

# Sol Lesser's "Our Town" Spotlights Stirring Power of Real Human Drama

## To Be Shown At Liberty Theatre Monday - Tuesday

With an impressive cast which includes William Holden, Martha Scott, Frank Craven, Fay Bainter, Thomas Mitchell, Guy Kibbee, Beulah Bondi and Stuart Erwin, Sol Lesser's screen production of Thornton Wilder's Pulitzer Prize play, "Our Town," will be given a gala premiere at the Liberty Theatre on Monday-Tuesday. This new picture was staged by Sam Wood, who directed the great international success, "Goodbye, Mr. Chips," and it is being released through United Artists.

As is well known, "Our Town" was presented without scenery or props on the stage. This, of course, was due to the fact that it was impossible to create the illusion of an entire town on a single stage. On the screen, of course, such an expedient was unnecessary, for the scope of the camera and the resources of a motion picture studio could easily materialize what was in the author's imagination.

The whole pictorial element, as a matter of fact, received heavy emphasis from Mr. Lesser. Before "Our Town" went into production, William Cameron Menzies, the production designer who had just finished "Gone With the Wind," figured out every camera angle and made 1200 sketches. Each scene was sketched from every possible angle, and Director Wood rehearsed not only the principals in the picture but the camera as well, before each scene.

Other interesting statistics concerned with the production of "Our Town" turn up the information that Frank Craven, who plays the narrator, walked eight miles in front of the camera. Craven only appeared in two shots with other players—one



Hero William Holden and heroine Martha Scott are very young when they discover Romance in Sol Lesser's film production of "Our Town," based on Thornton Wilder's Pulitzer Prize Play and due for its first showing at the Liberty Theatre Monday.

with Miss Scott and Holden, the other with a bit player. In the wedding scene, William Holden and Miss Scott were married 19 times. In this scene, Miss Scott received her first screen kiss. The wedding dress she wore was the one her mother was married in. It was so fragile she was unable to sit down during filming.

The transition from one period of time to another was handled exactly as it was on the stage. Frank Craven effected the flashbacks with the help of the versatile camera. When, for instance, in his guise as the druggist, Craven was required to turn back the scene to twenty-five years before, he says: "At that time my drug store looked like this..." and proceeds to

replace the shining chromium fittings with the older trimmings of a pharmacy.

## Wilkes Officials Get Guidebooks

County officials and officials of the cities and towns in Wilkes County have just received several guidebooks and brochures of immediate and practical import to them in their capacities as local governing officials, announced Albert Coates, Director of the Institute of Government, today.

Among those received are: (1) The July-August issue of Popular Government, containing articles dealing with budget-making, necessary expense, and special purposes under the three titles: "Budget-Making Time is Here Again," "Tax for Necessary Expense Takes No Vote, But What Is Necessary?" and "General Tax Limited to 15c but What about Special Purposes?"

(2) Four guidebooks on the Levy and Collection of Privilege License Taxes, discussing Schedule B of the 1939 Revenue Act. The first deals with chain stores and laundries; the second, with coin-operated amusement, music vending and slot machines; the third, with peddlers and itinerants; the fourth, with city license taxes on motor vehicles, together with other miscellaneous provisions of the Privilege License Tax.

(3) Guidebook Supplements to the Listing and Assessing of Property for County and City Taxes in North Carolina, and to The Collection and Foreclosure of County and City Property Taxes in North Carolina—two booklets designed to be used in connection with basic guidebooks of the same titles already in the hands of city and county officials.

(4) Courses of Instruction—a booklet outlining services offered by the Institute of Government to officials, teachers and citizens, including courses on Criminal Law, Tax and Finance Administration, Legal and Governmental Aspects of Public Works, Public Health, Welfare and Relief Administration, City, County and State Government and Federal-State-Local Relationships.

Any official in Wilkes county who has not received his copy of either of those guidebooks is invited to write to the Institute of Government at Chapel Hill.

## \$100,000 Sought By Extortionist; Bomb Exploded

Milwaukee. — Twenty-four hours after Rowland H. Davie, manager, received an extortion note demanding \$100,000, a small bomb exploded in a Sears Roebuck and Company store, police revealed today.

Damage was slight, but the note promised "a bomb 200 times larger will go off at your south and north side stores besides your own life will be in danger if you fail."

A heavy guard has been placed around all company stores in the city.

The note demanded that Davie place \$100,000 in used money of \$5, \$10 and \$20 denominations in a "good and strong bag" and drop it from an airplane. He was to receive later instructions as to where to fly.

Police secrecy permitted the extortionists to make a second contact by telephone.

## Dellaplane and Roaring River Route 2 News

ROARING RIVER, Route 2, July 29.—One of the largest throngs ever to attend a rural funeral is said to have gathered Sunday at Antloch for the sad last rites for Mr. Felix Staley, proprietor of the Twin Bridge Store and one of the most popular citizens of this section of the county. Nearly everyone said they liked Mr. Staley best of any merchant they had ever known. In his sudden death the whole community lost a true friend, whose like we are not apt to see again.

Ivy Williams was said to have been rather badly shot Sunday afternoon by a group of men, mostly colored, disguised as women. Greene Brown, logger at Mr. R. G. Edmiston's sawmill at the Tilley place, was also reported to have been slightly shot in the arm.

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Glass and many of their family and connection, of Mount Airy, attended Mr. Felix Staley's funeral Sunday and visited Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Johnson.

Mrs. Ida Call was quite ill last week. Mrs. Frank Sparks, Mrs. Call's daughter, and others of the Sparks family visited her several times.

Mr. Gilmer Brendle, of Winston-Salem, former resident of this section, visited here a few days ago.

Many from this section attended the revival at Brier Creek last week, despite the heat.

Mrs. Elsie Johnson Ryan and husband, Mr. Ryan, returned last week to Arizona after visiting Mrs. Milly Staley, Mrs. B. L. Johnson, and other relatives. Mrs. Ryan is a daughter of Mr. Felix Johnson.

Mrs. Cornelia Johnson returned home Sunday after visiting her daughter, Mrs. Charlie Glass, at Mt. Airy since the Fourth of July.

Mrs. Felix Staley returned home from a hospital last week, a few days before her husband's death.

A fine cow belonging to Mr. John Mastin, who lives at Mr. Felix Staley's old place, broke her neck July 21.

Mr. B. L. Johnson, of Asheville, spent last week-end with homefolks and attended the funeral of Mr. Staley.

Mr. Millard Mathis is said to be the new milkman on this route. People are planning to call home their stray cows and sell milk.

Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Mohley and Miss Mary Lane, of the Wilkesbros, were in this locality the afternoon of July 21 to take home their mother, Mrs. Cecelia Lane, who had spent about a week here. Their new house was nearing completion.

Mrs. Lillian Bailey Mastin, of Bluefield, a sister-in-law of Mrs. D. S. Lane, recently spent a few days at Shatley Springs in the interest of her health.

Milas Sale, colored, says he was shot in the head last Friday a week ago.

Mrs. B. L. Johnson was in North Wilkesboro last Saturday.

## N. Carolina Surplus Exceeds \$8,000,000

Raleigh, July 29. — Without raising taxes, North Carolina's state government spent more money last fiscal year than in any other year in its history, and emerged July 1 with a total surplus of more than \$8,000,000 in its general, highway, and agriculture funds.

Those facts were disclosed today by Governor Hoy in a comprehensive financial report winding up the State's business for the 1939-40 year.

The Governor, declaring that he was most gratified with North Carolina's financial condition, attributed the "comfortable" increase in tax receipts to growth and expansion of business, and to the development of the tourist trade.

Hoy pointed out that the general fund showed a surplus, even though no money was diverted from the highway fund to the general fund. The budget, as approved by the 1939 Legislature, contemplated a transfer of \$2,500,000 from the highway to the general fund.

The legislature estimated that the general fund would receive \$40,560,014 during the fiscal year, including the \$2,500,000 diverted from the highway fund. Actually, the general fund received \$40,998,042, without diversion.

Highway fund receipts were estimated by the lawmakers at \$33,881,207. Actually, the receipts were \$37,213,369. Agriculture fund receipts were estimated at \$687,153, they were \$848,961.

## Ronda Route 2 News Reported

RONDA, Route 2, July 29.—Mrs. Ruby Gentry and son, Billy, of Winston-Salem, came home with Miss May Boyd the 20th, to her mother's, Mrs. Vetra Boyd accompanied her daughter home for the week while Miss May attended Brier Creek revival.

Mr. Tom Baroos, of OCC at Lowell Spring came home to attend the revival at Brier Creek.

Rev. Ely Jordan assisted the pastor, Rev. R. R. Crater in the revival at Brier Creek. His sermons were inspirational and highly appreciated. There were three conversions, Mary Emma Gray, Aizona Mathis and Ella Mae Blackburn. Rev. R. R. Crater Baptized them yesterday. The attendance was good considering the sultry weather.

Rev. Lester Johnson preached to a large audience Saturday night at Brier Creek. He is a promising young minister.

Rev. Ely Jordan attended the funeral of Mrs. Roy Candle at Elkin Valley church last Thursday at eleven o'clock, returning to Brier Creek at 2:30.

Mr. Worth Sale, of Wilkesboro, attended the baptizing and church at Brier Creek taking lunch at home after which he returned to Wilkesboro yesterday.

Mrs. Mary Kate Myers and Mrs. Royce Dobbins, of Elkin, visited Mrs. Worth Sale and attended services at Brier Creek last Wednesday.

Misses Pauline and Blanche Pardue visited Misses Polly and Kate Pardue Friday and Saturday.

Misses Lucile and Carrie Vance Pardue visited their aunt, Nancy Walker, Friday and Saturday nights attending services at Brier Creek.

Mrs. Martin Pardue, Misses Polly, Edith and Kate Pardue, Messrs. Armstrong, Tom, Joe and Arville attended the Branson reunion July 22.

Mrs. T. G. Harris and daughter, Fannie Sue, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Harris, of Elkin, and Miss Zell Harris, of Roaring River, are spending two weeks in Sparks, Nevada, visiting the family of Mrs. Fannie Martin Armstrong in Sparks, Nevada.

Mrs. W. G. Church and Miss Delight Church, of Elkin, and Mrs. D. L. Kelly, and little David and Pat Kelly, of Yadkinville, visited Misses Mattie and Misa

county, North Carolina. Being the number 22, 23, and 24 on a map of Graham County, W. F. Miller, and W. M. Wood developed these lands first in cooperation with the federal government. These lands are located near the road in Book 141 at page 104 from W. F. Miller and wife, Ruby Miller, to Mrs. Vetra Boyd.

This the 31st day of July, 1939. J. F. JORDAN, Commissioner.

## NOTICE OF SALE

Under and by virtue of an order of the Superior Court of Wilkes County, entitled, Town of Wilkesboro vs. Vetra Poindexter, the undersigned Commissioner will on the 30th day of August, 1940, at 12 o'clock M at the courthouse door in Wilkesboro, North Carolina, offer for sale to the highest bidder for cash, that certain tract of parcel lot of land lying and being in Wilkesboro township Wilkes

county, North Carolina. Being the number 22, 23, and 24 on a map of Graham County, W. F. Miller, and W. M. Wood developed these lands first in cooperation with the federal government. These lands are located near the road in Book 141 at page 104 from W. F. Miller and wife, Ruby Miller, to Mrs. Vetra Boyd.

This the 31st day of July, 1939. J. F. JORDAN, Commissioner.

## WILL BE NEEDIER

Wimpus—When this war is over the rich will be richer and the poor poorer.

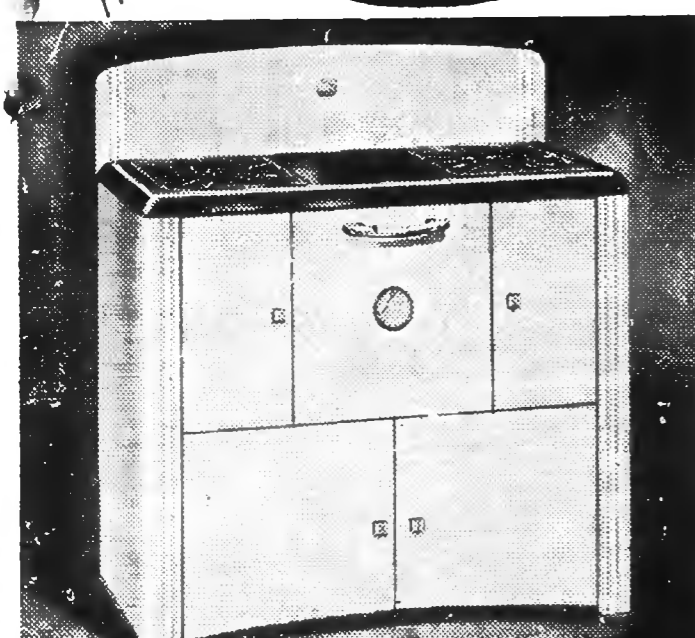
Berzani—Yes, and I presume the ones that are neither will be neither.

## SOMETIMES HAPPENS

Mrs. Stubblefield—When my sister was in Europe before the war, she saw a woman hitchhike a mule.

Mrs. O'Jawish—That happens at my wedding, too.

Use the advertising columns of this paper as your shopping guide.



FLORENCE TABLE TOP OIL RANGE

It's a honey for the money! A genuine Florence Table Top Oil Range with built-in oven—just right for the small kitchen! Back of the smart, paneled front are three Florence focused heat wickless kerosene burners; two under the porcelain cooking top and a giant burner beneath the porcelain, fully insulated oven. This oven is a real baker with drop door and dependable thermometer. There are also two handy cabinets for your cooking utensils. All parts subject to heat and wear are porcelain enameled.

It's easy to own a Florence like this. Come in today and let us show you how. See our whole big Florence line. There's a model to fit your needs and pocketbook.

*We're proud to show this SPLENDID MODEL!*

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"Complete Furnishers Of The Home"  
Phone 424  
North Wilkesboro, N. C.

## Important Notice to DELINQUENT TAXPAYERS Of Wilkes County

I have been ordered by the Board of County Commissioners to advertise all real estate on which taxes for the year 1939 have not been paid. This advertising will start within the next few days, and sale will take place on . . .

# Monday, Sept. 2nd, 1940

I must carry out the order of the Board of Commissioners, but I am anxious to save every taxpayer possible the extra cost of advertising as well as the embarrassment of having his land advertised. Therefore, please pay your taxes for the year 1939 during the next few days so that your property will not be included in the list.

Don't forget, payment now will save you advertising costs.

# C. T. Doughton

Sheriff and Tax Collector For Wilkes County

Reading the ads get you more for less money; try it.

Use the advertising columns of this paper as your shopping guide.