

'FLYING SAUCER' STORIES MANNA FOR HOLLYWOOD

Public reaction to reports of "flying saucers" has been as meat and drink to Hollywood. Another adventure in the spate of pseudo-scientific fantasies is included in four new releases in city theatres this week.

This time "The Thing" from another world comes to earth to terrorise man.

More down to earth is a comedy of precocious children who make trouble for man and woman in a different way. It is "Week-End with Father."

A drama in which cynicism and double dealing sharpen interest is "The Light Touch."

Action with swords clashing and horses galloping is the main feature of a new thriller in the Dumas tradition. "Sword of Monte Cristo."

METRO

**"THE LIGHT TOUCH":
Antique art and modern cynicism, crooked dealing and religious zeal in a setting of Sicily and Tunis.**

This film could have been better if less background music had been used and the ending been more realistic. It is probably only on the screen that hardened criminals are suddenly redeemed by the

suddenly redeemed by the love of good women, but the cliché persists. The cynicism of some of the best dialogue loses its full savour when the happy ending is in sight.

Pier Angeli is a little Italian actress whose name has been altered in Hollywood. She has beauty and charm, and a role less naive will display her talent more fully.

Stewart Granger plays the leading role, and George Sanders is exactly as in so many films. The scenery is very unusual and picturesque; and the story in general is more adult than most films.—
D. L. WAKKER.

WINTERGARDEN

"WEEK - END WITH FATHER": American children are notoriously precocious and in this comedy two little darlings try to wreck an adult romance. The setting is a summer camp, and stars are Van Heflin and Patricia Neal.

REGENT

"THE THING": Inspired partly by the popular song and partly by the reports of "flying saucers," this up-to-date thriller shows what happens when polar explorers

pens when polar explorers find a monster from another world.

ST. JAMES

"THE SWORD OF MONTE CRISTO": Super cinecolor, a new colour process, adds to the attraction of this romantic 19th century drama, adapted from a Dumas story. Blonde beauty, Paula Corday, masquerades as a cavalier and George Montgomery, plays a guardsman leading a revolt.

TIVOLI

"TEN TALL MEN": The kidnapping of a princess is among the many excitements offered in this action-filled drama. Jody Lawrence is the princess, and Burt Lancaster, as a member of the Foreign Legion, plays a dashing part in tribal warfare and intrigue.

MAJESTIC

"MA AND PA KETTLE AT THE FAIR": Marjorie Main and Percy Kilbride once more portray the popular rustic couple with the enormous family. This time their efforts to win fame and fortune at the Country Fair result in disappointment for them, but

in entertainment for the audience.

LYCEUM

"CASABLANCA": A feast of fine acting is provided in this drama of love and intrigue among European war refugees in Morocco. The exceptionally brilliant cast includes Ingrid Bergman, Humphrey Bogart, Paul Henreid, Claude Rains, and Sydney Greenstreet.

REX

"MR. BELVEDERE RINGS THE BELL": The omniscient Mr. Belvedere, who was such a success as a baby-sitter in "Sitting Pretty," proves equally ingenious in brightening the lives of inmates of an old people's home. The polished acting of Clifton Webb atones for some improbable incidents in the new comedy.

EMBASSY

"ACROSS THE WIDE MISSOURI": Picturesque drama of pioneer trappers and Indians, in which fine landscape photography compensates for a rather slow-moving story. Good perform-

ing story. Good performances are given by Clark Gable and Adolphe Menjou

CIVIC

"CLOAK AND DAGGER":

The suave acting of Gary Cooper and sophisticated charm of Lilli Palmer are the main attractions in this drama of the Secret Service in wartime Italy. On the same programme is a circus story. "The Waggon Roll at Night."

CARLTON

Newsreels and short features.

SUBURBAN THEATRES

For details of all programmes, see advertising columns. For screening times of feature films at city theatres, see "At Your Service" column.