

# Big Themes and Settings to Predominate in Photoplays

### "Lorna Doone," "Oliver Twist," "Robin Hood" Soon to Be Released as the Attractive Features of Season; Hope Ahead for More Appealing Plays, Say Producers.

"Big pictures!" is the slogan of film producers this season. "Pictures big in theme, big in cast and big in drawing power are what the public have a right to demand," explains one noted producer in a recent interview. It has been said with authority that movies, on an average, have been lower in quality this year than at any time since 1918. So let the big stuff come. It will be as welcome as inspiration.

"Big in theme" covers a multitude of offenses in the movie game. There have been too many pictures presaged as "wonderful, lavish and appealing that have lacked plot and consistent action."

Let us consider a resume of this year's productions to date: Take "Blood and Sand," "Tolable David," "Grandma's Boy," "The Eternal Flame" and "Manslaughter." They are but cases in a dull and arid desert. The future is hopeful. We may well turn to the visualization of "Lorna Doone," Jackie Coogan in "Oliver Twist," Douglas Fairbanks in "Robin Hood," Douglas MacLean in "The Hottentot," "Barthelme," "The Bond Boy," "Monte Cristo," "Nero," "The Christian," and "Skin Deep." Then again, we may wonder at the proposed success Pola Negri hopes for in forthcoming pictures for Paramount.

Unless the public show their sentiment for or against pictures that are thrown at them, the movie industry will just sail along as usual. It has well been said: "The kind of a jackass who likes movies as they are is the person who keeps them what they are."

This week's array of cinema art along theater row in Omaha should be appealing to movie fans. "Manslaughter," featuring Tom Meighan and Leatrice Joy at the Strand should draw well; "The Silent Call," starring Strongheart, a German police dog, has a strong plot, while Jack Holt in "When Satan Sleeps" at the Rialto may interest the large army of movie patrons.

#### Jack Holt at Rialto

Jack Holt has the unusual role of a Fighting Parson in his latest Paramount picture, "When Satan Sleeps," which opens today at the Rialto theater. He is not actually a parson in the story, for he only assumes that disguise in order to safely spy out a little town; which he and his pal plan to rob. But even at that, there is no disguise in the way he fights, especially when a dying girl shows him the error of his ways and another beautiful girl proves to him that she loves him for the man he appears to be. Then he fights not only his enemies, but wages a terrific battle for the regeneration of his own soul. Which is all by way of saying that the picture is one long punch from beginning to end, and that it teems with heart interest. Fizzi Brunette plays opposite the star.

#### Days of Rome!

There were no photographers to record the dress and costumes of the day when the barbarians overthrew ancient Rome. Nevertheless, Cecil B. DeMille is said to have produced an historically faithful reproduction of this for his latest picture "Manslaughter," now current at the Strand theater. The episode in question is a historical outback, which vividly depicts the descent of the barbarian hordes upon Rome. Weeks of research work on the part of the director, scenarist, and art director, preceded the filming of the scene. 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 who appear in this sequence.

A strikingly realistic gladiatorial combat is one of the many interesting features of the bacchanalian entertainment. Although this episode required more than a week to film and kept nearly a thousand people employed, it will occupy the screen for only a few minutes. It is used to point a powerful lesson and serves to draw an interesting comparison between ancient Rome and modern America.

#### Pola Negri at Muse

Pola Negri, European film star, is featured in "The Red Peacock" at the Muse theater next Wednesday and Thursday. The picture tells the story of a struggling girl of the slums, caught by fate and flung in the lap of riches and adulation. "Homespun Folks," a human interest story, is the feature attraction

#### Downtown Programs

Sun—"The Silent Call."  
Strand—"Manslaughter."  
Rialto—"When Satan Sleeps."  
World—"Too Much Business."  
Moon—Today until Thursday, "The Fighting American," beginning Thursday, "The Cave Girl."  
Empress—"They Like 'Em Rough," opening Thursday, "Any Wife."  
Muse—Today, "Homespun Folks," tomorrow and Tuesday, "The Savage Woman," Wednesday and Thursday, "The Red Peacock," Friday and Saturday, "The Code of the Yukon."

at the Muse theater today. Lloyd Hughes and Gladys George are co-stars. Clara Kimball Young will flash across the screen at the Muse tomorrow and Tuesday in "The Savage Woman," a story that runs from the interior of African jungles to Parisian dance halls. Mitchell Lewis is starred in "The Code of the Yukon," a drama of the northwoods which takes the screen at the Muse theater next Friday and Saturday.

One of the biggest copper smelters of the west is shown in "Too Much Business," a seven-reel comedy, which will be shown at the World theater this week. It is based upon Earl Derr Biggers' story "John Henry and the Heatless Sex," which appeared in the Saturday Evening Post, and is a Jess Robbins production.

The earlier sequences show a modern business, with all the rush and bustle and hurry of working hours. It was necessary for one of the sequences to show the scenes of Canby's factory, and for this purpose Mr. Robbins obtained the use of a large smelter for several scenes. The story shifts from the business to the day nursery, where the hero seeks to double his salary taking care of children.

Dog Stars at Sun. The story of the High Sierras with all the grandeur and primitive emotions of that region. "The Silent Call," has been announced as the feature attraction at the Sun theater this week. One of the features of interest is the fact that the cast of principals consists of seven men, one girl, and

#### Leatrice Joy and Meighan Co-Star



As district attorney, Thomas Meighan prosecutes Leatrice Joy for manslaughter in the current picture at the Strand theater this week. The production, "Manslaughter" is said to be one of the big pictures of the season. Cecil B. De Mille directed it.



Thomas Meighan - Strand

Richard Horton & Ethel Grey Terry - World

John Bowers - Sun

Clair Adams at Moon

Viola Dana - Empress

Pola Negri - Muse

Strongheart, the most intelligent police dog in the entire world, whose performance in this photoplay will doubtless make him the most beloved animal on the screen or stage. Throughout the dramatic incidents of the plot that involve the human characters of the story, runs the thread of the life of Strongheart; the cross pull between the wolf and the dog nature in him, his final mastery of the former and his vindication in the eyes of all, because of his heroism in rescuing the hero and the heroine from the real danger that confronts them. It is the dog who first realizes the love between Moran and Betty Honston, played respectively by John Bowers and Kathryn McGuire, and who wreaks vengeance on the villain, Brent, portrayed by William Dyer. It is Strongheart, too, who finally brings the parted lovers together to happiness.

Clair Adams at Moon. The story of "The Fighting American," which opens today at the Moon theater, concerns the daughter of a Spanish mother and an American father in the mythical Spanish state of Chinora, who falls in love with Sandy Buchanan, the American engineer in charge of the oil wells on the MacDonal estate. Her aunt, Countess de Elberca, has other plans for her. She wants Mercedes to marry the young Duke of Othomo, whose fortunes are at a very low ebb, and who is wanted in Spain for offenses against the government. The duke and his uncle, Don Felipe de Cristobal, plot to kill Buchanan, but with the aid of an American circus troupe he routs his enemies and wins the girl. Claire Adams and Carl Gantvoort are starred. Encounters with huge mountain lions, flurting with death on the ice-coated brink of a waterfall, excursions through snow drifts 12 feet high are some of the perils that meet the cast of "The Cave Girl," the feature picture to be shown at the Moon theater beginning next Thursday.

Viola Dana - Empress. "They Like 'Em Rough," Miss Dana's newest photoplay, which is to be seen the first four days of this week at the Empress theater, has to do with a girl whose chief attribute is perversity. She makes a point of going against authority, especially that of her aunt and uncle, in regard to the man she would marry. When she discovers that they have tricked her into an engagement with one of those nice young men with smooth hair and a smooth line, she forthwith leaves the house and puts into practice a sudden determination to marry the first man she met outside. And then the action begins. A photoplay that may be commended to the favorable attention of

John Bowers - Sun

Clair Adams at Moon

Viola Dana - Empress

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musical score that synchronizes with the film will be prepared for each picture. "The Life of Beethoven" will be the first, and this will be followed by Chopin, Liszt, Wagner, Mozart and many other famous composers. A director and a cast have not yet been chosen, but an art director, in the person of Beaurio M. Stone, the well known artist, has been given the opportunity to furnish correct settings. Mabel Livingston is handling the publicity.

#### England Admits Star.

English immigration authorities have rescinded their order prohibiting Ann Forrest, American motion picture actress, from participating in the production of the William Fox pictorial version of "If Winter Comes," which is being produced in that country, according to cable advice received by the William Fox office here. Announcement of the ban on American screen players by the British authorities was made last week upon receipt of cable advice here.

## 2ND WEEK

Shows 11-1-3-5 7 and 9

Feature 30 Minutes Later

# CECIL B. DE MILLE'S Great Paramount Production

## MANSLAUGHTER

Gloriously Enacted by

### THOMAS MEIGHAN

LEATRICE JOY, LOIS WILSON, and a superlative supporting cast

YOU MUST PAY—SEX, WEALTH OR SOCIAL POSITION WONT SAVE YOU—YET HE LOVED HER!

You Automobile Driver! What a great temptation it is to "step on gas" and spin along. BUT, did it ever occur to you that should you run over a person Regardless of who or what you are you would be guilty of

### Manslaughter

Enlarged Orchestra Silverman Directing FACE THE CAMERA Comedy Selznick News	Nights and Today's Mat. 700 Seats .....40c Main Floor .....50c Box Seats .....60c Week Day Matines (until 6:15) .....35c
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Announcing—

## Richard Barthelmess

in the greatest role of his career

# The Bond Boy

A First National Picture

A boy bonded out to a farmer to keep his mother from the porthouse and driven through slavery to the shadows of the gallows.

And There You'll Find Acting Which Defies Description

STARTING NEXT SUNDAY THE STRAND, OF COURSE

At Regular Admission Prices

# "CROOK OR PARSON, I LOVE YOU!"

GO TO THE RIALTO THIS WEEK WITHOUT FAIL !!

## JACK HOLT

as the gun-man preacher enacts a role positively electrifying. Did you read "THE PARSON OF PANAMINT" by Peter B. Kyne in the Saturday Evening Post some time ago? Yes or No, you'll want to see the picture such a story would make

In Addition

MR. AND MRS. CARTER DE HAVEN in their swiftest and Smartest Comedy Triumph

### THEIR FIRST VACATION

Mrs. Alma HUNTLEY Soprano SYMPHONY PLAYERS Rialto Players Harry Brudler, Conductor Julius K. JOHNSON Organist

Now SHOWING RIALTO Ends FRIDAY

# "WHILE SATAN SLEEPS"