New York Times, 8/16/39

PERSON to celebrate the Fall opening MICKEY

ROONEY JUDY

GARLAND

(with Georgie Stoll and his orchestra) in a marvelous specially created act! 5 performances daily!

DOORS OPEN at 8:45 A. M.

Air-Conditioned

Major Edward Bowes Managing Director

Starts TOMORROW — the new fall season begins with the greatest attraction of them all l

THE MIGHTY MIRACLE SHOW THAT IS THE TALK OF AMERICA!

M-G-M's TECHNICOLOR Triumph!



How would you like to live in the merry old land of Oz?

Oz! Where troubles are unknown because it's east of the rainbow's trail! Oz! Where a mighty wizard grants every wish closest to your heart's desire! Oz! Where nights are gay with love and laughter and musie fills the air! All aboard -for the wonderful,





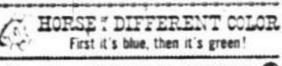


AMAZING SIGHTS TO



- See actual photographs of the inside!

A whole city populated by midgets! Ly



Startling BALLOON ASCENT. See Emerald City from the stratosphere! 3

CETTING MONKETS New and amazing camera effects! TREES THAT TALK AND THROW APPLES

.MORE! .MORE!! .MORE!!! 9200 LIVING ACTORS THRILL YOU!



JUDY GARLAND

as DOROTHY who is whirled away by a cyclone to Oz! Your singing darling grander than ever!



FRANK MORGAN

your 'Good News' favorite in his most riotous role as "THE WIZARD OF OZ"



Ziegleld's famed denoing ster as the STRAW MANI

MAGIC MUSIC! by Harold Aries and E. Y. Harburg

"Over the Rainbow" "We're Off To See The Wisard"

Ding-dong! The Witch Is Dead!" "If I Only Had A Brain!" "The Merry Old Land of Oz!"

Also in the Cost of Thousands BILLIE BURKE - MARGARET HAMILTON CHARLEY GRAPEWIN . The MUNCHKINS Produced by MERVYN LeROY Directed by VICTOR FLEMING Screen Play by Noel Langley, Florence Ryerson and Edgar Allan Woolf. From the Book by L. Frank Baum A VICTOR FLEMING PRODUCTION A Metro - Goldwyn - Mayor Picture



screen and radio



eomedian as the MAN singing COW. Last Times Today—"FOUR FEATHERS" In Technicolor

New York Times, 8/17/39

PHOTOPLAYS

PHOTOPLAYS

HELLO`

NEW YORK!

DOORS OPEN at 8:45 A. M.

PERSON

To celebrate a memorable occasion

Mickey ROONEY Judy GARLAND

(with Georgie Stoll and his archestra) They sing and dance in a wonderful specially created act!

Air-Conditioned

Gala NEW Season Premiere TODAY

NO ADVANCE IN PRICES

5 performances daily

We're off to see the Wizard The Wonderful Wizard of Oz. We hear he is

A Whiz of a Wiz

If ever a Wiz there was.

If ever, if ever a Wiz there was, The Wizard of Oz is one becoz -Becoz, becoz, becoz, becoz, becoz, Becozof the wonderful things he doz.

We're off to see the Wizard The Wonderful

M-G-M's TECHNICOLOR PRODUCTION - 2 years in production with a cast of 9200, including Judy Garland as Dorothy, Frank Morgan as The Wizard, Ray Bolger as the Scarecrow, Bert Lahr as the Cowardly Lion, Jack Haley as the Tin Woodman, also Billie Burke as the Good Witch, Margaret Hamilton as the Bad Witch, Charley Grapewin as Uncle Henry, Toto as himself, and the Munchkins.

Screen Play by Noel Langley, Florence Ryerson and Edgar Allan Woolf. From the book by L. Frank Baum. AVICTOR FLEMING Production. Produced by MERVYNLEROY. Directed by VICTOR FLEMING. Lyrics by E. Y. Harburg. Music by Harold Arlen.

TECHNICOLOR METRO - GOLDWYN - MAYER PICTURE

THE SCREEN IN REVIEW

'The Wizard of Oz,' Produced by the Wizards of Hollywood, Works Its Magic on the Capitol's Screen-March of Time Features New York

THE WIZARD OF OZ, screen play by Noel Langley, Florence Ryerson and Edgar Allan Woolf, adapted from the book by L. Frank Baum, musical adaptation by Herbert Stothart, lyrics by E. Y. Harburg and music by Harold Arien, special effects by Arnold Gillespie, directed by Victor Fleming; produced by Mervyn LeRoy for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. At the Capitol.

Dorothy ...Judy Garland Professor Maryel (the Wizard)

Frank Morgan Hunk (the Scarecrow) Ray Bolger Zeke (the Cowardly Lion) Bert Lahr Hickory (Tin Woodman) ... Jack Haley Glinda (the Good Witch) ... Billie Burke Miss Gulch (the Wicked Witch), Margaret Hamilton

Nikko Pat Walshe With the Singer Midgets as the Munchkins.

By FRANK S. NUGENT

By courtesy of the wizards of Hollywood, "The Wizard of Oz" reached the Capitol's screen yesterday as a delightful piece of wonderworking which had the youngsters' eves shining and brought a quietly amused gleam to the wiser ones of the oldsters. Not since Disney's "Snow White" has anything quite so fantastic succeeded half so well. A fairybook tale has been told in the fairybook style, with witches, goblins, pixies and other wondrous things drawn in the brightest colors and set cavorting to a merry little score. It is all so well-intentioned, so genial and so gay that any reviewer who would look down his nose at the fun-making should be spanked and sent off, supperless, to bed.

Having too stout an appetite to chance so dire a punishment, we shall merely mention, and not dwell upon, the circumstance that even such great wizards as those who lurk in the concrete caverns of California are often tripped in their flights of fancy by trailing vines of piano wire and outcroppings of putty noses. With the best of will and ingenuity, they cannot make a Munchkin or a Flying Monkey that will not still suggest, however vaguely, a Singer's midget in a Jack Dawn masquerade. Nor can they, without a few betraying jolts and split-screen overlappings, bring down from the sky the great soap bubble in which the Good Witch rides and roll it smoothly into place. But then, of course, how can any one tell what a Munchkin, a Flying Monkey or a witch-bearing bubble would be like and how comport themselves under such remarkable circumstances?

And the circumstances of Dorothy's trip to Oz are so remarkable, indeed, that reason cannot deal that lifted Dorothy and her little holding Oz's Munchkins in thraffA scared of sheep. And what he wants



Judy Garland

Dorothy was quite a heroine, but she did want to get back to Kansas and her Aunt Em; and her only hope of that, said Glinda, the Good Witch of the North, was to see the Wizard of Oz who, as every one knows, was a whiz of a Wiz if ever a Wiz there was. So Dorothy sets off for the Emerald City, hexed by the brogmstick-riding sister of the late Wicked Witch and accompanied, in due time, by three of Frank Baum's most enchanting creations, the Scarecrow, the Tin Woodman and the Cowardly Lion.

Judy Garland's Dorothy is a pert and fresh-faced miss with the wonder-lit eyes of a believer in fairy tales, but the Baum fantasy is at its best when the Scarecrow, the Woodman and the Lion are on the The Scarecrow, with the elastic, dancing legs of Ray Bolger, joins the pilgrimage in search of brains; the Woodman, an armorplated Jack Haley, wants a heart; the Cowardly Lion, comicalest of with them at all. It blinks, and all, is Bert Lahr with an artisticalit must wink, too, at the cyclone ly curled mane, a threshing tail and a timid heart. As he mourns dog, Toto, right out of Kansas and in one of his hallads, his Lion deposited them, not too gently, on hasn't the prowess of a mow-ess; the conical cap of the Wicked he can't sleep for brooding; he Witch of the East who had been can't even count sheep because he's

is courage to make him king of the forest so that even being afraid of a thinocerus would be imposerus. Mr. Lahr's lion is fion.

There, in a few paragraphs, are most of the elements of the fantasy. We haven't time for the rest. but we must mention the talking trees that pelt the travelers with apples, the witch's sky-written warning to the Wizard, the enchanted poppy field, the magnificent humbuggery of Frank Morgan's whiz of a Wizjand the marvel of the chameleonlike "horse of another color." They are entertaining conceits all of them, presented with a naive relish for their absurdity and out of an obvious-and thoroughly natural—desirs on the part of their fabricators to show what they could do. It is clear enough that Mr. Dawn, the make-up wizard, Victor Flening. directorthe wizard, Arnold Gillespie, the special effects wizard, and Mervyn LeRoy. the producing wizard, were pleased as Punches with the tricks they played. They have every reason to be.

New York Times, 8/18/39

Detroit News, 8/23/39



Detroit News, 8/24/39



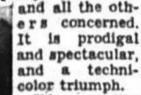
Wizard of Oz' Prodigal Piece

Color Triumph Opens United Artists

By Len G. Shaw

There is so much to be said in sommendation of "The Wizard of Os" that your correspondent, who gates back to when the L. Frank gaum story was the eighth wonder of the stage, finds himself a bit bewildered in selecting a spot from which to take off. Certainly no happier medium could have men chosen for reopening the United Artists Theater than this fantasy which Victor Fleming directed, Mervyn LeRoy produced and Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer bank-rolled without any reservations.

Maybe fantasy isn't just the right word, but that fine point held no concern for Thursday's celebrants, who, without dissent as far as could be detected, voted it grand entertainment. Certainly the wizards of Hollywood have gone handsomely by the Ozites



The excitement begins when a Kansas cyclone picks Judy Garland, as the heroine of the tale, up and whisks her off toward the Land of Oz, in a manner you must discover

Miss Garland for yourself.
From there on there is no letdown,
even in the final fadeout, a sentimental sequence that points a bit
of a moral.

Judy a Pert Dorothy

Judy Garland really comes into her own as the pert and wide-eyed Dorothy of the yarn, charming, simulating childish amazement and sometimes alarm with a nat rainess that never suggests precocity, supplementing it all-agreeably with her rendition of songs that are almost Gilbertan in their jingle.

Of course, she has as companions on this fanciful journey to the wonderful land of Munchkin, rubber-legged Ray Bolger, as the Scarecrow who longs for a brain; Jack Haley as the Tin Woodman who laments his inability to do kind things because he has no heart, and the Cowardly-Lion, in the person of Bert Lahr, who lacks only courage to make him king of the forest.

All are highly effective, but we think you will agree that Lahr, strikingly realistic in jungle makeup, is especially good as the terror-stricken big cat, a blend of comedy and emotion that stands close inspection.

A Charming Good Witch

You'll be interested in observing fuffy Billie Burke as the good witch, emerging from an iridescent bubble that grows and disappears before your eyes in a most mystifying manner. Against her there is the wicked witch of Margaret Hamilton, a bit terrifying even for grownups.

Frank Morgan frolics funnily, whether as Prof. Marvel in the opening episodes or as the Wizard of Oz in the labyrinths of the great palace in the Emerald City. It is no reflection on his work as a whole to say that he is tops in his moments as the scheming char-

iatan of the road, with his hocuspocus crystal gazing.

There's Toto, too, Dorothy's dog which sometimes seems almost human.

A veritable army of midget Munchkins parades against highly colored backgrounds such as only a vivid imagination could conjure or Hollywood produce. The same is true of the bewitched orchard, where apple trees talk and pelt the venturesome pilgrims; the enchanted poppy field, the horse of another color that turns, chameleon-like, while you watch, the breath taking reaches of the Emerald Palace, and so much more that it would be useless to even attempt to catalog it ever so briefly.

A little more comedy would liven "The Wizard of Oz." But you can't expect everything. And this is enough for once—maybe twice or three times, if you are so inclined.

Detroit Free Press, 8/25/39

Detroit News, 8/25/39

By AL WEITSCHAT

"THE WIZARD OF OZ," from the bookscatory note which mentions "the to It Frank Baum, directed by Victor Flaming produced by Metro Goldwin-Mayer. At the United Artists Theater, Pat Watshie ara Blandick Tota The Singer Mickets as the Munchkins

THERE can be little doubt now natural color, is an ideal medium for the presentation of fantasy.

Another Triumph pen and in Field of "Snow White" Fantasy demonstrated

blood players.

"The Wizard of Oz," but the studio satire, boisterous humor and simple looks and behavior, and Frank Morsuccess. As "Snow White" proved. the fairy tale knows no limitation in appeal. Young and old of all classes in certain respects, but without detand races can partake of its enjoy- rimental effect. It is all to the good

young in heart," and no term better describes the vast field for which the picture is intended. If you are not young in heart, it will make YOU SO.

The story, as you know, is as American in origin as apple ple and ice cream. L. Frank Baum wrote of her young shoulders the dramatic a little Kansas girl who was borne burden of the plot, and bears it unon the fury of a tornado to the land falteringly. Ray Bolger is the Straw of the Munchkins, and there, with Man, Jack Haley the Tin Woodman a Straw Man who wanted a brain, and Bert Labr the Cowardly Lion I that the screen, augmented by a Tin Woodman who wanted a Labr's performance leaps the bounds heart, and a Cowardly Lion who of artificiality to make the lion a Walt wanted courage, traveled to see the pathetic and lovable source of fun. Disney, with his Wizard of Oz, reputed giver of all Nobody ever dreamed that bits of brush these things. An evil witch beset business he learned in the burlesque them (with terrifying perils along circuit would some day bolster him its the way, but eventually they reached in a show-stealing interpretafeasibility in one the dazzling Emerald City, where tion in these surroundings, but it's form, and MGM here does it in an- the Wizard, revealed as a kindly true. Billie Burke as the good witch other-with the use of flesh and trickster, gave each his desire and Margaret Hamilton as the bad wrapped up in a bundle of homely one are others in a cast that fung-More than \$3,000,000 and prodigi- humbug. As in all fairy stories, the tions fluissiva. Miss Hamilton is a ous and painstaking labor went into fantasy has its threads of gentle

License was taken with the story ment. "The Wizard" has a dedic that an epilog bridges the gap between reality and imagination showing that the characters in the fantasy were inspired by real people on the farm of Dorothy's aunt. There is nothing illogical either in attributing Dorothy's wonderful experiences to delirium following a

> blow on the head. the locust plague in "The Good mean it.

Earth," the gale in "The Hurricane," and the earthquake in "San Francisco' in the gallery of unforgettable achievements. The coing in the scene of the Munchin's welcome to Dorothy, in which more than 200 gally-garbed Singer's midgets take part; in the journey through the intest; in witch's cerie castle, and in the Emerald City of the Wizard is so bewideringly beautiful it defies description. It makes vivid and real the concept of the never, never land created in the mind of Baum

Sweet Judy Garland carries on

singularly wicked creature in her gan is a singularly jovial humbug as the Wizard.

In music alone is "The Wizard" overshadowed by "Snow White." The score has a fetching sone, "Over the Rainbow," beautifully sung by Judy, a lively marching tune, "We're

Off to See the Wizard," and some funny ditties by Lahr, but generally it does not match the distinctive array of the Disney picture.

It happens all too seldom but The Wizard of Oz" offers exhibitors Technically the triumphs are another opportunity to hang out the many. The tornado belongs with come one, come all sign, and

Ann Arbor News, 9/15/39



Ann Arbor News, 9/16/39



Ann Arbor News, 9/20/39



Detroit News, 10/27/39



