'Meet Me in St. Louis' Makes You Glad Just to Be Alive

By PATRICIA SIMMONS.
(In the Temporary Absence of Jay Carmody.)

About five times a year (if we are to judge from motion picture awards) a movie arrives that completely eliminates any mincing of words. Its either that good or that bad. "Meet Me in St. Louis," which opened today at the Palace, is that good.

What makes it so is the combination of the simple human touches found in family life in a small town, an honest-to-goodness story with the same essential homespun flavor of "Going My Way," "Little Women" or "Lassie Come Home." It's like a piece of home-baked bread, warm and wholesome. It's a picture that will bring tears to your eyes, but send you away proud of them. It's also a picture whose principal appeal hinges on a store of wonderful youthful memories which you probably thought you had forgotten.

"MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS," an MGM picture with Judy Garland and Margaret O'Brien, produced by Arthur Freed, directed by Vincente Minnelli, screen play by Irving Brecher and Fred F. Finklehoffe from the book by Sally Benson. Music by Hugh Martin and Ralph Blane. At the Palace.

The Cast.

Esther Smith	Judy Garland
"Tootie" Smith	Margaret O'Brien
Mrs. Anna Smith	Mary Astor
Rose Smith	Lucille Bremer
John Truett	Tom Drake
Katie (maid)	Marjorie Main
Mr. Alonzo Smith	Leon Ames
Grandpa	Harry Davenport
Ducille Ballard	June Lockhart
Lon Smith, Jr.	Henry H. Daniels, Jr.
Agnes Smith	Joan Carroll
Col. Darly	Hugh Marlowe
Warren Sheffield	Robert Sully
Mr. Neely	Chill Wills

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Everything happens back in the "good old days" in St. Louis of 1903 when mothers made a business of raising a family. There were no electric mixers or dishwashers or vacuum cleaners. Instead mothers concocted home-made ketchup, kept a hair brush handy and allowed children to lick cake pans. Big sisters and brothers like Judy Garland, Lucille Bremer and Henry J. Daniels planned gala parties for every conceivable holiday, while little sisters like Margaret O'Brien and Joan Carroll, if they were good, were permitted to sneak out in their long nighties and peek through banister rails.

As a matter of fact, this Smith family who lived in St. Louis was pretty ordinary any way you look at it. They lived, waited and planned all year for the great St. Louis Fair; several members were bound to appear at the supper table in summertime with a black eye; Margaret O'Brien rang door bells and talked about goblins every single Halloween for as long as she could remember; each winter snowmen mysteriously appeared to resemble the people they didn't like, and sooner or later they all fell in love with the boy next door. In fact, we can't think of anything very extraordinary they did at all.

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In addition to a charming piece of Americana the picture also emerges as a lively and colorful musical. For instance, those seven hit tunes which Judy Garland and Margaret O'Brien share between them. "The Trolley Song" enjoyed the distinct novelty of being No. 1 song on the hit parade even before the picture was released. And that's going some! Entirely in technicolor it does wonders at enhancing the red-headed charm of both Miss Garland and Miss Bremer. If anything Mary Astor looks too young and lovely to be the mother of such a large brood. But that's what life in St. Louis did for you in those days.

Of course, it's winsome Margaret O'Brien as the prevaricating and impressionable little Tootie who somehow or other manages to become your favorite of the Smith family. Whether it's helping to deliver ice, burying her dead dolls or just plain getting into scrapes, it's Margaret that will probably send you back to see the picture again. The star of "Canterville Ghost" and "Lost Angel" scores another triumph. So does the entire cast.

"A BILL OF DIVORCEMENT"—the moving story of a father and his daughter torn apart by divorce and re-marriage has been revived by the Little. John Barrymore and Katherine Hepburn head the cast, with Billie Burke in the chief supporting role.

Where and When

Current Theater Attractions and Time of Showing

Stage.

Catholic University—"Tom Thumb the Great": 8:30 p.m.

National—"Startime": 8:30 p.m.

Screen.

Capitol—"Between Two Women": 11 a.m., 1:40, 4:30, 7:15 and 9:55 p.m. Stage shows: 12:55, 3:40, 6:25 and 9:10 p.m.

Earle—"Together Again": 10:15 a.m., 1:10, 4:15, 7:05 and 10 p.m. Stage shows: 12:30, 3:25, 6:25 and 9:20 p.m.

Columbia—"Thin Man Goes Home": 11:20 a.m., 1:20, 3:25, 5:25, 7:30 and 9:30 p.m.

Keith's—"Can't Help Singing": 11:45 a.m., 1:45, 3:45, 5:45, 7:45 and 9:45 p.m.

Little—"A Bill of Divorcement": 11 a.m., 12:45, 2:30, 4:20, 6:05, 7:55 and 9:55 p.m.

Metropolitan—"Hollywood Canteen": 11:35 a.m., 2:05, 4:35, 7 and 9:40 p.m.

Palace—"Meet Me in St. Louis": 11:35 a.m., 2:05, 4:35, 7:05 and 9:35 p.m.

Pix—"Life Dances On": 3:30, 6:40 and 9:50 p.m.

Trans-Lux—News and shorts, continuous from 10 a.m.

Rapee to Give Concert Here

Erno Rapee, who has achieved fame and fortune as musical director of Radio City Music Hall, brings his orchestra of 75 instrumentalists and vocalists to Constitution Hall Monday evening, February 12. Interesting feature of the program will be a three-piano rendition of George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue," played by Mildred Victor, Ada Kopetz and Renata Gerve. Tickets for the concert are now on sale at Snow's Concert Bureau.

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Next screen attraction at Warner Bros.'s Earle will be the film version of Ernest Hemingway's torrid romance "To Have and Have Not." Starring Humphrey Bogart, the picture introduces the year's most startling discovery, Lauren Bacall. The stage review will feature West and Lexing.

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Charles Steinmetz has been appointed instructor of dramatics for the new semester of the junior arts department at the Jewish Community Center. At present Mr. Steinmetz is completing work for his master's degree in speech and drama at Catholic University. He has also participated in some 20 productions at the university since 1940. Children from 7 to 12 are eligible to register for study under Mr. Steinmetz.

Correspondent to Speak

Tris Coffin, Coumbia Broadcasting System correspondent, will discuss "Europe Following the Peace" at the Jewish Community Center International Institute at 8:45 p.m. Tuesday at the Community Center, Sixteenth and Q streets N.W.

AMUSEMENTS.

TRANS-LUX
OPENS 10 A.M. SUNDAY
NEWS NEWS
ROOSEVELT INAUGURAL
RETREAT IN CHINA
WMAL HOURLY Newscast
"THIS IS AMERICA" GEM
"NEW AMERICANS"
Midnight Show Every Saturday

AMUSEMENTS.

NATIONAL • Tonite at 8:30 Mat. Sat. 2:30
PAUL SMALL presents
LOU HOLTZ • BENNY FIELDS • TONY & SALLY DeMARCO
★ STAR TIME ★
7 DAYS • BEG. NEXT MON. THRU SUN., MAT. & NITE, FEB. 4
A MODERNIZED VERSION OF THE
MERRY WIDOW
Franz Lehar's Immortal Musical Romance
Evgs. 1.20 to 3.60; Sun. Mat. 1.20 to 3.00; Wed. & Sat. Matn. 1.20 to 2.40 (tax incl.)
—SEAT SALE NOW—

AMUSEMENTS.

Loew's COLUMBIA F at 12th
NOW
WILLIAM POWELL
MYRNA LOY
The Thin Man Goes Home
Their first in two years!
AN M-G-M PICTURE

AMUSEMENTS.

Constitution Hall, Sat. Eve., Feb. 3, 8:30
Famous Star of Screen and Radio!
ORSON WELLES
IN PERSON! Will Lecture on
"DID WE REALLY WIN?"
Question Period from the Audience
Seats: 60c, $1.20, $1.80, $2.40, $3 incl. tax
Mrs. Dorsey's, 1108 G (Campbell's) NA. 7151

AMUSEMENTS.

HENRY FONDA
OLIVIA De HAVILLAND
the "MALE ANIMAL"
Cont. 2-11
TODAY & TOM.
2 HITS
Charles Laughton,
"THE MAN FROM DOWN UNDER."
N.Y. AVE. AT 9TH
SIDNEY LUST'S
ME 9694 HIPPODROME

AMUSEMENTS.

John BARRYMORE AND Katharine HEPBURN
IN ONE OF THE GREATEST PICTURES OF ALL TIME,
A BILL OF DIVORCEMENT
"BARRYMORE'S PORTRAYAL IS THE FINEST ALL-TIME PERFORMANCE IN THE HISTORY OF THE SCREEN."
—David O. Selznick, producer of "Gone With the Wind," "Rebecca," etc.
Little 9 ABC

AMUSEMENTS.

2 Performances Only!
February 7 and 8, 8:30 P. M.
CONSTITUTION HALL
THE ONE AND ONLY
Ballet Russe
de MONTE CARLO
Greatest Stars, New Productions
with the NATIONAL SYMPHONY
SEATS NOW: $1.20, $1.80, $2.40, $3. National Symphony Box Office, KITT'S, 1330 G St. No telephone reservations accepted. After 6 p.m., WILLARD HOTEL, NA. 5575.

SUNDAY, 4 P.M.
CONSTITUTION HALL
FEDERAL EMPLOYEES CONCERT
NATIONAL SYMPHONY
HANS KINDLER, Conductor
Beethoven
Fifth Symphony
Works by JOHANN STRAUSS, MORTON GOULD, BRAHMS, WEBER, HUMPERDINCK
SEATS—60c, 90c, $1.20, $1.80—National Symphony Box Office, Kitt's, 1330 G St. NA. 7332; or through Federal Recreational Counselors.

TONIGHT at 8:30
CONSTITUTION HALL
15/30 SERIES
NATIONAL SYMPHONY
HANS KINDLER, Conductor
Soloist
OSCAR LEVANT
GRIEG Piano Concerto; Works by GERSHWIN, MOZART, WAGNER, BRAHMS
Single Seats: $1.20, $1.80, $2.40; Series Tickets (3 Concerts): $2.10, $3.30, $4.20. National Symphony Box Office, Kitt's, 1330 G St. NA. 7332.

NOW DOORS OPEN 10:45 A. M.
RKO KEITH'S
A Washington Institution
Opp. U. S. Treasury on 15th St.
DEANNA... in her first TECHNICOLOR triumph! with the Miracle Melodies of JEROME KERN!
Deanna DURBIN
CAN'T HELP SINGING in TECHNICOLOR
"FILMDOM'S OKLAHOMA!" —FRANK QUINN, MIRROR
ORCHIDS! KERN'S MUSICAL RAINBOW —WALTER WINCHELL
SIX NEW SONGS!
"More and More" "Californ-i-ay" "Any Moment Now" and others!
with ROBERT PAIGE AKIM TAMIROFF
DAVID BRUCE LEONID KINSKEY RAY COLLINS JUNE VINCENT
ANDREW TOMBES THOMAS GOMEZ
A UNIVERSAL PICTURE
COMING—"HOUSE OF FRANKENSTEIN"

The Final Week To See Year's Most Exciting GAY FUN
TODAY ♥ DOORS OPEN 10:00 A.M.
Irene DUNNE • Charles BOYER
A Columbia Picture
"Together Again"
WITH Charles COBURN
Also ON SCREEN "PLEDGE to BATAAN"
GEN. MacARTHUR'S RETURN TO PHILIPPINES
Held On Stage
NIP NELSON, the Laugh Specialist... JEAN, JACK & JUDY breakneck antics... SONDRA BARRETT, "Lady of Dance"... ROXYETTES - unique Rhythms JO LOMBARDI Overture... "FRIML MELODIES"
Warner Bros. EARLE 13th Near F
LATE SHOPPER'S SHOW TONIGHT 9:10 P.M.
Give to the "MARCH OF DIMES"

TODAY
Warner Bros. METROPOLITAN F St. near 10th
See 62 GREAT STARS in WARNER BROS.' Biggest "HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN"
Fun! Music! Songs! Girls!
DOORS OPEN for FUN 10:30 A. M.
Late Shopper's Show Tonight 9:15 P.M.

Full Course DINNER $1.50
Crystal Room
1705 K STREET N.W.
No Tax • No Cover • No Minimum

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79 years of buying, selling and lending on diamonds, jewelry, etc.
Liberal Loans at Lowest Possible Rates
OLD GOLD BOUGHT
E. HEIDENHEIMER
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"VALUE A FACT" 1215 H St. N.W. NA. 1527

Herb Sachs presents
"Maxine"
STAR OF HOUR of CHARM
VINCENT PIRRO and his ORCHESTRA
NO COVER • R.S.V.P.
Del Rio
727 15th St. N.W.

AMUSEMENTS.

PIX 13TH AT H N.W.
A MOMENT OF ECSTASY —AN ETERNITY OF HELL!
STARTING TOMORROW
TELL YOUR CHILDREN
The sweet "pill" that makes life bitter.
See BEAUTIFUL BODIES
Dope created ecstacy avalanching into frightful perversions

PIX
LAST DAY FOR NEVER BEFORE SUCH PRAISE
"LIFE DANCES ON" "UN CARNET DE BAL"
REX HARRISON JUNE CLYDE DIANA CHURCHILL ROONEY BRENT HENRY WENDALL
SCHOOL FOR HUSBANDS

GAYETY MET. 8662 9TH bet. E&F NOW PLAYING
2 CONT. MAT. 12:00 TO 5:00
Laurel and Hardy BURLESQUE
DIRECT FROM THE STAR & GARTER REVUE
GEORGIA SOTHERN
EVES. 8:30 RES. SEATS
HELD OVER NEXT WEEK GEORGIA SOTHERN

a shy guy... but sly...
HE GETS $100,000 FOR A KISS (and you'll get a million dollars' worth of fun!)
what a man!
VAN JOHNSON
BETWEEN TWO WOMEN
with
LIONEL BARRYMORE ★ GLORIA De HAVEN
KEENAN WYNN • MARILYN MAXWELL
ALMA KRUGER • MARIE BLAKE • KEYE LUKE
A gay-with-laughter, happy-with-surprise love affair from M-G-M! About a guy who didn't want to make love—and two lovelies who changed his mind!
Original Screen Play by Harry Ruskin • Directed by WILLIS GOLDBECK • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

on stage • in person
CLIFF NAZARRO
Famous Double Talking Comedian
PEGGY TAYLOR TRIO • DE CASTRO SISTERS
Extra Added CARDINI
Sam Jack Kaufman • Lynn Allison ★ Mitt Slessor
TODAY
Doors open 10:45
Loew's CAPITOL F at 14th

M·G·M's glorious love story with music and TECHNICOLOR!...
The joy-film of the nation! It's a smash at New York's Astor Theatre where it's been hailed as "A miracle of entertainment!"
SONGS
7 Song Hits!
By Hugh Martin and Ralph Blane Featuring the Hit Parade Tune, "The Trolley Song", as only Judy can sing it!
Judy Garland WITH Margaret O'Brien
in
MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS
MARY ASTOR • LUCILLE BREMER • TOM DRAKE • MARJORIE MAIN
SCREEN PLAY BY IRVING BRECHER AND FRED F. FINKLEHOFFE • BASED ON THE BOOK BY SALLY BENSON • DIRECTED BY VINCENTE MINNELLI • PRODUCED BY ARTHUR FREED • AN M-G-M PICTURE

LOEW'S PALACE
F at 13th
STARTS TODAY
Doors Open 10:45 Last Feature 9:35

FIGHT INFANTILE PARALYSIS—JOIN THE MARCH OF DIMES

FIGHT INFANTILE PARALYSIS—JOIN THE MARCH OF DIMES