Mystery Drama To Be Presented At Narbonne

"Thirteenth Chair" Played by Senior Dramatics Club Tomorrow

A mystic setting. A low moan. Lights—and a man slumps lifeless to the floor with a knife in his back. These are the thrills to be found in the first scene of "The Thirteenth Chair," a three-act mystery drama by Bayard Veiller, which will be presented by the senior dramatics class of Narbonne, Friday night, May 10, at 8 o'clock, in the school auditorium.

This comic mystery-drama is directed by Mrs. Brinkerhoff. She is being assisted by George Taylor, a member of the class.

The romantic leads are to be portrayed by Marjorie Irvine and Derrell Harline as Helen O'Neill and Will Crosby. A middle-aged couple, Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Crosby, will be played by Harold Smith and Irba Schmidt, both of whom had leading roles in the junior play, "Three-Cornered Moon."

By the quick thinking of Inspector Tim Donahue, the mystery comes to its solution. Jack Weber, prominent senior A, is cast in that important part. Madame Rosalie LaGrange, an Irish spiritualist who adds much "spice" to the play, will be enacted by Winifred Mulkern.

Other members of the cast are as follows: Pollock, the butler, acted by Clark Walker; Braddish and Helen Trent, a young married couple, Clede Beckley and Vivian Knudsen; Grance and Howard Standish, a sister and brother, Helen Hart and Earl Sterling; Sergeant Dunn, George Taylor; Mary Eastwood, Emma Erickson; Edward Wales, Alfred Thorsen; Elizabeth Erskine, Gertrude Scanlon; Phillip Mason, Eugene Huggins; and Doolan, a policeman, Amos Nance.

Insurance Head To Broadcast

Wallace H. Gilbert, local insurance man, announces that by special invitation John C. Tyler, president of the Farmers Automobile Inter-Insurance Exchange, will address the radio listeners of KFI at 12:15, on Saturday, May 11.

President Tyler's subject, "Accident-Prevention" is one of paramount importance to every family in the United States.

FREE THEATRE TICKETS! Turn to the classified page.

Star Comedian Laughton Tops "Ruggles" Cast

Charles Laughton, Motion Picture Academy award winner and one of the foremost actors of the English-speaking stage and screen, is assisted by five of Hollywood's leading comedy players in Paramount's "Ruggles of Red Gap," the picturization of Harry Leon Wilson's famous story now playing last two days at the Plaza, Hawthorne.

With Laughton, in the title role, are Mary Boland, Charlie Ruggles, Roland Young, ZaSu Pitts and Leila Hyams. The picture opens in London in the gay and gusty 1900's, when Egbert Froud, a rough diamond from the States, wins "Ruggles," the perfect butler-valet, from his titled master in a poker game.

Back to the States goes "Ruggles" with his new master and mistress, but his new master, bred on the democratic principle, introduces "Ruggles" to the town as a Colonel in the English army. "Ruggles" becomes the lion of Red Gap society and becomes infected with the democratic idea himself. He decides to open a lunch-room and become self-supporting.

There is, of course, a concerted howl from Red Gap's self-constituted society, and a great deal of comedy, but finally "Ruggles," with the assistance of the town's leading widow who has become enamored of the perfect butler, achieves his ambition.

Made to Order For Buck Jones

A new kind of screen drama comes to the Torrance Theatre on Tuesday and Wednesday, next week, when Buck Jones will be seen as the star of "Stone of Silver Creek."

Though Western in locale, this story is a model of dramatic construction, and might as well have been laid in New York City as in the rip-roaring surroundings of a frontier town.

"I have made many pictures," said Jones at the studio, "but I have never before appeared in one which had such an ingenious and interesting plot—absolutely true to nature. Though I always enjoy my work, I can truthfully say that I never before had such pleasure in filming a picture knowing as I did that the story contained nothing forced or improbable. There is no reason why the glorious scenery of a Western picture should not furnish the background of a story so plausible."

Famous Starlets Cast In "Little Men" At Lomita Sun.

A group, said to be the greatest aggregation of young starlets ever assembled for a single motion-picture, gathered recently for Nat Levine's Mascot screen version of the world-famous Louisa Alcott novel, "Little Men." Today they are fortune's favorites, their incomes each running well into three and four figures weekly. In the picture, "Little Men," you will see these youngsters cast as typical boys and girls with typical joys and sorrows and "grown-up" ambitions, in a quaint and charming New England setting of 1870.

Included in the cast of starlets are Frankie Darro, Erin O'Brien-Moore, Ralph Morgan, Tad Alexander, Bobby Cox, Richard Quine, Phyllis Fraser, Junior Durkin and many others.

"Fare Thee Well, Annabelle"

You'll hear Rudy Vallee and Ann Dvorak singing "Fare Thee Well, Annabelle," one of the big hits of the year, in "Sweet Music," Warner Bros.' new musical showing at the Lomita Theatre, tonight, Friday and Saturday. "Fare Thee Well, Annabelle" is just one of the many song hits Vallee introduces either alone or with Miss Dvorak. "Sweet Music" has a cast that includes Ned Sparks, Helen Morgan, Robert Armstrong, Allen Jenkins, Alice White, Joseph Cawthorn, Al Shean and Phillip Reed. Rudy's Connecticut Yankees and the Frank and Milt Britton musical maniacs provide the melodies in the film.

Crosby Finds Romantic Garb Halts Romance

Bing Crosby can't figure it out. The Paramount star can't understand how romances ever developed in those "romantic sixties," now that he's had a glimpse of that period in his new picture, "Mississippi," which comes Sunday to the Plaza Theatre, Hawthorne. Crosby is starred with W. C. Fields and Joan Bennett.

"With hoop skirts and pantalettes for the ladies," says Crosby, "and mustaches and silk waist coats for the gentlemen, romance must have been something of a problem in those days.

"I raised a tasteful and highly deporative set of 'Dundrearies' for my role in 'Mississippi.' This beard effect starts with a pair of side-burns and sweeps across the cheek to develop into a flowing mustache. And, in the picture, poor Joan Bennett has to love me with a face like that.

"And, for my part, I have the problem of making love to a girl whose costume is such that I can't get within three feet of her. No wonder the dandies of the day kissed their fair ladies' hands. They couldn't have reached their lips unless they were contortionists."

HONEST hearts defy CASTE LINES

In Gene Stratton-Porter's "Laddie," coming Sunday and Monday to the Torrance Theatre, the folk of the soil give the challenge and battle through to establish their nobility as the peer of the crest and coronet. The story and spirit of the novel, which is said to have had 40,000,000 readers, are vividly translated to screen in RKO-Radio's picture from the book. Romance, drama, comedy, interweave to make the film absorbing entertainment. John Beal, Gloria Stuart and Charlotte Henry are featured.

George Stevens was picked by Pandro S. Berman, producer of "Laddie" for RKO-Radio Pictures to direct that film because Stevens was associated with the story's author, Gene Stratton-Porter, when she was planning the silent version ten years, and therefore knows first hand her own wishes regarding its screening. John Beal who played "The Little Minister," Gloria Stuart, Charlotte Henry are featured, and the cast includes Virginia Weidler, Gloria Shea and Donald Crisp.

REDONDO team finally TAKES MATCH

The proud heads of the Torrance police department were bowed in disgust last Saturday afternoon when the Redondo revolver team defeated them 958 to 928, in the third shooting match between the two cities. Chief G. M. Calder, Police Commissioner W. H. Stanger, Officers Frank Schumacher, George Dolton and Percy Drake shot for Torrance. Dolton, who has been breaking 200 regularly had a very poor day and hung up a mark of 165, which played hob with the Torrance score. Redondo police who took part were Chief Peterson, Officers Johnson, Delatour, McAlister and Chittenden. However, Torrance has won two out of three from the beach city boys.

The Torrance team will take on a team from Gardena on Saturday afternoon, May 18.

Individual scores for practice shoots Saturday and Sunday were Eckersley, 270; Glidden, 267; Bennett, 250; Ashton, 249; Stanger, 234; DeBra, 232; Travioli, 231; Stroh, 194; Peterson, 178; Thompson, 151.

175 Get State Jobs

BOISE, Idaho, (U. P.)—Of the 3,000 liquor store employe applicants, the state liquor commission will choose 175 to complete their organization.

Robinson Wins New Honors As Comic In Columbia Film

An exciting and hilarious screen entertainment, "The Whole Town's Talking," which starts tonight for a three-day run at the Torrance Theatre, is, even at this early date, certain to be included among the ten best pictures of the current year.

Crammed full of suspense, action, comedy and startling surprises, the film presents Edward G. Robinson in his first screen comedy role.

Coming Sunday and Monday To the Torrance Theatre

Edmund Lowe and Verna Hillie in a scene from "Mr. Dynamite," one of the most thrilling and exciting pictures of the year, which will be shown Sunday and Monday, at the Torrance Theatre.

Melodramatic Thriller to Be Shown Tonight

"Case of the Curious Bride" Starts Three-Day Run Here

"The Case of the Curious Bride," latest of the First National melodramatic mystery thrillers to be filmed under the auspices of the Clue Club, will be shown at the Torrance Theatre tonight, Friday and Saturday.

Based on the popular story by Erle Stanley Gardner, which features the brilliant criminal lawyer and detective, Perry Mason, the picture carries him through a series of astounding adventures in his attempt to clear the "curious bride" of the charge of murdering one of her husbands.

The young bride is married to a rich, but badly spoiled youth, believing her first husband to be dead. It turns out, however, that he had placed a wooden cigar-store Indian in a casket to fool his wife and authorities. After her marriage he turns up to blackmail her, but while he is negotiating for money, he is found dead in his apartment with a stab wound through his heart.

The wife is arrested, but Mason finds four other persons who had motives to kill the man.

Getting all the suspects in his apartment by a ruse, the attorney-detective clears up the mystery in a most amazing climax.

Probably no screen actor fits the role of Perry Mason so well as Warren William. He both looks and acts the part.

Margaret Lindsay, as the "curious bride," is called upon for real emotional acting and her work is always convincing and sincere.

Tall, stately blonde Claire Dodd has the role of Mason's clever secretary-sweetheart.

COMING FEATURES

"The Bride of Frankenstein" and "Princess O'Hara" are the features which will be shown at the Torrance Theatre Thursday, Friday and Saturday of next week.

LADIES OF THE ENSEMBLE

The ladies of the ensemble have finally crashed Ben Bernie's band. Here they are as they appear with the maestro and George Raft in "Stolen Harmony" at the Torrance Theatre Tuesday and Wednesday of next week.

Coming to Plaza Next Wednesday

"McFadden's Flats," coming to the Plaza Theatre, Hawthorne, depicts Walter Kelly and Andy Clyde, pictured above, as old cronies who just enjoy arguing with each other. On the same bill next Wednesday and Thursday at the Plaza is "Times Square Lady," starring Pinky Tomlin and Virginia Bruce.

Lake to Get 24,000 Bass

MINERAL WELLS, Tex. (U.P.)—Lake Mineral Wells will have 24,000 bass dumped into it this fall for anglers. The local chamber of commerce is raising that many of the fish in their rearing ponds.

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Thursday, Friday (Last 2 Days), May 9-10
"Ruggles of Red Gap" and "Women Must Dress"

Saturday (1 Day Only), May 11
Continuous Saturday From 1:30 P. M.
"CAR 99" FRED MacMURRAY—and
JEAN PARKER CHESTER MORRIS "PRINCESS O'HARA"

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Bing Crosby - "MISSISSIPPI" - W. C. Fields
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PHONE TORRANCE 132

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, May 9, 10, 11
"The Whole Town's Talking"
with Edward G. Robinson and Jean Arthur
and
"The Case of the Curious Bride"
with Warren Williams and Margaret Lindsay

Sunday and Monday, May 12, 13
GENE STRATTON PORTER'S
"LADDIE"
and
"MR. DYNAMITE"
with Edmund Lowe

Tuesday and Wednesday, May 14, 15
"STOLEN HARMONY"
with George Raft and Ben Bernie
and
BUCK JONES In
"Stone of Silver Creek"

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, May 16, 17, 18
"The Bride of Frankenstein"
and
"Princess O'Hara"

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Sun., Mon., Tues., May 12-13-14

Louisa M. Alcott's
"LITTLE MEN"
with Ralph Morgan and Frankie Darro
—AND—
Kay Francis and Warren William in
"LIVING ON VELVET"

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