

American Photoplays Are Insincere Say Europeans

Foreign Film Men and Dramatists State That While Technically Ahead of Europe, American Photoplays Are Most Immature and Lacking Sincerity of Real Life.

American pictures are charged as being immature and insincere by Jerome Lachenbruch, a well known film authority of Europe and after a survey was made the charge was backed up by the most of the thinking men of the drama and motion picture of foreign countries.

While admittedly American pictures are very popular all through Europe, they complain loudly of the falsely romantic atmosphere of American productions and declare that with pictures made true to life these same producers with their wonderful lighting and the finest of equipment could produce pictures that would show for month after month just as do big stage productions in their extended runs.

The villain in an American photoplay they aver always overhears a plot, intercepts a letter—the author makes every move and the audience can picture the whole story after the first reel. The puritanical assumptions always present in American film are also assailed and here the American producer brings forth as his defense the bugaboo of censorship. But before censorship the same things were true, states Mr. Lachenbruch.

Newer European productions have striven to create this one thing in which America does not surpass them—the atmosphere of sincerity. The imperfections of technique, will they believe, be overcome in time and acting devoid of tricks will please audiences more than a sugared production.

Mr. Lachenbruch sums up his indictment neatly in this paragraph in which he says, "I think Americans have instincts much the same as Europeans, and that it is about time motion picture producers and directors stopped insulting their intelligence by giving them pictures labeled as 'serious problems,' which have an intellectual content of a First Reader."

Douglas Fairbanks Comes Again in "Robin Hood"

Douglas Fairbanks in his great classic "Robin Hood," which ran so successfully to large audiences at advanced prices at the Lyric theater this winter, returns to Omaha screens this week at popular feature prices at the Rialto.

"Robin Hood" has been welcomed everywhere, as it was in Omaha, as one of the classics of the screen and it undoubtedly is a story of romance of the Twelfth century that will live in the cinema until seen at least once by everyone.

There is a delightful blending of fact and fancy throughout the 12 reels of "Robin Hood" and the whole has been built into an artistic whole that has proven irresistible to audiences. Vivid impressions of the life of that day are brought forward and throughout all the romance of a knight and lady is carried.

The romantic life of "Robin Hood" himself is fully as colorful as the famous tales of his existence in Sherwood Forest and the redoubtable and active Fairbanks makes an ideal merry robber of the rich and friend of the poor.

"Brass" at the Strand Story of Divorces

The screen version of Maj. Charles G. Norris' novel, "Brass," with Monte Blue portraying the role of Philip Baldwin, opens today at the Strand. The picture is said to retain the vividness characteristic of the novel. The setting of the story is in sunny California, first in a prosperous rural community, then shifting to bustling San Francisco, where most of the action passes.

The queer domestic life of the young married Baldwins is the theme around which the story is spun. Philip is so busy storming the gates of fortune during the day that he longs for the home evenings, while his wife, Marjorie, a piquant slip of a girl, doesn't see why a baby should keep her away from cabarets, gay boon companions and a generally good time. They get divorced; each goes separate ways, falling in love but in the end feeling the gap in their lives. The end is developed in a whirlwind climax.

Monte Blue's supporting cast consists of Marie Prevost, Harry Myers, Vera Lewis, Irene Rich, Frank Keenan, Helen DuPont, Margaret Seddon, Helen Ferguson, Edward Johnson, Harvey Clark, Cyril Chadwick, Pat O'Malley, Gertrude Bennett and Ethel Grey Terry.

William Farnum Stars in "Moonshine Valley"

William Farnum opens today at the Gayety in a story of the foothills called "Moonshine Valley," from the pen of Mary Murrello. It is said to be a picture with many thrilling incidents and striking photography.

During the picture Farnum stages two thrilling fights with Holmes Herber, an old screen favorite, who is a member of the excellent supporting cast.

Dawn O'Day, a tiny three-year-old comedienne, and Sadie Mullen, who is playing her first leading role, are prominent members of the cast. Jean, the famous moving picture dog, shows off to good advantage.

The fact that Herbert Brenon directed the picture is the best assurance that "Moonshine Valley" is a photoplay out of the ordinary run by moving pictures.

"When Dawn Came," a story founded on the value of religious belief, is rated as one of the better pictures of the year, is booked for the last half of the week.

Sir Hall Caine's Novel, "The Christian," at Sun

In the photodramatic version of Sir Hall Caine's great novel, "The Christian," at the Sun, Maurice Tourneur has demonstrated in no uncertain way the wisdom of selecting him to direct the production.

It adds greatly to the interest in the



Viola Dana Portrays Southern Girl Now

The latest photoplay to star Viola Dana is "Crimoline and Romance," which is at the World this week. Many novelties, both in characterization and in story, are promised for this film.

Miss Dana's versatility takes an entirely new turn in "Crimoline and Romance." In the photoplay she is seen as a naive southern miss, completely sequestered from the rest of the world on her grandfather's estates in North Carolina. The star is everything that her role calls for—demure, vivacious, spirited and fascinating.

The story of the picture tells of the young girl's determination to escape from the rigidity of her surroundings. She visits the home of her aunt, and there tastes modern "social" life only to be bitterly disappointed and disillusioned. There is a great deal of charm and amusing incident in the telling of the story, and it affords the

vivacious star ample opportunities to indulge in her distinctive brand of comedy.

Supporting Miss Dana are players of real skill. Two of her suitors in the story are portrayed by Alan Forrest and John Bowers. Claude Gillingwater plays her sturdy southern grandfather, and others of importance are Lillian Lawrence and Gertrude Shept.

"The Drug Traffic" and "Head Hunters" at Moon

"The Drug Traffic" picturing the workings of the trade in drugs and the harm that it is doing to this country is being offered at the Moon this week as the feature attraction with Martin Johnson's "Head Hun-

ters of the South Seas" five reels of most interesting film of a strange and weird people, as the added attraction.

Telling a story in entertainingly convincing fashion, "The Drug Traffic" is bound to pull at the heart-strings of the most fastidious theatergoer, for it is true to life and is cleverly and realistically enacted by an all-star cast that does credit to the

meritorious work of Harvey Gates. "The Drug Traffic" is an interesting character production replete with action and a romance that will please any audience. It was carefully produced with every attention paid to public entertainment value.

Music Notes

Miss Sadie Levey will give a recital Tuesday evening, May 1, at the Schmoller & Mueller auditorium.

Miss Alta Gillette will present Ruth Ehlers, Marjorie Hermansky and Marion Rea in a piano recital Tuesday evening, April 24, at Schmoller & Mueller auditorium, at 8:15 o'clock. The public is cordially invited.

Cecil Berryman presents his advanced pupils in a piano recital Thursday evening, April 26, at Schmoller & Mueller auditorium. Those taking part are Sadie Levey, Jane Fisher, Mrs. Barbery, Lillie Englund, Christine Coughlin of Plattsburgh, Helen Root, Ruth Slama, Ida Lustgarten, Marie Byars of Valley, Anna Parker.

Mr. Fred G. Ellis will present Miss Ruth Gordon, contralto, in recital at Burgess-Nash auditorium Monday evening, April 30, at 8:15 o'clock. Flora Sears Nelson will be at the piano. This recital will be in the nature of a farewell to Omaha music lovers, as Miss Gordon has resigned her position as contralto soloist at the First Central Congregational church to take a similar position in the First Methodist church at Portland, Ore. Miss Gordon will be greatly missed in Omaha musical circles. The public is cordially invited.

The public is cordially invited to attend the piano recital to be given by the pupils of Mrs. L. F. Kilgore at the Burgess-Nash auditorium, Friday evening, April 27, at 8 o'clock. Those taking part are: Phillip Wolber, Gladys Pease, Vera Brightwell, Wayne Wright, Zorada Alexander, Laura Louise Kirk, Virginia Reed, Ruth Johnson, Phyllis Leeka, Louise Morison, Lola Anderson, Esther Haney, Naomi Haney, Leo May Chamberlin, Bluma Neveleff, Juanita Johnson, William Anderson, Nima Smith, Eileen Murphy, Alice Zimmer, Ann Amnden, Fern Wilson, Elaine Leeka, Minnie Shawcross, Carrie Shawcross. Admission free. Come and bring your friends.

Three Who Will Play Piano



Ruth Ehlers, Marjorie Hermansky and Marion Rea, who will appear in a recital at the Schmoller & Mueller auditorium on Tuesday evening.

"Life's Collateral"

endorsed by thinking men and women throughout the country as one of the greatest messages of this day to the citizens of America.

Sponsored by The Omaha Bee and prominent real estate men interested in Omaha's welfare, this little heart interest drama will be shown as an added attraction

ALL THIS WEEK at the **Orpheum** ORPHEUM CIRCUIT VAUDEVILLE

Advertisement for the movie "Robin Hood" at the Rialto. It features the title "DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS in ROBIN HOOD", the Rialto logo, and a large illustration of Robin Hood in his iconic green tunic and hat, holding a bow. Text includes "Rich With Romance—Thick With Thrills—Abounding With Adventure—Complete With Comedy." and "The Greatest Achievement in the History of Motion Pictures!". It also lists showtimes and prices: "TODAY and All Week at 11-1-3-5-7-9", "PRICES EVE & SUNDAY MAT. 50¢ WEEK DAY MATS. 33¢ CHILDREN ANYTIME 10¢".