

**Charlie Chaplin in
"The Circus"**

United Artists Length: 6700 ft.
SMASH BANG COMEDY. A LULU AND CHAPLIN'S FIRST IN OVER TWO YEARS. A SWEET BABY.

Cast...The one and only Charlie in the kind of a role that made him famous—right down to the hurling of a pie. Merna Kennedy as the girl is satisfactory. Others Allan Garcia, Harry Crocker, Henry Bergman, Chaplin, however, is the whole show.

Story and Production..."The Circus" is a circus, from the opening shot to the last flicker. The story is well developed and the gags even more so. The detail? What does it matter? Sufficient that Charlie is on the screen every minute, pulling his comical tricks in his cleverest and most accomplished style. The situations are very funny and all of them are played for everything they are worth. Chaplin is the old Chaplin once again. Still pathetic, but in the kind of part that the public knows and loves best. The picture is there from any and all angles. Be sure to look it and don't worry about the rest.

Direction.....Charlie Chaplin; fine.
Author.....Charlie Chaplin
Scenario.....Charlie Chaplin
Photography.....Rollie H. Totheroh; good.

"Mother Machree"

Fox Length: 6883 ft.
A BIG MONEY MAKER. RECOMMENDED WITHOUT RESTRICTIONS. A FINE PICTURE, NOTEWORTHY FOR ITS DIRECTION AND PERFORMANCE WORK OF BELLE BENNETT.

Cast...Splendid. Belle Bennett as Mother Machree does distinguished work. Victor McLaglen, splendid. Others Neil Hamilton, Ted McNamara, Phillip De Lacey, Constance Howard, Ethel Clayton, Eulalie Jensen. All of them good.

Story and Production...Based on short story by Rida Johnson Young. From Ireland to America the story of Mother Machree takes you. It raises a good deal of havoc with your heartstrings in its journeyings. The story is one of mother love, handled in splendid fashion by John Ford. (covering a span of years, it traces all through them a dominating theme of mother love and the sacrifices of Mother Machree for her son so that he can enter manhood fortified with education and social position. The fulfillment of all her dreams for him, and incidentally for herself, rounds out the yarn. However, it is the treatment and the performance of Belle Bennett that makes the picture.

Direction.....John Ford; excellent.
Author.....Rida Johnson Young
Scenario.....Gertrude Orr
Photography.....Chet Lyons; superb.

"Gentlemen Prefer Blondes"

Paramount Length: 6871 ft.
AMUSING AND VERY SATISFACTORY ENTERTAINMENT. BACKED BY VAST POPULARITY OF THE BOOK, THIS LOOKS LIKE SURE MONEY.

Cast...Ruth Taylor the blonde. Which makes it easier to understand why gentlemen prefer her and them. Does very nice work. Alice Stone as Dorothy, first-rate but unfortunately has too little to do. Ford Sterling good—as usual. Others Mack Swain, Holmes Herbert, Emily Fitzroy, Trixie Friganza, Chester Conklin.

Story and Production...Based on Anita Loos' and John Emersons' best seller of same name. A living, breathing example of the ancient observation which talks about the beautiful, but dumb. Lorelei was a gorgeous blonde. After a time she learned that looks have value. From then on until she marries Henry Spoffard, America's richest bachelor, the bank roll grew and grew. The picture deviates from the book a little, but then it has to be stretched out into regulation length entertainment. Many amusing sequences and plenty of funny titles—many from the original.

Direction.....Mal St. Clair; intelligent.
Author.....Anita Loos and John Emerson.
Scenario.....Same
Photography.....Harold Rosson; fine.

"Freckles"

FBO Length: 6131 ft.
DELIGHTFUL PUPPY LOVE THEME AND OUTDOOR STORY THAT PROVES QUITE CHARMING AS IT UNFOLDS. A TRIFLE LONG BUT THAT CAN BE REMEDIED.

Cast...John Fox, Jr. and Gene Stratton a thoroughly pleasing pair of young romancers who perform with all the naturalness and assurance of their youth. Hobart Bosworth and Eulalie Jensen lend splendid support. Others Wm. Scott and Lafe McKee.

Story and Production...Romance. Gene Stratton-Porter incorporated in this particular novel her own great love for the outdoors and her knowledge of the woods. This in itself is an interesting angle of "Freckles," but of chief importance is the delightful puppy love theme that builds to a dramatic climax in which some genuinely effective pathos plays its part with excellent effect. The love of the backwoods boy for his boss' daughter, the breach that their stations in life brings, the growing romance of the two, the accident to the lad when he saves the girl's life and finally his new lease on life when he learns she wants him to be her sweetheart—they'll like it.

Direction.....Leo Meehan; very good.
Author.....Gene Stratton-Porter
Scenario.....Dorothy Yost
Photography.....Allen Siegler; good.

**Wallace Beery-Raymond Hatton in
"Wife Savers"**

Paramount Length: 5413 ft.
KEPT THE AUDIENCE IN CONTINUAL LAUGHTER SO IT MUST BE THERE. BEERY AND HATTON RELIABLE FUN MAKERS ON ALL OCCASIONS.

Cast...Wallace Beery and Raymond Hatton back in the army again with marital difficulties and Alpine climbing their chief comedy sources. First rate as usual. Sally Blaine and Zasu Pitts, the girls. Others Tom Kennedy, Ford Sterling.

Story and Production...Comedy. From the play, "Louis XIV." Beery and Hatton have evidently not received their official discharge as yet. They're still in the army and cutting up in their own inimitable style. The Paramount theater audience was kept in a state of constant laughter throughout the various adventures of the two which would give ample evidence of complete satisfaction. The sequence devoted to Beery's acting as an Alpine guide was well stocked with good bits and his various ruins with his pal, Hatton, afforded more laughs. Beery had a much "fatter" part than Hatton in this one, incidentally. Some of the gags smacked of antiquity but it didn't appear to bother the audience any.

Direction.....Ralph Ceder; adequate.
Author.....Arthur Wimperis
Scenario.....Tom J. Geraghty-Grover Jones.
Photography.....Alfred Gilks; good.

"Let 'Er Go Gallagher"

Pathe-De Mille Length: 5888 ft.
ENTERTAINING AND A SURE SHOT FOR YOUNGSTERS EVERYWHERE. THEY WILL LOVE JUNIOR COGHLAN IN THIS ONE.

Cast...Junior great as the young Sherlock Holmes. Harrison Ford first rate as the egotistical reporter. Ivan Lebedeff the notorious "Four Fingers," famous crook. Wade Boteler a likable McGinty. Elinore Fair, the girl.

Story and Production...Comedy. Richard Harding Davis' story couldn't fit Junior Coghlan any better if it had been "custom made." It gives the boy every opportunity in the world to be himself, and he does nothing better than just that. As the "newsy" with a hankering for amateur detectives, he is a sure thing from an entertainment viewpoint and you can bet the youngsters for miles around will be heading in the direction of the theater showing the picture. It's made to order for them. They'll get a great kick out of Junior's encounter with the notorious "Four Fingers" and an all around enjoyment out of the entire picture. The spook angle, with Junior trailing the crook, will provide a thrill.

Direction.....Elmer Clifton; first rate.
Author.....Richard Harding Davis
Scenario.....Elliot Clawson
Photography.....Lucien Andriot; good.

"The Thrill Seeker"

Superlative Pict. Length: 4900 ft.
MELODRAMA THAT HAS ALL THE EARMARKS OF THE 10-20-30 DAYS. CERTAINLY UNFAIR TO FOIST THIS KIND ON THE PUBLIC AT THIS LATE DATE.

Cast...Ruth Clifford, James Fulton and Robert McKim the respective heroine, hero and villain of the classic who do routine performances in routine roles. Others Lee Moran, Raymond Wells, Gloria Gray, Sally Long.

Story and Production...Melodrama. Back in the old days when the villain twirled his mustaches, the hero wriggled his muscles and the poor little long haired heroine shrunk in terror, the crowd got an enormous kick out of the proceedings. Today they give it the merry haha, as demonstrated in the theater where the picture was reviewed. This melodrama in a tie antiquity is an imposition, if nothing else. The story and treatment have all the earmarks of the good old days with no effort at camouflage. To mention one of the inconsistencies they have the hero, aboard a tug, overtakes the villain who is carrying the heroine off in a speed boat. It just won't do.

Direction.....Harry Revier; poor.
Author.....Mabel Carroll
Scenario.....Not credited
Photography.....Jerry Fairbanks-Harry Vellet; poor.

Nita Naldi in

"What Price Beauty"
Pathe Length: 4000 ft.
MIGHTY FEEBLE ATTEMPT. STORY AND PRODUCTION BOTH LACKING IN THE ESSENTIALS OF GOOD SCREEN ENTERTAINMENT.

Cast...Nita Naldi the pearl-laden vamp and Dolores Johnson the "Miss Simplicity" who finds that it is charm that counts. Virginia Pearson, as the beauty parlor proprietress, in a make-up that well might conceal her identity. Pierre Gendron a hero without anything to do. Others Myrna Loy, Sally Winters, Victor Patel, Leo White.

Story and Production...Any attempt to define the status of this one would be tough. It isn't romance; it isn't drama. It might be comedy. It all depends upon your sense of humor. Certainly the effort of those concerned with the production have been sadly wasted. The picture is mighty poor. The story value is practically nil and the attempt at a flashy production just indicates so much money cast to the winds. Scenes in and about a beauty parlor make for some inexcusable business in the way, for instance, of showing the tortures of a fat lady undergoing reducing treatment. The picture cannot be recommended.

Direction.....Thos. Buckingham; terrible.
Author.....Natacha Rambova
Scenario.....Same
Photography.....D. J. Jennings; good.