LIFTED TO STARDOM WITHOUT HAVING SOUGHT FILM CAREER

Sally O'Neil. Ordered to West by Doctor, Stumbles Into Limelight.

HOLLYWOOD, April 18. - Six months ago Sally O'Neil was a schoolgirl with no greater ambition than to graduate with honors.

Today she is playing a motion pic-ture role written and at first destined for the screen's most noted actress, Mary Pickford.

Also there is the prediction of Marshall Neilan, famous director, that in a surprisingly short time she will be one of filmdom's outstanding stars.

"It all seems too wonderful to be true," declares this pretty 17-year-old girl.

girl.

"Just a couple of weeks ago I had never been inside a studio, or had any hopes of seeing the inside of one.

"And now all this—oh, I just can't tell you how enthusiastic I am."

Hero of this modern Cinderella story is Chance, Fate, Kismet or what you will. Thousands of girls—extras—hammer daily at the studio gates vainly seeking the chance that came to her unsought.

Not Sally. She was never in an extra line, or peeping through a acst-

Not Sally. She was never in an extra line, or peeping through a aesting director's window.

Fate Takes Hand.

Born in Bayonne, N. J., in 1908, first name of the future shadowland celebrity was Chotsie Noonan. Her father, now dead, was T. F. Noonan, ex-judge of the State Supreme Court.

After usual preliminary education, Chotsie entered the convent of Notre Dame, New York City, and was there until fate—in the nature of heart trouble—took a hand.

"Winters here are too rogorous for

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Indispensable

Vaseline



Pending the time when her health would permit her to re-enter school, Miss Noonan decided to see Los Angeles. Amongst other places was one of the city's best known hotel ball-rooms.

With a perfectly good story and a great ambition to screen it. All he lacked was a heroine.

Fate again stepped in by sending Neilan and his wife, Blanche Sweet, to the same helly on the same hells on the same hells on the same hells on the same hells on the same hells. of the city's best known hotel ballrooms.

Meanwhile, unbeknown to Chotsie,
Marshall Neilan had struck a snag in
motion-picture production.

She Qualifies.

Agreement had been reached, some
months previous, for Neilan to direct
Mary Pickford in a play he had himself written.

But at the last minute Miss Pickford

Neilan and his wife, Blanche Sweet,
to the same hallroom on the same
night Miss Noonan was there.

She danced by the table of the direct
tor and his wife, "The very girl!" said Miss Sweet.
"You took the words from my lips,"
replied Neilan.

The next day a film test was taken
and passed by Miss Noonan—now become Sally O'Neil—with high honors.

Ben Hur Film Will Have Cost, \$3,000,000 When Completed

Bigger Yields Use Soilgro with or without manure or other fertilizer on your farm, lawn or garden. It hastens and increases

New Brunswick and Nova Scotia,

public.
In the returning troupers were Roman Navarro, who plays the part of Ben Hur; May McAvoy, who portrays the role of Esther; Carmel Myers, the exotic and passionate Iras; Francis X. Bushman, interpretor of the mighty Messala; Kathleen Key, who plays Tirzan, Claire McDowell, in the role of Ben Hur's mother, and Nigel de Brulier, as Simondes, the bond slave.

No Political Trouble.

Director Fred Niblo, who brought the players back to the States, denied on his return that the political situation in Italy and labor troubles with Italian workmen had interfered with progress of the picture in Rome.

"The weather was not favorable in Italy and it would have delayed our production plans several months had we remained in Rome to complete the picture," he said. we remained in Rome to complete the picture," he said.

"The Italian government offered us every co-operation and we employed thousands of Roman workmen and extras for some of the most important and picturesque scenes of the production."

Niblo added, however, that the Italian workers were somewhat slow as compared to Hollywood's expert technical crews and that the elaborate sets and structures required as background for the various Roman settings were not constructed as rapidly as expected. Expenses mounted rapidly, too, it was pointed out, when the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer company was compelled to lease 400 acres of ground upon which to build the exterior sets, including the Jopa Gate of Jerusalem, the Tribunal, Jerusalem streets and

and the Circus Maximus, where a non of the charlot race was filmed. Tom Mix Sees Other items which drew heavily on

he producers' exchequer included the importation of 40 black men and women from Tripoli, North Africa; a caravan of camels from the heart of Egypt; 20,000 costumes from Berlin and the building of a veritable fleet of galley ships for the Roman naval battle which was filmed at Leghorn, a sea-coast town jutting into the Mediter-

ranean.

The final million, however, will be spent in America, and the Arizona desert will provide a setting for the most thrilling portion of the chariot race.

But the question remains, will movie fans pay more than \$8,000,000 to see the story on the screen and assure a profit for the film producers?

Y. HIPPODROME

World's Largest Playhouse to Give Place to 15-story Bank

TO BE DEMOLISHED

NEW YORK, April 20.—The Hippodrome, after 20 years still the world's largest playhouse, will be lost to New York as a result of a real estate deal which will transfer the Sixth avenue block to a leading Wall street banking house before the end of the week. According to reports, the building will be demolished after the B. F. Keith lease expires in October, 1926, and replaced by a 15-story bank and office building.

A price of \$4,000,000 is reported for the theatre and the site, which 20 years ago represented an investment of \$2,700,000.

The theatre has a 200-foot fronters in Sixth.

The theatre has a 200-foot frontage The theatre has a 200-foot frontage in Sixth avenue and 240 feet on each side street. It was said that the proposed building of a subway under Sixth avenue and the prospects of removing the "L" structure had decided the fate of the building, and that this time the sale of the property would go through without a hitch.

GAILIY And TUES.

London Mayor

ONDON, April 20.—Tom Mix, American movie actor, visited the Mansion House, official home of the Lord Mayor of London, and presented that dignitary with a five-gallon sombrero, similar to the one he recently gave Governor Smith of New York. Mix also presented the Lord Mayor's wife with a Mexican blanket. After an hour's visit in the Mansion House Mix went to the Tower of London. Crowds of London's urchins

cheered the movie cowboy, but were somewhat disappointed when he negotiated the maze of traffic in the vicinity of the Mansion House and the Bank of England in an automobile instead of astride

MATINEES-TUES., THURS., SAT-2.15.

Direct From New York,

and London, to You.

HALIFAX, April 20.—The Cunard liner Laconia, White Star liner Doric, Swedish-American liner Stockholm, and North German Lloyd liner Lutzow decked at Halifax over the week-end to land 557 passengers, mostly for places in Ontario, and Western Canada. Want a Job? Use the want.

Pauline Garon Explains Why She Smokes Pipe

Pauline Garon of the younger set of cigarettes and took to smoking a pipe. Some of the older stars flipped the ashes from their monogrammed cigarettes and registered horror when the actress appeared on the set with a man-sized briar which she smoked with perfect unconcern. Others, however, failed to record even a temporary shock.

shock.

"It's merely because I like a pipe and there's less danger of fire with one," explained the actress. A cigarette is more apt to burn the end of one's dressing table or set fire to the things hanging on the wall.

"It may look funny at first, but I expect girls will be smoking pipes soon just like the men. Why not?"

THUR.—FRI.—SAT. AT IMPERIAL Three Days

The Wonder Achievement of Our Naval Heroes

8-Thrilling Reels-8

Seen and Commended By Their Majesties

THIS

WEEK

THE BIGGEST EVENT OF THE SEASON

THE PLAY

BIG SPECIAL BOOKING Sensation Everywhere!

A Doctor's Pledge to Humanity

A PHYSICIAN AND A NURSE With a Human Life in the Balance MARY ROBERTS RHINEHART'S

Hospital Love-Tangle Mystery

NURSE SIDNEY PAGE, HER HEART FILLED BY DREAD, stood before the closed door of a hospital operating om where the man whose wife she had promised to become lay, his life dependent upon the surgical skill of a famous man. Instained face stared agony of soul and from whose teeth-whitened

lips came babbling facts that changed Sidney Page's dread to orror-the man she was to have wed had been shot while com ing from a secret rendezvous with the woman who crowded for

place of vantage before the door. Then the story grows mor VIRGINIA VALLI AND PERCY MARMONT With Splendid Universal Co. Support

CONCERT 8.30

Canadian THE BORDER CITIES Pathe News-Topics of the Day

A SUPERB BILL: Story of widely-read interest ictures—Excellent Music—Cana

Seat Sale Today-10 A. M. to 9 P. M.

One Great Day of Merriment!



TURNED UP" LOVE WILL COME BACK"
"THE LOVE TRAIL" JOG ALONG JASPER"
and THE DUCHESS PERFORMS"
(entirely New)

GENE PEARSON The Male Galli Curci" BOB ANDERSON LEONARD YOUNG The Duchess" ALAN MURRAY NORMAN A. BLUMÉ LIONEL BROADWAY JIMMY MACDONALD FRED GORDON

The Incomparable ORIGINALS QUARTETTE

with BERTRAM LANGLEY, JERRY BRAYFORD
THOMAS DUNN & GUS MEKINNON.

Mat. 3. 30 Orch. \$1; Bal. 50c. Eve. Orch. \$1.00 and \$1.50 Children Anywhere 50c. Bal. 50c., 75c., \$1.00

By LINCOLN QUARBERG Hur" in Rome, Italy, and today the United Press Staff Correspondent. picture is back in the throes of production at Hollywood. Fully another six months with an additional outlay of \$1,000,000 will be required to complete the picturization of General Lew Wellace's famous novel, it is estimated by officials of Metro-Mayer-Goldwyn, producers. The entire "Ben Hur" company has returned to Hollywood from the Eternal City where many of the scenes were filmed, admittedly under difficulties. Directors, players and cameramen are working overtime to speed production and retrieve lost time, but it will be several months before the picture is ready for release to the public. than \$2,000,000 has been lavished the "BIG BUSINESS" The Thrill in Ginger Ale at fountains, clubs, and from nailway and steamship buffets. Three sizes: 8 oz. 120z. 28 oz.

EMPRESS MONDAY-TUESDAY THE

SHADOW THE EAST All the Lure and Mystery o

The Orient. Frank Mayo, Norman Kerry, Mildred Harris, Evelyn Brent EXTRA-COMEDY PRICES-20c, 10c.

Come and Enjoy an evening of song and readings under the auspices of the Men's Assiciation of St. David's church by Mrs. Hugh Miller, assisted by Mrs. J. M. Barnes and Mrs, I. F. Archibald, Pythian Castle, Thursday evening, April 23rd. Tickets 50c., 8.15 p. m.

QUEEN SQUARE THEATRE

RANKS AS THE GREAT OUTSTANDING MASTERPIECE.
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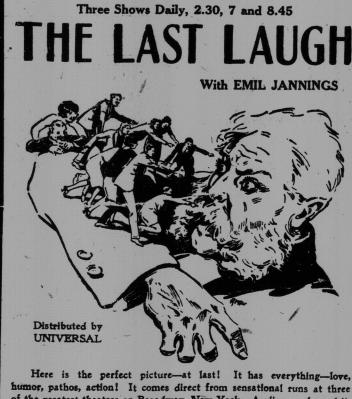
Balance Orchestra 35c; Balcony 25c.

EVENING—First 11 Rows \$1.00; Balance Orchestra 75c.

First Balcony 35c and 50c; Second Balcony 25c.

First Time Anywhere at Prices Less Than \$3.00

TODAY, TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY April 20, 21, 22.



of the greatest theatres on Broadway, New York. Audiences cheered it, critics went wild over it! "I have never seen a more compelling picture!"—N. Y. Evening World. "The story grips one from beginning to end! A masterpiece!"—N. Y. Times. "A remarkable picture! It's different!"—N. Y. Daily News.

4-21.



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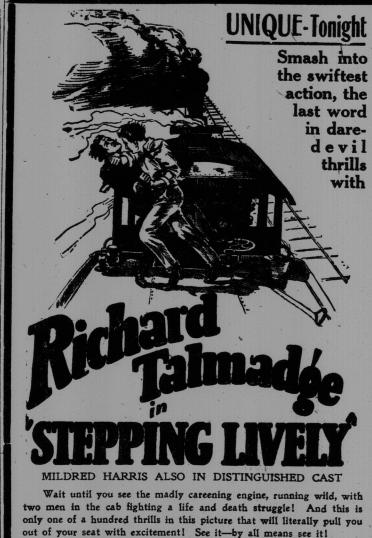
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Featuring RAMON NOVARRO, ALICE TERRY

REX INGRAM'S "SCARAMOUCHE"

> RAFAEL SABATINI'S MASTERPIECE A Cast of 10,000 With 30 Principals. TO BE SHOWN AT REGULAR PRICES



only one of a hundred thrills in this picture that will literally pull you out of your seat with excitement! See it—by all means see it!

Also ALBERTA VAUGHN in "TELEPHONE CIPI"