

AMUSEMENTS

CITY AND EXHIBITION

PLAZA THEATRE.

Film audiences viewing Walter Wanger's "Eternally Yours," co-starring Loretta Young and David Niven, and slated to begin a run at the Plaza Theatre, through United Artists release, are to be treated to the distinct thrill of diving headlong toward the New York World's Fair from an airplane 15,000 feet high. Then a parachute will open and the "audience" will float earthward.

Producer Wanger sent a camera crew and two airplanes from Hollywood to New York to film a spectacular delayed-opening parachute leap from a plane into a bay near the Fair site. To give the jump realism and natural thrills, a special camera was constructed and encased, with its motor and a time-clock, inside a cork and rubber box.

The camera equipment was fastened to the parachute harness to record the wild gyrations normally made by a man's body on a delayed opening jump, the shock of the opening, and the swinging that occurs until gravity steadies him down and he floats to safety. Since the camera always represents the audience in the filming of a picture, this unique chute jump will give theatre audiences an experience only one person in a million ever has — that which comes to those who "bail out."

The Wanger camera and its odd container were rather ingenious devices. The time-clock pulled the rip cord of the parachute 25 seconds after the drop was made from the plane. When the box struck the water, it automatically closed a heavy glass window over the camera lens and becomes a floating, waterproof protector for the camera and its exposed film. The camera was so rigged that when the parachute opened the lens recorded a panorama of the earth and the Fair and the water.

Paul Mantz and Frank Clark, two of Hollywood's most famous stunt pilots, appear in the flying scenes for "Eternally Yours."

STATE THEATRE.

(Review)

Fun is fun and Joe E. Brown is currently demonstrating at the State Theatre that he is one of the world's funniest. As an officer of the law in Columbia's "Beware, Spooks!" Brown is introduced as a rookie cop, son of a famous father, whose record has become traditional on the force. Because of kindness, stupidity and carelessness, he becomes the scapegoat in a series of situations and perforce he is transferred to every outlying precinct in New York City. When he eventually allows the escape of a dangerous and wanted desperado, he is summarily dismissed.

This dismissal affords Brown, who has recently been married, his first opportunity for a honeymoon. The honeymoon, because of financial stringencies, is slated for Coney Island. At the famous beach resort, the ex-cop crosses the trail of the scaped criminal. In as weird and amazing a battle as the screen has ever witnessed, the

black-listed police officer and the public enemy practically demolish the fun house in desperate hand-to-hand combat.

Columbia's "Those High Grey Walls" is at the State Theatre. The unusual prison film, which features Walter Connolly, Onslow Stevens and Iris Meredith, has received tremendous tribute for the unique quality of its plot, acting and direction.

"Those High Grey Walls" presents Connolly in a novel role as a self-sacrificing country doctor, who is sentenced to prison for refusing to violate his medical creed. In jail, he finds the prison hospital run by a stubborn young surgeon, Onslow Stevens. The immediate clash of the two personalities, the arrogant young physician and the humane old man of medicine, is eventually reconciled in the thrill-jammed sequences of the film's climax.

For, with a jail-break threatening and a hunger strike going on, both doctors are forced to perform a vital operation under the threatening muzzle of a hate-crazed convict's revolver. And, in this tense moment they find that the idealistic creed of the doctor is shared by both of them. Their reconciliation is accompanied with the promise of an incipient romance between Stevens and Iris Meredith, the old surgeon's daughter.

TUDOR THEATRE

"Stanley and Livingstone," which is ranked as the greatest adventure known to man, is held over at Tudor Theatre for a further week.

"Find Livingstone!"

Exactly 70 years ago this October 16th, James Gordon Bennett barked these words to his crack reporter, Henry M. Stanley.

It was apparently the most hopeless assignment in all journalism. No one but a mad man would brave the terrors of unknown Africa to hunt for a missionary explorer from whom no word had come in two years.

How Stanley found Livingstone, how the world called the newspaperman "the most colossal liar of his age," and how he later became the greatest hero of his era, is the story of the 20th Century-box picture, Darryl F. Zanuck's production of "Stanley and Livingstone."

Spencer Tracy, twice an Academy Award winner, portrays Stanley. Nancy Kelly, who rose into the front ranks of Movietown with her role in "Jesse James," and Richard Greene,

In 1937 Mrs. Martin Johnson, the famous explorer, led an expedition of 27 Hollywood players and technicians into the wild Tanganyika country of Africa. They began at Bagamoyo, on the coast opposite the island of Zanzibar, and retraced Stanley's historic nine months' trek in 1871. They spent five months in reaching Ujiji, the village where Stanley found Livingstone, filming the country, which had changed little since it first witnessed one of the most heroic adventures known to man.

KING'S THEATRE.

"HERE I AM A STRANGER."

The screen version of a daringly significant story of modern life, "Here I am a Stranger," will be released at the King's Theatre to-day (Friday). Richard Greene is the principal player, surpassing easily his performance in "Kentucky," and he has associated with him Richard Dix, Brenda Joyce, Roland Young, Gladys George and others.

With absorbing realism, "Here I Am a Stranger" traces the adventures of a youth who realises the threshold of manhood to find himself suddenly a stranger in the world in which he has grown up. Bewildered by the conflict between his superficial world of wealth and sham and a new world of things actual, he is torn and hurt by life, till he meets a girl as new to love as he is himself.

A FAMOUS FARCE.

"CHARLEY'S AUNT" COMING TO THE OPERA HOUSE ON SATURDAY.

Celebrity Comedy Company.

With just a gentle and artistic touch of modern make-up in concession to the passage of time since she shocked and charmed the Victorians with her pristine madcap frolics, "Charlie's Aunt" has demonstrated convincingly in her Dominion tour that "there's life in the old gal yet."

The Celebrity Comedy Company's performance of the play is characterised by continuous gusts of laughter, indicating that the farce which has been a joy to several successive generations of theatre-goers and acclaimed one of the world's greatest fun-makers, is still good for an enjoyable night's fun.

Many notable comedians have been associated with the title role in this pioneer of masquerade comedies, but Don Nicol, who leads the present Australian and New Zealand combination, in no way suffers by comparison with past favourites. He has, of course, his own following of admirers from previous local performances, but the masquerade character acting required of him as "Babs" and "Charley's Aunt" in this farce is far beyond the funny business demands of his former appearances. He rises admirably to the occasion of keeping the character portrayal convincing, while at the same time losing no opportunity for hitting up the farcical note. That old musical comedy favourite Phil Smith is Nicol's able collaborator throughout the piece.

A quartet of talented young players in leading roles of straight acting required to emphasise the farce are John Fleeting, Lane Patterson, Shirley Ann Richards and Mary Duncan, while in parts of special intricacy the experienced Charles Albert, Norman Barrington and Leal Douglas gives unostentatious strength to the performance. All these members of the cast, as well as Maisie Wallace, are favourites whose talent has been recognised in other roles, and they give a spirited production.

This clever company will appear at the Grand Opera House to-morrow, commencing with a matinee at 2.30 p.m. Seats may be reserved at the D.I.C. or theatre.

Friday, February 16

AXEMAN'S CARNIVAL

By no means the least event on the Dominion sporting calendar is the New axemen's championship—the axemen's championship—accidentally, ever to be held in ton—at the Basin Reserve and to-morrow. The program includes Australian championships. The meeting is to be staged in conjunction with events under the auspices of the New Zealand Athletic and Axemen's Association.

First-class running and races over varied distances will provide additional attractions. Spectators are assured of two days of entertainment.

Wellingtonians nowadays have opportunities in the city itself of watching axemen's competitions.

Such contests, when expertly staged, provide a first-rate sport. Particulars are advertised in this issue.

EXHIBITION BUSES

Rongotai Buses Ltd. have provided a direct bus service from the Exhibition Station to the Exhibition grounds. The twenty minute scenic route via the Mt. Evans Bays popularly known as the front. This service will appeal to those who desire a quick and efficient mode of transport.

NEWS TO YOU IS STILL NEWS TO YOU

What is happening in your Company and Canteen?

Thousands of your brother would like to know.

Write and send your news to "Camp News," care of Exhibition Hut, Mobilisation Camp, Trentham.

Don't let the news get stale. Write and send it to us. We'll get it to you. Know at once.

LEGAL FACILITIES

SOLDIERS AT TRENTHAM

At the request of the Returned Soldiers' Association, Wellington District Law Society has arranged for the attendance of legal practitioners, who will be prepared to give free advice on legal matters and to prepare legal documents free of cost.

A hutment has been allotted to the Returned Soldiers' Association for this purpose, and will be open from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

54-044—Wellington Telephone Stands at All Suburbs—

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