

AMUSEMENTS

STATE THEATRE.

Inspector Hornleigh, that likable and ingenious representative of Scotland Yard, who made such an auspicious bow to American audiences in the film bearing his name recently, makes a happy and welcome appearance at the State Theatre in "Inspector Hornleigh on Holiday," 20th Century-Fox release which arrived recently.

Gordon Harker is, of course, again the Inspector and again he is accompanied by that bungling, comic aide, Sergeant Bingham, in the person of Alastair Sim.

This new film, produced by Edward Black for 20th Century Productions, Ltd., involves the pair in an even more baffling and exciting mystery than the earlier picture.

Harker gives a grand account of himself again as the Inspector and Sim contributes plenty of humour as his aide.

The distaff side is ably and charmingly represented by lovely Linden Travers at the top of a fine supporting cast, under the able direction of Walter Forde.

America's first fun family has never had such hilarious headaches as in its latest 20th Century-Fox comedy, "Too Busy to Work." The comedy is hilarious even for the Jones Family and they are known far and wide for their continued uproariousness.

The Joneses have never been so upside down in trouble as they are in this film which is screening at the State Theatre. Dad, as you know, is Mayor of Maryville and his last weeks in office find him laying cor-

nerstones right and left. He's the chairman of so many committees he hasn't time to sit down! As a result he neglects his drug business to such an extent that once, in his perpetual haste, he orders forty cases of aspirin instead of forty bottles. But doesn't he need them for his own headaches!

The Joneses are all played by the familiar Jed Prouty, Spring Byingto, Ken Howell, George Ernest, June Carlson, Florence Roberts and Billy Mahan, while the cast also features Joan Davis, Chick Chandler, Marjorie Gateson, Andrew Tombes, Marvin Stephens, Irving Bacon and Helen Ericson.

Otto Brower directed, with John Stone associate producer.

TUDOR THEATRE

Samuel Goldwyn's newest production, "Raffles," starring David Niven in the title role, with lovely Olivia de Havilland as his leading lady, provides mystery-melodrama at its top-notch best. Superbly and excitingly directed by Sam Wood, "Raffles" was filed from the screenplay by John Van Druten and the late Sidney Howard.

David Niven, as the Amateur Cracksman, turns in a notable performance, marked by acting that is vivid, romantic and suave. Miss de Havilland's portrayal of his fiancee proves that she is an actress of brilliant talents. Other stirring performances are contributed by Dudley Digges as Inspector MacKenzie of Scotland Yard, Dame May Whitty as Lady Melrose, Lionel Pape as Lord Melrose, Douglas Walton as Bunny Manders. Minor roles are excellently han-

dled by E. E. Clive, Peter Godfrey and Keith Hitchcock.

The story of "Raffles" is the story of a gentleman crook, a suave society man who leads a life of secret crime for the fun and adventure. Known as the Amateur Cracksman, he has been baffling Scotland Yard with his daring and spectacular robberies for months. And then, just as he is about to withdraw from his dangerous career, he furnishes the Yard with its first and only clue. From then on, the speedy action carries the story to the beautiful country estate of Lady Melrose where the famous emerald necklace is stolen and a chase to London begins.

PLAZA THEATRE.

The chance of a lifetime to "Pack Up Your Troubles" in your old kit bag and howl, howl, howl, awaits you at the Plaza Theatre, where joyous Jane Withers arrives in the new 20th Century-Fox comedy of that title, with those riotous Ritz Brothers tossed in to guarantee you a maximum of fun.

Yes, Jane's the bravest little Ma'am-selle in all France—and the Ritzes are in the army now! Being the Ritzes, of course, they take the liberty of telling the General off, with results that provide the picture with one of the funniest punch lines in the memory of this reviewer.

The Ritzes, a trio of out-of-work vaudevillians, enlist and are sent to France on a transport as nurse-maids to a herd of army mules, under the supervision of hard-boiled Sergeant "Angel Face" Walker.

They make friends with Jane, by way of their pet baby mule, Margie, and "Angel Face" makes friends with a French lovely, in the person of Lynn Bari, who turns out to be a spy.

Of course, the Ritzes get all mixed up, and Jane provides plenty of thrills with her bravery, while trying to save her father, Joseph Schildkraut.

Jane delights the audience with two grand new impersonations — George M. Cohan, singing "I'm a Yankee Doodle Dandy," and Eva Tanguay, singing "I Don't Care." She also sings "Who'll Buy My Flowers," a song by Sidney Clare and Jule Styne.

Stanley Fields is grand as "Angel Face," and Fritz Leiber and Lionel Royce are also prominently featured in the swell cast.

KING'S THEATRE.

Brunette tressed Betty Field, the Hollywood actress who says "Unh-Unh" to glamour and means it, plays the role of Mae, the heroine of Hal Roach's production of "Of Mice and Men," the screen version of John Steinbeck's powerful novel, which is scheduled for its initial showing at the King's Theatre to-day. Produced and directed by Lewis Milestone, this new production co-stars with Miss Field, Burgess Meredith of "Winterset" fame and Lon Chaney, Jr., namesake and scion of a great movie family. In the supporting cast of the film are such top-notchers as Charles Bickford, Roman Bohnen, Bob Steele, Noah Beery, Jr., Granville Bates and Leigh Whipper.

The story of "Of Mice and Men" was transferred to the screen from a script based on the Broadway stage

hit and written by Eugene Soler. The play dramatizes the life of the "hard-boiled," or migratory workers on the Okra Ranch in California. An impressive pictorial background, "Of Mice and Men" highlights the lives of two men—George and Lennie. It shows the hopes and dreams of these central figures, the pathos of these central figures, the tails ranch life and its vast implications for those humans who are job to job on the path to now.

Most of the action of "Of Mice and Men" transpires on a ranch built exactly as it was described in Steinbeck's novel. It was located in a sun-seared valley 40 miles from Hollywood. Inside of eight days, radio technicians erected nine sets —not flimsy sets either, but substantial enough for actual farming poses. Men were able to sleep in a bunk-house, livestock were kept in a barn, water actually came from a well.

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