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"CHRISTOPHER STRONG." RKO-
Radio Pictures present a screen drama
based on a story by Gilbert Frankau.
Screen play by Zoe Akins. Directed by
Dorothy Arzner. At the Radio City
Music Hall.

THE CAST.

CynthiaKatherine Hepburn
Christopher StrongColin Clive
ElaineBillie Burke
MonicaHelen Chandler
Harry RawlinsonRalph Forbes
CarloJack LaRue
CarrieIrene Brown
BradfordGwendolin Logan
Bryce Mercer.....Desmond Roberts

By WILLIAM BOEHNEL.

KATHARINE HEPBURN'S
coronation as a cinema
star in her own right is a
considerably less than auspi-
cious event, occurring as it
does in a drama of dubious
quality called "Christopher Strong,"
the faults of which are as much the
star's as they are the author's.

Here Miss Hepburn appears as a
titled aviatrix who has been so en-
grossed in breaking altitude records
that she has never experienced the
more soothing joys of love and pas-
sion. That is, not until she is
dragged to a fashionable treasure
hunt party, where she is exhibited
as a novelty because she admits she
has never had an affair. Here she
meets Sir Christopher Strong, also
considered something of a rarity be-
cause he has had the good sense to
remain faithful to his wife for
twenty-two years.

Love Imposes Its Penalty.

In the midst of these modern so-
phisticates these two neophytes in
the ways of the world are drawn
together, and before either can say
Christopher Robinson they are in
love. However, rather than hurt
Sir Christopher's wife, they decide
to part. The titled aviatrix, Lady
Cynthia, undertakes a successful
flight around the world, and Sir
Christopher goes to New York on
government business.

Here they meet again, and the
old spark is rekindled. Returning
to London they continue their clan-
destine love-making until Lady
Cynthia learns that she is to have a
baby. Then, rather than bring sor-
row to Sir Christopher's wife, she
goes up in her airplane and delib-
erately lets it crash.

Here, perhaps, the worst should
end, and it should be possible for
one to mention that this new First
Lady of the Cinema is able to rise
above her mediocre material. Re-
grettably, however, one can say no
such thing. For Miss Hepburn does
nothing to help matters along. In-
stead she leaves some of us who
cheered her along during her mar-
vellous performance in "A Bill of
Divorcement" aghast at the ama-
teurish quality of her histrionics.

Colin Clive's Work Excellent.

For the first half of the film she
shrieks her lines in an unduly af-
fected voice, and for the rest of the
time her diction is so raspish that it
jars the nerves. Nor, indeed, can
any praise be bestowed upon any of
the others in the cast except Colin
Clive, who does an excellent piece
of work as Sir Christopher.

Poorly plotted, inexpertly directed
and amateurishly acted for the
most part, "Christopher Strong" at
least have the virtue of some beau-
tiful settings. But I am afraid that
it is just another Broadway weak-
ling.