

## Well, Jeff Finally Got Over a Decision

By "Bud" Fisher

THE STAGE AND ITS PEOPLE;  
MANY WELL REMEMBERED HERE!May Robson in New Comedy  
Opens Season in Ontario;  
Stars in Bankruptcy Court

After casting about for a satisfactory vehicle to succeed The Rejuvenation of Aunt Mary and A Night Out, May Robson, who played in St. John in both these pieces, finally selected a comedy by James Forbes, and Monday night she opened in it at London, Ont. After two weeks of one-night stands, she will play a week in Montreal and will then probably go into Boston or Chicago. The play by Mr. Forbes is one which was produced, but it has been revised in large part by May Robson and renamed Mrs. Matt Plummer. Mr. Forbes assisted in directing the rehearsals. The story is that of a self-made man and his wife in an effort to steer the affairs of their son. Miss Robson, of course, plays the mother, Lewis E. Parmenter plays the father, and Paul Decker, the son. Others in the company are Edith Conrad, Evelyn Varden, and Rosamond Carpenter.

Later in the season Miss Robson will probably put on The Glory of Clementina, a dramatic version of W. J. Locke's novel written by George C. Hadden.

Miss Winifred Bambrick, a youthful harp virtuoso from Ottawa, will make her New York debut at Aeolian Hall on Wednesday, Oct. 22. A programme that is unique, in that the works are all those of modern composers, including Debussy, Dubois, Kestner, Loukins, Verdalle, and Pinto, will be offered.

Miss Bambrick will be assisted by Mrs. Marie Stoddard Gaylor, soprano, and a symphony orchestra.

A writer in the "Mirror" has the following:—"How do actresses get their stage names? Maxine Elliott told me she had purchased hers from a schoolmate. Josephine Victor admits she 'swiped' her auspicious last name from her brother, Virginia Norden, who last year made her debut in The Poor Little Rich Girl, elected to use her own initials, 'V. N.' Since she is a Southern, 'Virginia' was a quick choice. 'I opened the telephone book at the N's, closed my eyes, and stuck a pin into a name. Opening my eyes I saw that the name was Norden,' she said. 'That was my stage christening.'"

Robert Mantell opens his season the middle of this month at the new Royal in the Bronx. During the week he will offer eight plays from his repertoire. Mrs. Pike returns to New York next February in a new play. Meantime she

will continue on tour in "The High Road."

Beth Tate, who refused to appear on the same bill with Jack Johnson, in London, Eng., is now unpopular in some of the rougher "outside" halls on this account. It was Miss Tate's expectation that she would receive publicity by her action, but she is getting the kind not relished.

H. H. Frazee and Victor Herbert have finally decided upon a name for the new Herbert opera. It is to be called "The Madcap Duchess," and opens at the Colonial, Ducha, October 17.

Harry C. Browne has been engaged by Klaw and Erlanger for The Poor Little Rich Girl, to play the role of the doctor. Frank Kilday has been engaged to play the role of Edward Gilder in one of the Within the Law road companies. Elmer Grandin has been engaged by Henry W. Savage for the role of "Nobody" in Everywoman, and opened with the company this week at Victoria, B.C.

Ivy Troutman has been engaged for an important part in After Five, the comedy by the De Mille brothers which Wagenhals and Kemper will produce next month.

Malcolm Bradley, after twelve successful seasons as a member of the Schermer-Marlowe combination, has signed with John Drew and will appear in The Taming of the Shrew east.

Colonel Cody (Buffalo Bill) reached Chicago a few days ago in company with H. H. Tammen, one of the proprietors of the Denver Post. "That broke as far as his pocket-book is concerned, but not so in spirit," he said. He is on his way to Canada, where he hopes to raise some money by disposing of mining property he owns there.

## Stars in Bankruptcy

Two theatrical stars filed petitions in bankruptcy recently—Fritzi Scheff and Christine Nielsen. Miss Scheff's liabilities are \$149,856, with a schedule of assets of \$74,923. Included in the liabilities is a claim for breach of contract amounting to \$100,000 held by the Shuberts. It is alleged that Miss Scheff had endeavored to avoid going into bankruptcy but was compelled to do so through fear of threats of attachment against her vaudeville salary. Miss Nielsen's schedule acknowledges debts to the extent of \$3,231, with personal clothing and stage costumes of only \$100. The United Booking Office is reported to have raised its price offer for

Madame Nordica, by \$500. The famous prima donna is now in receipt of an offer of \$5,000 a week to appear in the two-a-day. A cable to that effect was sent her to Australia this week.

The name of "Thaw" has brought money to others besides the lawyers. Hammerstein's Victoria theatre, New York is among the fortunate. The engagement there of Evelyn Nesbit will net the management \$100,000, pouring in over the summer season when anything excepting a loss is a heavenly gift in vaudeville.

## H. Price Webber

A Westville, N. S. paper has the following which should interest St. John people.

"It is interesting to see the emotion displayed by an old gentleman who is unexpectedly presented with some gift, the tangible proof of the esteem in which he is held."

Seldom if ever does an actor or company manager receive such a gift in this province, but the iron clad rule was broken last night at Westville, when the old favorite, Price Webber was presented with an address and a gold-headed cane, by some of his Westville friends and admirers.

"The presentation was made between the second and third acts, when all the members of the company were on the stage and the old man was taken so completely by surprise that he could at first only stammer his thanks. However Price is not often left speechless, and after recovering somewhat from his surprise, he in a few short and appreciative words thanked the donors heartily."

"In his remarks he recalled the days when he first came to Westville, now 88 years ago, the faces which he knew then, which had since been translated by new ones, the Westville then a small mining town, has now grown to be a busy hive of industry."

If show business were run like baseball we'd be reading these kind of notes in theatrical papers:

"The Orpheum Circuit has drafted Ty Buntrock, the comedian, from Pantages. Ty hit them very hard on the small time and should make good on the big circuit."

"For \$10,000 B. F. Keith has purchased outright from the Gus Sun Circuit the Laughing Bros, two boys who have not made an error on the small time this season. They will be kept in the dressing rooms a couple of weeks to get up to the big theatres."

"Waivers have been asked by Mike Shedy on Rosie Ragsdale. Rose has showed up so much Mike had to bench her. After having an average of 1,000 for two years it's tough on Rosie. It is thought she will be made manageress of some Bijou Dream."

## CANADIAN STUDIOS

More Dominion Subjects in The Movies

## MARY PICKFORD BETTER

Recovering From Serious Attack of Appendicitis in New York—Actors Join Crews to Get Local Color For Picture

Ernest Shipman has secured the Canadian franchise for Warner's Features, Inc., for three-reel Canadian releases on Warner's regular programme.

The Canadian studios will be portable, and will have transient locations all the way from the Grand Banks of Newfoundland, and from Evangeline's Land in Nova Scotia to the last frontier of Alaska. Living reproductions of the characters made famous by Sir Gilbert Parker and Drummond, the Canadian poet, with historic backgrounds in

picturesque Quebec and the lower provinces, will be regular features. The lumberjacks of the back woods will have their turn, and the Northwestern mounted police will figure conspicuously in a series of Law and Outlaw stories. The first release will be entitled The Hero of the Long Soo.

Mary Pickford is recovering from a serious attack of appendicitis at the Polyclinic Hospital, New York, where for a time her condition was considered critical.

V. A. Pote, who has been identified in the past as Lank in the Hank and Lank series, has found it necessary to give up the idea that he ever was or could be a business man. As a matter of fact, nobody will regret this decision, for Pote in pictures is too good to be wasted on anything so humdrum as mere business.

Bob Ross, in charge of the stage direction at the Tom Evans studios, tried to get fifteen Chinamen for Mr. Matthews recently. He was three days on the job, but finally had to give it up.

The Chinese have great dignity and dislike appearing before the camera, unlike the Japanese who readily take to it. While producing the two-part drama, The Clown's Daughter, Edgar Lewis and a company of Reliance players spent several days with Sig. Sautelle's

Circus, and all hands seem to have enjoyed the experience immensely. The circus performers were just as interested in acting before the camera as the Reliance actors were in being members of the Big Show. And as Mr. Lewis is an old hand at anything connected with the canvas and sawdust, some excellent results were obtained during the making of the picture.

The Pathe directors were in hard straits this week. They had sent out a call to the dramatic agencies to send them an actor to play a role in a big jungle scene where the thespian was to wear as few clothes as possible and do a cave tango with wild animals.

One man went after the job. He reappeared when he found the job of playing hide and seek with jungle beasts only paid \$3 a day. The idea of wearing a fig leaf and standing a chance of having a piece of flesh torn out in his anxiety to stay as far away from the animals as possible was worth more than five, he said.

Montreal's moving picture house proprietors, and there are many of them, have had their troubles in the past, but if the intentions of the city's building inspectors to test the interpretation of a clause of the "movie" ordinance are carried out, the earning capacity of their theatres is likely to be severely hit.

For a long time the officials of the city building office have been in as to whether moving pictures proprietors could legally allow the presence of vaudeville and musical acts in addition to the regular pictures.

City Building Inspector Chau that within the last year theatre inspectors had noticed theatre after theatre large small, was supplying vaudeville to the entertainment of its patrons a time which was in direct contravention of the moving picture house license.

"Three actions are now pending moving picture house proprietors, staging musical comedy and other devil acts all of which come under heading of 'theatrical performance.' There is hardly a moving picture house in the city which does not on one, two, three or more acts weekly and this, in my opinion, is against the provisions of the ordinance which states that no hall license the showing of moving pictures in theatrical entertainment," said Inspector Chau.

The practice of selling standing is also being watched and action where necessary according to Mr. Chau the city inspector of theatres is likely to be severely hit.

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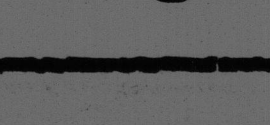
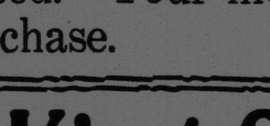
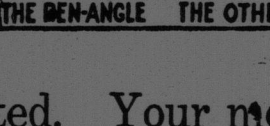
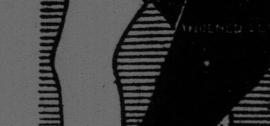
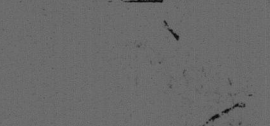
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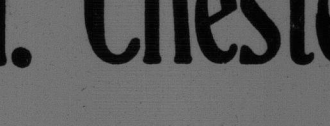
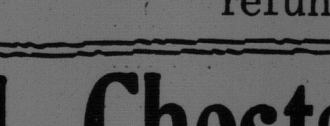
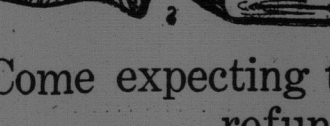
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