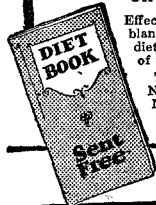


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The Movies

By A. M. SHERWOOD, JR.

►► "The Valiant"

A TALKING photoplay that deserves serious and respectful comment is "The Valiant," a rather short and infinitely tragic work recently released by William Fox.

This picture is notable for several reasons, but chiefly because it achieves that rarest of all dramatic consummations, pure pathos, properly handled. So often is it tried, so often missed, that one feels inclined to greet the accomplishment with massed bands and showers of ticker tape.

Part of the credit for this admirable drama must go to Robert Middlemass and Holworthy Hall who wrote it; much of it to the director, William K. Howard; but the lion's share belongs to the cast that plays it, with never the misplaced flicker of an eyelash, to the very limit of its possibilities.

Heading that cast is a young actor named Paul Muni, who (as Muni Weisenfried) was once identified with one of the Little Theatre movements in New York City. Watching this squat, ordinary-looking youth pass up chance after chance to spoil a fat part by overplaying; seeing him compass the feat of being restrained and deeply emotional at one and the same time—these are among the pleasant experiences that come all too infrequently to the steady movie-goer.

Without giving away the story, further discussion of Muni's accomplishment is difficult; one would have to review the picture scene by scene to convey his excellence—and to do justice to the work of Marguerite Churchill, Edith Yorke, and De Witt Jennings.

"The Valiant" is as sad a story as you have ever sat through. The egg who can rise dry-eyed from its contemplation is an egg indeed; but your tears will fall in tribute to a fine document, honorably executed, and tears so shed hurt no one.

►► "The Pagan"

Here we have Ramon Novarro, very much as God made him, impersonating a carefree son of the South Sea Isles—and doing it extremely well.

"The Pagan" tells a story of island indolence and Aryan greed that manages to be interesting throughout and presents to the public Miss Dorothy Janis, a young lady whose rôle opposite

Mr. Novarro reveals her as something to be watched.

Miss Janis is a shy, thoughtful brunette who knows a great deal about acting. Since she appears to be very young; and since "The Pagan" was directed by W. S. Van Dyke who, in "White Shadows in the South Seas," held the megaphone on some of the worst acting ever seen; considering (we submit) these twin points, one concludes that Miss Janis's proficiency must have been born with her. In any case, we shall look forward to another sight of her expressive mouth and shadowed orbs at, we trust, an early date.

Save for some not too impressive singing by the star (who is said to be studying for grand opera), "The Pagan" is a silent picture. The silent phases indicate that Señor Novarro is still one of the best movie actors in the business; the singing interludes raise doubts as to his wisdom in making a change. . . . Perhaps he was pulling his punches, and perhaps the movietone didn't do altogether right by his vocalizing.

"The Pagan" is recommended as a consistently pleasant picture, with authentic scenery, expert love scenes, and good subsidiary performances by Donald Crisp and Renée Adorée.

We Recommend

Bulldog Drummond: Advice to young men: on no account take your girl to see RONALD COLMAN in this, his first all-talking picture. She won't be the same for weeks.

Madame X: A history-making performance by RUTH CHATTERTON, with LIONEL BARRYMORE's enlightened direction.

The Broadway Melody: This big show has just about everything. Talking, singing, dancing, color sequences, and original music. You can hardly fail to enjoy it.

The Trial of Mary Dugan: A faithful adaptation of the famous stage play, directed by BAYARD VEILLER, the author.

Coquette: MARY PICKFORD is a speaking actress of unusual gifts and the play is excellent.

▶▶ Ivory, Apes and Peacocks ◀◀

By W. R. BROOKS

THERE are various kinds of folding beds for apartment use which disappear during the daytime into closets. But only one we know about is so arranged that the closet door can also be closed after the bed is set up at night. The door is so set on a vertical rod that although the bed when ready for use extends partly across the doorway, the door can easily be slid shut.

▶▶ A COMBINATION doorknob and lock has a button in the center of the knob on the outside. When you go out, you press the button and the door cannot be opened from the outside without a key. From the inside it can still be opened by turning the knob.

▶▶ WE KNOW where you can get golf balls for fifty-nine cents which are guaranteed, and will be replaced if the cover is cut. We also know where you can get a collapsible leather golf bag which has a seven inch opening. And a soft rubber cup which fits on the end of the putter shaft and which will allow you to lift the ball from the cup without stooping. And two kinds of tees: one which goes into the ground at an angle and is said to offer less resistance to follow-through; the other a pin with a wire arm which swings free and has a loop at the end on which you place the ball.

▶▶ FOR THE KITCHEN we offer you a dish mop which contains a small, removable, perforated rubber container for soap. Fill the container with soap, slosh it over the china in the dishpan, and you clean everything without scrubbing it by hand.

Then there's a jar-cap lifter which will save both forks and fingers. It clamps over the jar top, and then you turn a screw which forces itself between top and rubber, breaking the suction and lifting the top off easily.

Also a duster which is called the Handymit, fits over the hand, is covered with loosely woven pure silk fringe which picks up dust and is washable.

A rack which will keep saucepans and their respective covers somewhere near together is the Panco. It's a steel rack with five sliding hooks for pans and slotted shelves through which to slip each cover behind its appointed pan.

And lastly a new corkscrew which has two little horizontal handles at the sides. Screw in the corkscrew and push down on the handles and out comes the cork.

No, there's one more thing—or rather three. Three perforated aluminum plates to set in the bottom of cooking dishes to keep the contents from sticking to the bottom and burning. They're also an aid to more even cooking.

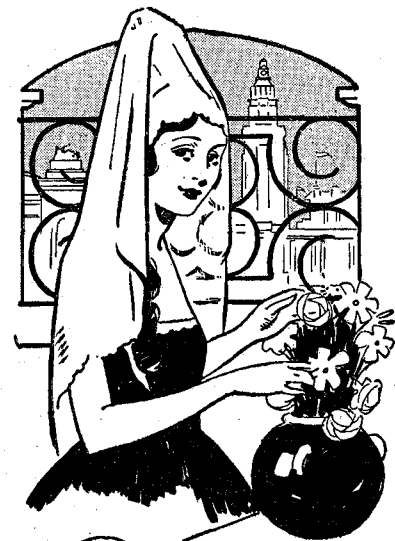
▶▶ FOR THE GUEST ROOM or for the very small apartment we recommend an unusual table we have recently seen. The top is 13½ by 21 inches, the table 2 feet 9 inches high. The top, which is 9 inches deep, has pockets on the under side for stationery. The blotter is hinged and when lifted has a mirror on its back and reveals a tray of toilet preparations. Under this removable tray is a space divided into three sections for sewing equipment or whatever.

▶▶ WE DIDN'T get to the Exposition of Chemical Industries, but we were told by an enthusiastic friend of one of the exhibits—a pocket tester for wood alcohol. With this in your pocket you could go to any party secure in the assurance of nothing worse than the normal hangover the following day. High spirits would be more in evidence at parties if the guests didn't swallow a certain amount of terror with every sip of their host's cocktails.

▶▶ MARY ANN Shell Pans are useful for baking or molding cakes, salads, entrées, desserts, and so on. The bottom of the pan is raised slightly, so that when you turn out the cake it is baked in the form of a deep open shell, in which you can put any kind of filling you wish. The pans come in various sizes, and are made of a rust-resisting metal which transmits heat readily for quick baking.

▶▶ NEXT TIME you go to a tea and have to manage cup, plate, napkin, and cigarette with one hand while shaking hands with acquaintances with the other, remember that you can get individual oval trays of enamelled tin in yellow, green, orange, or red, 9¾ inches long by 7 inches wide, which will take care of all these things except the acquaintances without the necessity for taking a short course in juggling.

▶▶ THE BOOKLITE, a small lamp to attach to the book you are reading, of which we wrote some months ago, now appears in a new form with a small mushroom-shaped shade which may be tipped at any angle desired.



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