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Garbo's sense of humour, glimpsed in brief flashes during her reign as tragedy queen, was given full scope in *Ninotchka* which ranks, with *Camille*, *Queen Christina* and *Anna Karenina*, among the greatest Garbos, still being shown in the many special seasons of her films. Guided by the best of romantic comedy directors, Ernst Lubitsch, she gave a marvellous performance, first as a deadpan Russian commissar rapping out her lines with machine-gun speed, then transformed by Paris and Melvyn Douglas into a pleasure-loving charmer, as in this delightful drunk scene. 'Garbo Laughs!' was the ad slogan, and the world laughed with her to make it a total success. Charles Brackett, Billy Wilder and Walter Reisch adapted Melchior Lengyel's original for producer Sidney Franklin; the cast included Ina Claire, Bela Lugosi, Gregory Gave, Edwin Maxwell, Richard Carle, and *Ninotchka*'s hilarious trio of subordinates: Sig Ruman, Felix Bressart, Alexander Granach.