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HONOR

(RUSSIAN MADE—SILENT)

Sovkino production, released by Amkino. Directed by A. Shirvanzada. In cast: H. Appelian, Elsie Hasnick, Tatiezan Shahdoodaklan, L. Hajinian, Madame Maysoorian. At Fifth Avenue Playhouse, week Sept. 7. Running time 70 minutes.

One of those grim Russian stories which starts with an earthquake with the dead and dying shown in close-up and ends with a murder and suicide. The story deals with customs in a small Russian town and shows husbands beating their wives and fathers horse-whipping their daughters for minor faults. Film holds little value even for the American arty house.

Sousan and Soran are engaged to be married but are forbidden to see each other until their marriage day. When the boy defies this edict and secretly meets the girl, her father is certain that her honor has been sullied and another marriage is arranged for her.

Sousan's husband hearing false gossip affecting his wife and her first lover accuse her of infidelity and kills her. Soran rushes to the funeral and, proclaiming that his sweetheart was innocent, picks a soft spot next to her and stabs himself to death.

Direction and photography are poor. Titles are in Russian and English.

About the only thing of note in this flicker is the finest collection of schnezzolas ever screened in full face and profile. One of the men doing comedy bore a close resemblance to Jimmy Durante, except that he sported a ragged crop of chin whiskers.