

Nelson B. Bell, About the Showshops

Notable Films Bolster New Season's Outlook

Warners Announce New Paramount Bookings;
A Novel 'Sportscope' in the Offing;
News Notes and Gossip of the Theater

PARAMOUNT does not devote all of its time and energies to the assembling of exceptional newsreels of the last-minute developments in war-ridden Europe. It probably will be remembered that it also produces major screen features in its West Coast studios. The "split" of the Paramount product to be exhibited in forthcoming weeks on the screens of the Warner Brothers' Earle and Metropolitan theaters promises diversion



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of a high and engaging sort.

Foremost among these impending releases will be found the following, according to announcement just made by Zone Manager John J. Payette, of the Warner interests in this territory:

"Rulers of the Sea," the story of the triumph of steam over sail in ocean travel, with Douglas Fairbanks, jr., Will Fyffe and Margaret Lockwood in the most conspicuous roles. Director Frank Lloyd, maker of "The Sea Hawk"—about to be done again—"Mutiny on the Bounty" and many other film plays of the first magnitude and rank, looks upon this subject as the crowning undertaking of his long and distinguished career. It has been in preparation for many months.

"Jamaica Inn," starring Charles Laughton, with Maureen O'Hara, Leslie Banks, Emlyn Wil-

kins and Robert Newton. Written by Daphne Du Maurier, author of "Rebecca," this successor to "The Beachcomber" in Laughton's recent series of productions, presents its star as a regency squire who leads a band of cutthroats and smugglers on the English coast.

"Honeymoon in Bali," which you will find difficulty in identifying by its present title. This is the widely discussed picture, co-starring Mad-

eleine Carroll and Fred MacMurray, first known by the title of "Are Husbands Necessary?" a name made inadvisable by certain developments in Miss Carroll's private life.

"What a Life," a picturization of the George Abbott comedy success seen on the stage of the National Theater last season. Jackie Cooper, Betty Field (of the stage cast), John Howard, Janice Logan and Lionel Stander top the cast.

"\$1,000 a Touchdown," combining the cavernous capabilities of Joe E. Brown and Martha Raye in what should corroborate its advance notices by being a riotous comedy of professional football. So much for Paramount.

Columbia Pictures, which also find their local first-run outlet via the Warner screens, will be coming along soon with the eagerly awaited Frank Capra production of "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington," co-starring James Stewart and Jean Arthur, who did so much for the pre-eminent success of Capra's picturization of "You Can't Take It With You." Washington will get a peek at itself in the new one.

I wonder what Washington will think of itself as Mr. Capra saw it?

These films will not be by way of opening any "new season" on the Warner screens. That will have been accomplished by "The Old Maid," now being repeated downtown on the screen at the Metropolitan, and the second of the Warner releases for the new year, "Dust Be My Destiny," opening today at the Earle. From the home lot, the Warner houses will have coming in due course "On Your Toes," with Zorina and Eddie Albert; Joel McCrea in "Career Man," "The Private Lives of Elizabeth and Essex," starring Bette Davis and Errol Flynn in Technicolor; "A Child Is Born," with Geraldine Fitzgerald, and "Four Wives," the legitimate sequel to "Four Daughters," with the same cast, to match the items listed in the preceding paragraphs. Hardly looks like a gelatine famine, war or no war.

It might be just as well to offer a reminder that "In Name Only," co-starring Carole Lombard, Cary Grant and Kay Francis, will be shown today at RKO-Keith's through the 7:35 p. m. screening, on its regular daily schedule. It is at 9:30 that Anna Neagle and Herbert Wilcox will make their personal appearances on the Keith stage, with the world premiere of "Nurse Edith Cavell," following at 9:40 for the single presentation only.

Despite some references to the world premiere activities as concerning themselves with a "private press showing" of "Nurse Edith Cavell," both the stellar appearances and the unwinding of the picture are open to the general public—up to the capacity of the house and after the customary call at the box-office.

That enterprising impresario of the Mount Vernon Auto Theater, down there on the Richmond highway, Master Irving Shapiro, is getting to be his own motion-picture feature-maker-upper. Having done all right for himself by grouping the Walt Disney cartoons into 50-minute stretches, he now has turned his inventiveness toward the "March of Time" releases and has pasted three of them together to comprise a comprehensive survey of the embattled European situation. The ingredients Mr. Shapiro has poured into his mixing pot are "In Nazi Germany," "The Maginot Line" and "Mediterranean Defenses," or whatever that last one was officially called. This complete "featurette" is now running at the open-air, parking playhouse and will continue there through Saturday, along with Edward G. Robinson in "I Am the Law," as the chief attraction.

That Monday night cloudburst did more than merely wash out a few tentative excursions to nearby amusements. It cracked up the business wrist of Don Kelsey, bull-fiddle twanger in Cecil Golly's orchestra, out at the Spanish Garden Ballroom in Glen Echo Park. Mr. Kelsey, who enjoys slapping those strings, tried to dash back to cover during a between-sessions intermission when the rains came, slipped and the law of gravity did the rest. He now is tootling a tuba and fingering his valves with his forlorn hand. The show, it seems, must go on.

Something new and tricky in the way of shotgun marksmanship soon will be seen on the screen of a new Sportscope bearing the title of "Gun Play." Scheduled for release on September 15, this novel item in the realm of what some people call sport has nothing to do with gangsterism or nasty marriages. It has to do with the intricate and speedy requirements of snap shooting over standard trap and skeet layouts. The 2,000-acre Catskill preserve of the Trout and Skeet Club of New York, where the picture was made, has a course consisting of seven innings of varied and unusual types of shooting with a

total of 175 targets. In addition to a round of regulation traps and standard skeet layout, a shooter also must fire 25 shots each at the "grouse range," woodcock range," "duck range," "dove range" and "quail range," where the flights of the respective game birds is accurately simulated. Ought to be interesting—especially to those who know nothing whatever about it, which of course, includes this desk. Now, if they had a "gas range" . . .

If "Thieves Fall Out," this week's "tryout" show at the Olney Theater, should cop that Broadway production, that would give Panjandrum Stephen E. Cochran two out of two on the season, the Messrs. Shubert already having pre-empted Ruth Chatterton's "You Can't Eat the Goldfish." That would be the season's record on the "straw hat" circuit. I can't see any reason that can't be remedied why not.

Evil-Eye Note

That probably puts the jinx on it right there!

Victims of an Impeded Romance



CARY GRANT AND CAROLE LOMBARD
two of the trio of stars appearing in "In Name Only," the comedy-romance now in its second week on the screen at RKO-Keith's Theater. Kay Francis completes the stellar triumvirate, with Charles Coburn, Helen Vinson, Washington's Peggy Ann Garner and others of note in support