

The Film World

1935's BEST ACTING PERFORMANCES

McLaglen Tops the List: Laughton's "Ruggles"

ALTHOUGH the calendar gives October as the tenth month of the year, it is actually the end of the picture producers' year. Contracts are now being signed for the 1936 product.



VICTOR McLAGLEN.

"His Gypso Nolan in 'The Informer' was the finest piece of acting to come from the screen this year."

and the first of these films will be shown in New Zealand theatres any day now. American papers are busy picking the best acting performances of 1935—and top places in "Liberty," the American weekly, are given to three European stars, Victor McLaglen, Elisabeth Bergner and Charles Laughton.

In a recent review of "The Informer" on this page, I said: Victor McLaglen is the Informer—half-child, brutal and loving in turn, a madman, a drunkard, a coward; all these he portrays with the sincerity of a great actor. It is the best thing McLaglen's ever done.

"Liberty" says: First of all, there is Victor McLaglen's Gypso Nolan in "The Informer." Not only is this the finest bit of acting to come from the screen this year, but quite likely the cleanest, surest characterisation yet drawn for the talkies.

Then there is Freddie Washington, who played Louise Beavers's daughter in "Imitation of Life." Her role, that of a cultured Negress, was of a type that "popular" stories have dodged as too dangerous for mass consumption. But Miss Washington, with little apparent effort, etched all the tragedy and futility of the educated Negro.

Freddie Bartholomew was perfect as the young David Copperfield; and another Englishman, Charles Laughton, did a delightful caricature of the making of an American in "Ruggles of Red Gap." In the film "Escape Me Never," Elisabeth Bergner gives a performance that for sheer technical dexterity is too fine to be missed. And, of course, any list should include Paul Muni's muddled miner in the turbulent "Black Fury."

SYLVIA SIDNEY, one of the funniest, wittiest and most spontaneous off-the-screen comediennees in Hollywood, is bringing her laugh-making talents to the screen in her role in "Accept on Youth," Paramount's film version of the Broadway stage success in which she is co-starred with Herbert Marshall. Though only 21 years old, Miss Sidney is a veteran actress with six years' experience on stage and screen, and virtually all of her roles have been of the semi-tragic variety. In fact, she has been so constantly engaged in dramatic roles that she has deliberately cultivated comedy talents off-stage.

GRACIE FIELDS' Special Broadcast To N.Z. and Australia



On Sunday evening next Gracie Fields will broadcast from London a 15-minute message which will include two songs from her newest and brightest film, "Look Up and Laugh." This broadcast, which is being relayed by 40 Australian stations, will be available to New Zealand listeners from the stations mentioned below at eight o'clock, New Zealand summer time.

Tune in to the Following Stations on
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6,
at 8 O'Clock (N.Z. Time):

Station 2UW, Sydney	(1110 k.c., 270.1 m.)
Station 3DB, Melbourne	(1030 k.c., 291.1 m.)
Station 5KA, Adelaide	(1200 k.c., 249.9 m.)
Station 6IX, Perth	(1240 k.c., 241.8 m.)
Station 4BC, Brisbane	(1120 k.c., 267.7 m.)

**COMING SOON— GRACIE IN
"LOOK UP AND LAUGH"**

(An Associated Talking Picture)