

# AMUSEMENTS

## TUDOR THEATRE

Michael Redgrave sings for the first time on the screen in a scene in the film "A Window in London," screening at the Tudor Theatre.

"Let's all sing like the birdies sing!" is the song, and it is introduced into the picture during a frivolous party sequence.

Michael would probably be the last person in the world to suggest that his voice was something to sing about, but those who heard him on the set were more than a greebly surprised at his pleasant baritone.

"You mustn't take my vocal efforts too seriously," says Michael, "as I don't pretend to be a singer. You see, according to the story, I go to a party where, due chiefly to alcoholic influences, I suddenly enter the spirit of the affair and let go. Everybody starts singing and I find myself doing a solo!"

"A Window in London" is his fourth film in just over a year, and is being produced by Josef Somlo and Captain Richard Norton, for release by Gaumont.

## STATE THEATRE.

Eight exciting, action-packed, romantic hours—that's the short period covered in the highly dramatic story which is screening at the State Theatre, when 20th Century-Fox's "City of Chance" had its first showing in Blanktown.

The scene is inside an exclusive gambling club, behind whose barred,

bronze doors are eight interesting people whose entire lives will be changed before they leave—if they ever do.

It's an exciting theme for a motion picture and Lynn Bari, C. Aubrey Smith, Donald Woods and Amanda Duff, featured members of the cast, make the most of it. Thanks too to Executive Producer Sol M. Murtzel and Director Ricardo Cortez for an absorbing hour's entertainment, and to Scriptwriters John Larkin and Barry Trivers for a highly original screen play.

Re-issue of the tremendous film success. "I Was a Spy," the great British picture reproduction of the true life story by Martha McKenna, starring Conrad Veidt, Madeline Carroll, Herbert Marshall, Sir Gerald du Maurier, Edmund Gwenn and a sterling cast.

This great British film on its first issue, so thoroughly deserved the packed houses which greeted it everywhere that the present re-issue during the present war against the Hitlerites is more than justified. In its essentials the story has all the simplicity of greatness. It tells the true emotional and factual history of the young Belgian woman, Martha McKenna, who, with her parents, was in the town of Roulers in 1915, after the Germans had occupied it to make it a base behind the lines. In a particular scene among German wounded installed in the market place, the woman's slight medical training and her personal instinct show in her demeanour, and she is engaged by the medical authorities to serve in the hospital. Her untiring work there be-

comes invaluable.

But still she is a Belgian, and lives among her townsfolk; when her aunt in the intelligence service of the Allies takes brief refuge in her home, Martha helps her in furtive missions, and gradually accepts her destiny to become a unit in the machine—soon a very important unit, although, until near the end, an unobtrusive one. Her immediate superior in the hospital is also in the service. They work together, in love with each other, and both doing their double, in compatible seriousness and without question. Martha sends information, for instance, of an outdoor mass religious service of the troops; she risks the fate of the thousands of soldiers whom she is among when they are caught unawares, and heavily bombed by Allied 'planes. Then she and the doctor, nurse those who are left wounded. Together they make a fruitless attempt to blow up a dump of poison-gas cylinders when they first came into use by the Germans; then they nurse the Allied wounded after the first gas attack.

## KING'S THEATRE.

Acclaimed as one of the finest films of the year, "U-Boat 29," a Columbia picture with a vitally topical theme, is now showing at the King's Theatre.

The story is based on J. Storer Clouston's famous novel, which relates the attempt of an enemy submarine commander to obtain from an alleged spy, information concerning the movements of the British fleet. How the attempt is foiled by the counter-activities of a British naval officer and a village schoolmistress is told in amazingly thrilling style.

The picture is easily one of the fastest-moving films this reviewer has seen. It is certainly a distinct credit to British production technique and a big feather in the cap of all concerned.

Conrad Veidt has the title role, playing the part of a foreign spy, who is infatuated with and eventually duped by a Scottish school teacher. Such a characterisation, naturally affords Veidt enormous scope to effect another of the powerful and gripping portrayals for which he is famed. His performance is tremendous.

Valarie Hobson, fresh from her triumph in "Q Planes," plays the role of the intriguing school teacher, giving a performance which further enhances her claims to be regarded as Britain's foremost feminine star.

## PLAZA THEATRE.

The season's smartest get-together of romance and revelry with a top comedy cast in a story that's as modern as the world the day after tomorrow is scheduled for the Plaza Theatre when "Daytime Wife" will open. This 20th Century-Fox film stars romantic Tyrone Power with lovely Linda Darnell, the new "find" who has won top billing with her second screen appearance.

Screen fans will delight in seeing Tyrone in the type of light comedy role in which he excels. He's a perfectly swell guy, married to a peach of a wife, but he's in trouble up to his neck because there's something about a secretary! Tyrone smashes across the gayest, most intriguing perform-

ance of his career in portraying hilarious goings-on of a husband goes whistling under the wrong cony.

Brilliantly directed by Gra Ratoff and smartly written by Arthur and Robert Harari, the gives Linda Darnell the opportunity to create a real sensation and viewers agree that she does so that little dark-eyed lovely who the hit of "Hotel For Women."

Featured in the cast of "Daytime Wife" are Warren William, Barnes, Wendy Barrie and Jones—all of whom are just about for this type of gay story.

## DANCING.

As announced in our advertisement columns, Miss Phyllis Bates, the known Wellington teacher of dancing, is commencing Saturday afternoon classes at a nominal charge for men in uniform. Partners are available, so these classes will provide an opportunity for a sociable Saturday afternoon. They will also help those men who present miss a lot of fun because cannot dance or can't do the dancing.

Miss Bates is an excellent dancer and has the happy knack of creating an informal atmosphere where people feel at home. She advises that men from camp, with business ahead, do not want to compete with professional dancers, so the class strike a happy medium between competition and entertainment.

## NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

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