

THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 1924

15

NEWS NOTES GATHERED FROM THE WORLD OF STAGE AND SCREEN

PRINCESS WON'T PLAY MADONNA  
ON ACCOUNT OF A TORN CLOAK

Break Comes Between Matchabelli and Management of "The Miracle."

New York, March 26.—The long awaited break between Maria Carmi, Italian actress who is the Princess Matchabelli of the stage, and the management of Max Reinhardt's production of "The Miracle" has at last come. On Saturday night the princess refused to go on with her part of the Madonna in the spectacle at the Century Theatre, and then made good on that pledge. She said it was now up to F. Ray Comstock and Morris Gest to determine whether she would reappear in the leading role, or abstain from it throughout the natural life of the attraction here. It is all due, she says, to the Madonna's torn cloak.

Film of "Ben Hur" to Be Made in Rome

Saving in Cost for Extra Players Thought to Be Reason For Move.

New York, March 25.—Around the first of April, work will begin on another spectacle, "Ben Hur," which may develop into the most massive film ever pictured, it is to be made in Rome. Inspiration Pictures, which made "The White Sister," with Lillian Gish, over there, is now making another with the same star, and in the near future will create a third, "Romeo and Juliet," starring Miss Gish and Dick Barthelme. Also there is talk of D. W. Griffith going to Rome to make pictures.

And now Goldwyn, with "Ben Hur." Why the sudden exodus to Rome? Perhaps it is because of cheaper actors. In pictures like "Ben Hur," "The Eternal City," and others of like immensity, this item is of no mean significance. Hire thousands of extras and you immediately have an overhead to consider.

In "Ben Hur" the public will again make the acquaintance of an old favorite. Francis X. Bushman will play the role of "Messala." Also in the cast will be George Walsh, who has the lead; Gertrude Olmsted, Kathleen Key, Carmel Myers and Nigel de Bruiler.

The princess was engaged in Salzburg by Reinhardt, while Lady Diana was put under contract by Morris Gest in England. Much hubbub was made around the Century over the impending rivalry of the two madonnas. To solve the dilemma of which one would play at the opening, Gest announced with a flourish that he would draw lots. Lady Diana won the coveted privilege.

The princess, who had come to America fully expecting this honor, was obviously ruffled, but called on her European poise to accept the award of fate in sportsmanlike way. Since the gossip has said that she was acting under protest, although she recently renewed her contract with Gest. The princess indicated that she had been whisked out of the cast by a cloak of invisibility.

The robe which finally gave her grounds for leaving the cast is an ornate garment, draped around her while she sits on the Madonna's throne. At least, the princess says it was ornate when she first wore it ten years ago. But in the course of donning it for 250 performances, she says, this stately cape began to look worn, being of brocade and not of iron. Moreover, she said, the lining was badly torn, and the rent on the underside was in full view of the audience, which rather frayed the majesty of her role.

Nails Cloak to Seat.

"When 'The Miracle' opened two months ago," said the princess, "I asked the management to get me a new robe, or at least to mend the lining of this one. It seemed to me that Mr. Gest, having spent \$800,000 on the production, could afford to buy me a new cloak. But the lining has not been mended."

"Every night I have had to go to the theatre half an hour ahead of time to nail the cloak to the seat. I sit down during the early part of my performance, because my Madonna stands during her performance, because she is a statue. I used to have to nail the cloak to the seat, to keep it there, with my own hands every night. Can you imagine anything more absurd?"

"On Saturday night I told them that I could not wear that cloak any more. I said I must have a new cloak or I would not go on. Mr. Gest is in Detroit, or he probably would have done something to straighten out matters at the last moment. But nothing was done. So I did not play."

Ready to Quit Cast.

Does my contract with Mr. Gest specify that the conditions for my performance must be satisfactory to me? Of course. My contract runs until May 15.

"If I do not go on again, I have not made up my mind as to what I shall do. I think I shall rest and see more of your wonderful city, and get better acquainted with the delightful friends I have made here."

The princess added that she had numerous offers from theatrical managers, but had not made up her mind which she would accept in case she began acting independently. She has had several French dramas under consideration.

"Strangler" Lewis Defeats Zbyszko

Chicago, March 26.—Ed Strangler Lewis, world's heavyweight wrestling champion, retained his title last night by defeating Stanislaus Zbyszko two out of three falls.

CUBAN IS KNOCKED OUT.

Havana, March 26.—Jose Lombardo of Panama knocked out Carlos Fragal, Cuban featherweight champion, in the second round of what was to have been a 12-round bout last night.

The Cuban went down for the count under a rain of rights and lefts.

Two Real Qualities To Film Stardom

Theatrical—TWO REAL Qualities (By Jack Jungmeyer.)

Hollywood, March 26.—Recently Samuel Goldwyn, the veteran motion picture producer, created a furore in Hollywood by declaring that there are only 33 good screen actors and actresses.

Everyone assumed that he was going to name them. And immediately those who feared they might not be selected but who considered themselves of the first rank rushed into print with ego bristling.

But the canny Samuel tactfully named no names—so we're as much in the dark as ever.

Asked what qualities, in his estimation, constituted the good film actor, Goldwyn said:

"Personality and versatility. 'There are a lot of temporary celebrities. They flash in the pan. But when you get down to those who wait and grow you find they have a remarkable personality or have that rich endowment of universal humanity and the ability to express it in manifold manner which we call versatility.'"

Other Day Songs Sung at Concert

Choir of Exmouth Street Church Presents Entertainment

The choir of the Exmouth street Methodist church, consisting of 31 voices, scored a notable success in the first presentation of "An Old Fashioned Concert" programme in the school-room last night. Old time melodies composed the entire programme. The choir members were costumed in the picturesque garments of former days.

A capacity audience showed its appreciation in hearty applause. E. E. Thomas, choir leader, gave a brief address with reference to the numbers on the programme and H. F. Hopkins gave an amusing stump speech. Candy was sold during the evening.

The proceeds of the entertainment will go to the choir fund.

The choruses sung by the choir included "Annie Laurie," "Billy Boy," "Robin Adair," "The Old Oak Buckle," "Wait for the Wagon," "Swing Low Sweet Chariot," "There's a Good Little Girl," "Bonnie Doon," "Sweet and Low," "Flow Gently Sweet Afton," "The Tree Trunk," "Cousin Jedediah," "Sound the Loud Timbrel," "New Jerusalem," "Home Sweet Home" and "Good Night Ladies." Miss Frances Withers sang "Junita" and was supported by a ladies' chorus. Vocal solos given were "I cannot sing the old songs," Miss Mildred Bustin; "Love's Old Sweet Song," Miss Edith Magee; "Darling Nellie Gray," Miss Grete Love, and "Swanee River," Miss Alice Tobin. Miss Alice Van Wert gave a much enjoyed reading. Harold Hopkins sang "You don't have any my peanuts" and was supported by a chorus.

The ladies' chorus sang "We are all Nodding," "Comin' Thro' the Rye" was sung as a duet by Miss E. Magee and Miss Frances Withers, and "Drink to me only" as a duet by Miss Mildred Bustin and E. E. Thomas. An instrumental piece was furnished by H. Hopkins and H. Bond. "Come where my love lies dreaming" was sung as a solo by Miss Mabel Sandall was the pianist.

Frances Marion, who recently completed the screen adaptation of Joseph Hergesheimer's "Cytherea," has recovered from a severe attack of diphtheria, and plunged back into work, having been signed by Samuel Goldwyn to do the adaptation of Montagu Glass' celebrated play, "Business Before Pleasure," to be titled "Fetters and Perimeter in Hollywood." Alexander Carr and Barney Barnard will again be seen as the famous partners on the screen.

Bobbie Bolder, who plays Ayoub, a nun in Frank Lloyd's screen version of "The Sea Hawk," adapted from Sabatini's vivid story of Barbary corsairs, went to Johannesburg, South Africa, in 1882, and for twenty-three years was a featured player in the Royal Theatre, going to Australia in 1906 for a season with a Sydney stock company as a principal comedian.

Bill Hart, though an ardent admirer of the great open spaces, where men are men and collars are collared, likes much of the bright lights now and then. The other night, in company with "Scoop" Conlon, his Boswell, he dropped in at the Palais Royale, New York. When the two-gun man entered suddenly everybody ducked, expecting him to shoot, but instead he picked out the prettiest girl in the place, Florence Walton, and swung into a fox trot.

Production of "Cytherea" is now well under way at the United Studios in Los Angeles under the direction of George Fitzmaurice. Some of the most artistic sets at the United plant are now being completed under the direction of Ben Carré. The cast includes Alma Rubens, Lewist Stone, Irene Rich and Constance Bennett.

"Three Weeks," from Elinor Glyn's story, is to be shown beginning March 30. The title of this tale has achieved so much of the bright lights now and then. The other night, in company with "Scoop" Conlon, his Boswell, he dropped in at the Palais Royale, New York. When the two-gun man entered suddenly everybody ducked, expecting him to shoot, but instead he picked out the prettiest girl in the place, Florence Walton, and swung into a fox trot.

Fannie Hurst, noted novelist, previewed "The Love Master" in New York the other day and expressed herself as delighted with this picture, which, it is said, gives Strongheart, the peer of dog stars in the movies, the chance of his career before the camera.

Willard Mack's Great Story of a Wife Left Unguarded.

AN ALL STAR CAST.

"YOUR FRIEND AND MINE."

"ASLEEP AT THE SWITCH" (Comedy)

"RUSTLIN BUSTER" (Western)

—Thursday—

"THE RED WARNING"



SAMUEL GOLDWYN

Ability to impress personality from the stage and from the screen is by no means identical, Goldwyn points out asserting that fully 90 per cent. of stage celebrities, in his observation, have failed in attempts to adapt themselves to the screen.

"Stage training and achievement," he commented, "seem to have little to do with motion picture triumph. During my 12 years as a producer I have tried out many favorites, but only a few have made the transition successfully."

"Mary Pickford is the outstanding example of personality on the screen. 'Norma Talmadge,' in my opinion the greatest performance a woman has given to the film, is equally convincing as a woman of 70 as she is the girl of 17. That's true versatility."

"Chaplin is just as great a tragedian as he is a comedian. He has the universal humanity."

There are three out of Goldwyn's thirty-three.

Applying his test of "personality and versatility," see if you can fill out to your own satisfaction the remaining thirty.

Practical Joking DOESN'T ALWAYS PAY

The case in which a clergyman was fined for sending to a bishop a bogus telegram purporting to come from the late Prime Minister is certainly a remarkable one.

Practical jokers may note with advantage to themselves that the use of forged documents is dangerous, even for what they may consider the laudable purpose of their fun; and it may be added, the more solemn the document, the greater the danger, writes Alfred Fellows in "The London Daily Mail."

But a more important matter for the victim of a joker than the punishment of his persecutor may be his own loss and suffering, and here again it may be worth stating that the arm of the law is not shortened.

The leading case was one between 20 and 30 years ago. A high-spirited person with an over-developed sense of fun came to a married woman and told her, with absolute truth, that her husband had suffered a serious accident.

The lady expended a small sum of money in sending some one to the alleged scene of the accident.

She sued the practical joker both for the out-of-pocket expenses which she had incurred by reason of her belief in the cook-and-bull story and for her doctor's bills.

The judge held that she could recover on both heads.

The latter was something of a legal novelty, but his lordship laid down that everybody under the King's peace was entitled to physical safety, and any act calculated to endanger that safety was actionable. Since a mental shock may obviously cause physical harm the claim was complete and the plaintiff had her judgment.

Since then the case has been applied followed, and may be considered established law. It would apply to boys "ragging" another boy until his health was affected, and to any fool who, in playing a joke, failed to realize that in civilized countries causing people to suffer is not excused by a perverted sense of humor.

Reggie Seely, 13 years old, of St. John, N. B., was competing in the junior half-mile skating race at St. John. Reggie was among the leaders at the final lap and stood an excellent chance of winning. Suddenly he skated off the ice.

Officials were at a loss to understand the lad's action.

Referee Bill Taylor, who also managed the American Olympic speed skaters, summoned young Seely.

"Why did you quit when you were going so good?" asked Referee Taylor. "I was disqualified," replied Reggie. "I did not disqualify you," Taylor said.

"Well I skated inside the block at the turn which I had no right to do and disqualified myself," responded Reggie. "This is the last word in sportsmanship, a lesson in honesty and fairness that our own youth would do well to copy."

Queen Square FINAL SHOWING TODAY

Words fail to express just how good this picture really is.

IRENE RICH and MONTE BLUE

"Flaming Passion"

From the popular novel LUCRETIA LOMBARD.

See the most realistic fire and flood scene ever screened.

PATHE COMEDY. Prices: Art. 2.30, 10c, 15c.

FOX NEWS. Night 7 and 8.45, 25c.

THURSDAY—Jackie Coogan's Greatest Picture

"LONG LIVE THE KING"—A \$600,000 Production.

BIG CROWD RUNS TO SMALL FIRE

Family Awakened by Smoke in North End Blaze—Damage Slight

An alarm of fire was sent in from Box 145 at the head of Long Wharf and Main street, last night at 10 o'clock and immediately after the first came a second alarm, which called out extra fire apparatus from the city proper, and in addition a very large assemblage of people. The fire was discovered in a small storeroom at the rear of a grocery store owned by John Beattie, 610 Main street. The building is three stories and is owned by James Kelly, of Douglas avenue. The second story is occupied by David Speight and family, while in the third floor resides a widow, Mrs. Dunlop.

Mr. Speight said that he and his family were in bed asleep when they were awakened by smoke and before they could make an investigation or get to the street the alarm had been rung in by some person who was passing along the street.

Mr. Speight said that he had no insurance on his furniture and the only damage to it was caused by smoke. Mrs. Dunlop said that her furniture was uninsured and it too was only damaged by smoke. Mr. Kelly said that the building was insured for \$2,800 and that the damage would be fully covered.

Mr. Beattie, the proprietor of the grocery store, where the fire started, said that his grocery stock and fittings were insured for \$1,500 and this would fully cover his loss.

The cause of the fire could not be learned last night, but as the fire had apparently started in the small rear storeroom, which was practically

vacant, it is believed that the blaze was caused by a pipe leading from a stove in the grocery store which passed through a partition to the chimney.

"SIMON CALLED PETER" HAS FIRST SHOWING IN STAMFORD

Stamford, March 26.—"Simon Called Peter," dramatization by Jules Eckert Goodman and Edward Knoblock of the novel by Robert Keable, had its first regular production at the Stamford Theatre Sunday night. The producer is William A. Brady. The cast includes Noel Tearle, Frieda Inescort, Jettie Goudal, Herbert Bunston and John Gray.

ANOTHER BOBBED HAIR CONVERT

Miss Joyce, cinema actress, called last Saturday by the Olympic to star in the Selznick picture, "The Pastorate Adventure," being filmed abroad. This will mark Miss Joyce's permanent return to the screen, having stepped out of motion pictures when she married James B. Regan, Jr., of New York several years ago. Miss Joyce is now wearing her hair bobbed.

CARROLL ODEON PLAYERS

ALL THIS WEEK A Laugh, A Scream, A Howl.

That Well-Known Farce "WHAT'S YOUR HUSBAND DOING?"

FEATURING VIRGINIA ODEON

Husbands and Wives especially should see this comedy.

Next Week—"Madam X"

Conway Tearle, Corinne Griffith, Elliott Dexter, Bryant Washburn and others

IN ROBERT W. CHAMBERS' FERVID STORY "THE COMMON LAW"

ROBERT W. CHAMBERS' UNABASHED UNMASKING of the exclusive circles, as read by hundreds of thousands of people for years, comes again to the screen in dignified and most elaborate living photographs. The posing party of players is of the most able and in their capable personalities Mr. Chambers' masterpiece receives intelligent and forceful portrayal. The action—which is really not action, as far as that goes—tells a tale too often heard in proper circles but more often with a sinister ending.

THE CAST WILL EXPLAIN MATTERS:

LOUIS NEVILLE, artist and aristocrat passionately in love with his new model—Conway Tearle

BURLESON, fellow artist, a member of the Neville set who tries to prevent the match—Bryant Washburn.

JOSE QUERIDA, another illustrator, also in love with the model and urges his claim—Elliott Dexter.

VALERIE WEST, the model in question—an amateur dazed by the frankness of the studio—Corinne Griffith.

LILY NEVILLE, sister of Louis who fears family disgrace in brother's love affair—Miss DuPont.

OTHER FEMALES: Stephanie Doris May; Rita, Elyllis Haver; and Marie, Dagmar Godowsky.

FATHER NEVILLE, head of the aristocratic family so much upset over the affair—Robert Burleson.

SCENES in the Art Studios and Bohemian Sections of a great city—Exclusive Drawing Rooms—At a Country Lodge—New Year's Party.

SHOW OPENS WITH SCENIC TRAVEL FILM

CONCERT THURSDAY

The delightful concert of Tuesday is being repeated tomorrow night from 8.15 to 9.00. The added feature is most acceptable to our patrons.

MODEST LITTLE NOTE TELLS WHY OF FLEET MOVES

Capital Ships to Mediterranean to Keep Open Lines of Communication

By C. T. HALLINAN.

London, March 1.—(By mail to United Press).—When England transfers a good husky section of her Atlantic fleet to the Mediterranean, what does it mean?

The average London newspaper studiously ignores the question, perhaps because it knows from past experience how every line in an English newspaper is studied in every chancellery in Europe.

This conscious repression is a remarkable phase of English journalism and goes a long way to explain how this small batch of islands has come to occupy the important part it holds in world affairs.

To understand just why a good husky part of the great British Atlantic fleet has been sent quietly to the Mediterranean you have to go up to Liverpool, buy a recent copy of the Liverpool Journal of Commerce, turn to page 7, and read the following quiet paragraph:

"No one supposes that the Pacific is the future field for cruiser patrols. The Mediterranean has become what it was before the High Seas Fleet was concentrated in the North Sea, and it is now the naval centre of the world. We are sending our first ships there, making Malta our greatest naval centre, in order to insure our lines of communication to the East and maintain our prestige. France is building submarines to protect the long ferry from Oran to Marseilles, across which her black regiments as reinforcements must be brought. Signor Mussolini is anxious that Italy, the only purely Mediterranean great power, shall be predominant in the middle sea. Having little interest in the world trade he does not see why we should exercise the power which we do there and at Malta. But though he will never challenge us, he would like to see us cut out."

That's all. No headlines, no unseemly racket, frightening everybody! Just a quiet paragraph, explanatory, interpretative. That's the English way.

FIND MORE SKILLS IN WESTERN SANDS

Los Angeles, March 26.—Human beings of a comparatively advanced type inhabited Southern California before the glacial period, which ended some 15,000 to 20,000 years ago, in the opinion of paleontologists who are studying three fossil skulls and portions of four human skeletons unearthed in glacial sands near here yesterday.

Reggie was named in a newspaper recently gave up a skull thought to be the oldest relic of man yet brought to light by scientists.

Dr. Chester Stock, head of the Department of Paleontology of the University of California declined to pass judgment on the antiquity of the finds, but said that the bones which they were found indicated they belonged to the latter part of the glacial period.

"Human remains from the glacial period have been found in Europe," said Dr. Stock, "but they have always shown the characteristics of extremely primitive types. Here we are confronted with remains showing development far advanced beyond that of the European remains, and yet under circumstances which would indicate that the people who left them probably existed during the latter part of the glacial period."

The American airman have set out on their westward course, following the path of the sun around the globe. Next Tuesday, three British aviators will start out from Southampton Water in a dirigible, and after facing the east, to win the honor of being the first to circle the globe. As an adventure, nothing so thrilling has been planned since Francis Drake made the voyage in the "Golden Hind," more than 300 years ago.

The adventurers in the air will travel under very different conditions. With all the resources of the British and American navies to help them along, including the wonderful service of radio-telegraph, it is possible that the flying machines will never be out of contact with the ground organizations. Still the picture of one small craft flying in solitude over the forests of Burma and Siam, or heading away north of Japan across the Pacific to the Aleutian Islands, and thence to British Columbia, is surely as stirring even as the story of Jason's cruise in the Argos, or the voyages of the gentleman adventurers of England, their little privateering ships of Elizabeth's day.

"Secrets" Norma Talmadge's screen version of the play by Rudolph Besier and May Edington, opens this week in New York. Eugene O'Brien again will be seen opposite Norma. Joseph M. Schenck, president of the Norma Talmadge Company, has come on from the coast to be present.

R. H. Burnside, of Hippodrome fame, is to direct motion pictures for the Famous Players-Lasky Company. He has been studying the film business at the Long Island studio of the company.

The Warner Brothers have purchased the screen rights to Edgar Allan Poe's novel "The Hound of the Baskin's," and also those of "The Vanishing Point," by Coningsby Dawson.

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VENETIAN GARDENS TONIGHT DANCING

THEATRE  
A Brilliant Screen Play of Luxuries And Lovers.  
"YOUR FRIEND AND MINE."  
Willard Mack's Great Story of a Wife Left Unguarded.  
AN ALL STAR CAST.  
"ASLEEP AT THE SWITCH" (Comedy)  
"RUSTLIN BUSTER" (Western)  
—Thursday—  
"THE RED WARNING"

STAR  
WEDNESDAY—THURSDAY  
"No David! You're the only man I've got now."  
It's the call from the heart of a mountain mother to her boy—the only man left to her—when he goes out for man-size vengeance.  
For a Bigger Drama Than Ever, See  
RICHARD BARTHELMLESS  
Presented by Inspiration Pictures in Joseph Hergesheimer's  
"Tol'able David"  
Comedy  
"Home Made Movies"

WEDNESDAY PALACE THURSDAY  
The Most Exciting Ninth Inning Ever Shown On Any Screen!  
It is the last of the ninth; two are out; two are on bases; Bat Shugrue at the plate, waiting. Upon this charged moment depends Honor, Happiness, Love—and a woman; Ball two! Ball three! Strike two! The pitcher throws the final ball—the last effort upon which hangs the destiny of three persons! Can you wait until you feel the thrill of it? With  
Rockliffe Fellows, Fritz Ridgway, Hayden Stevenson, in  
"Trifling with Honor"  
A UNIVERSAL JEWEL  
Buster Keaton in "The Scarecrow"

GAIETY  
WEDNESDAY—THURSDAY  
The Spoilers  
Where men of iron and reckless beauties flocked at the lure of wealth.  
One of the most romantic periods of history brought to the screen with this great cast:  
Milton Sills, Barbara Bedford, Anna Q. Nilsson, Robert Edeson, Noah Beery, Louise Fazenda, Wallace MacDonald, Ford Sterling, Mitchell Lewis, Rockliffe Fellows, Sam de Grasse.  
"THE LEATHER PUSHERS"