



Marco Polo apparently had a way with the women. A scene from the Goldwyn-United Artists' production, "The Adventures of Marco Polo," starring Gary Cooper, which has just been released.

myself with the assurance that the lovers would be reunited when the war was over, when the film got going again. In a way, I wasn't sorry it did, because most of the action, the spectacle and the suspense is in the last part.

Five years having passed, and Wellington having come to the rescue and symbolically blown up an enormous number of fortresses (their names are very conveniently carved on them in huge block capitals so you won't mistake Talavera for Salamanca, and

ably rewarded by a British victory, release from jail, and reunion with Don Diego.

This Don Diego being a French spy, he has to wear disguise most of the picture; and he keeps his secret so well that he never looks like anybody else but that very self-confident young American named Allan Jones. If this seems a quaint disguise for a Napoleonic spy to assume, let me hasten to add that it really is Mr. Jones all the time.

Mr. Jones's acting is distinguished by some very fine singing. In the case of Miss MacDonald there is some vivacious Spanish dancing as well.

KAY TO RETIRE

Five Husbands-No More Films

ACCORDING to a New York correspondent, when Kay Francis marries her fifth husband in September the film studios will see her no more. She is said to have announced this herself.

Husband Number Five will be Baron Eric Barnekow, aviation expert. The wedding bells are scheduled to ring immediately Miss Francis's seven years' contract with Warner Brothers ends.

so on), the Firefly again decides to fly out of the fire into the frying pan and uncover more secrets behind the French lines.

Musical Victory

THIS causes the Battle of Vittoria—or so one gathers. The heroine, having been unmasked, watches it between the bars of her French prison window. While the opposing armies drop high-explosive shells all around her, Miss MacDonald sings for her lover, her voice rising dolefully but triumphantly above the clamour of battle. Such devotion to music is suit-

Donkey's Serenade

PUTTING aside the vast amount of padding, one can discover much good entertainment in "The Firefly." Most of the music by Rudolph Friml is first-rate, and it is done full justice by the beautifully-denticulated voices of Miss MacDonald and Mr. Jones. Charming in the extreme is the "Donkey's Serenade" sequence, in which a melodious number is enhanced by adroit direction.

The plot doesn't call for such an imposing supporting cast as is usually encountered in M.-G.-M. pictures, but Warren William, Billy Gilbert and George Zucco are all worth watching.

["The Firefly," M.-G.-M. directed by Robert Z. Leonard. Starring Jeanette MacDonald, Allan Jones. First release: Wellington, June 3.

Lupin Returns

M-G-M have done a good deed by resurrecting Arsene Lupin, the jewel-thieving genius who amused and excited us way back in 1932. Then it was John Barrymore (or was it Lionel? Perhaps both) who broke the law and won our hearts: now it is Melvyn Doug-

las. He stars in "Arsene Lupin Returns," a romantic mystery nearly as polished and sparkling as the emerald which causes all the trouble in the story.

You see, when Arsene Lupin disappeared in the person of Barrymore and became transformed into Douglas, he really meant to go straight, raise pigs and chickens on his French estate, and eventually marry Virginia Bruce. But when somebody started writing his name on pieces of paper and dropping them around for the police to pick up, and when on top of all this an emerald was stolen and someone was murdered—well, obviously Arsene Lupin had to come out of retirement to protect his copyright.

Most Involved

I THINK I'm probably as good as any neighbour when it comes to unravelling the delightful complications of Miss Dorothy Sayers or Mr. Ellery Queen, but in this case the comings and goings of M. Lupin, the switching of the real emerald with the fake one, and all the other tricks of expert jewelers were just a trifle too involved for my liking.

However, whenever the detection became too difficult, it was pleasant to relax and just enjoy the acting of Melvyn Douglas (who is so polite and charming that, if I had any emeralds, I'd like him to steal them) and Warren William, who is the superior ex-G-man on



ROSS MEIKLE, manager of the Regent Theatre, Wellington, and formerly of Wanganui's Regent, who is now enjoying a well-deserved six weeks' holiday in Australia.

the trail, and Virginia Bruce, John Halliday, George Zucco and particularly E. E. Clive and Nat Pendleton. Messrs. Clive and Pendleton are Arsene's former henchmen who turn up in France like bloodhounds as soon as there's a whiff of Lupin in the air.

Amusing People

ALL these characters talk and behave most divertingly. The calm way in which the crook and the detective bandy epigrams in the tensest situations is really extraordinary, but then not many crooks have had such a good education as Arsene Lupin. Although most of the characters are French and most of the action takes place in France, everybody is considerate