

# NEWS OF THE STAGE AND SCREEN

## Oriental Mystery In 'Above All Law' Is Strand Picture

### 'The Probation Wife' for the Mid-Week Program at Strand.

The Paramount special production, "Above All Law," will be the featured attraction at the Strand tomorrow and Tuesday. This picture is vibrant with Oriental mystery, an out-and-out thriller, with enough of emotion and situation to fill a "serial." It is never tiresome for one can scarcely get tired of seeing tigers leap at a man, or seeing bridges across chasms out, and other devices of the same entertaining variety. And there are no tricks, no confederates, or "Above The Law." All the wizardry in the production is straight from the shoulder. The Indian settings are superlative and the direction, throughout, is excellent and, as the "New York Mail" says, "This is a film of the unusual sort." The features for this program consist of the latest issue of Fox News and a Harold Lloyd comedy entitled "Just Dropped In."

Following close on the heels of the successful production, "Man-slaughter" in which Thos. Meighan was the leading male star comes the Norma Talmadge attraction, "The Probation Wife" with Meighan again in the role of a man doing his best to save the woman he loves from a life not worthy of her.

Norma Talmadge is seen as "Jo"

a child of the underworld and Meighan is a wealthy New Yorker and others in the cast include Alec B. Francis and Florence Billings.

"The Probation Wife" is the story of a girl inmate of a reformatory. After two years there she escapes and boards a train and discovers on it a man who had tried to befriend her in the first instance of their meeting in the cafe. He persuades her to marry him and she terms herself his "Probation Wife" and the story carries them thru many situations that serve to first estrange and then draw them closer together, forming one of the most interesting stories ever given Miss Talmadge to portray.

The short attractions for the mid-week program will include a Rollin comedy and the Marie Tamm number of the "great American authors series."

"Oathbound" is the attractive title of the picture starring Dustin Farnum which is to open a two days' engagement at Strand next Friday and Saturday.

The story is said to be a thrilling tale of river pirates on the Pacific coast. The scenes are laid along the river front at Santa Barbara. The central figures are a millionaire shipowner, his brother who has fallen into the hands of crooks, and the millionaire's wife. Around this trio develops a story of crime, courage, cowardice, and cupidry which should afford fine opportunities for an actor of Dustin Farnum's ability.

The added subjects on this program will be a Fox News and a comedy entitled, "The Tin Broncho."

## Fox Super-Special "Nero" Comes to the Imperial This Week

### Many Artistic Effects Entirely New to Screen in This Picture.

Novel lighting of landscapes and interiors will be found in "Nero," the William Fox super-special that is coming to the Imperial Theatre next Monday for three days. The artistic effects which have been obtained by the camera-men are entirely new to the screen. The picture was made in Italy and the many locations in and around Rome, called for by the story, offered a splendid opening for the unusual in photography backgrounds. There are scenes in the camp of Princess Marcia's soldiers that are like the masterpieces of celebrated artists. The tents under the trees and the beauty of the rolling hills in the distance are brought into vivid contrast with the luxury and the teeming life of the Imperial City.



George Sidney in his original role in "Welcome Stranger" at the Auditorium, Wednesday night.

Crowded with incident and action with vigorous action, "Nero" tells its startling and appealing story with remarkable clearness, and throws a brilliant light upon the struggle of the early Christians to be permitted to follow the teachings of their religion. The love of a Roman general for a Christian princess is the intimate human touch which binds the plot together. Charles Sarver and Virginia Tracy, who wrote the story, have constructed the plot with great skill, and Director J. Gordon Edwards has handled the dramatic scenes with remarkable results. The big sensational situations are dovetailed into the action without breaking in upon the steady progress of the plot, the whole picture leaving a lasting impression of a perfectly balanced historic tale, told through the medium of the motion picture.

One of the effects that contributes largely to the success of "Nero" and puts it in a class by itself is the burning of Rome. This historic holocaust, which will forever stamp Nero as the greatest tyrant the world has ever known, has been reproduced with marvelous fidelity. The destruction of a single building by fire is a screen task that calls for clever direction and considerable outlay of money. Burning up an entire city, with its crowds of frightened inhabitants rushing through the streets, is a prodigious task, especially when done with the thoroughness which characterized the method used by Director Gordon Edwards in the William Fox master picture.

Decidedly one of the ordinary also is the acting of the large cast, made up of dramatic artists from France, Italy and the United States. The title role has been entrusted to Jacques L. Gordon, the celebrated actor well known in Paris. The leading female member of the cast is Paulette Goddard, a beautiful woman who out-vamps the whole line of maidens who have come before her in the motion picture world.

There is a moment in her meeting with Nero when she realizes that she has succeeded in her purpose of fascinating the gentleman who is being made an emperor. The Emperor catches the expression of her face, but the light that lies in this woman's eyes is one of unshakable triumph and foreshadows the evil influence she is to have on the great master of selfishness and crime.

Violet Mercereau, the American screen actress, and Alexander Salvini, a noted member of the Italian stage, play Marcia and Horatius, respectively, the pair of devoted lovers whose romance is the only pure flame of the story.

Various reasons, to establish their identity. Their consequent adventures provide three acts of unusual thrills and laughter.

The complications are numerous and the first one to hop up is when the stern father of one of the soldiers, having collected insurance on the life of the supposed deceased, is brought to full realization that she will have to pay back to the government the money she has received. Her son, at first anxious to have his official existence restored, is not inclined to be passive in order to accommodate his stepmother, but finally, because of other complications, is willing to let his return to life go unrecorded.

The second of the trio is anxious to re-establish his identity until he discovers that there is a reward for his apprehension for a crime it is said he committed before entering the army.

The third of the trio having suffered from shell shock and not being in full control of his mental faculties, and moreover declared officially dead, and is perfectly happy as he has no responsibilities of any kind. He develops kleptomaniac and when it becomes apparent that the trio has no money, he goes out to rob and returns with many jewels and an infant in a baby carriage. The appropriation of the child and the diving away of the jewels bring the existence of the trio to the attention of the police.

The unraveling of the red tape necessary to re-establish the soldier as living human beings in the eyes of the law is productive of a series of laughable complications that had given to this play a designation by the critics as being a most unique and original story.

The play is not without its love interest in addition to furnishing many laughs and it also allows for the introduction of many unique character types.

The management of the Players announces that a new scale of prices will be placed in effect at the theatre starting tomorrow night.

Pisgah Forest Inn Best mountain outing. Phone 3457.



A scene from the Paramount Picture, "Above All Law" At the Strand Tomorrow and Tuesday.

**AUDITORIUM**  
—WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4—  
POSITIVELY THE ORIGINAL NEW YORK COMPANY  
**SAM H. HARRIS PRESENTS**  
Aaron Hoffman's Delightful Comedy

**WELCOME STRANGER**  
with **GEORGE SIDNEY**  
and a Cast of Noted Players  
A YEAR IN NEW YORK = A YEAR IN CHICAGO  
All the Scenic and other Effects used in the New York Production.  
BREAKING ALL RECORDS FOR ATTENDANCE  
PRICES—50c TO \$2.50—SEATS TOMORROW.  
MAIL AND PHONE ORDERS — PHONE 2607

Pack Theatre This Week Will Present 'Three Live Ghosts' Will Be First Local Production of This Rollicking Farce.

Beginning with a performance tomorrow night the Pack Theatre will make its first local production of the rollicking farce "Three Live Ghosts" at the Pack Theatre.


Although its title has to do with ghosts there is nothing ghostly about "Three Live Ghosts." A cookney, an American and an Englishman, "Spooky" have been offhandedly reported as being killed in battle and they are unable, for

**AUDITORIUM**  
—TOMORROW NIGHT—  
EVENT OF UNUSUAL INTEREST

"THE SPEED DEMON" OF MUSICAL COMEDY  
GEO. M. COHAN'S COMEDIANS IN THE BIGGEST MUSICAL HIT ON EARTH  
**"MARY"**  
(S'NT IT A GRAND OLD NAME?)  
NINE MONTHS IN NEW YORK PEOPLE SUPERB CAST  
40 — 40  
"COHAN" selected Chorus of stunning girls, noted for their wonderful dancing—Fashion, Smashing Musical Whitehead. PRICES—5c to \$2.50 — PLUS TAX.

WINSTON-SALEM, Sept. 28.—The county auditor's report, to be issued in a few days, will show an increase in Forsyth's taxable property this year over 1921 of about nine and a half million dollars. This is one of the largest increases for any one year in the history of the county.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—American Education Week has been set for December 1 to 3, inclusive. It was announced today by Garland Powell, assistant national director of Americanism for the American Education Association.



WHERE ALL ASHEVILLE MEETS EACH WEEK

Week Beginning Monday, October 2

## The Pack Players

Present The Rollicking Farce

# "3 LIVE GHOSTS"

Night at 8:20 Mat. Wed.-Sat. at 3:00

NOTE THE NEW SCALE OF PRICES

NIGHTS—15c, 20c, 30c, 50c, 75c.  
MATINEES—10c, 15c, 25c, 40c.

ORDER SEATS IN ADVANCE—TELEPHONE 541

Monday Night Is Ladies' Night  
Every Lady attending the Theatre on Monday night can secure any seat in the house for 30c; providing ticket is bought before 6 p. m.

New Prices in effect—Monday, October 2

Starting Hours 11; 1:30; 4:00; 6:30 and 9 P. M.

**IMPERIAL THEATRE**

ADMISSION Adults . . . . . 30c Children . . . . . 10c

TOMORROW — TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY



**THE EYES** that mocked Rome  
**THE EYES** that rocked Rome  
**THE EYES** that shocked Rome

The eyes that overturned the throne of the Caesars and caused the Greatest Catastrophe in all History

SEE THE WONDERFUL POWER OF A WOMAN'S EYES AND THE EVIL THEY MAY DO, IN THE SUPER-PHOTO-PLAY SENSATION

IS ANYMAN, OR WOMAN,  
"ABOVE ALL LAW?"

A gorgeous story of forbidden passion and revenge blending in its thrills all the exotic charm and romance of the mysterious East. With settings of size and magnificence never before seen on the screen.

A LOVE DRAMA OF BEWILDERING BEAUTY

Children . . . . . 10c  
Adults . . . . . 30c

FOX NEWS HAROLD LLOYD COMEDY "JUST DROPPED IN"

TOMORROW and TUESDAY at the **STRAND** Hours: 10:45, 12:20, 1:55, 3:30, 5:05, 6:40, 8:15, 9:45

# NERO

What The Critics Say About "Nero"

"NERO is an enormous spectacle. Photographed in Italy . . . on the very ground where the events detailed are supposed to have taken place centuries ago, with huge sets and thousands of people, it is one of the biggest films from a purely spectacular point of view . . . contains some of the finest photography extant."—N. Y. Evening Mail.

"NERO is a magnificent spectacle for all, with a love story to touch every heart. From the first flicker to the very end it held us spellbound. The direction is perfect and the acting superb . . . gorgeous, brilliant and thrilling."—N. Y. Tribune.

"When a motion picture of the quality of NERO—always entertaining, often heart-touching, and nerve-tingling, never boring—comes to town, the best thing is to advise every one to go and see it. This we do."—N. Y. World.

ADDED FEATURES  
PATHE NEWS CONCERT ORCHESTRA AESOP'S FABLES