

Capitol Theatre Anniversary Brings Back Recollections Of Flappers, Low Prices and Pre-Depression Optimism

By DICK AYRES
Silver anniversary of the Famous Players "Capitol Theatre" tomorrow night brings back memories of yesterday that many of us had almost forgotten. Names of old movie stars, news of 25 years ago, noted sports figures of those days are brought back with the thought that half a century ago "Alice White" was the star of the main feature in a motion picture called "Show Girl."

Those were the days of short knee-length dresses, tight helmet like hats, "bobbed" or "shingled" hairdos and the flapper as personified by Clara Bow.

Back in the days when the premiere of the Capitol was staged by the Missak and Paul Alvazoff other screen darlings included Billie Dove, Fay Ray, Delores Costello, Delores Del Rio, Marie Prevost, Mary Nolan and Irene Rich.

The "Great Profile"

For the gals there was John Barrymore and Clive Brooks to swoon over, and rugged characters like Richard Dix, Thomas Meighan and Louis Wolheim to play either hero or villain. Charlie Chase, Lupino Lane and Buster Keaton were the funny men of that day and Hoot Gibson, Tom Mix and Buck Jones didn't need banjos or good vocal chords to win cheers from the young fry.

It wouldn't have done much good if they hadn't been anything but honest to goodness cowboys, because those were the days of the silent films. Once the talkies came into being a year later many of the old movie greats were sidelined because of

their strong nasal accents and only those with legitimate stage experience or those who absorbed voice culture survived.

Because of the silent films the theatre orchestra was a "must." For the Capitol theatre opening at which Will Edmunds sang and Madge Rush danced, Jack de Jausserand conducted his six-piece orchestra. Mood music of those days saw the musicians playing soft and sweet for the love scenes, racing like mad when the hero's posse was riding to the rescue or switching to "hearts and flowers" when the heroine's grandmother was dying after being run over by a train.

Forgotten Films

Other films enjoyed in those pre-Wall Street crash days were "Good Morning Judge," starring Reginald Denny, Monty Blue in "One Round Hogan," Thomas Meighan in a thriller called "The Racket," with Louis Wolheim, (later of All Quiet on the Western Front fame) as the villain. A drama at the Capitol opposition, The Westholme down on Second Avenue, featured Emil Jannings in "The Street of Sin."

On October 22 the night of the Capitol opening the Paramount newswell showed pictures of Vancouver's Percy Williams winning the sprints at the Olympics in Amsterdam.

That same day the Prince Rupert Daily News carried headlines which proclaimed to its readers that "Another Big Financial Group from United States Making a Bid for the Prince Rupert Power and Light Franchise."

The offer came from W. E. Vogelback of Chicago whose en-

gineers S. Shaffer and W. H. Shoard recommended the harnessing of Big Falls on the Ectall River where they estimated that between 20,000 and 30,000 horsepower could be obtained.

That same day in Victoria, Premier Tolmie urged that Canada assume its rightful share of the work in protecting the British Empire by sea. News from abroad told of storms sweeping London and the south of England and the British Government released the text of the Anglo-French disarmament compromise.

Here in Prince Rupert on the social front at St. Andrew's cathedral Canon W. F. Rushbrook united in marriage Margaret Sigridur Eyoifson, oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Eyoifson, 2131 Water Street, to George Bedford Church. Sister of the bride Miss Joan Eyoifson was bridesmaid and Barney Eyoifson was groomsmen. Ushers included Richard Long, Vic Houston, Albert Eyoifson and Robert Strachan. Miss M. A. Way played the organ and Miss Annie Daby sang "O Promise Me."

Optimism was the keynote half a century ago, and October was a busy month throughout the world as well as in Prince Rupert.

Just Around Corner

Col. S. P. McMordie, mayor of Prince Rupert, told the Prince Rupert board of trade that a period of prosperity was "just around the corner for Prince Rupert."

A large advertisement in The Daily News, boasted daily that Prince Rupert had the three greatest things in the world, "the largest fish and cold storage plant, the largest fresh halibut and the largest undeveloped hinterland."

The ad went on to say that the city had a payroll derived from railway shops and offices, drydock and shipyards, grain elevator, provincial government offices, cold storage, fish market, oilery and fish reduction plant, salmon and halibut fishermen, salmon canneries, lumber mills, mining, trapping and furs.

"The grain export business is developing steadily," the ad stated.

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ed, "and in 1927, 8,000,000 bushels of grain were shipped from the terminal elevator. The city owns its own power, light, water supply and telephones, the schools are excellent, roads are paved and concrete sidewalks are being laid."

Then just in case the reader had any doubts left, the ad concluded with "Prince Rupert is one of the coming commercial centres of the Pacific Coast, the probable outlet of the great Peace River country and surrounded by a rapidly developing territory. It is also the logical site of a customs smelter to serve mines of the Portland Canal, the Bulkley and Skeena Valleys and coast points."

Prices were tailored to meet the pocketbook in those days too. Eggs were 53 cents a dozen; coffee 48 cents a pound; cheese was 45 cents per pound package; peanut butter was 21 cents per pound and tins of soup were 10 cents each.

The meat bill was lower too, with bacon at 47 cents a pound and picnic hams at 25 cents a pound. Stewing beef was 15 cents a pound and hamburger was two pounds for 35 cents. Viceroy cigarettes sold for 25 cents for a packet of 20.

If you were in the money you could get yourself an Essex Super Six for \$885 or a Hudson for \$1,600. In the winter time you could get best Alberta lump coal at \$13 a ton.

In the world of sports only four persons had swum the English channel, among them Gertrude Ederle of the United States.

Tunney Retired

The world's heavyweight boxing throne had been vacated by Gene Tunney and game Tommy Loughran had his eye on the crown. At the same time people wondered if Tom Heeney of Australia or Georges Carpentier of France would make anything of their comebacks. Tod Morgan of the Pacific Coast was world's junior lightweight champion.

Earlier in October the New York Yankees under manager Miller Huggins had taken the World Series by beating the St. Louis Cardinals four straight with Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig as the heroes. However, Gehrig outshadowed the Big Bambino in that year's series, blasting out four homers to the Babe's three. Mickey Cochrane of the Philadelphia Athletics was voted the most valuable player of the year.

That same month the German dirigible the Graf Zeppelin made history crossing the Atlantic and tying up at Lakehurst, N.J. In Vancouver, W. H. Malkin became mayor, succeeding L. D. Taylor. On the editorial page of The Daily News the pros and cons of the Buchan-versus-Weir version of "O Canada" feud was going strong.

On the musical front, Helen Kane, the "Bop Boop a Doop Girl," was collecting royalties like mad with a song called "That's My Weakness Now." Gene Austin with Nathaniel Shilkret's orchestra had a hit song called "Teardrop I Dream of Lilac Time."

BLACKWOOD on

Bridge

By EASLEY BLACKWOOD

Brash's Overall Worse Than Abel's Bidding

When I use Mr. Truex in the column, it means that the hand is taken from an important tournament—card for card and play for play.

I mention this particularly today, since otherwise I could expect a lot of letters pointing out the whole thing was silly and unbelievable. Truth is indeed stranger than fiction. It is hard to say what influenced Mr. Abel to open the bidding on an average hand. But Miss Brash's vulnerable overall was even worse.

And Mr. Truex could have passed the hand out at four diamonds. Instead, he single-handedly drove his opponents into a game contract and then helped them to make it. (Good old Truex.)

You may find it hard to see how Miss Brash made five diamonds—even with help from the enemy. Here was the actual play. Mr. Truex won the first trick with the ace of spades, realizing a shift was necessary, he unfortunately secured upon a low club.

Dummy ducked and Mr. Abel's jack lost to the queen. Apparently Miss Brash still had a heart and a diamond to lose but she overcame her difficulties as follows:

She led a diamond to the jack and Mr. Abel won and returned a club. Miss Brash played the deuce and Mr. Truex had to duck or see his opponents make four club tricks.

Dummy's nine of clubs won. Now Miss Brash cashed two

East dealer			
Both sides vulnerable			
North			
(Mrs. Keen)			
S-Q 10 4			
H-A K 8 3			
D-J 9			
C-A 9 6 5			
West			
(Mr. Truex)			
S-A J 2			
H-J 6 5			
D-6 4 2			
C-K 8 7 3			
East			
(Mr. Abel)			
S-K 9 8 6 5 3			
H-Q 10 4			
D-A 7			
C-J 4			
South			
(Miss Brash)			
S-7			
H-9 7 2			
D-K Q 10 8 5 3			
C-Q 10 2			
The bidding (bidding?) :			
East	South	West	North
1 S	2 D	2 S	2 NT
Pass	3 D	3 S	4 D
Pass	Pass	4 S	Dbl.
Pass	5 D	Dbl.	All pass

diamond tricks and the ace and king of hearts. Next came the beautiful and necessary play of the queen of spades.

Mr. Abel had to cover with the king and Miss Brash ruffed. This maneuver shifted the burden of protecting both black suits upon Mr. Truex—a job he could not quite do.

The rest of the trumps were now led and Mr. Truex' last three cards were the jack of spades and the eight and seven of clubs. Dummy had the ten of spades and the ace-six of clubs.

On the last trump from the closed hand Mr. Truex had to get down to two cards. He was gone. If he dropped the spade, dummy's ten would be good.

He discarded a club and Miss Brash then played the spade from the board and led a club to the ace. The six of clubs took the last and game-winning trick.

LEARNED FIRST-HAND
Herman Melville, author of "Moby Dick" who died in 1891, began life as a seaman at age 17.

SCREEN ★ FLASHES

Clifton Webb, who has put his genius to work in many fields curing his screen career, portrays a leader of Boy Scouts in his latest Twentieth Century-Fox comedy, "Mister Scoutmaster," soon to be seen at the Capitol Theatre.

He received instruction for his unusual role from George Bergstrom, who has served the Boy Scouts of America for 35 years in various executive capacities and who acted as technical supervisor on the picture. Edmund Gwenn, George "Foghorn" Winslow and Frances Dee are also starred in the hit feature.

Webb's role as a TV broadcaster for a breakfast food company who does not understand children is reminiscent of his hilarious characterization in "Sitting Pretty" and he plays it with great relish. He is superb as usual. When he unwittingly becomes the Scoutmaster of a Boy Scout troop his ineptness with fire-sticks on a camping expedition, his difficulty in administering the "tenderfoot" tests, his brush with recalcitrant youth and various other troubles he encounters with the Scouts give the picture its strong comedy flavor.

Ends Today
7: - 8:25 p.m.

"WEEKEND WITH FATHER"
"ONE WAY STREET"



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Extra—
"Eye Witness No. 29"
"Anglers Aweigh"
Cartoon
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TOTEM
Evenings 7: - 9:05 p.m. FAMOUS PLAYERS THEATRE

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PLUMBING INSTALLATION
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ON THIS, THE 25th
ANNIVERSARY OF THE
OPENING OF THE THEATRE
WE EXTEND OUR
HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS
AND BEST WISHES FOR
ITS CONTINUED SUCCESS.

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a quarter century.

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are extended on the occasion
of the 25th anniversary of the
opening of the

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25 years ago.

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ELECTRIC REFRIGERATOR!"
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of today's electric refrigerators on the job. All your eatables
stay fresh and sweet, good for days and days.
No spoilage even in the hottest weather, no more dried up,
wilted vegetables. A big, modern refrigerator has a lot
of extra time saving, step saving, money saving features.
Convenient... easy to install... long lasting.
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CAPITOL
Thursday to Saturday
He's just a crazy big mixed-up kid—
IN THE COMEDY RIOT OF
THE YEAR!
CLIFTON WEBB
Mr. Scoutmaster
On Monday, October 22nd, 1928 the
Capitol Theatre was opened as an
entertainment centre for the people of
Prince Rupert.
On Thursday, October 22nd, 1953, we
invite you to attend our...
25TH
Shows at
7 p.m.
and
9 p.m.
ANNIVERSARY
Produced by EDMUND GWENN and GEORGE "FOGHORN" WINSLOW
Directed by LEONARD GOLDSTEIN, HENRY LEVIN, LEONARD FRANKLIN and JARNEY SLATER