

Harold Bell Wright Film at the Rialto

"The Winning of Barbara Worth," which opened at the Rialto Saturday evening, has earned new laurels for Henry King, its director, and for Samuel Goldwyn, its producer.

King has turned out what may be the greatest picture of his career and it is great because he tells it simply and without pretentiousness. "Barbara Worth" has a swing and an onward movement throughout which are the mark of genius.

The picture brings to the spotlight an entirely new and different Ronald Colman and Vilma Banky. Colman is magnificently unique, the matinee idol atmosphere which surrounded some of his earlier productions is entirely absent, and it is easy to believe that he has no difficulty in proving himself a real man among men.

Vilma is beautiful and, more than that, she is in her role as an American ideal—for that is what Barbara Worth has become, especially on the west coast. Whether it is the genius of King which has made her into a girl more American than the Americans or whether it is her own native ability cannot so easily be determined.

In any event, Miss Banky not only portrays Barbara Worth, but she is Barbara Worth, and it is easy to believe that Samuel Goldwyn was right when he said "Miss Banky can look more like an American girl than any girl I know. The trouble with most American actresses is that they try to look like foreigners."

But it is not the individual characters, so much as it is the picture as a whole which marks "The Winning of Barbara Worth" as a truly epic production. It is a director's picture from start to finish. The feeling of the loneliness and the awesomeness of the American desert are marvelously brought out both by the use of hundreds and hundreds of characters and by such simple and unpretentious little scenes as a rattlesnake crawling out

of a skull, the bones of a dead horse, the "unseeing" look on an actor's face or a crying baby.

The Rialto theatre, formerly known as the Kinema, has been newly renovated and completely redecorated. It was opened to the public Saturday under new management.