

Para Neat 53Gs; Music Hall Tops; State Good Week

NEW YORK.—The Thanksgiving holiday proved a boon to the presentation houses last week, with even Loew's State grossing more than it has been doing in months. Since it was a four-day holiday for most everyone, the cashier's wicket kept singing all last week.

Paramount smashed thru with an excellent \$53,000 for the *Cat and the Canary* on the screen and a sock stage bill headed by Tony Martin and Jan Savitt's Orchestra. Also went into a strong second week beginning November 29. The Strand concluded its third week of Cagney's *The Roaring Twenties* and Bob Crosby's Band on the stage with a fair \$28,000. Show grossed \$122,100 for the entire run. New bill, which opened Friday (1) with *The Private Lives of Elizabeth and Essex* and Al Donahue's Band, didn't tee off strongly with a \$6,000 gross for opening day.

Third week of Garbo's *Ninotchka* at the Music Hall did almost as well as the first week, because of the holiday, of course. The show drew \$103,000, making a total of \$306,000 for the three weeks. Stage bill included Nicholas Daks and Hilda Eckler, Jeanne and Frances Grey and Betty Bruce. Thursday's (30) preem of Paul Muni's *We Are Not Alone* opened strong, drawing \$13,500.

It was a real holiday for Loew's State with a \$28,000 take for *Babes in Arms* and stage bill consisting of Beverly Roberts, Lennie Hayton and band, Three Sailors, Larry Adler and Robinson and Martin.

Roxy had just a fair week with *Daytime Wife*, which was yanked after a week run because of the low \$37,500 gross. Flesh layout also went, with the exception of the Davidson-Forgie Badminton act. They included the Variety Singers, Gaudsmith Brothers, Georges and Jalna and the Badminton Players. Friday (1) opening of the much touted *The Housekeeper's Daughter* didn't draw very exciting crowds.

Philly Gross Up As Earle Shuts With Strong 28Gs

PHILADELPHIA.—Earle did a strong \$28,000 for the final week of its operation as a vaude house. Theater was closed by Warner Friday (1) because of contract difficulties with the musicians' union. The last show included Louella Parsons with Jane Wyman, Ronald Regan, Joy Hodges, Arleen Whelan, June Preisser and Susan Hayward, and also Jerry Bergen, Billy Gray and Nina Varala, and the Juggling Jewels. Pic, *The Secret of Dr. Kildare*.

The Carman had an okeh week with the Cartier Sisters, Eleanor Sherry, Joe Carmini Company and the Keene Twins with Dick and Lana. The take hovered around \$5,700. Film, *Scandal Sheet*.

Fay's also hit above the house par with a neat \$6,900. The crowd from the Penn-Cornell game gave them a hefty evening biz Saturday night. Eddie Peabody headlined, with Rene D'Orsay and Darlene providing the strips, while Pinky Lee, the West Pointers (8), Emerald Sisters and Shavo Sherman composed the vaude troupe. On screen, \$1,000 a *Touchdown*.

Grid Games Hurt Washington Houses

WASHINGTON.—This week's business at local show houses got off to a bad start, with wholesale exodus to Philadelphia Army-Navy game Saturday and New York Giants-Redskins game Sunday. However, strong attractions hold possibility of recovering for fair week.

Warner Bros.' Earle, featuring *Jamaica Inn* on screen and Joe Cook unit on stage, is set to top town. Sock bill includes Sager and Sherman, Dewey and 20 Chester Hale Texas Comets. Should hit \$18,000. Last week's run, ended November 30, registered \$17,000.

Loew's Capitol, showing *Intermezzo* on the screen and Larry Adler, Ruth Craven, Frank Paris, Bob Robinson and Virginia Martin, Carter and Holmes, Jack Kaufman and Rhythm Rockets on stage, are expected to turn in a fair \$14,000. Last week, ended 30, *Daytime Wife* registered \$18,000 for eight days.

Vaudefilm Grosses

Hipp, Balt, 19Gs With Milt Herth, Durant, Kyser Pic

BALTIMORE.—With Milt Herth and Jack Durant heading the stage layout for an eight-day engagement ended Thanksgiving (30), house did a very good gross of \$19,000. Acts included New Yorkers and Toy and Wing. Pic, *That's Right, You're Wrong*.

Previous gross was Wally Vernon's 11 grand for a six-day assignment.

Spokane Houses Do Only Fair; But Continue

SPOKANE, Wash.—Opening with a new stage show Thanksgiving, both Orpheum and Post Street theaters did big on the holiday but tapered off below expectations over the week-end. Both had units booked in for four days instead of usual three.

Orpheum averaged only fair business with *Pals of the Golden West* unit and Bub Burns on stage and *Rovin' Tumbleweeds* and *Beware of Spooks* on screen. Nevertheless, Manager Willard R. Seale booked Sally Rand, Black Hills Passion Play and Georgia Minstrels to follow each other in four, four and three-day engagements, respectively, starting this week, for longest steady stage entertainment since Pantages Circuit days of 1930.

Post Street, with Stroud Twins, Medley and Dupree, Bento Brothers and Rita, Van and Arrvola and Velyne Hague, plus *Children of the Wild* and *Homicide Bureau*, grossed approximately \$2,250. Three-day house average is \$1,750.

Brent Unit Okeh At Greenville, S. C.

GREENVILLE, S. C.—Carolina here did well for week ended November 23, with Evelyn Brent's *Streets De Paree* unit on the stage. Miss Brent was assisted by Harry Fox. Big holiday crowd was in town owing to football game between Parker and Greenville high schools.

At the Center Theater Harry Raymond and his College 'N' Band played a late show, also drawing well.

Springlike Weather Hurts Milwaukee Biz

MILWAUKEE.—Stage show headed by Wally Vernon connected for an \$8,000 take at the Riverside Theater for the week ended November 30. Others on the bill were Senator Murphy, the Nelson Sisters, Ada Brown and Bob Bromley. Pic, *Behind Prison Gates* (Col.).

Previous week's show did a so-so \$6,500, with Bob Williams; Kay, Katcha and Kay; Bob Dupont, Mirth and Mack and the Yeoman Brothers. Pic, *One Hour To Live* (Univ.). Average biz at the house is \$7,000. Weather has been generally fair but unseasonally mild, tending somewhat to slow down business.

Blackstone Takes \$5,500 in Seattle

SEATTLE.—Palomar, with Blackstone heading the stage bill, did \$5,500 for week ending November 24. This is \$500 better than average. Pic, *Chicken Wagon Family*.

Spitalny Nears 14G At Para, Omaha

OMAHA.—Phil Spitalny's all-femme ork, "Hour of Charm," pulled \$13,700 in a week at the Paramount Theater. Fox's *Too Busy To Work* on screen. Officials of Tri-States Theaters hoped for \$19,000 or more. Cab Calloway followed Spitalny into the Paramount, with prices upped to 55-cent top. Acknowledged the town's white elephant, Paramount may shutter soon.

Raynell Follies Draws 7,500 in Montgomery; 4 Days

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—George Golden brought Raynell's *Water Follies* here November 18 under auspices of the Julian Strassberger Chapter, Rainbow Division Veterans, and in four days, according to Joseph Dickerson, Rainbow official, netted 7,500 paid admissions.

The show appealed to Montgomery audiences. Vaudeville acts and Cortez and his Conquistadors also came in for a good boost in local papers.

Bad weather prevailed on both the first and last days, but attendance nevertheless reached its peak on the final performance. Night attendance averaged 1,500; the two matinees, 750 each. Thru co-operation with a local newspaper children were admitted Saturday matinee for 10 cents. Other matinee seats went at 35 cents. Night prices were: Reserved seats, 75 cents; lower floor, 40 cents, and balcony, 25 cents, tax included.

The show was held at the City Auditorium. It is traveling in a large bus and two trucks.

Shea and Century Battle in Buff; Grosses Are High

BUFFALO.—The competition between Shea's Buffalo and the Century (Basil-Dipson) is hot right now. Buffalo, which used to bring in about one attraction every month, has brought four big entertainment bills in the last five weeks. At the Buffalo, Emery Deutsch and his band, plus Dick Powell in person, garnered a fine \$22,000 week ended November 23, being \$10,000 above house average. The show was fast and smooth and had audiences enthusiastic. The Three Samuels and Harriet Hayes, a group of fine tapsters, acrobatic dancers and comedians, were definitely an asset, and the Del Rios, three excellent acrobats, and Sue Ryan, comedy singer, were equally well received. Pic was *Marx Brothers at the Circus*. Gene Krupa and band, plus the Andrews Sisters, opened a week December 1.

The Century brought Shep Fields and his band plus a vaude show. Started a six-day stand November 17 and grossed a fine \$13,000. Average gross for straight pictures is \$5,500. Richard Kemper, manager, was extremely pleased with the results. Sunday, November 19, with a crowd of 11,824 persons on hand, a seven-year house record was broken for attendance in any one day. Acts included Nelson's Marionettes, Ruth and Billy Ambrose, the Seiler Brothers, Claire Nunn and Danny Gay. Pic, *Meet Mr. Christian*. Fischer's *Follies Bergere* unit opened Thursday (30) at the Century for one week. Also booked are the Dead End Kids for December 29 for one week. In-between bookings are not definite.

Donahue's Record At State, Hartford

HARTFORD.—According to Rudy Frank, of the State Theater, Al Donahue broke all existing box-office records with his five-day engagement ending November 28. On Sunday, it was estimated that the attendance was 20,000. Five shows were run on this day, the emcee being forced to make a speech asking people to leave once they had seen the show in order to let in other patrons. Pic was *Higgins Family*.

Lolly Parsons Oke In Frisco; 18Gs

SAN FRANCISCO.—Golden Gate did \$18,300 with Louella Parsons, pix columnist, for week ended November 21. Figure is good—about \$3,300 above house average—despite fact that the gross represented a fall from the \$21,000 take made by the Ritz Brothers the previous week. Pic was *Meet Doctor Christian*.

NTG Fair Revue, Dead End Kids Top Chi Parade

CHICAGO.—Muggy weather opening day (December 1) kept the grosses down in the three combo houses. State-Lake, on a comparative basis, topped the field, with the Dead End Kids in person attracting the 'teen age trade. Sam Hearn augments flesh end, while screen has fair draw in Franchot Tone and Ann Sothern in *Fast and Furious*. Around \$17,000 indicated, but it is about \$2,000 below last week's strong *Oomph Revue* pull. Unit featuring Rita Rio's Band, Toby Wing and Marie Wilson is credited with entire take.

Chicago Theater pulled a plenty hefty \$50,000 with Dick Powell's personal appearance and *Drums Along the Mohawk* week of November 24. Picture is held for another week, but without Powell's aid is not expected to draw more than an average \$32,000. Supporting stage bill has Cass Daley, Whitson Brothers, Samuel Brothers and Harriet Hayes and Brown and Ames.

Oriental has good combination in the NTG Fair Revue, plus Little Jackie Heller and second run of *The Rains Came*. Heading for a plenty healthy \$17,000. Last week, ended November 30, return engagement of *Mikado in Swing* and non-consequential *Legion of Lost Flyers* on screen scooped up a fair enough \$14,500.

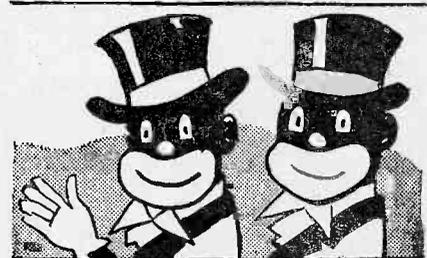
Para, L. A., Hyped To 25Gs; 7 Grand Up on Average Take

LOS ANGELES.—Paramount here jumped to \$25,000 gross, way above ordinary figure, for week ended November 22.

Stage bill was Fanchon & Marco Revue with Kenny Baker, Frances Langford, Ken Murray, Jacques Renard and orchestra. Pic, *The Cat and the Canary*. House average is 18 grand.

Fischer "Follies" Sock in Cleveland

CLEVELAND.—RKO Palace jumped to a gross of \$20,100 with Clifford Fischer's *Follies Bergere* unit for week ended November 23. House average is 14 grand. Pic, *Pack Up Your Troubles*.



AMERICA'S SNAPPIEST Minstrel Shows

Unrivaled selection of Complete Minstrel First Parts, Blackface Plays, Opening Chorus, Minstrel and Comedy Songs, Jokes, Gags, Posters, Make-up Goods, Wigs, Bones, Tambourines—everything to put life and snap into your show. Send for Special Catalog.

Denison's Plays and Entertainments are known everywhere. Established over 60 years. Send for Catalog. T. S. DENISON & CO. 209 N. Wabash Ave. Dept. 150, Chicago, Ill.

50th ANNIVERSARY

THE GUS SUN

BOOKING AGENCY

Sun's Regent Theatre Bldg., SPRINGFIELD, O.

BUY NOW! SAVE

SUN BOOKS
Everything
UNDER THE SUN