

# "THIEF IN PARADISE" AN UNUSUAL PICTURE

### Stirring Action, Novel Sea Scenes, Many Thrills, Ap- pealing Love Story, Go To Make It Satisfactory.

If you are looking for something new in thrills it will be found at the Strand this week, where "A Thief in Paradise" is being exhibited. Most producers are content to take the land or the air for their blood-curdling episodes. Not so the producer of this tale. He has gone to the sea bottom for them and he has staged at least three that will just about make your hair rise on end and stay there. One of them is a battle on the sea floor between a man and a shark. The producer says it was an actual happening and it looks it. At sure does give one the creeps, but then what's the use of having melodramas if you can't get a thrill out of them.

Two men in a spectacular battle on the bottom of the old ocean. This scene contains more klick than can be found in both hind feet of a mule when they are turning loose a barrage. The total of five hours, in two minute intervals, on the ocean floor, to get this scene, several days being required to film it.

Fanchon, who will be remembered here as a member of the Fanchon and Marco revue, staged a gorgeous dance pageant with many pretty maids, on the ocean's bottom. This is a solo game between blondes and brunettes which is interesting, and many other scenes that please the eye.

"A Thief in Paradise" is a love-drama. It tells an appealing story. Its scenes are laid in San Francisco and the South Sea Islands. Doris Kenyon, Ronald Colman and Alleen Pringle are the featured actors. It is well worth seeing. Other features include a farce, news reel and fable film.

## The Screen Today

**ISIS**—Johnny Hines is the quintessence of pep, humor and speed in his latest feature, "The Speed Spook" at the Isis this week. The feature is a real entertainment, for aside from the great action and the feature has an unusual plot and story. Whether the plot be impossible does not make a particle of difference. The public wants to be pleased—the public wants to be thrilled and more so, wants to be lifted out of itself and its daily monotony—wants to forget the problems of life for the time it sets its eyes on the screen. "The Speed Spook" he has accomplished this important object. "The Speed Spook" offers a most unusual amount of thrills with its automobile race and the exploits of a driverless car that sends the townsfolk of the peaceful village into a state of frenzy and fear. F. H. Hines, Edmund Brees, Warner Richmond and Frank Looney give fine support. A screen of manna, news and Aesop's Fables add flavor to the bill.

**MAJESTIC**—There are several ways to win a woman, the photoplay drama at the Majestic theater this week proves. But one of the best of them is—well—to let her have "Her Own Free Will" that in the name of the picture, in which Helene Chadwick plays the leading role.

A bit of cave-man stuff, a bit of stubbornness; let here get away with something, but not too much—that is the policy which an unwanted husband adopts. And in spite of her woman's wiles, he proves that he is smarter than she is.

The picture has suspense moments, also humor, and Miss Chadwick, dark, pliant and youthful, embellishes it with her acting and her presence. The picture program includes an International News reel, fun from the press and an Aesop's Fable.

**PALACE**—A picture dripping with color. That's "Thundering Hoofs," a new drama now being exhibited at the Palace with Silver King, a noted horse, as one of the chief actors, and Fred Thompson as the principal human factor. It's a whole of a story with enough thrills to suit those who like their pictures with nothing but blood and thunder. The story centers around Dave Marshall and Luke Severn. Marshall challenges Severn to a fight, after

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having seen Severn attempt to whip his beautiful horse, Silver King. Dave is willing to take the licking on the condition that if he should beat Severn in a fair fight, the horse has the right to choose its own master. Dave knocks Severn out and Silver King chooses Dave as his master. The fight is thrilling. The next thrill comes when Dave chases bandits who have held up a stagecoach on the border. Silver King is stolen and run into Mexico and is about to be sacrificed in a bull ring when Dave arrives, battles the men who are backing the brutal sport, licks them; and then he is forced to whip the bull to save his horse. The picture teams with the fastest kind of action. Other features: Final Times Wednesday night.

**RIALTO**—Besides the realistic scenes shot at the international race at Latonia, racing sequences for "The Dixie Handicap." Reginald Barker's new picture which is at the Rialto today, were taken at the Culver City and Riverside County fair tracks. The Culver City track passed into history directly after the Barker company finished work, the dirt track giving way to a new automobile speedway.

There are three different races in the Gerald Beaumont story. Dixie the horse, has a part nearly as important as that of Claire Windsor, Frank Keenan, Lloyd Hughes, and John Salapolla. Waldemar Young made the adaptation from the story by Gerald Beaumont.

## Woman Dies After Losing 183 Pounds In Strange Illness

**SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE.**  
IOWA CITY, Feb. 23.—Victim of a rare disease, Mrs. Mary McCormick of near Chariton died at her home after an illness of neuritis deformans, which she vainly sought to have cured by specialists here.

The disease withered away the woman's body from 223 pounds which she weighed six years ago at the time of her marriage, to only forty pounds at the time of her death. Her shrinking skeleton was practically turned into stone during the last few weeks of her life, ossification preventing the opening of her mouth more than a fraction of

## Novelty And Art Distinguish New Majestic Bill; Dancing Is Unusual

Everything in the way of novelty, from "front-toe-dancing," to a kind of glorified version of the childhood stunt of making shadow rabbits on the wall with inter-woven fingers, is represented on the current bill at the Majestic. And not only novelty, but art, distinguishes it, with lots of laughs interspersed, making it a program of uniform excellence.

Loretta Gray is "the girl with the iron toes," and Bert Levy is the man who does the shadow stunts. In addition the bill offers three teams, Al and Fanny Stedman; Eddie Weber and Marion Ridnor; William Newell and Elva Most.

Everything that Atlas had in his shoulders and Sampson had in his hair, Miss Gray of the Loretta Gray Revue seems to have concentrated in her toes. She scarcely bothers to come down to earth, from off the tips of these strong and agile members, when she comes forward to bow thanks for the abundant applause last night's audiences gave her.

The climax of her performance is a Russian dance, performed on her toes as she ascends a flight of stairs. It doesn't look easy, to say the least, and, in this writer's memory, has never been paralleled on the local stage.

Miss Gray is accompanied by Archie Rock and four girls, presenting an assortment of dances, acrobatic, buck, Russian, eccentric, but with every dancer an artist. The girls are Jane Decker, Tina Tweedle, Dorothy Meyers, and Katherine Kearney.

Bert Levy uses a screen and a lantern to obtain his magic shadow effects, and with his brush, paint and slides, he works in front of the audience, all the time keeping up a nonchalant whistling, to accompany the orchestra. He draws pictures of dogs, mothers-in-law, and Presidents, all recognizable.

His likeness of Washington, Lincoln, Roosevelt and Wilson—"lest we forget"—were produced in conjunction with members of the Mississippi Valley Veterinary association for veterinarians throughout eastern

Iowa and western Illinois. The affair probably will be held at West Liberty during July.

Officers of the association here for the conference include Dr. J. C. McCabe, West Liberty, president; Dr. J. B. Bryan, Mount Vernon, vice-president; Dr. F. J. Crow, Iowa City, secretary-treasurer; Dr. J. S. Potter, Iowa City; Dr. Henry Hill, Wilton; and Dr. J. G. Glens, Norway, members of the executive board.

Dr. L. W. Buffington of Cedar Rapids, federal veterinarian, addressed the conference, urging cooperation among veterinarians and stock raisers as an effective means of stamping out a large percentage of the infectious and parasitic diseases to which livestock is subject.

## "RAIN"

"Rain," which comes to Majestic Wednesday night, is not only good drama, swiftly moving and inevitable, but it is, moreover, pictorial and "exotic"—always agreeable characteristics. It has been beautifully and sincerely directed by John D. Williams and bearing the stamp of Sam H. Harris, as producer, it is certain to lack nothing as a theatrical offering.

It is now in its third year in New York, and with the end nowhere in sight, the repeated requests from outlying cities have been heeded by the management, and the special cast that is being sent on tour is an exact reproduction of the Broadway organization.

If "Rain" is a sardonic entertainment, it is an absorbing one, in that it illustrates the futility of an applied Christianity that gives no thought to human weakness and provides no remedy for lapses after "conversion." The story is told simply and directly, but infinite things are suggested in the dialogue which is an ironic comment on spiritual endeavor among the Polytheists.

I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be true. I am not bound to succeed, but I am bound to live up to what I have. I must stand with anybody that stands right, stand with him while he is right, and part with him when he goes wrong.—Lincoln.

Washington's Birthday, Feb. 22nd.

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