

NEW THEATRE OPENS WITH CEREMONY

By DON SHORT

Almost the entire populace of North Park acclaimed Emil Klika the "biggest man" of the hour last night when the new West Coast North Park theatre was officially opened. Klika built it and from the time he first entered the handsome lobby and took his seat there was stirring applause for the man who has done so much for the community. And when he was called to the stage to be introduced he was tendered an ovation. Klika modestly thanked all his friends.

The theatre is handsome and is the first in San Diego to be built especially for sound, synchronized and talking pictures. The program last night is evidence that for that purpose it is one of the best on the Pacific coast.

Long before the time for opening the doors long lines of waiting patrons gathered in the vicinity of the theatre. The house was filled to capacity early in the evening. Councilman Frank Seifert was there to welcome the crowd in behalf of the city and to extend congratulations to Emil Klika and the West Coast Theatre,

Inc., lessees of the house. Seifert explained that Mayor Clark was unable to be present. Seifert, however, was equal to the occasion, with one of his characteristic speeches of praise for everybody associated with the new theatre. He introduced Harry L. Hartman, manager of the West Coast interests in San Diego, who in brief remarks thanked the residents of North Park for their interest in the new house. Remarks were offered by President Matthews, of the North Park Business Men's association after which the regular theatre program was offered. Jamie Erickson, San Diego's favorite organist, was given frequent applause for his mastery playing on the new organ. The Fox movie-tone news seemed to be the best talking picture yet offered in San Diego.

The Mack and the New California theatre music masters entertained with a lively program and the Pantheon and Marco acts from the California brought out prolonged applause. The dancing of "Lumber" Edwards and the concertos of Betty Ruth were featured. Other acts of the Pantheon and Marco "Gip Glop" idea, were presented. The pictures included a Mack Bennett comedy and "Win That Girl," which was given here for the first time. "Win That Girl" is a football story that is exciting and really interesting, as most of the action takes place on the gridiron.

The West Coast Theatre, Inc., promises North Park people the best there is in sight and sound entertainment.

Between Acts

By DON SHORT

Eddie Fotherston is the chief fun-maker with "The Desert Song." He claims that women feel sorry for him.

"It may be Freud's 'Epicurus complex,' or it may be just plain sympathy for the underdog, but the audience, and women in particular, like to feel sorry for me. They enjoy pathos and laugh at me as a relief. As a matter of fact, if they didn't laugh, they'd cry," he said last night.

"When I first went on the stage, and that was not yesterday, I learned to play comedy as if I were playing Oedipus. There was no humor in my part, and there very seldom is.

"My lines, although they are meant for laughs, are not funny themselves. It is the figure of the pathetic little man who draws the laughs. Not quite at him are they laughing, nor yes with him. They're sorry for him, so they get relief by laughing.

"That's how I run up against my mental menace."

If you know a mental menace when you meet it, you'll understand but I didn't, so he went into detail. "Suppose, for instance, that a big bully came on the stage and told me he was going to kill me. I wouldn't like that, of course, and I'd show my fight.

"The audience would sympathize with me; feel sorry for me—but they'd laugh. You couldn't convince them that it wasn't all comedy."

"No, you can't acquire pathos," he replied to a question. "It's just something like Madame Glyn's 'It.' Either you are 'It' or you're not. Now, I have no sex appeal. I know that. But women feel sorry for me, pity me and laugh at me. I'm it, too."