday and Saturday.

### American Plays Are Popular on European Screens

The arrival of Poli Negri shortly to make her first American starring picture at the Lasky studio for Paramount is in keeping with the policy of the organization as set forth by Jesse L. Lasky, first vice president of Famous Players-Lasky corporation, to strengthen its productions in every possible way, one means being the infusion of ideal types from the old world.

"American pictures," says Mr. Lasky, "are becoming more and more popular all over Europe and the international appeal is of immense importance in maintaining this lead over productions made in other countries." The 41 pictures which compose the Paramount schedule for the six months beginning in August and ending in January embrace productions of every character, but only those of the highest quality technically and from a literary point of view. To name them all would be needless, but outstanding are such pictures as Cecil B. De Mille's "Manslaughter," "The Old Homestead,"

### Spends Time in Jail Photoplay Writer Has Novel Experience To Get Atmosphere

To be arrested and sent to prison for four days was the unique experience of Jeanie Macpherson, famous photo playwright, in pursuance of her plan to obtain the proper atmosphere for Cecil B. DeMille's picture, "Manslaughter," the scenario of which was done by her.

When Mr. DeMille decided to film "Manslaughter," Miss Macpherson left Hollywood for New York. On her way east she stopped off in a mid-western city and arranged with the police to be arrested and imprisoned in the state penitentiary. There she spent four days under the same conditions that applied to all other prisoners in the institution.

That Miss Macpherson's sacrifice for art's sake brought forth results is proven by the production which comes to the Strand theater this week. The cast is a brilliant one, Thomas Meighan, Leatrice Joy and Lois Wilson being the featured players.

As a result of Miss Macpherson's course, "Manslaughter" is one of the most faithful pictures in regard to prison life ever filmed. It is a Cecil B. DeMille picture production of the finest grade and one which none can see without profit.

### Film Star's Sermon.

Dick Barthelmess almost made a speech. The reason he didn't was because he had to stay in Virginia on location longer than he intended, but several of his friends have hinted that it may have been stage shyness which caused the postponement.

Dr. Christian Busner, minister of the Chelsea Methodist church, is a true friend of pictures and picture people. He has always staunchly defended the screen, and when he instituted his happy Sunday evening services at his church he invited Lillian Gish to address the congregation. Then he asked Barthelmess to

### Mary Alden Has New Mother Role With Barthelmess

Steadily becoming confirmed as the "great American mother" of the screen, Mary Alden has had a rise based on artistry. Her characterizations of middle-aged women in big successful photoplays prove her versatility, she being in real life a most attractive young woman. Miss Alden came to the screen from a newspaper writer's profession in New York and San Francisco, appearing on the stage, however, before entering the films. She was first cast for a picture by D. W. Griffith to play the role of the mulatto housekeeper in "The Birth of a Nation."

Richard Barthelmess summoned her across the continent to play the mother role in his "The Bond Boy," following her remarkably outstanding work in such films as "The Pardoner's Tale" and "The Old Nest," in which hers was the featured role. Miss Alden is also remembered in "Milestone" and is in the cast of "The Man With Two Mothers," and recently completed work as a principal in "Notorius" and in a production that is filmed in Porto Rico. But it is as a star in her own right that she is being presented currently in "A Woman's Woman," a Charles Giblyn production, in which her emotional ability gains its most significant opportunity.

**Connie's Mistake.** Constance Talmadge's assistant Mrs. Buster Keaton had a boy in total indifference to the fact that Constance had been sewing for months on a pink layette under a complete misapprehension. The little newcooter, however, appears to be entirely unshocked by his own fate. Anyhow he has come forth as a celebrity in his own right. Before he was 2 weeks old he had received 75 fan letters. One man from Philadelphia even asked for a photograph with the young man's autograph.

What is probably the biggest set ever erected on the United States lot has been built for the Selznick special production, "One Week of Love," which features Elaine Hammerstein and Conway Tearle in the principal roles. The complete set represents a large country estate, including the mansion, an immense swimming pool, a lawn and sunken garden.

**MOON**  
First Half  
SUN-MON-TUES-WED

**NORMA CALMADGE**  
in her revival of a vivid action drama of hate love & adventure.  
**"THE NEW MOON"**

**MOON**  
Last Half  
THURS-FRI-SAT

**CONSTANCE CALMADGE**  
smiling her smiles winking those large, brown eyes, getting into trouble and out again in  
**"EXPERIMENTAL MARRIAGE"**  
with Walter Hiers - Harrison Ford - Raymond Hutton.

**Strand** DIRECTION OF A. H. BLANK

The great American Photoplay is with us at last - Los Angeles Examiner

The Masterpiece of the Master Producer!

**Cecil B. DeMille's** intensely modern production

# "MANSLAUGHTER"

from Alice Duer Miller's Wonderful Novel

**THOMAS MEIGHAN**  
**Leatrice Joy, Lois Wilson**  
Julia Faye, Geo. Fawcett, Sylvia Ashton, etc

Stronger in cast and story, more gorgeous in gowns and settings, more amazingly beautiful in spectacle than anything ever seen upon the screen. With lovely Leatrice Joy as a reckless society beauty - and Thomas Meighan as the hero who loving her sends her to prison.

A Paramount Picture

It is not just a motion picture. It is the modern world itself and you will see your self and life as it is today.

"Manslaughter" is by far the biggest production that Cecil B. DeMille ever attempted. Thomas Meighan surpasses anything he has ever done before on the screen.

PRICES  
Nights and Sunday Mats. Bal. 40¢, Main 50¢, Box 60¢  
Week Day Mats until 6:15 35¢

Strand Enlarged Orchestra