NOW AND THEN

The Old Story

A new song should be sweetly sang
It goes but to the ear;
A new song should be sweetly sung,
For it touches no one near.

But an old song "may be roughly sung,"
The ear forgets its art,
As rises from the rudest tongue
The tribute to the heart.

On tented fields 'tis welcome still;
'Tis sweet on the stormy sea,
In forests wild, on lonely hill,
And away on the prairie lea.

But dearer for the old sweet song
When friends we love are nigh,
And well known voices, clear and strong,
Ring out the chorus cry.

—Dr. S. Weir Mitchell.

Dr. Weir Mitchell a well beloved physician, his home was in Philadelphia, but he was called to see sick people all over the country. Yet in spite of his busy life he found time to write very interesting books. It is said of him that he had a most wonderful way of making his patients do as he wanted them to do. Once he had a patient who refused to get out of bed. She felt she could not do it but the Dr. knew that she ought to get up, so he urged her, but she refused. Then he said, "If you do not I will get in the bed with you." Still she refused. The doctor began to take off his coat and vest, but when he started to take off his pants she sprang out of bed. Of course she was very angry but the Doctor had won a victory as she grew stronger and found that she could use her limbs so she freely forgave him.

Well March! you have surely carried out your reputation so far. Two big snow storms, the worst since 1932 they say, and your month not yet half over. No wonder you were named for the god of war. And yet like that old heathen god you can be charming too. Tonight there is a full moon shining in a clear unclouded sky, a touch of spring is in the air and the maple buds are beginning to swell. And one remembers, too, that the Paschal moon will be full, before your time is over, the full moon that brings Easter to us, the loveliest season in all the year. So you may do your worst, but there are many good things we can say of you.

It was in New York City. Month by month a lame boy wheeled himself up to the corner of 34th street and 5th Ave., and sat there all day. As he had a bright attractive face many a nickle was given him for his shoe strings and pencils. One day the wind was blowing and it blew a beautiful scarf right into his chair. The owner had passed on, not knowing of her loss. A young woman passing by stopped and offered the boy eight dollars for it, but he shook his head, and kept looking up and down the street to see if the owner would come. "Why did you not sell it," asked some one. "Oh, it smells so sweet, sweeter than anything. And so they passed on leaving the boy hugging on to his treasure, forgetting to hold out his wares to the passing crowds.

Mrs. Calvin Coolidge is a very modest woman. When she went abroad, she feared there would be unnecessary fuss made over the wife of an ex-President. But the friend with whom she was traveling said, "Don't worry. In the little place where we'll be stopping they don't know one President of the United States from another. People will not bother you."

No one did—until, in a small town on the Continent, they received word that reservations for them were made in the next town. This sounded ominous. When they reached the hotel in question they were received pompously by the manager. Bowing profoundly, he said, "We are proud to welcome the wife of the great President of the United States. Will you register, Mrs. Lincoln?"

Even Refrigerators To 'Give' For Defense

The prosaic family refrigerator is going to be called upon to do its part for the defense program.

The Office of Production Management, it was learned today, plans to ask all refrigerator manufacturers to eliminate aluminum ice trays from models as a means of saving the metal now needed for defense industries. Trays of glass, plastics and other metals have been mentioned as substitutes.

Faraday's 'Toy'

When Michael Faraday was developing the electro-magnet, a statesman who prided himself on being practical said that the money which was being spent on this "toy" might better go to the poor. "Some day, sir," Faraday replied, "you may be able to tax it, and that will give you revenue for the poor." The dynamo, developed from Faraday's "toy," is the basis of electric power, which has brought comfort and convenience to the poor, as well as employment to thousands the world over.

Canal Speed

The United States fleet can go through the Panama Canal with remarkable speed. Not long ago 110 ships passed through in 48 hours. One vessel moved in and another moved out every 26 minutes—"Keep Up with the World."

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COMEDY HIT AT LYCEUM

The first year of married life may be the hardest, but John Shelton and Ann Rutherford haven't discovered it as yet. Here they appear as the newlyweds of "Keeping Company," delightful new drama of a family as human as the one "next door." Frank Morgan and Irene Rich are seen as Miss Rutherford's parents in the new picture, and others in the cast include Gene Lockhart, Virginia Weidler, Virginia Grey and Dan Dailey, Jr.

Thrills, color, action and excitement are the order of the day at the New Lyceum Theatre, where "Santa Fe Trail" has its first local showing on Monday and Tuesday, March 17, and 18th. With Errol Flynn and Olivia de Havilland topping the big-name cast, nad Michael Curtiz as the director, "Santa Fe Trail" promises to top even the thrills of "Charge of the Light Brigade," and "Dodge City."

The Santa Fe Trail has had a long glorious and sometimes bloody history. More a living thing than a cross-continental route, ie wended its way from "bloody" Kansas to wicked Santa Fe, back in the days when Fort Leavenworth, Kansas was the last outpost of civilization. Principals in the exciting chapter of history which springs to life in the film, are Jeb Stuart, General George Custer, and John Brown. Stuart and Custer, newly graduated from West Point are sent out to the army post at Fort Leavenworth. One of their first duties is to escort a wagon train of freight westward on the Santa Fe Trail. The wagon freight service owned by Cyrus Holliday, is managed by Kit Carson Holliday, his daughter. Both young officers fall in love with Kit.

On their first assignment, Stuart and Custer run into difficulties with John Brown and his followers. They attack the wagon train, in order to get a shipment of "bibles" being freighted westward. The "bibles," however, turn out to be guns. This is the beginning ofa long struggle between Brown's forces, who are seeking to create their own empire within the United States, and the military forces represented by Stuart and Custer.

Flynn plays Stuart, Ronald Reagan who portrayed George Gipp so successful in "Knute Rockne—All American," portrays Custer, and Raymond Massey, of "Abe Lincoln" fame, is cast as John Brown. Miss de Havilland, of course, plays Kit Carson Holliday.

An ideal "family" picture filled with side-splitting laughs interspersed by tender young romance, make its appearance at the New Lyceum Theatre, on Wednesday and Thursday, March 20, with the opening of "Keeping Company."

The romantic comedy presents Frank Morgan at his laugh-provoking best and Ann Rutherford and John Shelton as a pair of young screen lovers comparable with the finest. Playing their most ambitious roles to date, both Miss Rutherford and Shelton furnish proof in "Keeping Company" that they are rapidly nearing the threshold of stardom.

The story deals with young newlyweds and their trials and tribulations, especially when their first quar rel arrives. That is occasioned by the boy's ex-sweetheart and her flirtatious plotting to separate the youngsters. She does, too, but the families of the newlyweds bring them together again with some hilarious scheming on their own part.

Morgan and Irene Rich as the girl's parents are teamed again, following their success in "The Mortal Storm," while little Virginia Weidle steals scene after scene as the pestiferous but lovable, kid sister. Gene Lockhart, Virginia Grey, Dan Dailey, Jr., and Sara Haden turn in praiseworthy performances in the supporting cast. S. Sylvan Simon directed the picture.

"Blackout," the new spy melodrama which is set in present day London, will have its local premiere at the New Lyceum Theatre on Friday and Saturday, March 21 and 22 thru United Artists release. With a stellar cast which includes Conrad Veidt and Valerie Hobson, and with Hay Petrie featured in the supporting cast, "Blackout" unreels a swiftly-moving tale of espionage of today. The production, based on a scenario by Michael Powell and Brock Williams, wa salso directed by Mr. Powell and produced by John Cornfield.

Its story starts aboard the Danish freighter Helvig which is steaming across the English Channel when it is halted by a British patrol ship seeking contraband. Since delay is inevitable, the captain decides to land and spend some time in London under a blackout, but his permits are stolen. He discovers the theft and realizes that it was committed by his beautiful passenger, Mrs. Sorensen, whose actions have always been mysterious and puzzling. The captain, played by Veidt, and the passenger, portrayed by lovely Valerie Hobson, now begin a chase through darkened, wartime London. The story winds up aboard the Helvig, after many breath-taking, suspenseful scenes in a night-club, an espionage torture chamber, a London town house and Waterloo station.

The scenes in the English Channel are the most authentic ever brought to the screen, since the authorities cooperated fully with the film-makers while they photographed hundreds of ships of varying nationalities held in the harbor for contraband investigation. Other important sets were built at the studio, but the most elaborate was an exact replica of Waterloo Station. Filming of "Blackout" required special lighting and other technical devices, since nearly all the action is unfolded in the darkened city, but nevertheless had to be made visible on the screen.

Emeric Pressburger wrote the original story from which "Blackout" was transferred to the screen. In addition to Hay Petrie, the supporting cast is rounded out by Esmond Knight, Raymond Lovell, Charles Victor and Henry Wolston.

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