

IN THE FRONT ROW

HEADLINERS TONIGHT.

- Vaudeville.
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- Photoplays.
- Nelson.....Every Girl's Dream
- Dixie.....The Divorcees
- Princess.....An Even Break
- Dramatic.
- Grand.....One Girl's Experience

PRESIDENT H. M. HORKHEIMER, of Balboa studio, in recalling early days in the movies recently said to an interviewer:

"The co-operation was marvelous and the spirit of helpfulness beyond belief. For instance a picture would be produced and maybe it would be good. Then the author of the story would puff up and proclaim:

"That sure was some story I wrote. The continuity was horrible, but the story was so good it went over anyhow."

"Then the continuity writer would tell the stage-manager: 'Gee, that was a lousy story, but I developed a crack-erjack continuity and saved it.'"

"Then the director would kick in with this: 'The scenario that that fried egg headed me was a cross between a railroad time table and an almanac. I had to throw it away and write the story as I directed it, and so saved the picture.' Clever direction is the whole thing."

"The star looked the picture over and remarked to the telephone girl: 'It's a good thing they had me in that picture. Honest, Carrie, that director didn't know enough to put syrup on his cakes. I had to tell him what to do half the time and the other half he didn't do anything. He might direct a section gang, but as a director of pictures he does not exist. If it hadn't been for me that picture'd been in the garbage can.'"

"The cameraman: 'Honest, Gus, this game is a net loss. The story was rotten; the director, as such, is the best teamster I ever saw; the star is nearly as good an actress as a soft shell crab and has nearly as many brains, but believe me, Gus, I was there and the picture is cinematographically perfect. It takes photography to make a picture.'"

"Then the big boss would call them all together and impress upon the mind of each that he or she was a stewed prune, concluding with:

"This picture looks like a custard pie that has been tossed into an electric fan, but by clever cutting I can save it. You all better look for work in a canning factory; you sure don't know how to make pictures.'"

Stage Production at Grand Tonight.

Eugene Kirby's dramatization of his latest novel, "One Girl's Experience," which will be produced by a company of capable players at the Grand tonight, develops a very interesting picture of a young girl who braved traditions and sought as living as a factory hand in the crowded city. Lucy Fairweather endeavors to support her invalid mother and herself on wages of four dollars and a half a week only to find there is scarcely sufficient funds at the end of the following week to supply even necessary demands for the following day—the Sabbath. A delayed salary day and starvation stares them in the face. The factory owner's daughter makes matters still more unbearable through a mistaken impression that the man she loves is attracted by the charms of the little shop girl and she is discharged. The scapegoat son of the factory owner—ever on the watch for helpless girls—induces Lucy to accept aid with the usual masked intention. In a struggle with this virtue for her honor she is rescued by the rich girl's handsome lover.

Earlier developments display a tangled state of family affairs and connections which, when unravelled prove the rich man's son and working girl to be brother and sister.

The dramatist—a New York author—has founded his story on actual facts, the happenings of which occurred only a few years ago and which will easily be traced directly to a well known family of a neighboring state whose name occupied much newspaper space from California to New York. The carefully selected cast comes highly recommended.

June Caprice on Nelson Screen.

If you have never seen how gracefully wooden Dutch shoes can be worn you should see June Caprice as the little Hollander in William Fox's "Every Girl's Dream," which is showing at the Nelson today.

But this is only one of the many charming little bits in this filmplay which is the most delightfully amusing picture in which the Sunshine Maid has ever appeared.

The story is laid in Holland and tells of the fortunes of a lost prince and princess who were living in the little town of Olenberg as foster children. It is filled with exciting intrigue and adventures and contains as sweet a love story as one ever saw.

Too much cannot be said for Miss Caprice's support. Kittens Reichert, that six-and-a-half-year-old wonder, is as sweet and mischievous as ever.

Harry Hilliard, as the lost prince, is fine as usual. Margaret Fielding does good work as June's rival in love and ambition. Miss Fielding will be remembered for her work in Miss Caprice's "The Mischief Maker." Dan Mason and Marcie Harris give a wonderful performance as character players.

"Every Girl's Dream" was produced under the direction of Harry Millarde new to the Fox organization.

Festive Scenes in Princess Play.

"An Even Break" at the Princess today, is an effective combination of the atmosphere of the Midnight Follies with the sterner and more masculine world of business. The production has caught all the piquant charm of Olive Thomas and presents her as a very human little person with a warm heart under her fantastic cabaret costumes. She appeared in several of the dances that made her such a success in the Zeigfeld Follies, but the effectiveness of her work was by no means dependent upon her ability as a cabaret favorite, for she played the role of the impulsive and tender hearted little chorus

AT THE GRAND TONIGHT



Scene from "One Girl's Experience," a melodramatic play which will be presented by a good company on the Grand theatre stage tonight.

girl with retraining and unaffected sincerity.

The story follows the careers of three friends—Mary, Jimmie and Claire—who played together in a country town as children, but who now find their paths widely separated with Jimmie as a struggling inventor, Claire as a cabaret favorite and Mary as a simple country girl. They all meet in the city and Jimmie promptly falls in love with the little dancer although tacitly engaged to the girl of his home town. The efforts of Claire to straighten out this tangle and the ruse by which she saves Jimmie's invention from destruction make up a very human and dramatic little romance.

Skilful direction brought out the most artistic points in the story and provided a number of exceedingly festive scenes in a Midnight Frolic.

Comedy to Melodrama at Dixie.

The story of "The Divorcees," which is showing at the Dixie today, can be classed in the light comedy division, but toward the climax it jumps the fence into the field of melodramas. This occurs in the situation where the girl and the man, practicing double deception, are pursued by a sheriff and his posse, who mistake the man for a stage robber. The events that lead up to this are amusing.

A young woman traveling through Reno, the city of easy freedom, breathes so much of the atmosphere that it gets under her skin and she decides to start divorce proceedings against a non-existent husband. It seems that the principal pastime of one of the clergymen of the city is playing at cowboy. When both of them are out riding one day they accidentally meet, and are immediately attracted by each other. Circumstances make the girl think the person is the hold-up man and he thinks she is encumbered with a husband so angry at her that he is ready to shoot her for wishing a divorce. When the sheriff shows up in pursuit of the real robber and chases

them by mistake, each is sure that the pursuer is after the other. Then follows the climax which untangles all the existing complications and starts the couple off on a happy married life.

The director and scenario writer have done their best to fill in the spots where the plot lacks vigor with interesting incidents, and they have succeeded admirably. There are, however, some incidents that display the mechanics of padding. The natural settings that have been chosen for the backgrounds for the scenes and the typical Western vistas with bands of horsemen in the distance are extremely attractive. The frequent display of perfect horsemanship by the players adds a large amount of pep and interest to the picture.

"CLOSE-UPS"

—Reno Fleming has just turned down a tempting offer to lead a big girl show over his big circuit on one night stands. And Reno's only excuse is that there is more fun in pitching a tent in some hospitable farmer's barnyard and after the show stand at the front flap and watch 'em going out over the hills until every blessed lantern has disappeared from view.

—A big picture coming to the Grand soon is the "Tanks of the Ancients."

—On the twentieth "A Girl Without a Chance" will be the attraction at the Grand Theatre. Ethel Jane and William La Rose, formerly of the Lewis-Oliver Players whose long run at the Hippodrome was a notable event in local theatrical circles, are important members of the cast.

Old Stages

HUNTER DISAPPEARS.
ELKINS, W. Va., Oct. 15.—"Ned" Martin, 30, dressed up Oct. 1 and started for the mountains with his gun. He has not been seen since.

SHOWS LITERALLY MAY TAKE THE ROAD

Managers Are Considering Motor Trucks For Making Their Jumps.

BY WALLACE PEPPER.

The next thing to be recorded in the way of innovations will be the transporting of theatrical productions by motor truck. The chances are that shows will be more numerous in West Virginia cities next season than they are this and that "jumps" from Fairmont to Clarksburg will be made by trolley and that the players will ride trains between other points while the production is carried by motor trucks.

Such methods of transportation are now being seriously considered for the east and middle west. Managers are forced to contemplate such action by the problem of transportation that daily confronts them and grows more serious owing to the demands of the government in transporting troops and war supplies to camps and embarkation points.

A recent ruling permits the government to designate which shall be given preference in movements and to

date there has been no disposition to view theatricals as a necessity.

Baggage cars are at a premium all over the country. Al Jolson and a big Shubert revue made a jump the other day with dilapidated sleepers and the production in four freight cars. The company manager became so nervous about one jump that he offered to take flat cars and cover scenery and trunks with tarpaulin. A group of elephants playing at fairs could not be moved because there were no cars available for them and Ethel Robinson leased cars from an outside concern for thirty days rather than disappoint the fair at Jackson, Mich. Several companies have been forced to cancel engagements recently because cars were diverted to army uses and were not available for stage organizations.

The dearth of touring attractions must be apparent to all; even to those who suffer from the movie craze to such an extent that they no longer have interest in flesh and blood actors. The scarcity of traveling organizations makes it almost out of the question for a "legitimate" theatre to prosper in what is called "one night stand" cities. Unless it happens to be located in the heart of the town where the people frequently pass and for this reason suitable for pictures on off nights.

The decreasing number of theatrical attractions is due mainly to a lack of interest in touring companies on the part of the public. With the advance in cost of production and the increase in salaries forced by the times, there has been a dampening of enthusiasm on the part of showgoers

which is most discouraging. Only the very biggest attractions are certain of patronage nowadays, except a few spots where old time conditions still prevail. With the added peril of movements and the passing of the war excess tax there is a little surprise in the statement that promoters are chary about investing their dollars.

Movements by motor truck may solve one of these problems both east and west of this state and it is likely that such companies will not avoid West Virginia even though motor trucks may not be practical for all towns.

"One Girl's Experience," which is routed for Sistersville October 15, Parkersburg 16 and Fairmont 17, and which will doubtless appear at other West Virginia towns, is one of the "White Slave" variety of plays, which are in great favor just now in the larger cities and in manufacturing points throughout the country. This show has been so successful in one night stands that another company is being organized in the big cities.

A. G. Field, whose minstrel organization is well known to every lover of the black face fun, threatened to invade Texas this season under canvas when many of the "legitimate" theatres started to play vaudeville shutting out touring companies. He made his bluff strong enough for the managers to agree to oust other attractions for the nights he wanted.

Gazzolo, Gatts & Clifford, who operate "Katzenhammer Kids," which made several West Virginia cities this week, also have a play called "Her Unborn Child," which was written by

Howard McKent Barnes, author of "The End of a Perfect Day" and "Baby Face," the new play in which Florence Holbrook is to be seen. Five companies are now on tour in this play. One of them will play Charleston and Huntington later in the season for two nights each and there is a possibility of the stay being lengthened to three night stands in each city. "Her Unborn Child" makes three night stands out of one night towns and week stands out of them if they have 100,000 people. The show was at Wheeling for a week last spring and that particular production was in store there during summer months. Billy Noble and Jeanne Brooks, a vaudeville team, returned to their activities this week after a month's vacation at Miss Brooks' home at Parkersburg, W. Va. She is a daughter of Dr. Dan Hanlan, a big four physician whose home is located there. The cast engagements of the pair carried them to the Pacific coast.

CITY TAXES

A discount of 2 1/2 per cent will be allowed on City taxes for prompt payment. Do not wait until the last minute. Pay now and avoid the rush of the last few days. It will save you time and money.

J. C. ROBINSON, City Treasurer

GRAND THEATRE
—TONIGHT—
THE PLAY WITH A PUNCH
ONE GIRL'S EXPERIENCE
A Story of the Dangers That Beset Poor Girls Who Work for Their Living.
THE VITAL QUESTION OF THE DAY.
A Big Scene Production
A Well Acted Drama That Every One Should See
A GREAT BIG HIT!
Prices: 50c, 75c, \$1.00—Seats at Martin's Book Store

FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS—(NOW IT'S ALL RIGHT.)—BY BLOSSER.