

# 'Case of the Velvet Claws' Smashing Mystery Thriller

Warren William Does Splendid Job in Role of Famous Attorney-Detective.

PALACE WED., AUGUST 19

Few murder mystery melodramas have so intriguing a plot as the latest First National thriller, "The Case of the Velvet Claws," which kept audiences alternately laughing hilariously or gripped in suspense, at its first showing locally at the Palace Theatre Wednesday.

The picture is the most novel of all the productions made from the famous series of novels by Erle Stanley Gardner whose attorney-detective, Perry Mason, is known to every lover of fiction. And, for once, Perry Mason has a genuine romance, for he is married to his wise-cracking secretary in the very first scene.

But it is a strange honeymoon, one that nearly drives the bride to the divorce courts, the bridegroom being kidnapped at the point of a gun and forced to take over a criminal case by a woman who has had a secret love affair and fears that her name is about to be dragged through the columns of a scandal sheet.

It is this woman's husband who is mysteriously slain that very night, and strangely enough the wife believes herself guilty of the murder, although she accuses her own attorney of doing it. There are eight persons who come under the suspicion of the police, all having various motives for the crime.

Just what this motive may be, is a complete mystery until the smashing climax of the story, the detectives working on various theories, that of revenge, for the man was a blackmailer; an attempt to cover up a scandal, for the wife was having a clandestine love affair with a big shot politician; and greed, the dead man having left a vast inheritance.

This is the fourth time that Warren William has played the part of the cool, analytical and debonaire Perry Mason.

Always giving a fine portrayal of the character, William outdoes all his previous performances in the current picture, not only puzzling the audience by his mysterious maneuvers, but sending them into gales of laughter occasionally by his subtle tricks, one of which is to play the part of a corpse, frightening a morgue attendant into hysterics.

Claire Dodd is excellent as the sophisticated and ever efficient secretary who marries her boss, only to be deserted on her honeymoon night. But her romance is finally rounded out when a gunman is engaged to drive clients away from her husband. Winifred Shaw has the role of the wife of the slain man, a part which she handles with great capability.

Eddie Acuff adds to the hilarity of the picture by his antics. William Clemens has done a fine job of direction, balancing the humor nicely with the many thrills. The screen play is by Tom Reed.

A project for constructing 123 miles of rural power lines for 600 prospective customers in Franklin County has been recommended to the national Rural Electrification Administration for approval.

The bulk of the Montgomery county peach crop has gone to market. The peaches were good and growers were well pleased with their returns, reports the county agent.

## Palace Theatre

Monday-Tuesday, August 17-18

HAIL HAIL  
The Laugh  
Hit of 1936!

WE WENT TO COLLEGE

CHARLES BUTTERWORTH  
WALTER ABEL  
HUGH HERBERT  
UNA MERKEL  
EDITH ATWATER

Directed by  
Joseph Santley  
Produced by  
Harry Rapf

SHORTS

THEATRE

Morning matinee Monday 10:30;  
afternoons 3:15-3:45; evenings  
7:30-9:15. Adm. 10-26c

## PREMIUM BOOKS FOR STATE FAIR READY

\$15,000 In Prizes Offered To Exhibitors; All Prizes Offered to North Carolina Exhibitors.

Raleigh, Aug. 12—Premium books for the 1936 State Fair are now available at the office of Manager Norman Y. Chambliss in Raleigh.

Exhibitors are offered a total of \$15,000 in prizes, an increase of 15 per cent over last year's premium list. Awards are limited strictly to exhibitors residing in North Carolina, although outsiders can show their products without engaging in competition.

Dr. F. E. Miller, of the State Department of Agriculture, is in charge of all agricultural exhibits again this year. Thus far, 20 per cent more exhibit space has been taken than at the corresponding time last year, leading operators of the exposition to believe that an unusually wide variety of displays will greet visitors to the Fair, which will be held the week of October 12th.

Encouraging North Carolinians to compete for the rich purses offered in the various departments, Manager Chambliss declared "We want to make this a State Fair in every sense of the word. It belongs to all of North Carolina, and we urge every citizen in the State to take a personal interest and part in the Fair. We are working to the end that all sections of our State shall be represented, and it appears now that we will reach our goal successfully."

In addition to stressing the educational side of the fair, Manager Chambliss is cooperating with George Hamid, internationally known showman of New York, in booking a wide variety of entertainment attractions. Interesting special events will mark each day's program.

"This will be our fourth year of operating the Fair for the State and we have heard no complaints about dishonesty on the midway," commented Manager Chambliss. "We expect to keep the Fair clean and thus maintain a reputation that has won favorable comment throughout the country."

### FARMERS TAKE NOTICE

Sorghum, Sudan Grass and Peas, if broadcast this month and left standing will count for the full acreage in qualifying for the tobacco payment. Corn, broadcast and disked or turned under, after about two months growth, gets full credit also.

This ruling is significant in view of the fact that so many have not been able to get in sufficient legumes to qualify.

If you have not planted your tobacco base, it will be financially profitable to take advantage immediately of the above ruling.

## CROSBY FILM FOUND TOPS IN MUSICALS

Palace Theatre Today and Tomorrow.

Paramount puts a helping of everything in radia and screen fare into its latest hit show, "Rhythm on the Range," and has come up with one of the finest programs of film entertainment produced in many long months.

"Rhythm on the Range," which opened today at the Palace Theatre, has Bing Crosby and Bob Burns; it has swing music, Western songs, and romantic ballads. It launches six hit tunes, with the music carried by Louis Prima's swing band, real Western singers, and the famous Burns "bazooka." It presents the Arkansas wit of Burns; the insane whooping antics of a new find, Martha Raye; the amusing thuggery of Warren Hymmer, George E. Stone and James Burke, and a story as rollicking as it is unusual.

Bing Crosby and Bob Burns are cowboy participants in a Madison Square Garden rodeo as the picture opens. With his winnings in the rodeo events, Crosby buys a prize bull. He starts for Arizona with the bull, in a box car.

Miss Farmer, wealthy society girl, flees from a prospective marriage and stows away in the box car, hoping to get to the ranch operated by her aunt, Crosby's employer. Bull, Crosby and Miss Farmer begin a transcontinental trip by box car, on foot, and by auto and trailer. Somewhere en route they learn that they don't hate each other as much as they thought, despite Miss Farmer's vexation when Crosby ignores her to croon to his beloved bull.

Burns and his bazooka, meanwhile have been taken in tow by the dynamic Miss Raye. Their comedy-romance also gets under way as they are speeding from New York to the Arizona ranch.

Samuel S. Hinds, Lucille Webster Gleason, and a score of skilled actors and actresses are grouped about the three leading characters. The picture seems to this reviewer to be a perfect combination; it abounds with music; it maintains a real Western atmosphere, yet it manages to keep its romance and its comedy brisk and slightly satirical. High point of the satire comes in closing versions of the song "I'm an Old Cow Hand From the Rio Grande."

Other hit songs heard during "Rhythm on the Range" include the new Billy Hill tune "Empty Saddles," "The House That Jack Built For Jill," "I Can't Escape From You" and "Round up Lullaby."

### WHAT TOURISTS DON'T SEE

An interesting article revealing odd and unusual facts about sights hidden from the eyes of tourists in the South Sea Islands. One of many interesting articles in the August 23rd issue of the American Weekly Magazine, which comes every Sunday with the Baltimore American.

## "We Went to College" Next Attraction on Palace Screen

"WE WENT TO COLLEGE" ...

All-Star Comedy Cast Seen in Hilarious Story of Campus Reunion.

PALACE MONDAY AND TUESDAY, AUG. 17-18TH

"We went to college," whether you did or not, is a post graduate course in the art of hilarious comedy.

It will appeal to every type of theatre audience because it has a laugh for all ages.

The story concerns a typical American business man who goes back to his old college to attend a reunion. Primarily, he wants to sell the trustees an order of bricks for a new building, but the occasion promises a "bust" on the side, for diversion.

He takes his wife with him and joins the old gang. One of his classmates, now a staid professor, is married to an attractive girl who has wearied of college routine. What begins as a flirtation almost becomes a college scandal, but is averted by the humorous intrusion of a loyal classmate.

The atmosphere of any big American college is predominate in the picture with gay "hops," football heroes, and the gaiety that has come to be a part of reunions on the campus.

One of the most notable comedy casts ever assembled, features Charles Butterworth, Walter Abel, Hugh Herbert, Una Merkel, Edith Atwater, Walter Catlett, Charles Trowbridge and Tom Ricketts.

The play was written by Richard Maibaum and Maurice Rapf, from an original story by George Oppenheimer and Finley Peter Dunne, Jr., son of the late creator of the famous Mr. Dooley.

Special music was written by Bronislau Kaper, Walter Jurmann and Gus Kahn, featuring three new songs that will be ringing on every

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## FEDERAL FARM PROGRAM CHANGES

Will Help Farmers Meet the Minimum Requirements For Soil-Conserving Acreage.

Farmers who have been set back by the drought will find two changes in the soil-improvement program especially helpful, according to Dean I. O. Schaub, of State College.

One change allows them to classify as soil-conserving any land seeded to soil-conserving crops up to September 1, provided no soil-depleting crops are harvested from it in 1936.

This will enable many growers to increase their soil-building allowance. The allowance, the dean explained, is not a payment; it is a figure showing the maximum amount of soil-building payments a grower may earn, and is based on the acreage of soil-conserving crops.

This change will also help farmers meet the minimum require-

ments for soil-conserving acreage as well as requirements for new seedings of soil-conserving crops this year.

In addition, sowed corn, plowed or disked under, and spring seeded small grains grown with or immediately followed by a legume will be counted as soil-conserving this year. They had been classified as depleting crops.

The other change permits soil-building payments to be made for the seeding of perennial grasses, or growing green manure crops, on land where there has been a failure of a legume or perennial seeded earlier in the year.

For example, a producer who seeded a field to lespedeza or clover, but failed to get a crop, may carry out an additional practice by seeding alfalfa or turning under a green manure crop on the same field in August or September. He would receive payment for both practices.

However, his soil-building payments could not exceed the maximum amount of his allowance as determined by his acreage of soil-conserving crops.

Hot, dry, windy weather did considerable damage to tobacco in Alexander county a few days ago. Many leaves have spots which appear to be sun scald.

college campus in the country; "We Went to College," "Alma Mater" and "Sutter's Victory March." It was directed by Joseph Santley.

"We Went to College" gives you the high spirit and the rich comedy of youth with the humor and understanding of maturity. It's the comedy classic of the college campus.

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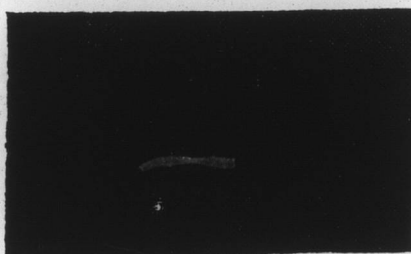
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## PALACE THEATRE

—ADVANCE PROGRAM—

From Thursday, August 13th through Wednesday, August 19th

Thursday-Friday—Automobile Day Friday  
Bing Crosby—Frances Farmer—Bob Burns

RHYTHM ON THE RANGE

Silly Symphony: "China Shop" RKO Novelty:  
"Too Many Surprises"

Morning matinee Friday 10:30; afternoons 3:15-3:45;  
evenings 7:30-9:15. Admission 10-26c

Kiddies' Jack Pot Matinee Saturday Morning 10:30

Special show Saturday night 11:30

Humphrey Bogart—Beverly Roberts—Claire Dodd

TWO AGAINST THE WORLD

RKO Novelty: "Fight is Right"

Box office opens Saturday morning 10:15. Admission 10-26c

Box office opens Saturday night 11:15. All seats 26c

Saturday, August 15th

Charles Starrett in Peter B. Kyne's

MYSTERIOUS AVENGER

Melody Masters: "Meet the Kernel"

Darkest Africa No. 12 with Clyde Beatty

Afternoon 2:30-4:00; evening 7-8:30-9:45. Admission 10-26c

Monday-Tuesday, August 17-18th

Charles Butterworth—Walter Abel—Hugh Herbert—

Una Merkel WE WENT TO COLLEGE

Color Classic: "Little Stranger" — Hearst Metrotone News

Morning matinee Monday 10:30; afternoons 3:15-3:45;

evenings 7:30-9:15. Admission 10-26c

Wednesday, August 19th—Jack Pot Day

Warren William—Claire Dodd—Winifred Shaw

THE CASE OF THE VELVET CLAWS

Vitaphone Cartoon: "Absorbing Junior"

Morning matinee 10:30; afternoon 3:15-3:45;

evening 7:15-9. Admission 10-26c