

# AT CITY THEATRES

## ST. JAMES'

**"THE MAGNIFICENT AMBERSONS":** Decline and fall of a family beginning 1873. Sentimental story by Booth Tarkington, produced with artistry and realism by Orson Welles.

**"HERE WE GO AGAIN":** Edgar Bergen, the ventriloquist, and his Charlie McCarthy in a hectic farce containing something of everything, even including Indians.

"The Magnificent Ambersons" is a story of youthful arrogance and its power to harm those of gentler fibre. Tim Holt plays a singularly stupid young man, who resents deeply the thought of his mother's second marriage; the play is set amid a generation which thought such sentiments endearing rather than dismissing them, as would the modern mother, with a laugh.

The whole tenor of the plot is dated; the sense of value (particularly social values), the dressing and settings all faithfully reproduce the late Victorian outlook. To moderns, it would seem to be much ado about nothing, but the film will be remembered for its excellent acting in every role, its complete naturalness in presentation, and the quiet manner in which the dialogue is handled.

D. L. WARAKER

## MAJESTIC:

**"TISH":** Modernised version of the character made famous by Mary Roberts Rinehart. Entertaining.

That stout old battle-axe, Letitia Carberry, whose exploits with her friends Aggie and Lizzie made such amusing reading in a series of novels, has been translated to the screen in the person of Marjorie Main.

The choice could have been better, but a tendency by Miss Main to over-act, and to shout at the top of her voice on all occasions, has failed to spoil the picture. This is partly due to what is otherwise good casting and to occasional flashes of humorous inspiration on the part of the director, among which the scene in a small town church during the singing of the anthem, is by far the most vivid.

The tart humour of Aline McMahon enlivens the scene, and Zasu Pitts flutters vaguely as Aggie, whose obsession with the "dear departed Mr Wilkins" will be remembered so well by those who read the books.

The adventures of the three friends are interspersed with the inevitable "love interest" provided by several of Tish's proteges. Among these is that lovely young actress Susan Peters, whose vivid face and assured acting indicate a promising future.

Those who missed the initial screening of "The Vanishing Virginian" will welcome its re-appearance on this programme. Frank Morgan, Spring Byington and a first-rate cast contribute their talents to a distinguished film.

J.R.S.

DATE THEIR TALENTS TO A DISTINGUISHED film J.R.S.

## HIS MAJESTY'S

The play, "Robert's Wife," will be presented at His Majesty's today at 2 pm and tonight at 8 o'clock.

Edwin Styles is cast in the role of Robert Carson, in this, the final production of the J. C. Williamson Comedy season in Brisbane. Diana Parnham plays Sanchia, his second wife, the medical head of a birth-control clinic.

This clever play by St John Ervine has been acclaimed one of the best comedies in recent years. The season finishes next Friday night.

## REPERTORY PLAY

The Repertory Society played safe in producing "Laburnum Grove," for this bright comedy is J. B. Priestley at his merriest.

The audience is further stimulated by suspense as to whether a suburban householder who appears a model of conventionality, finding his wife only a shade less interesting than his tomato-growing, can possibly be the rogue he claims to be in an expansive—and expensive—moment.

Shades of the prison house begin to close upon this amusing rascal and relief is felt that the policeman's visit is merely to suggest his nomination as vice-president of the football club. However, one fears that here lurks more vice than president. Daphne Roemermann produced and the best performance came from Elsie Brooks as a matron who had given up trying to conceal her dislike of her husband. Some of the other performances were a little blurred in outline. The cast included Rosemary Stevenson, John Francis, W. A. Blake, Jack Bow, Robert Phillips, Clare Clarke, Alan Denby and F. H. Brown.

D. L. WARAKER

## OTHER THEATRES

**METRO:** "Somewhere I'll Find You" (Clark Gable, Lana Turner, 11.18, 2.32, 5.46, 8.59); shorts.

**REGENT:** "This Above All" (Joan Fontaine, Tyrone Power, 11.16, 2.36, 5.32, 8.51); shorts.

**TIVOLI:** "Home in Wyoming" (11.42, 3.0, 5.58, 9.22); "Butch Minds the Baby."

**WINTERGARDEN:** "Holiday Inn" (Bing Crosby, Fred Astaire, 10.0, 12.39, 2.8, 5.50, 8.55); shorts.

**LYCEUM:** "Theodora Goes Wild" (Irene Dunne, Melvyn Douglas, 12.21, 3.56, 7.31); "Captain Blood" (Errol Flynn).

**EMBASSY:** "The Fleet's In" (Dorothy Lamour, William Holden—10.57, 1.59, 5.18, 8.53); "South of Santa Fe."

**CIVIC:** "Bad Men of Missouri" (Dennis Morgan, Wayne Morris, Jane Wyman, 11.57, 3.2, 6.7, 9.27) "Top Speed" (Joe E. Brown).

**REX:** "A Tale of Two Cities" (Ronald Colman, 10, 1.24, 4.48, 8.25); "Whistling in the Dark" (Red Skelton).

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**CARLTON:** Newsreels and featurettes.  
**CREMORNE:** Vaudeville, "The Anniversary Show" (Evie Hayes, Will Mahoney, at 8 pm, matinee at 2.15 pm).