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PRODUCT GUIDES
Begin on Page 57

Vol. 44 No. 25
JULY 6, 1946

Product Lineup for 1946-47 is announced by RKO Radio
(See Page 10)

The Show Builder 53
M-G-M's "THE GREEN YEARS"
HELD OVER IN FIRST 5 SPOTS!

Oh, what wonderful engagements everywhere! Second Big Week in all of first 5 engagements: Richmond, Boston (2 theatres), Houston, St. Louis, Atlanta. And it's getting the long green in all new openings: Akron, Albany, Allentown, Altoona, Atlantic City, Baltimore, Bethlehem, Binghamton, Bridgeport, Canton, Charleston, W. Va., Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, Easton, Harrisburg, Hartford, Jersey City, Lancaster, Newark, New Haven, Norfolk, Philadelphia, Portland, Reading, Springfield, Mass., Toledo, Waterbury, Williamsport, Wilmington, Worcester.

Say it again! "The Green Years is a Wonderful Motion Picture!"
Outstanding favorites of the industry, these four members of the family of Eastman Films, working together, make an important contribution to higher picture quality . . .

- **Eastman Plus-X Negative**—for general production work, particularly interiors.
- **Eastman Fine Grain Duplicating Positive**—for master positives, extremely low graininess and high resolving power.
- **Eastman Fine Grain Panchromatic Duplicating Negative**—for tone rendering and printing detail equal to the original negative.
- **Eastman Fine Grain Release Positive**—for prints of excellent definition and general quality, and for highest quality sound reproduction.

**EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY**
ROCHESTER 4, NEW YORK

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., DISTRIBUTORS
FORT LEE    CHICAGO    HOLLYWOOD
TWO ENGAGEMENTS...

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents

Danny Kaye

THE KID FROM BROOKLYN

IN TECHNICOLOR

Virginia Mayo - Vera-Ellen
THE GOLDWYN GIRLS

Walter Abel - Eve Arden - Steve Cochran
Fay Bainter - Lionel Stander

Directed by Norman Z. McLeod

Adapted by John Patrick and Melville Shavelson. From a Screen Play by Graham Baker, James Butler and Richard Connell. Based on a play by Cyril Bird. Publicity Notes. Released through RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.
Opening week in April exceeded any previous week in the history of the Astor Theatre by $10,000! Still going at mighty pace.

First week sets new all-time high for the Woods Theatre. Looks like the all-time all-timer for long run!

Now Watch
BOSTON
PITTSBURGH
MINNEAPOLIS
ATLANTIC CITY
(Opener: July 4)
Night and Day you'll talk about 'Night and Day!'
STRAWs IN THE WIND

On The Pleasant Side......

Four happenings of the past week gave us a snug feeling of genuine pleasure and erased a lot of the unpleasant tensions that bothered us on some other angles. Here they are:

RKO Bob Mochrie's fine handling of that company's first post-war sales convention in New York. It was not only a great sales meeting, it was also a demonstration of the splendid team-work and loyalty of an organization that has gone through plenty of fire and hell before reaching the sunny side of the street.

"Peck" Gomersall's appointment as General Sales Manager for Enterprise Productions. This guy has gone along in his own quiet way doing business on a basis and in a manner that have won for him a host of friends in all branches of the industry. "Peck" isn't the publicity-type of executive. He had a job to do and he did it. The same quiet efficiency undoubtedly will be applied to his new job.

Ted O'Shea takes over world wide sales for Liberty Pictures, the Capra-Wyler-Stevens-Briskin unit that seems destined to take its place as one of the big production outfits in the industry. Ted is one of those rare individuals whose outstanding quality has always been sincerity and complete devotion to his job. His step up the ladder will bring unanimous approval from every one with whom he has done business everywhere in this industry.

Perhaps the greatest thrill-of-the-week was the promotion of Jack Byrne to succeed O'Shea at Metro. Jack is sort of a protege of ours. We can remember the tough time he had trying to sell us pictures back in the early 'thirties and even the occasion when he brought Bill Scully with him to smooth out a few rough spots. 'Member, Jack? Well, now you're a big shot and right here on Times Square in the middle of the merry-go-round. We haven't the slightest doubt about your being a worthy successor to Ted.

The Unpleasant Side....

The rising tide of exhibitor resentment against the auction selling idea that came out of the government anti-trust suit.

It's an amazing fact, but true nevertheless, that the Department of Justice, supposedly the friend of the little exhibitor, has succeeded in doing nothing but plague him with decrees and lawsuits that, thus far, consistently have made the exhibitor's lot a worse one to bear.

It is past, but sad, history what the original consent decree did in the way of boosting film costs and terms. The professional agitators kept telling you how block booking and selling was no good for you. (How much would you give to have it back again?)

Then the same agitators told you how divorcement would help you. Well, out of that suit, for one thing, has come something different again. Auction buying of pictures.

The agitators were calling "cop" and finally the "cop" arrived. What he brought you, you can already evaluate for yourself. So next time you see trouble looming, don't call the cop until you have exhausted every means to solve the squabble within the industry. Once the cop gets into the fight, you take a back seat and whatever is left after the lions get finished with the feast.

We've literally begged the various factions to sit down around a table and try to work out sensible solutions to the numerous trade problems. But, no, the agitators wanted "a hundred lawsuits on a hundred fronts." Divorcement! Elimination of block booking. And the fruits of this: first, the monstrous consent decree selling to boost further the film rentals, and now "auction sales."

The Coming Season...

From company announcements thus far on the 1946-47 product season, it is evident that the total number of releases will run about the same in numbers, but higher in quality and higher in costs.

But it is well to bear in mind that these announcements are made in a somewhat tentative manner and that production planned for the immediate future as well as the backlogs of pictures finished and now before the cameras can permit of a greatly amplified flow of product should conditions demand increases.

There could be an appreciable speedup in availabilities in a short time if attendance drops and first-run engagements shorten, and also because of added production coming from studios of independent producers who may want to see faster action in getting their films into the theatres.

—"CHICK" LEWIS
Price, Union Heads See Long Range Gain in Strike Pact

Hollywood's studio strike—the second called by the Conference of Studio Unions within nine months—ended suddenly Tuesday night with a surprise twist which apparently found the warning at the IATSE and CSU working together.

The agreement terminating the strike (which had already completely stopped work in five major studios and threatened to slow down production in several more) calls for:

Arbitration in all jurisdictional disputes with clauses providing for such arbitration to be written in all contracts. (The unions are to use arbitration to settle the differences among themselves.)

A 36-hour week for six-hour a day employees with overtime at time and a half to start after six hours of any day.

"Inequity to be open to negotiation. Contracts to be negotiated within 30 days for Graphic Artists, Cartoonists and Screen Stylist Analysts.

Studios to be free to hire machinists on open market pending a National Labor Relations Board decision certifying that a union shall have jurisdiction. The studios agree to accept the NLRB decision and negotiate with the union it selects.

(Basis of the bitterness in most of the disputes arose from the fact that the International Association of Machinists, which belongs to the CSU but had dropped out of the AFL, claimed jurisdiction over the repair of cameras and the like, a jurisdiction also claimed by the AFL Federal chartered Machinists Local 2906. The CSU, which consists mainly of AFL unions, was backing the IAM, while the IATSE, and AFL President William Green were backing Local 2906. The CSU, claiming that the producers were dropping out of the IAM in protest against local 2906's refusal to work on sets and the like which were to be photographed by cameras serviced by Local 2906, an act which almost stopped Technicolor production.)

A twenty-five per cent pay raise is to apply to machinists until the NLRB determines which union is to be the bargaining agent.

Contracts, which are to be for two years, can be reopened for talks by Jan. 1, 1947, on wage issues only if the cost of living as determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics show an increase of five per cent or more between Jan. 1, 1946 and Jan. 1, 1947. Wage negotiations will then be based on the amount of increase in living costs.

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Price, Brewer and Sorrell read in part:

"The strike in the motion picture industry was settled today (2) at a general meeting of Hollywood union and representatives with the labor committee of major studios... An agreement was reached on basic terms of new wages with provision that all new contracts shall pledge local unions to settle disputes among themselves..."

"We feel an important step has been made not only toward solution of immediate difficulties but for general harmony in the motion picture industry."

Price Wins Arbitration

The inclusion of arbitration in the agreements is considered a personal triumph for Byron Price who has been urging such a step ever since he took over labor dispute settlements in Hollywood for the producers.

Picket lines, which had seen some fast fighting as IATSE members tried to pass through CSU lines, were withdrawn Tuesday night as the studio production early Wednesday was reported normal. Sorrell called the strike of the CSU, which embraces 11 unions, after a mass meeting Sunday night when he claimed he could not reach an agreement with producers on basic terms, including a 36 hour week.

Sound Helps Medical Progress Says Fishbein

Tribute to the part development of sound amplification in talking pictures has made in assisting medicine was paid in San Francisco Tuesday as Dr. Morris Fishbein, editor of the Journal of the American Medical Association addressed the Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs.

Fishbein, speaking as Warner Bros. celebrated the 20th anniversary of sound pictures, said:

"The twentieth anniversary of talking motion pictures reminds us that every great discovery made in any field of engineering or science has its applications in the field of medicine. From the development of sound amplification have come hearing aids for the deafened, electric stethoscopes to permit the physician to learn much more about what is going on under the surface of the body, and the amplification of sound so that conditions heard by one physician may be reinterpreted to others for educational purposes."

"At this session of the American Medical Association hundreds of sound pictures are being shown as part of the greatest postgraduate education week that is offered in any year to the American medical profession."

Paramount Officers Reelected

Paramount's Directors' last Thursday reflected the following officers: President Barney Balaban; Board Chairman, Adolph Zukor; Vice-Presidents: Y. Frank Freeman, Austin C. Keough, Charles M. Reagan, Harry Ginsberg, Leonard H. Goldenson, Paul Railbaum; Treasurer, Fred Molkhatsi; Secretary, Robert H. O'Brien; Executive Committee Chairman, Stanton Griffith.

Admission Tax Soars

Federal taxes on amusement admission jumped to $382,412,524.4 for the year ending May 31, 1946, an increase of $53,106,421.21 over the total of $329,308,141.09 which was collected during the same period of 1945. The constant increases in amusement admission taxes was also made known by Commissioner May, 1946, whose total of $39,499,208.75 was $7,573,504.23 over the May, 1945 total of $31,923,664.52.

16mm. Projection Under IATSE Jurisdiction

Spreading opinion that the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees is not assuming jurisdiction over the 16-mm. field is altogether incorrect, an IATSE spokesman said in New York this week.

Declaring that the IATSE maintains jurisdiction over all cameras for talking and projecting and unpredicted camera contracts, the union had no intention of yielding any ground and that it was up to the local union to police its own territory.

"But," he added, "if a business agent in a locality is lazy, there may be some of that getting by, and after all it's pretty hard to check on equipment that can be carried in a suitcase and shown in a hotel room. But all reputable manufacturers who are using 16-mm. film for advertising or instructional films, have a contract with us and we are having no trouble in that direction."

Edward Lachman
(The Man on the Cover)

Still in his thirties, quiet-speaking, energetic, he's Allied of New Jersey's newest president. He wasn't born in show business though he might as well have been for as a youngster he was around theaters working and helping his father in their operation at Chester, Pa. Moving to New Jersey, Lachman became associated with the I.A. Roth Theatres for a number of years and when that outfit was sold to Walter Reade he cashed out for a spot to establish his own theatre, finally selecting Boonton, Pa., where he has operated the State Theatre approximately the past six years. Not spectacular, New Jersey Allied observers term him hard working and cooperative in all the association's work. He is chairman of the past convention committee from which he was selected for president by the nominating committee.

SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW
Sees Two Years Needed
To Study Decree Effect

It will take at least two years experience under the decree rendered in the anti-trust case before the industry or the courts can determine if film markets have been "loosened up," according to a prominent New York motion picture attorney.

The attorney, who requested that his name be withheld, said he believed the eventual decree would follow in general the proposal submitted by the government (STR, June 29, p. 7) since he thought the government in its brief filed last week has followed the court's opinion rather closely.

He anticipated that the industry could readjust itself to the decree provisions though he thought there might be some confusion in the beginning and it would take some time to make the provisions workable.

"In effect the court has told the industry," he said, "that most of the practices that it had followed for 30 years and upon which the industry has come to revere, is illegal. I don't think any of these changes will benefit the smaller exhibitor. In fact they may prove ruinous to him in some instances," he added citing the fact that some exhibitors who lived over a day's journey away from exchange centers would have to spend the bulk of their time on trains or in travel to bid for pictures. Lack of sufficient screening facilities was another factor which might make the new selling system difficult, he said.

One of the points in the attorney anticipated that it would be binding upon non-defendants distributors as well as distributors since its provisions would in fact be law.

N.S. MPTO Against Single Selling, Auctions

Plans for the Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina to apply to the MPTO in a request to be allowed a hearing to present their views to the court on single selling and other feature of the anti-trust "consent decree" opinion, were formulated by the Theatre Owners of North Carolina. The Directors of that organization also went on record as protesting the "auction" system of sales.

Progress in Reverse

William F. Rodgers, MGM vice-president and general sales manager, declared in New York Tuesday that the industry could be "set back a generation" unless care is exercised by all branches in conforming trade practices to legal requirements of the decision rendered in the anti-trust case.

"We sold pictures on the auction block in the early days of this industry," Rodgers declared, and he said he didn't believe exhibitors or distributors or producers would want to go back to the conditions prevalent then.

Rodgers, in reply to a question as to whether he had anything to say as to new MGM plans with the decision of the three-judge court in New York. He stated that he could not speak for his company or even express himself at this time because of the circumstances and his company's executives and legal advisors were studying the decision. He warned that hasty action and decisions could cause "chaos" in the industry.

Would Bounce Hughes to Dramatize Disapproval of 'The Outlaw' Ads

The Motion Picture Association of America may seek to exploit Howard Hughes from his recent court action to dramatize the fact that advertising for "The Outlaw" is not approved by the MPAA.

This action was indicated in the United States Circuit Court of Appeals Monday at a hearing which resulted in a decision Tuesday rejecting Howard Hughes' appeal from a ruling in federal district court which denied him an injunction preventing the MPAA from withdrawing its seal from "The Outlaw" or interfering in the exhibition of the picture.

The Circuit Court rejection of Hughes' appeal apparently leaves the MPAA free to take whatever action it wishes in the case.

At the hearing Monday, MPAA Attorney Samuel I. Rosenman specifically asked Judge Leonard Hand to include in his decision whether or not the Association would be free to act on the expulsion of Hughes from the MPAA, which might wish to take this step to disassociate itself in the public mind from "The Outlaw."

Immediately Hughes attorney, Jesse Friedin, arose to say that Hughes had resigned from the MPAA and what promised to be an argument on whether or not the multimillionaire producer could or could not resign was terminated by Judge Hand's adjournment of the court.

Morals Involved?

At the hearing Monday Friedin argued the case was based on anti-trust provision and morals did not enter it.

"Oh, nonsense," Judge Hand told him, "nonsense. It does enter it."

Friedin submitted a color ad on "The Outlaw" which the judge said revealed no more of Miss Russell than could be seen at any beach. When the point on the advertising was argued, the judge said he would have to have another look. Later when Rosenman showed other exhibits, he agreed:

"It certainly is lascivious . . . I shouldn't think there would be any irreparable loss," he added, if the advertising were dropped, asking Friedin if the picture could not be advertised without the art work objected to by the MPAA.

Judge Rosenman argued that Hughes could make the advertising easily comply with the MPAA requirements.

"It isn't going to damage him to move Miss Russell's skirt up," Rosenman began, apparently getting twisted and hastily correcting, "to move Miss Russell's blouse up or lower her skirt."

Attorneys for Hughes Wednesday had not determined upon their next step. They pointed out that the case is still to come to trial on its merits for damages and an injunction in the federal district court. Court however has recessed for the summer so action there may have to wait for the fall.

Pending his decision on the Hughes appeal to Circuit Court, Judge Leonard Hand had restricted the MPAA from removing code approval seal on "The Outlaw" or taking action against the picture because of its advertising.

Tuesday's decision vacated this restraint.

Canada Bans Conditional Sales After Protest

Influence of the United States anti-trust "consent decree" opinion plus dissatisfaction over a classification system which exhibitors claimed was too heavy with high percentage pictures, was seen in Canada this week as the reason for the Wartime Price and Trade Board ruling prohibiting all "conditional sales" in the future.

Under original war time regulations controlling trade practices, conditional selling was permitted where it had been practiced before or...

(Continued on page 16)

One-Man Theatre Staff

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(Continued on page 16)

Nelson Hails Decision

Generally favoring the equity decision, Donald M. Nelson, SIMPP president, told Showmen's Trade Review: "We were disturbed this week that the decision "indicates without a question that a successful bidding system can be devised without collusion."

Although declining to comment on divorcement phases of the decision, Nelson said it "clearly points the way in which the whole motion picture market can be opened for the first time."
NATIONAL NEWSREEL

RKO's 1946-47 Program Set At Minimum of 36 Features

RKO is set to release 36 or more features, approximately the same number as announced last year, during the 1946-47 season, Executive Vice President Ned E. Depinet declared in an address Tuesday to approximately 400 delegates to the company's 15th annual sales convention at the Waldorf Astoria in New York.

RKO also issued an announcement citing 55 features which are either completed, now in production or for which plans for production have been made, from which the 35 or more attractions to be offered during the season ahead will be drawn.

The majority of these pictures will come from "hobe lot" units producing under the RKO banner. Independent producers contributing to the schedule will include Sam Goldwyn, Walt Disney, Liberty Pictures, International Pictures, Rainbow Productions, Jesse L. Lasky-Walter MacEwen, Robert Riskin Productions, Sol Lesser and Robert and Raymond Hakim.

Among the titles announced are:

- Liberty's Frank Capra-directed "It's a Wonderful Life" with James Stewart, Donna Reed, Lionel Barrymore; and "No Other Man." Sam Goldwyn's "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," "The Kid from Brooklyn," "The Bishop's Wife," with Cary Grant, David Niven, Teresa Wright; "The Best Years of Our Lives," with Myrna Loy and Fredric March; "Earth and High Heaven."


- Walt Disney's "Make Mine Music." "Song of the South" and "Fancy Free."

- Alfred Hitchcock's "Notorious" with Cary Grant and Ingrid Bergman, written by Ben Hecht; Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., in "Sinbad the Sailor," International's "The Stranger" with Loretta Young, directed by Orson Welles; Robert Riskin's "The Magic City."

- Other titles listed were: Shirley Temple in "Honeymoon;" "The Locket;" "Banjo;" "A Very Remarkable Fellow;" an untitled Rainbow production (Leo McCarey); "The Bachelor and the Bobby Soxer" with Cary Grant, Myrna Loy and Shirley Temple; "The Bamboo Blonde," "Redhead" with Karlspo; "Beat the Band" based on the George Abbott musical with Frances Langford, Gene Krupa; "Build My Gallows High."

- with Dick Powell: "Child of Divorce;" "Christabel" with Joan Fontaine; "Criminal Court;" "The Crack Up;" Zane Greys "Code of the West" and "Sunset Pass;" "Deadlier Than the Male;" "The Devil Thumbs a Ride;" "two Falcons;" "The Falcon's Adventure;" "The Falcon's Alibi;" "Great Day" and "So Well Remembered" (made in England); "Golden Silence" (to be made in France with Pathe Cinema); Jesse Laskys "Intermission;" "Katie for Congress;" with Loretta Young; "Lady Luck;" "A Likely Story;" "Mr. Fix" with Pat O'Brien; "Nocturne" with Lynn Bari; Liberty's "One Big Happy Family;" John Steinbecks "The Pearl" made in Mexico; "Tarzan and the Temple;" "They Won't Believe Me" with Susan Hayward and Robert Young; "Till the End of Time;" "A Time to Kill;" "Dick Tracy vs Cueball;" "Trail Street;" "Vacation in Reno" with Jack Haley and Anne Jeffreys; "Woman on the Beach" with Joan Bennett.

Shorts Program

The shorts schedule includes the 104 issues of Pathe News issued twice a week, 18 Walt Disneys in Technicolor, a series of 13 "This Is America," six Leon Errol and six Edgar Kennedy two-reel comedies, four two-reel musicals featuring name bands, the "Sportscope" and "Flicker Flashbacks" series as well as revivals of four-two-reel Ray Whitley musical westerns.

Depinet in one of his talks to the convention reaffirmed the fact that RKO would not renew any of its 16-mm distribution contracts and upon the completion of present agreements would take over distribution of the narrow gauge field itself. Depinet assured the sales staff that RKO would not engage in any activity connected with 16-mm distribution which might not be "in the best interest of the industry."

The convention opened Monday with a speech of greeting from Depinet. It ended Wednesday.

Sees 'Decree' Widening Field for Quality Films

An "open, competitive market" may offer a "bigger field for quality pictures," Samuel Goldwyn Productions President Jack Mulvey told a surprised audience of RKO convention delegates Tuesday afternoon.

Mulvey, who touched on increasing production costs, advised the industry would have to determine whether it wants quality or run of the mill pictures and if it chooses former, how it could afford them.

"In order to have them," he said, "we must provide an effective distribution and exhibition pattern, geared to the kind of audiences and the kind of gross these pictures demand to keep their producers in business. . . . I think a great picture gives us an opportunity of devising a truly imaginative, elastic policy."

Speaking on the anti-trust opinion, Mulvey said:

"I think it opens a bigger field for quality pictures. Maybe it will let smaller theatres grow up to accommodate the special handling of big pictures, instead of requiring large theatres to fit themselves to small pictures. For that, gentlemen, is the trend of our times."

"To my mind, an open competitive market is the key to the continued success of this business. A kind of professional outlook, whether in theatres or any other business, has always resulted in evil. No exhibitor or group of exhibitors should have the right to control or regulate what the public may see."

N.Y. Studios for Pathe

RKO Pathe announced this week that it will soon have a new complete studio located in New York on 106th Street and Park Avenue which will be used for production of its shorts.

The building will contain a studio with a stage approximately 95 x 80 feet and 27 feet high, and two smaller stages which will be 63 x 30 feet and 52 x 22 feet with 22 feet ceilings, as well as two modern recording studios, one of which can double for a recording and dubbing room.

RCA Expands in 16-mm.

RCA this week announced increased production facilities for 16-mm. sound equipment and transfer of this activity from the company's plant at Indianapolis to Camden, N. J. A national merchandising organization of specialized 16-mm. equipment dealers with the spot service facilities, has been set up concurrently with increased production.
Claudette gets the wrong train
(WITHOUT RESERVATIONS)

John gets the right girl
(WITHOUT RESERVATIONS)

...And you get a box-office hit
("WITHOUT RESERVATIONS")
The Candid Love Story of a Stranded Lady!

WITHOUT

WITH DON DeFORE ANNE TRIOLA AND MISS LOUELLA PARSONS
—told in the show that promises top grosses everywhere!... Claudette on a Pullman without a ticket—he-man Wayne aboard without a care!... Atom-power setting for the screen's most brilliant gem of exciting amatory adventure!

JESSE L. LASKY and WALTER MacEWEN PRESENT

CLAUDETTE COLBERT • JOHN WAYNE

in

MERVYN LeROY'S PRODUCTION OF

RESERVATIONS

Produced by JESSE L. LASKY Screen Play by ANDREW SOLT

RKO Radio Pictures
46,161,076

COPIES OF
28 NATIONAL MAGAZINES

— are carrying ads on this great attraction — publications like LIFE
(3 insertions) — WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION (3 insertions) —
COLLIER'S — GOOD HOUSEKEEPING — TRUE STORY — LOOK —
REDBOOK — LIBERTY — The FAN LIST and Canadian Magazines.

"THE SHOWMANSHIP COMPANY"
Two new top sales appointments, a startling declaration as to the costs of production, and announcement of a new department to give separate handling to distribution of ‘reprint’ releases of older pictures and imported films, were among the industry events which brought the spotlight of interest on the four leading figures of filmdom shown in close up above. E. K. O’Shea, formerly assistant general sales manager of Enterprise production, has taken over his duties as general sales manager of Enterprise productions, the new producing concern which will contribute importantly to next season’s schedule from Universal. E. K. (Ted) O’Shea, a veteran of many years’ outstanding service with MGM is another leading appointment. E. T. Gomersall, executive to assume a new post, that of general sales manager in charge of world-wide distribution for Liberty Films, Inc., production company in which Frank Capra, William Wyler, George Stevens and Samuel J. Briskin are associated and whose pictures will be distributed by RKO. Charles Einfeld at the closing session of the Universal convention in New York last week declared that production costs had zoomed 143 per cent in 1945 while theatre income increased only 47 per cent, and, indicating that there is no hope of reducing production costs without decrease in screen quality, asserted that ways must be found whereby the industry will realize a larger share of the national income, of which the industry’s “take” in 1945 was only .98 per cent. William F. Rodgers this week outlined a plan whereby MGM will provide special handling for “reprint” releases of outstanding pictures of the past.

Balaban Sees Public Service as Film Goal

Celebrating his tenth anniversary as president of Paramount Pictures on Tuesday, Barney Balaban took the occasion to praise the industry as a whole for the part it played during the war, pointing out as he did so that films in the future would be more and more given to public service. He declared that the success of the industry will not be measured entirely in terms of dollars, but also will be rated on the amount of public good it can accomplish.

Balaban favored increased production of subjects “ought to be brought to the attention of American citizens,” citing the Army’s “Don’t Be a Sucker” as the type of picture Paramount, for its part, intends to release in line with this conviction.

The Paramount head said his ten years with the company were the pleasantest of his career, the earlier years when the organization faced heavy debt having offered the opportunity for the kind of hard work he likes best. When Balaban was called to office in 1936 the Paramount debt ran almost to $100,000,000. Two weeks ago Paramount paid off $2,500,000 of notes due in 1949-51, thus ending all outside funded indebtedness.

The film magnate believes that the war forced the industry to grow up because of the responsibilities thrust upon it. He is proud of the industry for performing unselfishly for the public interest, and thinks this role will from now on become a permanent part of the film work schedule.

Lawrence A. Audrain, formerly Canadian soldier, foreign correspondent and managing editor of England’s picture paper Illustrated has joined J. Arthur Rank’s Prestige Pictures as vice-president in charge of public relations and advertising. The unit, headed by General Sales Manager Lawrence McGinley, is intended to handle a selected list of Rank pictures which may lack American box office appeal but which could be booked and exploited in the smaller theatres of the nation as class product.

Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association of America President, will attend the 38th Biennial IATSE convention in Chicago July 22 as a guest of honor. The convention arrangements committee is headed by Eugene T. Atkinson, business manager of Local 110, IATSE who will deliver the welcoming address.

At the request of Mme. Sun Yat Sen Col. Jack L. Warner, Vice-President of Warner Bros., will turn over the proceeds—minus nominal distribution charges—of “This is the Army” to China Famine Relief. Up to now all such profits had been going to the Army Fund but This is the Army, Inc., which controlled the rights for the Army Fund, agreed to the change.

Albert Cornfield is the new 20th Century-Fox International foreign sales supervisor making the second appointment this week made by President Murray Silverstone. The other was Jerome Weissfeld, assigned to the Panama office.

Barney Balaban has been appointed motion picture division national chairman for United Jewish Appeal $100,000,000 campaign. Balaban is also New York chairman for the $35,000,000 drive.

Donald Hyde, who used to head the William Morris literary department, is now an executive assistant to United States Pictures Vice-President Milton Sperling. He’ll have charge of talent on the Coast.

No Immediate Popcorn Shortage

Fears of an immediate popcorn shortage throughout the United States appeared to be without any great foundation this week as a survey of supply centers showed that the corn was available.

One pop corn products dealer in New York said that he was prepared to sell the corn in any quantity. Grease, however, he said, was another matter and the situation there was tight.

In reply to a question that the use of corn for flour making might further cut into the supply of corn available for popping, the dealer said it was his understanding that corn used for popping and corn used for flour making were of different types.

Some dealers in New York were selling corn throughout the country on a tie-in basis with two bags of corn being sold in connection with a specified number of pounds of grease. Others had a three bag tie-in with their grease sales.
MGM Sets Up Department to Sell, Merchandise "Reprints" of Past Hits

Formation by MGM of an entirely new and separate division of the sales department to handle distribution of "reprints" of important pictures released in the past, as well as imported productions the company may release here, was announced in New York Tuesday by William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager.

No specific number of "reprints" would be released in any one season, Rodgers said, and he further stated that as of the present no decision has been made as to which pictures will be revived. He added that the new project would get under way in from 60 to 90 days.

The announcement was made at a luncheon at which Rodgers introduced four MGM men who have been promoted to new posts, including John P. Byrne who succeeds Ted O'Shea, resigned, as eastern sales manager, and William Zoellner, who heads the new special department to handle the "reprints" and importations. Frank C. Hensler, who succeeds Byrne as district manager with headquarters in Detroit, and Albert Adler, who steps up into the post vacated by Hensler as Kansas City manager, were the other honor guests at the luncheon.

Reprint Specialists

The new department to specialize in the "reprint" releases as well as imported attractions, Rodgers said, was in line with experience which indicated that only special handling could realize the potential value of these attractions for the theatres in which they will be shown. While the physical handling of prints and clerical work in connection with the special offerings may go through the routine departments of MGM exchanges, the other functions connected with the sale and booking of these pictures will be entirely outside the activities of the regular exchange operations, Rodgers said. The sale of the pictures will be under the direction of Zoellner, and a separate publicity department, and perhaps a separate exploitation department as well, will be in charge of the promotion work on the "reprints" and importation.

Each such picture, the MGM sales chief declared, will receive individual and active advertising support in line with promotions for new productions from MGM.

Little and Barton in New Posts with RCA

J. R. Little has assumed his post as manager of the RCA Theatre Equipment Section under the appointment announced this week by Meade Brunet, vice-president in charge of the engineering products department. Mr. Brunet also announced that Barton Krenzer has been appointed manager of the company's film recording activities.

Mr. Little was for the last 18 years engaged in merchandising and sales promotion for Montgomery Ward and Co. He spent five months visiting theatre dealers throughout the country prior to his appointment as manager of the equipment section.

Missouri Owners Called

Fred Wehrenberg, president of the MPTOA, has called a meeting of the Theatre Owners of St. Louis, Eastern Missouri, and Southern Illinois, to be held at the Coronado Hotel, St. Louis, on July 9. Purpose of the meeting is to discuss a digest on the new consent decree decision prepared by Herman M. Levy, general counsel for MPTOA.

Planet Operates in Chicago

Planet Pictures, which operated a theatre installation in Hollywood with 16-mm. pictures which it produces, will open its Chicago office shortly under management of B. C. Black. The new office will serve Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana and part of Kentucky.

They Step Up Into New, Bigger Jobs for MGM

Edwin W. Aaron, MGM assistant general sales manager (second from left), congratulates new appointees Frank Hensler as district manager for Kansas City; John P. Byrne as eastern sales manager, and William B. Zoellner as head of a special events department, in accordance with promotions "from within the ranks" announced Tuesday in New York by William F. Rodgers, general sales manager.

Change Clearance?

Federal Judge Michael Igoe Wednesday instructed Jackson Park Attorney Thomas McConnell in Chicago to submit a proposal for the form of injunction he seeks which would alter sales policy and clearances in Chicago.

McConnell wants the Jackson Park to have equal buying privileges and playing time with the rival Balaban and Katz and Warner circuit houses in the same area. Judge Igoe's instructions are thought to be mainly for purposes of study but McConnell said he interpreted them as meaning there would be a change in the Chicago clearance system.

Canada Bans Conditional Sales After Protest

(Continued from Page 9)

The recent illegal block booking conditional sales illegal was expected to cause changes in the entire sales system and would have the expected effect of outlawing block booking altogether.

One significant accomplishment of the new ruling is that Sales Administrator J. R. Crott at Toronto, has not yet approved the classification or groupings of product for the new season which starts in September. It is known that leaders of independent exhibitor organizations and members of the Price Board met several months ago. What took place behind closed doors was not officially disclosed but reliable reports indicated that the independents thought that picture classifications were being loaded with specials and other high bracket releases with corresponding high rental figures.

Industry in the Court House

Report from Crescent

Report of the late Tony Sudekum's Crescent Amusement Company of Nashville on steps it had taken to divest itself of holdings in several subsidiaries was expected to be ready for the court about July 1.

Crescent was one of the first of the United States Government anti-trust suits which after a prolonged battle resulted in the court's ordering Crescent to divest itself of holdings in half a dozen subsidiaries.

Big 5 and Little 3

Unconfirmed reports this week had it that the defendants in the anti-trust "consent decree" case might file two sets of proposals for the form the final decree should take. One set might come from the five defendants who are also interested in exhibition—Paramount, MGM, 20th Century-Fox, RKO, Warner Bros. The other might be proposed by the three who are not interested in theatre holdings—Columbia, United Artists, Universal.

Anyway the so-called big five have appointed a legal committee to draft a proposal. It consists of Ralston Irvine, RKO; Louis Phillips, Paramount; Stanley Thompson, MGM; John Caskey, 20th Century-Fox; Howard Levinson, Warner Bros.
Borland Tells Patrons
How to Save Electricity

Identifying a theatre in a large city with a neighborhood is a much tougher job in some ways than that of the small town situations, but insistence on the institutional aspect in advertising is calculated to arouse some neighborhood feeling in the apartment dwellers' hearts. There must be a steep of sorts between the theatre and the people in the neighborhood to get over the idea—hence, the value of institutional promotion.

Hugh S. Borland of the Louis Theatre in Chicago's South Side knows this full well and has been making the most of the knowledge by putting out a series of folders and programs that give the impression the theatre is trying to help the people in its district. Only recently Borland dreamed up a title: "A Helpful Hint on How to Save Electricity in Your Home During the Coal Shortage." What do you think he did with that?

The title indicated some information and, of course, you can guess what was in the back of Borland's mind. He went to work, decided on a four-page folder, induced an advertiser to take the back page and so pay for the printing, and soon was distributing his brain child around the neighborhood.

On the first page of the folder was the title and explanatory text to the effect that "this pamphlet is offering a simple suggestion that will save a lot of electricity." On turning to the inside the answer stares the reader in the face: "Turn off all lights for a couple of hours, four nights a week—and go to your friendly Louis Theatre." More information follows, mentioning the comfort, fine equipment, courtesy, and good shows. On the opposite page is a program for the week.

Thus Borland got in everything he intended to at no cost to himself but personal labor. And at that—it wasn't a bad way to save electricity. At any rate, it was a purely neighborhood promotion and brought the theatre into close contact with the residents.

Keep the Lobby Clean

It doesn't take long for the sidewalk and lobby to become littered with paper and other debris, especially on windy days. See to it that the janitor keeps this space clean.

That Theatre Name

The selection of the name "Acadia" for the Rita Theatres' new house in Rayne, La. is an example of careful thinking and originality. Too often theatres are named Bijou, or Grand, or Rita or some other common title without thought being given to local history or connections. In the case of the Acadia, it was named that because Rayne is in the part of Louisiana where the Acadians fled when they were forced out of Canada.

This is a worthwhile connection, and an ideal name for the theatre. Why can not more theatres be named for historical places, incidents or personages?

The Brass Tacks of Efficient Picture Theatre Management

OSCARS FOR SHOWMEN WHO STILL WORK AT THEIR TRADE

By Jack Jackson

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Not wishing to be tabbed as a congenital pessimist whose written discussions here are confined to fault-finding and forecasts of headaches ahead, I've decided to retire that "meanie" Mr. Hyde for this session and present my alter ego attired in his smartly-pressed Dr. Jekyll jeans while I hand out plaudits. Yes, since genuine Jackson Oscars are to be distributed this week to enterprising chaps encountered along the route of my recent peregrination in search of showmanship lore on a journey from the impecunious Texas coast to the monied halls of those celluloid Allahs on the Hudson, and back again.

You'll never know what a thrill (?) it is to trundle up hill and down dale through 15 states until you've tried it in a cantankerous auto of 1939 vintage that keeps constantly reminding you of its age and the harsh condition of its long servitude. And, you'll never know the super-thrill, until you've experienced it, of meeting obliging theatre managers and owners who inveigle garage men to leave their downy beds and tussle all night with the thingumbobs and whatsits to enable the ancient gas buggy to continue its weary way when Aurora's halo shines in the East to signal the arrival of another day.

They wangled rooms from hotels that had no rooms, obtained road maps from places that had no road maps and, above all, gave liberally of their time—often 'way into the wee small hours—to answer questions about the hows and whys of their business under conditions of huge labor turnover, picture shortages, taxation, and so on. I learned a lot from—and I owe a lot to—those fellows for the information given and the many courtesies and favors they extended and I want to broadcast a blanket "thank you" to all of them and express the wish that good fortune will permit another visit at a time when conditions allow for longer "chiming confabs" and we can get to know each other better. They're a grand bunch!

It's Little Fellows Who Are Accomplishing Things

Outstanding among the things I learned is that the little fellows are the ones who are working and accomplishing things in the face of extreme difficulties. The bigwigs seem content to idle in the shade of high-piled profits relying on today's luscious receipts to act as an opiate on tomorrow's threatened turbulence. I found big circuits at odds with big distributing companies and neither bending a twig to settle their differences. And, I found the little fellows who had profited from the splits struggling with their abbreviated picture buys and performing every trick of the trade to extract the last possible dollar in revenue and the last possible minute of playing time from every booking. Needless to say the exercise is making the little chap stronger and stronger while the mogul's flaccid contentment is turning muscle into fat that may prove difficult to carry when the going gets tough and theatres are again forced to race after patronage.

It is the little fellows who are exploring the new angles of customer appeal and satisfaction and who are keeping their "think" machines speeding along the newly charted channels to business success in a world of new ideas and new demands. The bigwigs seem to be slogging along the rutted trails of pre-war days oblivious of the fact that the world has been re-shaped during the past few years and that new patterns of customer contact must be cut to fit the changed scheme of things.

I had quite a visit with the head of one circuit whose explanation for the continuance of shopworn procedures may explain things for the entire group.

As the war made deeper and deeper inroads into his manpower he became so

(Continued on Page 18)
Oscars for Working Showmen from Jackson

(Continued from Page 17)

burdened with the prime details of operation that sales plans, periodic inspections of theatres and other duties formerly attended by district and city managers had to be neglected. Any employe of sufficient experience to handle the basic points of theatre operation was elevated to managerial position. As a consequence many circuit operations are still riding the same merry-go-round of activity that was set in motion five years ago. The merry-go-round is creaking and wobbly and the brass rings have long since lost their glitter, but the system hangs on principally because the management lacked the background to make the necessary adjustments. In other than boom times five years of unchanged showmanship policy would ruin the best show shop. Let’s hope that with the return of the old managers, constructive study will be given the need of change and that the old stunts such as Bank Night will be given a much needed rest. Why waste a good “mudder” on a fast track? Let’s put Bank Night out to pasture so that it will be fresh, sleek, new and ready for use when the going is really bad.

Now that the general business of the session is over let’s get at that job of distributing the Oscars.

What KKK Means in Searcy

Ever since I can remember and everywhere I’ve ever been the initials K.K.K. have been synonymous with man’s baser qualities and has brought visions of hooded hoodlums with blacksnake whips. Such is not the case in Searcy, Ark. where the mention of K.K.K. brings hope to the hearts of the distressed and destitute and a smile to the pain-streaked faces of the sick and sullen—ass well as the whole and hearty. K.K.K. means that Kenneth K. King, partner with Commonwealth Theatres and manager of the Kialto and Plaza, has heard of their needs and that he or his wife will soon be along to lend a helping hand. As leader (president, I believe) of the Searcy Kiwanis Club, King takes an active part in any and everything that is good for Searcy and the surrounding community. Everybody sings the praises of Kenneth K. King as being the town’s top instrument of public good.

So-o-o, an Oscar to Manager King for the best job of public relations, via the good citizen route. I encountered in a 5,000 mile trip. And, he deserves an Oscarlette for his assiduous study of “what does” in the way of hooking and dating his houses. His methods are not in line with the national picture but experience has proven that they pay off in Searcy and that what counts for King and his partners.

In Nashville, I encountered a situation where the service help is turning over faster than hot cakes tossed by an expert “flipper” in a Broadway window. The manager, John M. Lawrence, a friend of years standing who has been managing the house for 23 years (quite a record, huh?) tells me that during the worst of the labor shortage he prevailed on the skeleton staff of experienced help to forego lunch and supper hours and content themselves with sandwiches and soft drinks that were consumed “on the job.” The loyalty of the few trained employees enabled some semblance of service for customers at all times, but Lawrence himself was hard put to keep pace with books, bookings, front displays, popcorn purchases, etc. It was a 7 a.m. to midnight grind for more than two years, but house and manager have survived and are looking to easier and easier times. So-o-o, an Oscar to John Lawrence for his loyalty to the job he has held so long under the late Mr. Tony Sudekum and for his ability to attract a similar loyalty from the men and women under his direction (even if he did pay overtime rates).

Some place along the line I met and chatted at length with a manager battling against strong chain opposition. It was one of those 2x4 houses in the coal regions of Kentucky (I wish I could locate that fellow’s name) and his house, though located somewhat off the Main stem, boasted a few business men of the type of fellow was using stage talent one night each week. Knowing that the show had to come from a distant city I questioned his ability to make a profit. He candidly admitted that a profit would be impossible if he paid for the talent himself but that he presented them on behalf of the neighboring business men who footed the bill in return for stage and lobby plugs together with mention on the weekly program. So-o-o, another Oscar—one of the big shiny fellows—for his ability to make the best of a tough situation through ingenious imagining and smart showmanship, goes to my unamed acquaintance in the Kentucky coal fields. We are going to need showmen like him in the big cities before long.

Love of Show Business

Managers Robinson and the Ben Ali The-atre in Lexington and Dick Jones of the Royal in Little Rock,—both returned veterans—pressed me with the attitude with which they are again taking up the duties they interrupted in order to help pop off a few Nazis and Japs for Uncle Sam. Like so many others their basic problem is the securing of efficient help at low salaries. There is also the problem—and quite a big problem it is too—of adjusting themselves to a budget severely reduced from the compensation that was theirs while in Uncle’s service. Both have been offered far better pay in other lines of endeavor but an admitted love of show business holds them to their job and the multiple headaches that go with it. So-o-o, an Oscar to each of them for their loyalty to the theatre and the fortitude with which they face rising living costs in full confidence that the heart and soul of the job will result in the highly necessary increase someday soon.

In Houston, Enrique Valero, manager of the Ritz Theatre which exhibits only Spanish pictures, arrived at the conclusion (Continued on Page 25)
THIS STAR
Salesman
IS COMING
TO WORK FOR
You
The Critics CRY
Its Praises!

"It is long since Radio City Music Hall patrons have enjoyed such a good cry... One of the finest examples of picture-making of the year." —N.Y. MIRROR

"A heart-rending story, sure to find every woman in the audience happily sobbing at the close." —N.Y. SUN

"When the Radio City Music Hall turns on its lights at the end of the picture... all the women and even men are splashing tears of deep emotion." —N.Y. POST

"After the first showing in Radio City Music Hall... there was hardly a dry feminine handkerchief in the house." —N.Y. TIMES

"No adult, either male or female, need be ashamed of having his emotions stirred to tears by this deeply moving story." —N.Y. DAILY NEWS

Olivia DeHavilland’s performance is "Brilliant"—"Beautiful"—"Extraordinarily fine"—"The best of her career." —N.Y. MIRROR, SUN, TIMES, POST

John Lund is "Charming"—"Talented"—"Promising"—"Makes an auspicious screen debut." —N.Y. WORLD-TELE., MIRROR, SUN, NEWS

Lift flap to see 2-color reproduction of striking full-color 24-sheet art.
Milland will step onto

to sell the next great

the producer of “Lost

“I’m an old Charles Brackett admirer,
as you might suspect—but I
think he’s more terrific than ever
since I’ve seen ‘To Each His Own’.”

“He’s made an unfor
table story about one of
bravest women you ever met...”

“Jody’s life is dominated by a love
that endures beyond a man’s
death... a child’s birth... and
another woman’s jealousy.”

“Pictures like ‘To Each His Own’
don’t happen very often...
They simply revolutionize your
ideas of how good a movie can be.”

Nationally Released This Weel
Brilliant Radio City Music H
Olivia Devermundo's performance is "Brilliant" — "Beautiful" — "Extraordinarily fine"— "The best of her career."
—N. Y. MIRROR, SUN, TIMES, POST

John Lund is "Charming"—"Talented" — "Promising"—"Makes an auspicious screen debut." —N. Y. WORLD-TELE., MIRROR, SUN, NEWS

*Lift flap to see 2-color reproduction of striking full-color 24-sheet art.*
The Critics

CRY

Its Praises!

"It is long since Radio City Music Hall patrons have enjoyed such a good cry. One of the finest examples of picture-making of the year." — N.Y. MIRROR

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John Lund is "Charming"—"Talented"—"Promising"—"Makes an auspicious screen debut." — N.Y. WORLD-TELE., MIRROR, SUN, DAILY NEWS.
Excerpts from the hard-hitting trailer, typical of the super-promotion we're putting behind the greatest romantic drama in years from Paramount

“Her name is Jody, and she is magnificently portrayed by one of the screen's great actresses, Olivia DeHavilland.”

“The man in her life is John Lund. This is his first movie, and he's made a tremendous impression on all of us.”

“If this one doesn’t take the cream of this year's honors . . . I’ll eat my Oscar!”

Olivia DeHavilland in “To Each His Own”

MARY ANDERSON • ROLAND CULVER • VIRGINIA WELLES
PHILLIP TERRY • BILL GOODWIN and Introducing JOHN LUND

A MITCHELL LEISEN PRODUCTION
Produced by CHARLES BRACKETT • Directed by MITCHELL LEISEN
Screen Play by Charles Brackett and Jacques Thery
Lobby Display Held Vital as Theatre Advertising Medium

Effective lobby display often provides the “Clincher” when prospective patrons are in doubt about attending the show they will attend. Snaring the “I’m from Missouri” show-shopper by means of lobby showmanship had its beginnings long before the advent of the motion picture. Of course, a brush, some cardboard or oilcloth and a pot of paint were the showmanship tools of the theatre managers, for those were the days of the op’ty home, nickelodeon and eventually the forerunner of today’s de luxe movie theatre.

The great Barnum was among the early showmen who recognized the pulling power of “out front” showmanship and who started the still-standard circus-carnival practice of using the barter and garish posters to entice customers into their halls to pioneering and progress.

In the early movie days, it was not uncommon for the manager to get the print of his movie show from an exchange, rush back to the theatre and paint a sign. The spellbinding adjectives to extoll the virtues of his attraction.

Posters followed in due course and they were folded and enclosed with each can of film. Chicken wire was wrapped around the posters and for a number of years the one-sheet board was the standard lobby display. Three-sheets and six-sheets followed as the lobby display’s importance increased with competition. As screen product improved and theatre prestige in the community outgrew the novelty value, better display facilities were required in keeping with the dignity of the more elaborate theatre structures. Glass replaced chicken wire and shadow boxes replaced marquees with wall frames and eventually one-sheet and three-sheet transparencies with rear illumination added glamour to the displays.

From that point, lobby display increased in importance as a media of show selling.

Poster Service to Rescue

Art shops and artists were employed by the bigger theatres to “dress” the lobbies with an eye to catching show-shoppers. The showman on Main Street wanted art displays on a par with Broadway, which was beginning to go hog wild for lavish fronts (and still is, as a matter of fact). To the rescue came a poster service which made it possible for the amateur sign man, through a simple process of duplication, to paint poster art displays comparable to those of the top artists. The 40x60 replaced the three-sheet as a standard poster proportion. Silk screen process and photographic enlargements provided the practical means for mass production of quality art. Even the smallest present-day theatre now can afford quality lobby display services.

Theatre marquees likewise have progressed from utilitarian shelters to impressive show-selling counterparts of the lobby display. More legible lettering, bigger lobby displays are now commonplace on the modern marquees.

To assess the importance of lobby display as an advertising medium let us first inspect the theatre’s location.

An excellent location is on a main street which has heavy pedestrian traffic, effective display in the front lobby is just as important as good window display to the neighboring business establishment. If cut off from the all-traveled side street, lobby display inside becomes more important than front, in order to sell repeat patronage.

Main street display planning should not overlook the importance of selling vehicular passengers (street car, bus or motor car riders) with large enough copy, legible lettering, eye compelling illustration and visible location for easy observation. Marquee or theatre front displays above the marquees are usually superior to under-the-marquee front displays. Some showmen, having the necessary art shop facilities, are able to do a good selling job with overhead consumer displays above the box-office to command both pedestrian and vehicular passenger attention.

New theatre builders are planning better display facilities into the structural design of their fronts. Show-window treatment allowing for animated displays which are certain to stop pedestrians will be found in increasing numbers in the larger theatres as postwar construction progresses. Improvements in lighting facilities for display frames are now available such as the new transparent tube lamps. Large inner lobby windows of iron or Venetian blinds in depth which permit trimming around the display frames for seasonal embellishment or special atmospheric effects. Treatment of displays on coming attractions are becoming popular. In such “windows” the glass slides in tracks after the fashion or manner of display cases and provide easy access for the changing of the attraction posters.

The number one display piece in motion picture selling where close observation is possible, has been and probably always will be the taken-for-granted 8x10 still photograph. The public is inquisitive by nature and particularly responsive to the appeal of photographs. Thephoto stills displayed in a group, the more concentrated attention you can command. Furthermore, good stills are convincing salesmen.

In connection with the availability of a sales message in a newspaper ad will demand readership, so can occasional localization of lobby display material keep potential customers watching. While what will happen next in your lobby, the constant use of standard accessories without any attempt at localization can only result in a stereotyped focus of display which can at best attract only casual attention. One of the best and most flexible units for localized display is the lobby set-piece. Such units can be constructed locally by a carpenter or handy man and painted by a local sign man. Set pieces can be built around a standard 40x60 frame in a proportion which will fit into some unoccupied area or alcove out of the direct line of traffic so as not to create an accident hazard. In this display you can spotlight theatre anniversaries, special activities such as football celebrations, kiddie parties, midnight shows, etc. Local events can be tied in and the possibilities of directing special attention to the coming attraction through personal endorsement, etc., are limitless.

The theatre lobby has a very high value as a display location for concentrated readership. Displaying to your own audience means a high or as low as your own opinion of it. In using the lobby as a lever for cooperative tie-ups the most successful managers have always refused to display commercial products unless they received in return what they considered (Continued from Page 38)

Oscars to Showmen from Jackson

(Continued from Page 18) that advertising in the English newspapers was too expensive for the results obtained. He combed through a big city directory to get a list of all Spanish names and instituted a weekly card mailing. Each card carries the titles and play dates of six attractions—two changes weekly—and the budget is kept in line by mailing only one third of the list each week. The new approach paid off. More than ever before patrons not receiving cards are leaving their names for addition to the list. The cost is covered by reducing the space in the dailies to announcement copy only. Also, Valero conceived a clever scheme of stopping the bad boys from marking up the institutional paper on his theatre front. He had the board painted in the colors of the Mexican flag which appealed to the patriotism of the miscreants. So-o-o, an Oscar to Valero for the kind of smart figuring that reduces expense and increases ticket sales.

Also in Houston is a chap named Frank Fletcher who manages a double feature sub-run house known as the Iris. Prices and class of patronage are both in the lower brackets, but the house is in an excellent “walk-by” location. Lacking the advertising budget latitude of larger establishments, Frank frequently finds himself playing a swell exploitation picture without funds to properly call it to the attention of the passersby. He has acquired a supply of stock equipment such as palm leaves, lattice work cells, etc. and when jungle, jail or detective pictures warrant, Frank, lacking the costumes, cost for bally men or stuffed figures, covers for the absence of caged beasts with hand-scrawled cards inferring that they escaped. The stunt attracts as much if not more attention than would the living critters and Fletcher’s box-office reflects the success of each such effort. And so, an Oscar to Frank Fletcher for surrounding budget restrictions and demonstrating that old fashioned “corn” still makes the coin clink on the marble slab if you give it that showmanship touch.

Last but not least, an Oscar just must go to Mrs. Jackson (if I don’t give this one I don’t eat) for an idea which was born of a newspaper article telling of the long lines of women who waited all night in Pittsburgh to buy nylons from an establishment that stayed open till 4 a.m. to accommodate working girls. She, (Mrs. J.) believes that a theatre could make an arrangement with a local store to trade certificates good for nylons at full selling price to theatres in return for screen advertising. The theatre would of course give the certificates free to ladies attending the show. The store would guarantee nylons to all who held certificates and the number distributed by the theatre each day would be confined to the number of pairs reserved. Not bad at all, is it now?
Milland will step onto your screen to sell the next great picture from the producer of “Lost Weekend”

Excerpts from the hard-hitting trailer, typical of the super-promotion we're putting behind the greatest romantic drama in years from Paramount

“I'm an old Charles Brackett admirer, as you might suspect—but I think he's more terrific than ever since I've seen 'To Each His Own'.”

“He's made an unforgettable story about one of the bravest women you've ever met...”

“Her name is Jody, and she is magnificently portrayed by one of the screen's great actresses, Olivia DeHavilland.”

“The man in her life is John Lund. This is his first movie, and he's made a tremendous impression on all of us.”

“Jody's life is dominated by a love that endures beyond a man's death...a child's birth...and another woman's jealousy.”

“Pictures like 'To Each His Own' don't happen very often...They simply revolutionize your ideas of how good a movie can be.”

“If this one doesn't take the cream of this year's honors...I'll eat my Oscar!”

Nationally Released This Weekend Following Brilliant Radio City Music Hall Premiere
The importance of lobby display as an advertising media has been widely recognized by the theatre industry. Effective display in the front lobby is just as important as good window display to the neighboring business houses. Where a theatre is on a little-traveled side street, lobby display inside becomes more important than front, in order to sell repeat patronage.

Main street display planning should not overlook the importance of selling vehicular passers-by (street car, bus or motor car riders) with Oscar to Valcro for the kind of small figuring that reduces expense and increases ticket sales.

Also in Houston is a chap named Frank Fletcher who manages a double feature sub-run house known as the Iris. Prices and class of patronage are both in the lower brackets, but the house is in an excellent "walk-by" location. Lacking the advertising budget latitude of larger establishments, Frank frequently finds himself playing a swell exploitation picture without funds to properly call it to the attention of the passing public. He has ac-

From Wilderness Security to impressive snow-selling counterparts of the lobby display. More legible letters and pictorial displays are now commonplace on the modern marquee.

To assess the importance of lobby display as an advertising media let us first inspect the theatre's location. If the theatre is on a main street which has heavy pedestrian traffic, effective display in the front lobby is just as important as good window display to the neighboring business houses. Where a theatre is on a little-traveled side street, lobby display inside becomes more important than front, in order to sell repeat patronage.

Main street display planning should not overlook the importance of selling vehicular passers-by (street car, bus or motor car riders) with Oscar to Valcro for the kind of small figuring that reduces expense and increases ticket sales.

Also in Houston is a chap named Frank Fletcher who manages a double feature sub-run house known as the Iris. Prices and class of patronage are both in the lower brackets, but the house is in an excellent "walk-by" location. Lacking the advertising budget latitude of larger establishments, Frank frequently finds himself playing a swell exploitation picture without funds to properly call it to the attention of the passing public. He has ac-

in Pittsburgh to buy nylons from an establishment that stayed open till 4 a.m. to accommodate working girls. She (Mrs. J.) believes that a theatre could make an arrangement with a local store to trade certificates good for nylons at full selling price to theatres in return for screen advertising. The theatre would of course, give the certificates free to ladies attending the show. The store would guarantee nylons to all who held certificates and the number distributed by the theatre each day would be confined to the number of pairs reserved. Not bad at all, is it now?
**Queen of Burlesque**

PRC  
Mystery  
67 mins.

**AUDDIENCE SLANT:** (Adult) A good, suspenseful murder-mystery that everyone will enjoy and one that will challenge the ability of the best armchair detectives.

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** A better-than-average mystery that should bring in very satisfactory returns.

**Cast:** Evelyn Ankers, Carleton Young, Marian Martin, Craig Reynolds, Rose La Rose, Emyore Parnell, Murray Leonard, Noah Beery, Gordon Clark, Alice Fleming, Jacqueline Dalva, Red Marshall, David Prince, Charles King.  
**Credits:** Directed by Sam Newfield.  
Original screenplay by David A. Law.  
Additional dialogue by Arthu St. Clare.  
Photography, Vaclav J. Farrar.  
Produced by Arthur Alexander and Alfred Stern.  
An Alexander-Stern Production.

**Plot:** Jealousy is held the motive when detectives accuse a young burlesque queen of the murder of the girl who was to replace her in the show.  
Everybody, from the owner down to the minor technicians, are suspected, before the police can nab the real killer three other murders occur.

**Comment:** A very good, suspenseful murder-mystery well above the average in its class, for besides having a well-formulated plot with a logical ending, it has the kind of suspense that holds the interest and keeps the audience guessing. The producers, the producers, have added to its entertainment value by injecting into this back-stage burlesque story, the authentic atmosphere it requires thus adding considerably to the film's worth.

In the leading role, Evelyn Ankers is attractive dancing talent as a singer and dancer, with Carleton Young opposite her as the newspaper reporter who solves the crime.  
Good also are Craig Reynolds, Marian Martin and Jacqueline Dalva.  
Rose La Rose, billed by the studio as the famous star of burlesque, does a salary number and Alice Fleming does a standout job with her portrayal.  
Top credit goes to Sam Newfield for the way he handled the direction.

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**Dead of Night**

Universal  
Drama  
77 mins.

**AUDDIENCE SLANT:** (Adult) Compellingly horrific, this psychological drama of dreams and realities should afford plenty of thrills for all audiences.

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** Use Michael Redgrave to get them in, because after they've seen it you'll get wonderful word-of-mouth.  
Can top any bill and good for a single.

**Cast:** Michael Redgrave, Mervyn Johns, Roland Culver, Gouge Wibbels, Frederick Valk, Antonio Baird, Sally Ann Howes, Ralph Michael, Hotley Power, Judy Kelly, Mary Merrall, Milo Malleson, Barbara Leake, Eone Percy, Windham, Michael Allain, Elizabeth Welch.  
**Credits:** Producer, Michael Balcon.  
Associate producers, Sidney Cole and John Croyden.  
Directors, Cavalcanti, Basil Dearden and Robert Hamer.  
Screenplay by John Baines and Angus MacPhail, based on original stories by E. F. Benson, John Baines and Angus MacPhail.  
Photography, Jack Parker and H. Jilson.

**Plot:** "Dead of Night" is a kind of anthology of four stories that prove—or disprove—

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**Resistance**

VOG Film (French)  
Drama  
80 mins.

**AUDDIENCE SLANT:** (Adult) A spy story that's different because of the authenticity of the French film-makers; those who appreciate that difference will have kick out of it.

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** Strictly for the art and foreign-language houses, but for them it has drawing power as the first picture to come out of France since the war ended.

**Cast:** Lucien Coedel, Yvonne Gaudens, Georges Lannere, Pierre Renoir, Abel Jacques, Robert Daltun, Louis Raymond, Jean T东南, Pierre Magnier.  
**Credits:** Cinematography production.  
Adapted for the screen by Bertrand from a novel by Pierre Astot.  
Directed by Jean Delphy.  
English titles by Charles Clément.

**Plot:** Coedel and Lannere escape a concentration camp-bound train with Voge. They get to Algiers, where Coedel and Lannere are revealed as French and German spies, respectively.  
Coedel then goes back to occupied France as a Gestapo officer, but is discovered by Lannere.  
He is shot again, accepting mission to blow up a German fort in Africa, is caught, and is about to face the firing squad when saved by Yvonne, who has used black-market supplies on a German surgeon to have Coedel transferred to a hospital.  
As the story ends, word is flashed that the Americans have recaptured Paris.

**Comment:** There is a newsreel starkness to this spy story that gives it an aura of authenticity not usually found in such picture material.  
The players use virtually no make-up and underplay their assignments, thus lending an effective tenseness.  
Indeed, the film manages to pack all the action of the real-life scenes into the reel shots on the Paris resistance groups in the last days of Nazi occupation.  
Otherwise the story is ordinary enough as a spy thriller, Lucien Coedel proves to be a real personality, something on the order of Jean Gabin; he indicates restrained strength throughout.  
The others are all capable actors, down to the extras.  
Direction is rather spotty, and the climax sags slightly because the denouement—although feasible—lacks action.  
However, the French realism is there, together with some good camera angles.  
Principal selling point is the fact that "Resistance" is the first picture made after the war's end to be released in this country.

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**Of Human Bondage**

Warner Bros.  
Drama  
108 mins.

**AUDDIENCE SLANT:** (Adult) Newest screen version of "Of Human Bondage" does not measure up to the quality of its predecessors.  
However, it will entertain the less critical audiences who enjoy unrequited love stories.

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** The story will sell itself and attract the first comers, but their word-of-mouth may hinder further selling, for the picture will be compared with the original version, and it does not measure up to the previous standard.

**Cast:** Elia Kazan, Paul Henreid, Alexis Smith, Edmund Gwenn, Janis Page, Patric Knowles, Henry Stephenson, Marion Lorne, John Ridgely, Johnất, Naunton Wayne, Diana Dors, Greer Garson, E. M. Purcell, Richard Ney, Doris Lloyd.  
**Credits:** Produced by Henry Hoxie.  
Directed by Edmund

(Continued on Page 49)
Theatres Plan Cooperation In Warner Anniversary

As the celebration of Warners' 20th Anniversary of Talking Pictures drew nearer this week, plans for observance were moving ahead in various sections of the country. From Des Moines came word that five portable radios will be awarded as prizes to managers of Tri-States Theatres who do the most outstanding jobs in connection with the celebration. Tri-States is currently celebrating its own 20th Anniversary, which will run through Sept. 7 and also involves a contest among managers. Winners in both competitions will be announced at an outing at Lake Okoboji.

In Minneapolis John J. Friedl, president of Minnesota Theatres, was announced that all 82 theatres in his circuit would cooperate fully in celebrating the Warner talking pictures anniversary.

To Denver this week went Everett Thorne, recently added to Warners' field public relations staff, where he will make his headquarters to cover the Denver and Salt Lake territories. En route he will stop off in Omaha to confer with Allen Kohan, who temporarily handled the Denver area in addition to his regular territory, on promotions under way and planned for the talking picture celebration.

Meanwhile, Warners announced that a two-reeler, "Okay for Sound," being produced for the 20th Anniversary and containing a panorama of outstanding film excerpts from the start of sound to the present day, will be shown as part of the bill at every one of the 250 gala premieres of "Night and Day," scheduled for Anniversary Week, August 4-10. A special clip will link this two-reeler with the Cole Porter feature and serve as an introduction to the feature chosen to keynote the sound anniversary. Following this combination showing, "Okay for Sound" will be released separately as a regular Warner short.

Misses Caulfield, Lynn Spotted in National Tieup

Two national manufacturer tieups which will run into next year have been arranged by Paramount in which Joan Caulfield and Diana Lynn will be featured. The Mishawaka Rubber Company of Indiana has contracted to start a campaign in November featuring Miss Caulfield and Irving Berlin's "Blue Skies." The little star appears in the picture with Bing Crosby and Fred Astaire. The set-up will include full-page ads in four colors in 20 magazines advertising summer merchandise Footwear.

The Mishawaka company will then wage a similar campaign next spring in which Miss Lynn will be featured. Besides the magazine angle, both stars will be played up in brochures and other promotion literature and by counter and window displays.

The second promotion, with the Bluebird Cedar Chest, will also be built around Miss Caulfield and "Blue Skies." In this case color page ads will start in fan magazines during November and there will be special dealer displays.

'Hollywood Premieres' for Centennial Summer'

A series of "Hollywood Premieres" will be inaugurated by 20th-Century-Fox for Jerome Kern's "Centennial Summer" in six principal cities to introduce its Technicolor musical to the public. A caravan of 20th-Fox players will make personal appearances in each city and take part in civic luncheons, press parties and parades which will be a part of the general exploitation program for the picture.

The premieres will start in Philadelphia at the Fox Theatre on July 10 and will be followed by "Hollywood Premiere" showings at the Capitol Theatre in Washington, D. C. on July 11; the Harris Theatre in Pittsburgh, July 12; the Fox in St. Louis, July 16; the Palace, Cincinnati, July 18 and in Detroit at the Fox Theatre on July 19.

City Is Co-Sponsor

The three-day celebration in Philadelphia will be jointly sponsored by city officials and 20th-Fox. Mayor Bernard Samuel heads a committee of prominent Philadelphians who have been working with 20th-Fox exploiters for the past three weeks making preparations for one of the biggest events of its kind ever to be held there.

Highlights of the premiere program in Philadelphia will be a gala parade through the downtown section of the city; a noon-day banquet to be given by state and city officials and attended by 1,200 prominent citizens; press receptions for the visiting Hollywood stars, and coast-to-coast radio broadcasts. Local department stores will decorate their windows in the "Centennial" manner, emphasizing the color and excitement that prevailed in the city and the Exposition in 1876, about which Albert E. Idell wrote so colorfully in his novel, which formed the story basis for the musical. The city streets also will be decorated in gay bunting and banners for the occasion.

Phil Silvers to M.C.

The group of 20th-Fox players, headed by Phil Silvers, who will act as master of ceremonies, will arrive in Philadelphia from Hollywood on July 7. They will travel as a unit to the five other cities on the itinerary before returning to Hollywood.

The "Hollywood Premieres" will spearhead a schedule of day and date showings for "Centennial Summer" in more than 100 cities in the Eastern and Mid-western territory, according to Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of distribution. These dates will follow soon after the premieres in the key cities, thus taking full advantage of the advance publicity. The exploitation program for the picture has been designed to give complete territorial coverage, Charlie Schaeffer, head of the advertising, publicity, exploitation and sales department, explained. Special newspaper advertising, regional in scope; and an extensive billboard campaign will herald the picture's premiere in each of the key centers.

NATURAL BALLYHOO. In view of the title of MGM's "The Postman Always Rings Twice," it was only natural that some exhibitor would bring the local post-office into play in the campaign. Manager Robert R. Porte of Loew's Poli-Elm Street Theatre, Worcester, Mass., prevailed on a postman to carry a sign advertising the picture, as shown above.

Newspaper Ad Tieup, Set on 'Night and Day'

Warners' "Night and Day," chosen to keynote the 20th Anniversary of Talking Pictures, is receiving extensive national breaks in big newspaper ads inserted by Barrington Hall Coffee. First of the ads broke last week in six New York newspapers and six additional ads will appear in these papers three or four times during July. The same newspaper ads were carried in more than 30 key cities on July 2, with the three repeat insertions before the general release of "Night and Day" early in August.

Benefits from Ad Tieup

RKO Radio's "Without Reservation" will benefit as the result of an extensive advertising campaign now being conducted by the Strong Electric Corporation of Toledo, Ohio. A scene from the picture showing Claudette Colbert and John Wayne dominates the ad which will run in all the leading motion picture journals, starting this month.

Philatelic Stunt

Enterprise has temporarily cleared out the Philatelic Department in Washington of its three-cent U. S. Army stamp with an order for 75,000 of the issue.

Stamp, which depicts GI's marching down the Champ de Elysees with the Arc de Triomphe in the background, will be used, together with specially designed envelopes, on all of Enterprise's outgoing mail to plug—you guessed it—the Ingrid Bergman-Charles Boyer co-starrer, "Arch of Triumph."
SELLING THE PICTURE

REHEARSAL. At Warner's Strand, Albany, the city's newest GI Newlyweds rehearse for the broadcast which took place on the theatre's stage as the highlight of a citywide celebration put on for the couples by the theatre in cooperation with the city's merchants and the Knickerbocker News. Radio station announcer emceed the stage broadcast ceremonies at which gifts were presented to the couples. Stunt was part of the "Janie Gets Married" campaign, essayed by Assistant Zone Manager Charles A. Smakwitz, Leo Rosen, Strand manager and Jerry Atkin, publicity department.

GI's and Brides Active In Albany's 'Janie' Ballyhoo

How smart theatremen can get their teeth into a basic idea and build it up to the extent that a leading newspaper will run full columns of publicity and art and a group of civic-minded merchants will contribute gifts and pay for the entire expense of a banquet—all to publicize a motion picture—has been demonstrated resplendently by Charles A. Smakwitz, Warner Bros. Theatre assistant zone manager in the Albany territory. Leo Rosen, Strand theatre manager and Jerry Atkin, assistant in the publicity department. Harry Goldberg, director of Warner Bros. theatre advertising and publicity came up with the idea, and the Albany trio did the job.

The idea worked this way: Twenty-five newly married GI Joes and their brides were invited on a first come, first served basis to join in a "Congratulating 'Janie Gets Married' Party to Albany's newest Mr. and Mrs. GI Joe." A tieup was made with the Albany Knickerbocker News to publicize the event and the newspaper gave generous space of two columns or more for seven successive days prior to opening and wound up the campaign with a roundup story about the party and stage ceremonies which took place on the Strand's stage opening night.

Merchants Enthusiastic

The cooperation of 20 merchants was enlisted. They donated a variety of prizes to the couples and agreed to pay all expenses for a dinner party preceding the newlyweds' appearance on the stage of the theatre to receive their gifts. In addition, and by no means the smallest contribution of the cooperating merchants, was a full page of cooperative advertising in which II of the couples were pictured, with the center of the ad devoted to the film. It also carried a large cut of the stars. Cost of the dinner party was allocated proportionately to each merchant.

Featured window displays in each of the 20 cooperating merchants' stores also was a highlight of the celebration.

Each of the Warner Theatres in Albany took part in the search for the 25 couples by showing a short trailer about the event and the opening announcement in the Knickerbocker News. All theatres also displayed set-pieces in their lobbies, containing copy similar to the trailers. An elaborate display on the Strand front showed Joan Leslie and Robert Hutton figures and copy pertaining to the stunt.

To keep the newspaper publicity alive and interested pictures of the newlyweds' picture taken as they signified their willingness to participate in the celebration, with stories on the various couples appearing daily in the news columns of the Knickerbocker News. These continued to run until the day before opening, when the full page co-op appeared, and were followed by the roundup story after opening night.

The cooperating merchants donated announcements on their radio programs giving the celebration program additional impetus and several of the GI Joes and their brides were interviewed by announcers and commentators in advance of the opening. At the dinner, held at the DeWitt Clinton Hotel, station WABY covered the proceedings with a series of interviews. This was wire recorded and rebroadcast the night after opening.

Following the dinner the couples were escorted by automobile and accompanied by police motorcycles with the usual screaming sirens through the streets of Albany. They were assembled in the lobby in two groups and paraded down each center aisle to organ music. They went up on the stage, met in the center and were introduced to the audience. Seats had been reserved for the couples, and after the ceremonies were concluded, they witnessed a showing of "Janie Gets Married."

Philadelphia Angle

Another angle to the same stunt was presented by Manager Elmer Pickard of the Boyd, Philadelphia, when he brought newly married GI's and their brides together at the theatre as the result of a contest staged by the Daily News, station WDS and the theatre.

The contest was limited to GI's who had been married between June 1st and 30th, 1946, with the winning couple receiving a $50 Savings Bond for the best letter on "Twin beds or double beds for happier marriages." The twenty finalists in the contest were treated to a night of fun and a dinner at Old Bookbinders. Later they saw a showing of the film at the Boyd.

Prizes and the dinner were obtained at no cost to the theatres.

Girl Plumber Discovery Aids 'Cluny' in Chicago

With the release of 20th Century-Fox's "Cluny Brown," lady plumbers in the United States are coming into their own. There are only five in the entire country and one of them turned up in Chicago last week to give the company front page publicity in the Chicago newspapers.

Eddie Solomon, 20th-Fox exploitation representative in Chicago, was instrumental in discovering the only registered lady plumber in Illinois, 24-year-old Olivia Wentzel of Eldorado. In honor of her 24th birthday, the company arranged a luncheon at the Congress Hotel in Chicago, at which Miss Wentzel was the guest of the Illinois Master Plumbers Association. Following the luncheon she attended a preview of "Cluny Brown," which deals with the tribulations of a woman plumber.

Miss Wentzel was also interviewed on the "Breakfast Club" nationwide radio broadcast.

Uses Opposition to Sell 'Breakfast' in Dayton

By concentrating publicity activities for "Breakfast in Hollywood" at the well attended Dayton Industrial Exposition, Manager Elmer Redelle of Dayton's Victory theatre and UA Field Representative Ward Farrar kept the film in the limelight. The large crowds saw enormous cutouts of Tom Irrenman at radio station WING's booth at the Fair Grounds and heard the Goody Hat contest conducted by the theatre announced several times daily over the Exposition's loudspeaker system.

In Dayton, 20x48 window streamers were used in nine grocery store windows through a tieup with the window trimmer handling Kellogg's breakfast foods. The Bassett Music Company used a full window display on the music by the King Cole Trio in the picture and other merchants gave widespread cooperation in balancing the hat contest.

CONGRATULATING ALBANY'S NEWEST MR. & MRS. G. L. JOOS

ON STAGE AT THE STRAND THEATRE TOMORROW NITE at 9:30 P. M.

FULL PAGE. This is the kind of cooperative ad that leaves everybody happy. The merchants got a break and "Janie Gets Married" got more than a break when the Warner picture played Albany's Strand.
Full page ads in 22 leading magazines (including Life, Look, Liberty, American Weekly, True Story, Photoplay, True Confessions) and 48 important newspapers have put the movie public on the knife edge of suspense! And that's only the half.
SMASH BUSINESS IN EVERY ENGAGEMENT IS HOLDING THE NATION’S BIGGEST THEATRES IN THE MIGHTY GRIP OF...

"SUSP"

HOLDOVER REPORTS POURING IN EVERY WEEK, FROM EVERY SECTION—CHICAGO, BOSTON, SAN FRANCISCO—TELL THE MONOGRAM BOXOFFICE STORY!
IT'S MONOGRAM'S BIG ONE! Starring
BELITA • BARRY SULLIVAN • BONITA GRANVILLE • ALBERT DEKKER
with EUGENE PALLETTE • Miguelito Valdes • Bobby Ramos and His Band • Edit Angold
Produced by MAURICE and FRANKLIN KING • Directed by Frank Tuttle • Original
Screenplay by Philip Yordan • Music by Daniele Amfitheatrof
A KING BROS. PRODUCTION
**Showmanalysis**

**20th ANNIVERSARY OF TALKING PICTURES AN ACE ANGLE FOR LOCAL PUBLIC RELATIONS JOB**

Special Manual Ideas Valuable in Preparing Community Celebration

The industry-wide significance of the 20th Anniversary of Talking Pictures is graphically indicated by the campaign manual prepared by Warner Bros', advertising and publicity department under the supervision of Mort Blumenstock. The manual presents a complete outline of the national tieup already effected by the Warner organization and details the myriad opportunities for local exploitation of the Talking Pictures Anniversary and individual motion pictures closely connected with it.

**Wealth of Ideas**

The manual contains suggestions and well-defined ideas for practically every type of exploitation in the showman's book, and a few that no showman could manage without the aid offered in the manual. It includes ideas for radio, special heralds of many types, window display tieups, many different kinds of contests, display pieces, special tieup posters, material for school and club group discussions, plans for community celebrations and a wide range of ballyhoo. It also gives details of the plans for exploitation which have been put into work, (or which are ready for execution) by the co-sponsors of the Anniversary. These include plans of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, Bell Telephone Laboratories, Eastman Kodak Company, RCA Victor Division of the Radio Corporation of America, the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, Thomas A. Edison, Inc., and Western Electric Company, Inc. Each of the co-sponsors has planned extensively for the celebration and details of the plans are included in the manual. Suggestions on how showman can capitalize on the plans are outlined step by step.

**National Ad Is Key**

Warner Bros, has started the ball rolling nationally with the now well known Anniversary ad which is scheduled to reach 150,495,560 readers in the 19 largest circulation national magazines. It is the largest single advertising schedule in the history of Warner Bros. Reproductions of the ad in 40x60 size for lobby or window display are available free in limited quantities through Warner exchanges.

Radio is expected to play a large part in the national celebration following the already active participation by every Warner star who has appeared on a national hook-up since early May. In each of these cases copy has been inserted in announcements giving information about the celebration.

**Radio Campaign**

Among the more than 35 coast-to-coast radio programs that primarily will be devoted to the Anniversary are the Telephone Hour, to be heard Monday, August 5th, with an estimated listening audience of 10 million; The RCA Show on Sunday August 4th, via NBC, which will be devoted exclusively to Cole Porter music from "Night and Day" and to the Anniversary Celebrations. Estimated audience for the RCA Show is 15 million.

On August 6th 250 theatres will show Warner Bros. "Night and Day" and an accompanying celebration will originate from the Warner Hollywood studios when every star on the lot will broadcast in a special coast-to-coast program which also will present famous names from the government, science and business. Also on August 6th, 20 local stations throughout the country will air recorded Cole Porter music from "Night and Day" on the "Music You Want" program.

The new manual contains details of all of the radio plans and a wealth of other radio ideas for local station use.

**RCA Victor Tieup**

One of the highlights of the campaign, outlined in the manual, is the RCA Victor window display contest for its thousands of dealers to be based on the Cole Porter score from "Night and Day." Prizes offered in the contest include a free trip to Hollywood, and hundreds of dollars in cash prizes. Since one of the requirements of the contest is that each contestant must effect a theatre tie-in with his display, it offers an outstanding opportunity to every showman for extensive cooperation on the picture and the Anniversary celebration.

Plans for community celebrations follow a well-established Warner Bros. exploitation formula which has been used with outstanding success in promoting Warner films in the past. Its step-by-step outline is so well defined as to be valuable for any showman to keep in his files for use long after the Anniversary Celebration is a thing of the past. The plan involves civic officials, clergymen, scientists, college and school officials, business leaders, public utility representatives, newspaper and radio representatives and organization heads. It is an imposing plan at first glance. But it is workable, as has been proved so many times in the past.

**Publicity Flood**

National newspaper and magazine publicity by the best known columnists and feature writers has been flooding dailies and periodicals for the past few months. The publicity has created an acceptance for the Celebration with newspaper editors throughout the country and the new manual contains plenty of suggestions for special stories to be prepared locally in addition to plenty of "ready-for-insertion" material already written which just have to be given local touches.

**Newspaper Contests**

One newspaper contest, prepared to run up to ten days or less, contains reproductions of stills from films made in 1926 right up to the present day. It is based on "Movie Titles" and has a novel appeal which newspaper editors should be quick to recognize. With locally promoted prizes it should garner plenty of space and interest in every community. Manuals for pretty nearly everything in the motion picture business have been prepared before and will be prepared again. But this example of exhibitor aid from the Warner outfit, is outstanding in that it contains so many top ideas for exploitation in all of its phases that it might well be carefully filed away after its use for the Celebration, for adaptation in many future exploitation campaigns. It is the kind of manual that can be used for basic ideas time and again.

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John Balaban and William K. Hollander, B & K executives, stand before Warner Bros. key poster for the 20th Anniversary of Talking Pictures, which has been blown up from the national ad, scheduled to appear in 19 magazines of 150,495,560 circulation. The poster is available, free, in limited quantities from Warner exchanges. Joe Blumenfeld, president of the Blumenfeld Circuit and R. T. Murphy, general manager of Yellen Theatres, Buffalo (left and right center, respectively) also shown with posters, and Harry Zeitz of New Bedford, are included in the nation-wide group of prominent showmen who are now engaged in readying Anniversary plans.
SELLING THE PICTURE

Big Book-Picture Tieup Puts Over Cluny Brown

Film companies go to a lot of expense to buy up popular novels because they feel these books have real box-office value. To take full advantage of this an exhibitor must make the proper tie-in between the picture and the book, else he is losing his opportunity to cash in on the novel's drawing power and the producer is really laying out the heavy advertising budget to no purpose.

This must have been in the mind of Lou Cohen, manager of Loew's Poli in Hartford, when he played "Cluny Brown," for he carefully saw to it that the book and the film were closely allied. In fact, Cohen has been weaving quite a campaign on this score.

Commentator Helps

For "Cluny Brown" he won the cooperation of June Carter, book reviewer, who also does a daily radio program. Miss Carter discussed the book and then the picture, not once, but several times, both in her column and over the radio. This direct plug could not help but get results, as Cohen will testify.

Then counter displays on the book were planted in the book departments of both the downtown department stores and two local book stores. They all, of course, carried theatre cards with the tie-in copy.

Last, but not least, Cohen prepared a lobby display that went beyond a mere ballyhoo for the one picture and one book. He arranged a giant blow-up of the "Cluny Brown" book and surrounded it with other books, some of which will reach his theatre as pictures. The display was backed with fluorescent lighting and was hit by a spot in front. On the top a streamer carried the copy: "Great Books; Make Great Movies," while along the side the copy was "Read the Book. See the Picture."

WILL IT NEVER END? When Goofy Hat Contests are put on, Philadelphia takes a back seat to no city. At the Stanton Theatre where the latest episode in the zany quest for women whose hats mirror their personality and who shamelessly parade their screwy achievements in the millinery art (?) Leroy Miller, radio program conductor from station WFL, is shown picking the worst (or the best—take your choice) during the contest which was held in conjunction with the showing of Tom Breneman's "Breakfast in Hollywood," released through United Artists.

Free Butter To First 400 Has 51 Women in Line at 5 a.m. in Philly

A little thing like a half-pound of butter just for attending a performance of United Artists "Breakfast in Hollywood" at the Stanton Theatre, Philadelphia, couldn't have been expected to start riots at the theatre, but, peculiarly enough, when Warner Theatres bought newspaper advertising stating that the first 400 women wearing goofy hats who attended the 9 a.m. show at the Stanton would be given a ticket good for a half pound of the precious stuff, they arrived in droves, with 51 of the darlings waiting on line at 5 a.m., believe it or not.

The theatre had more than 100 telephone calls from 10 p.m. the night before opening until they closed for the night, asking what kind of hat to make etc., indicating the kind of turnout that might be expected. So, the theatre had to be opened a half hour earlier next morning to accommodate the milling women who waited to enter. And the boxoffice couldn't be opened again until 12-15. There were other inducements, too. For instance the theatre had arranged to give away a 1946 model Emerson radio, a Presto pressure cooker; three $10 hat orders; a cherrywood end table; 12 albums of the latest Columbia recordings; six beauty kits from the House of Westminster; two travel kits; 24 jars of shampoo; three photographic portrait orders; six $5 gift orders; a case of Renault champagne and numerous other gifts. Then, too, the gals were offered free breakfast and consumed 45 gallons of coffee and 1500 doughnuts in little more than a half hour, (Weaker sex, huh?)

Anyhow, it seems that the nuttier it gets the better they like it. So why shouldn't United Artists' Leon Brandt arrive to let down his hair with Warner Theatres' Everett Callow? No reason at all, so they did!

The showmen duo made arrangements with Leroy Miller, disc program director at WFL, who conducts a local program similar to Tom Breneman's to set up the Goofy Hat contest, which he did with numerous announcements about the growing list of prizes (including the butter), and when the show actually was on in the theatre it was Brother Miller and an assistant who had themselves a time going through the audience, selecting women to go on the stage for the semi-finals. Twenty women finally appeared and from among these were chosen ultimate prize winners.

Following local festivities the Tom Breneman show was piped into the theatre with Breneman congratulating winners and urging listeners to see "Breakfast in Hollywood" at the Stanton.

Other highlights of the campaign included 120 windows set up by Kellogg's breakfast foods; a featured window in Gimbel's and paid advertising and plenty of free publicity in 21 neighborhood weekly newspapers. Of the regular dailies, the Daily News ran a three-column picture of contest winners and the Record ran more than six columns of photos and a story about the contest and "Breakfast in Hollywood."—PH.

Books Film Fast to Get Premiere Publicity Benefit

When the North American premiere of "I Know Where I'm Going" was held at Tobermory, Ontario, Manager Howard M. Thomas of the Centre Theatre, Owen Sound, about 60 miles south of Tobermory, decided to cash in on the publicity.

So he booked the picture fast and arranged to show, along with the film, newsreel scenes of the Tobermory premiere. Result was the biggest weekend in the theatre's history.

"Incidentally, we had lots of fun with the newsreels," reports Thomas. "It hadn't been edited and we had to have it so fast there was no sound track on it. I arranged for the manager of our radio station who had been at the premiere to make a disc to run with the picture, and the fun came in making sure we cued the darn thing properly every time we ran the newsreel."

Name the Song

Guest tickets were awarded to radio listeners who named the most popular song from Paramount's "Road to Utopia" in a contest conducted by Michael Stranger, manager of Loew's State Theatre, White Plains, N. Y.
SELLING THE PICTURE

Money Dates for August

The proverbial "dog days" of August apply just as much to the exhibitor's lot as to that of anyone else. During the month there is only one national observance—National Aviation Day—and even this day may not be celebrated in some communities. There are seascens and Vermont with which exhibitors in those states can tie up. Whether or not advantage of the anniversaries will be taken will depend on whether the theatreman thinks such action is feasible, whether it will win added goodwill, etc. Some of the anniversaries, we think, can be made into products. But other showman may strategize—including such summertime stunts as bathing beauty contests, golf or tennis competition sponsored by the theatre, etc.—will most likely prove a necessity. Choose your attractions for the month with care and enjoy the cool comfort of your theatre.

August 19: NATIONAL AVIATION DAY. Because of the vital part it played in winning the war, and in view of the great future of peacetime commercial transportation by air, aviation should be paid full respect on this day. Tie up with any civic or military observances that may be planned; you might assume the initiative by planning observances of the day and getting civic or military officials to cooperate with you. A model plane contest might be held under newspaper sponsorship. Prizes could be offered for the best models of latest warbirds, such as Pan American's Constellation. Winning models could be displayed in the lobby. Model planes could be painted on the walls so that the winning entries can be chosen or placed on display by August 19. Prominent local officials could sit in the judges, thereby giving audiences of various types of aircraft, an airplane identification and knowledge that could also be held.

Sectional Observations
August 1: Colorado joined Union, 1876. August 16: Missouri admitted to Union, 1821. August 16: Battle of Bennington (celebrated in Vermont).

Anniversaries
August 2: Germany declared war on England and France, 1914 (World War I).
August 13: International Boxing Federation was formed, 1904.

D-Day Angle Exploits 'Devotion' in Vancouver

For one week in advance of the opening of Warners' "Devotion" at the Orpheum Theatre, Vancouver, cards with the copy "D-Day! Is Coming Friday to the Orpheum," were distributed. This teaser campaign aroused plenty of curiosity.

Then, on opening day, newspapers were handed out which carried this scarehead at the top of the front page in bold red type: "D-Day! Stands for 'Devotion.' Starting Orpheum Today." The wartime text of the paper and the date shows that it was reprinted from a 1941 issue of the Vancouver Observer. Just how this was done is not explained by the report, which points out that because of the newspaper strike and paper shortages the copy was print its original form.

During the film's engagement the management distributed cards bearing this copy: "At Last It's Here! D-Day! It Stands for 'Devotion.' You Must See This Great Picture Now at the Orpheum." A tieup was made with drug store fountains to feature "Devotion" Sundae.—VA.

Classified Ad Stunts

Passes to "The Last Chance" were offered during the engagement of the Grand Theatre, Clintonville, Wis., to newspaper readers whose phone numbers appeared in the classified ad section. This wouldn't do in New York or Chicago, of course.

August 9: Francis Scott Key, born 1780. This anniversary should be celebrated in every theatre. Have Flag dedication exercises on your stage, with the audience singing The Star-Spangled Banner. A trailer might be run reminding your patrons that the National Anthem is a symbol of freedom, liberty and justice for all.

August 12: Sewing-machine patents granted to J. J. Singer and A. B. Wilson, 1831. If obtainable in either state, seeing a modern sewing machine would make an interesting "hobby" display. A representative of the company might show how various garments can be made.

August 14: Atlantic Charter Day. Signing of Atlantic Charter by the late President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill, 1941.
August 15: Panama Canal opened, 1914. (Traffic began July 26, 1914.)
August 15: Sir Walter Scott, born 1771.
August 17: Firing of the steamboat made trip from New York to Albany, 1807.
August 18: Virginia Dare, first child of English parents, born in America at Roanoke Island, 1587.
August 22: Red Cross established in Geneva, 1864. Be sure to pay tribute to the Red Cross for its magnificent humanitarian job both in time of war and peace. If a print of Warners’ two-reel Technicolor film of "The Red Cross" (STF, October 26, 1940) is available, it would be an appropriate booking for the holiday. It deals with Clara Barton, founder of the Red Cross.

August 22: Oliver Wendell Holmes, born 1809.
August 27: First petroleum well opened, Titusville, Pa., 1859.
August 30: Germany declared war on Poland, 1939.

Displays, Radio, Tieups Feature 'Widow' Selling

The "Young Widow" campaign engineered by Manager John Cooney for the Union Square Theatre, Pittsfield, Mass., drew the attention of Pittsfield residents through window displays, radio announcements, teaser campaign and merchant tie-ups. Phil Engel, U.A. representative, assisted in the advance build-up.

Pegging the publicity on Jane Russell, star of "Young Widow," Cooney planted window standees showing Miss Russell in different wearing apparel such as dinner gowns, beachwear, street clothes and negligees. The Liggitt Drug Store used counter displays on the star while two of Pittsfield's largest music stores featured displays on the song from the picture, "My Heart Sings." A cutout with Miss Russell was made for tabloid newspaper advertisements.

Girl reporters on the local papers were guests on opening day and later did feature stories on the "girl reporter," a role portrayed in "Young Widow" by Jane Russell. Fifty four-four sheets, 500 Jumbo window cards and extensive radio announcements were also used.

The Local Boy Angle

"Local Boy Makes Good" is a famous headline and always one of the best psychological angles for all showmanship. This was used by Roy O'Keefe of the New Moon Theatre in Vincennes, Ind., when he played "Ziegfield Follies of 1946." Vincennes is Red Skelton's home town, see?

SELLS ACTION. Here is a section of the action-selling theatre front designed by Manager George Daramons for the engagement of Republic's "In Old Sacramento" at the Fabian-Operated Wimler & Vincent Grandy Theatre, Norfolk, Va.

Levy, Riding Give 'Follies' Extra Touch

Merchants of Reading, Pa., gave Manager Larry R. Levy and his assistant, Bill Riding, something more than ordinary cooperation when "Ziegfield Follies of 1946" played Levy's Colonial in that city. The merchants used doilies in restaurants, cafes and soda fountains; tied up their windows by localizing the national tieups; distributed heralds, blotters, souvenir programs, bought cooperative newspaper advertising and otherwise helped themselves to the national publicity value of the film, assisted by the suggestions and urging of the Messrs, Levy and Riding.

A spectacular false front was designed after the one used by the Capitol, New York, featuring cut-outs of the famous Petty Girls; setpieces decorated the theatre lobby and the entire theatre staff wore jackets advertising the film two weeks in advance.

One of the highlights of the campaign was Levy's saving up his newspaper lineage rebate, which in Reading may only be taken by extra lineage, to take a half page featuring an enormous reproduction of a Petty Girl, that not only stole the page but the whole paper.

MGM spots were tagged with local copy and station WRAV ran a Ziegfield song contest with recordins of the music, with guest tickets to those who could identify music.

 Blow-ups Always Ring Bell

Blow-ups and cut-outs are still one of the best exploitation standbys in the business. When you have a picture like "The Postman Always Rings Twice" with effective stills of Lana Turner and John Garfield it is a natural. Two managers who recently made use of this method were Maynard Nelson, Empress Theatre, Fremont, Neb; and J. C. Cole, World Theatre, Kearney, Neb.

SHOWMAN SAM SAYS: I still can't get used to those terrific grosses in the Broadway houses; $143,000 at the Music Hall for a recent week. That sounds like a fortune to me, but then, they do have a little thing called "overhead."
SELLING THE PICTURE

Originality Keynote of ‘Day Forward’ Campaign

An out-of-the-ordinary campaign put on at small cost brought big dividends to H. H. Grafe, manager of the Wisconsin Theatre, Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin for RKO Radio’s “From This Day Forward.”

The campaign started with a series of teaser classified ads which appeared daily for seven days in advance of opening. Signed by “Mark Stevens,” the name of Joan Fontaine’s co-star, the ads constituted a plea to “Joan” to keep her family out of their domestic affairs, ending up with the title of the picture worked into the wording of the ad.

A full-page display ad built around “From This Day Forward” broke in the leading newspaper the day before opening. The usual ads were supplemented with an ad addressed to ex-servicemen asking them to contact the Wisconsin Theatre if the husband of an overseas bride. This resulted in an engraved invitation for the couple to attend the show as guests of the management. A telegram from Joan Fontaine and Mark Stevens, arranged through the RKO exchange, was read from the stage, extending a warm welcome to the war brides who were invited up on the stage and introduced to the audience after which they were presented with a corsage with the compliments of the theatre and a local florist who donated the bouquets. This received considerable newspaper space.

The Home Furniture Store ran an ad calling attention to a window display which featured a model in bridal attire in an ultra-modern setting with full theatre credit. This window display appeared for one week before opening and continued on through three days of the run.

Other features of the campaign consisted of distributing 3000 handbills with a call on how to save on water, gas and electricity, (the answer being to attend the showing of “From This Day Forward”) plus a daily five-minute radio plug every day for one week in advance and an eight-minute pitch each day during its run.

As an extra fillip, the ushers were instructed by Manager Grafe to page “Mark Stevens” in the theatre auditorium one week in advance of opening to arouse interest in this new personality. The idea was also used in another theatre operated by the same management.

SHOWMAN SAM SAYS: Was talking the other day to the branch manager of one of the largest exchanges and, believe it or not, they didn’t have a sales drive going on.

Moving Displays Catch the Eye, Thinks Turner, So He Moves ‘Em

Things that move always attract the eye. That is an axiom of exploitation, and it does not do to forget axioms. Certainly no one could accuse Arthur Turner of the Parsons Theatre, Parsons, Kan., of forgetting it, for when he recently promoted “What Next, Corporal Hargrove?” he had his paper and other displays moving all over the place.

For instance, those Railway Express trucks are a fine medium for such advertising because they get around continually, so Turner posted the show, theatre and playdate on the current truck display. Then he made a tieup with the local U. S. Army Recruiting Service. This resulted in the loan of a jeep. The picture was advertised over the bumper, on the rear end, and finally by means of a banner stretched on piping that ran from front to back over the top of the car. They all contained name of picture, cast, theatre and dates. This jeep was driven around town for five days preceding opening.

But this was not all of Turner’s moving advertising. The theatre’s own truck was plastered with banners and driven around, and lastly a tie-up with the city bus company provided for 2x5 ft. banners on all city buses—and you know what that means. And 2x5 banners are a large size for buses—city buses, that is.

Of course, everything can’t move. After all, six-sheets are a little unhandy for that purpose unless you’ve got a moving van, so Turner posted them on his regular boards, which are prominently located in town.

Besides all this display advertising, Turner also decided to hold a contest, and went right to the heart of the Hargrove theme—banners.

He offered eight prizes for those GIs sending in the best funny experience. First prize was a three-week pass, second a two-week pass, third a one-week pass, and single passes to the next five best. The Parsons Daily Sun took this up and came through with a good splash five days before opening, explaining the whole set-up. The result was a good bunch of replies from the servicemen, nearly all of whom, it seems, had some amusing experience in the Army or Navy.

Increase ‘Outlaw’ Budget To Nearly $2,000,000

Increase in the advertising budget of “The Outlaw” to approximately $2,000,000, the greater part of which will be spent on newspaper and magazine advertising, was announced in New York this week by Harry Gold on behalf of Howard Hughes. It was not said whether copy and art for the increased budget had been submitted to the Motion Picture Association of America.

Meanwhile, the reconverted navy dirigible which was being used to incite interest in “The Outlaw” in Texas, where the principal theatre chain reportedly has refused to book the film, was damaged by a 90-mile-an-hour windstorm while it was moored in Midland. No one was injured.
It's a FACT: First Week
ALL-TIME RECORD
Radio City Music Hall!
SECOND WEEK
MATCHING
FIRST!

"ONE OF THE BEST PICTURES IN YEARS!" — N.Y. Daily News • "EXCELLENT! EXTRAORDINARY!" — "WILL HIT HIGH!" — Mirror • "A CAPTIVATING PICTURE!" — Herald Tribune • "A RARE DELIGHT!" — N.Y. Sun • "CHEERS FOR EVERY MOMENT OF IT!" — World-Telegram • "A TREASURE CHEST OF ENCHANTMENT!" —

Darryl F. Zanuck

IRENE DUNNE • REX HARRISON

ANNA AND THE

with LEE J. COBB • GALE SONDERGAARD • MIKHAIL RASUM

Directed by JOHN CROMWELL

Screen Play by Talbot Jennings and Sally Benson

It's a FACT that the Biggest Figure in the Industry
The line goes further than any camera can see!

Presents

ON - LINDA DARNELL in

KING OF SIAM

DENNIS HOEY • TITO RENALDO • RICHARD LYON

Produced by LOUIS D. LIGHTON

Based Upon the Biography by Margaret Landon

Century-Fox Makes the Biggest Best-Sellers!
Campaigns for 'Night in Casablanca' Show Trend to Increased Promotion

Ingenuity of theatre managers and publicity representatives is being displayed to a far greater degree than during wartime, according to detailed examination of promotion reports submitted to United Artists on the Marx Brothers' "A Night in Casablanca."

With more care now being exercised by the public in shopping for the product, theatre men recognize all-out local campaigns as an essential factor in attracting capacity audiences. Regulation campaigns, therefore, are being supplemented by the strongest possible promotions, both in advance and during playdates.

Application of different selling methods is apparent as ingenuity of showmen is brought to bear in different situations. For instance, Harold Morton of Loew's State in Syracuse based his campaign only on 

The Racing Theme

In Cleveland, Manager Howard Burkhardt and Publicist Ed Fisher of Loew's State put on their thinking caps and came up with two dandies. The first, a Casablanca Handicap, was executed at the Randall race track with a special prize named after the picture. Track announcements three days in advance, programs, newspapers and sound trucks in downtown Cleveland, ballyhooed the event. The second stunt tied in the picture with Cleveland's Soap Box Derby, winning contestants being given a special prize contributed by the Marx Brothers.

In the New England territory, Lou Cohen of Loew's Poli in Hartford and Joe Samartano of Loew's in Providence came up with contest ideas—both different. Cohen found it advantageous to get sponsorship of the Knights of Columbus in a costume dance, with prizes awarded those with the most novel oriental costumes. The entire affair saluted the picture by being advertised as "A Night in Casablanca." Naturally, newspapers, windows and other media were used in obtaining supplementary publicity. Samartano, in fact, stressed windows in his campaign as against other media.

Looking for a Camel

Further evidence that showmanship is on the march is seen in a pair of campaigns in two distant situations. Both used similar ideas, but with different approaches, to once again stress the importance of applying special treatment according to territory. Lester Pollock of Loew's in Rochester picked up the camel angle in "A Night in Casablanca" and planted classified ads reading: "Where would you look for a camel, besides the zoo?" Return mail proved the effectiveness of the contest which offered prizes for the best answers.

The camel gag was stressed for word-of-mouth publicity by George Peters of Loew's in Richmond when the theatre manager hired a man with a white trick mule to attract public attention. The street bally was so successful that Station WRVA ran a special broadcast describing the event. The mule's trainer, dressed as Groucho Marx, put the animal through his paces by having it sit down, fooled, and finally turn over to play dead.

Bull's-Eye!

All the guy was trying to do was to publicize Columbia's "Bandit of Sherwood Forest" by staging an archery tournament, promoting a 15-minute daily radio program on archery and other activities such as lecturing to school students, Roy Scouts and others. He even got his own picture in the newspapers giving archery lessons—to his wife! But he wound up president of his local Archery Club, was made regional publicity director for the forthcoming National Archery Tournament. And Paul Jacobs, manager of the Columbia Theatre, Portsmouth, Ohio, the guy who did all this, is wondering just how the rest of it came about. Bewilder-

Sells 'Devotion' Via Transportation Units

Warner's "Devotion" received comprehensive exploitation via Buffalo's transportation facilities during its engagement at Shea's Buffalo Theatre, managed by Harry Taylor. The campaign included 100 taxi bumper strips, 75 delivery truck bumper strips, 125 bus cards on Greyhound Bus Lines, and card displays in various terminals.

Other promotional activities on "Devotion" included distribution of book marks in all Buffalo public libraries, spotting of 75 newstand cards, 60 frame cards for hotels, drug stores and other locations, 7,500 printed bags for Beck's shoe store; 2,500 printed coasters for leading cafes, 150 cards for barber and beauty shops, 150 cards for the Rector News Trucks carrying Red Book Story, and more than a dozen window displays.

Cracker-Whistling Contest

Lots of fun and lots of talk for the opening of United Artists' "Whistle Stop" at FWC's Music Hall, Los Angeles, was provided by Manager Clyde Strout when he held a cracker-eating-and-whistle contest at a local ballroom. Those who could eat cracker and whistle first received prizes.
WASHINGTON

Raymond F. Garrity, chairman of the Washington Food Conservation Committee, reports that movie patrons gave liberally at the 38 theatre collection booths.

Cecilia Doughterty, Columbia clerk, will spend her honeymoon in Ireland.

Audrey Kosiski, MGM’s English war bride, took a trip to Pittston, Pa., to attend a real Polish wedding of her husband’s cousin.

Adelle Fisher, Warner Contract Department, was given a baby shower by the girls at the office.

Sidney Lust’s Bethesda and Kaywood theatres will inaugurate Saturday midnight shows this week.

Mrs. Vera Mayo, Warner Contract Department, has resigned to join her husband in Alaska. With Washington temperatures and tempests soaring, Vera made a very advantageous move.

Buddy Hall, formerly of the local MGM exchange and now the wife of Warner home office’s Frank Marshall, paid a visit to the local exchange.

The School of Political Action Techniques of the National Citizens PAC was at the Willard Hotel last week in a three-day session. Among other subjects discussed were films, music and dramas in relation to political trends. Speakers were Pare Lorentz of the documentary film field and John McManus, movie critic of New York’s newspaper, PM.

The Variety Club had another of its popular “Open House” dates on Saturdays, June 29, with Morgan Baur furnishing the music.

Stan Jennings, artist in Warner’s advertising and publicity department, is putting in a supply of cigars in anticipation of the happy event.

Leslie Coyne of MGM brought her mother to the office to meet her co-workers. Her mother was visiting from Ontario.

Ben Caplon, Columbia branch manager, presented Stewart Tucker, manager of the State Theatre, Richmond, Virginia with the $100 war bond prize which he rated for his outstanding publicity stunt in connection with the Thalhimer Drive, Neighborhood Theatres.

Ida Barefsky, MGM, was installed as president of the local Business and Professional Division of Hadassah for a second term.

LOS ANGELES

The Circle Theatre, Greenfield Corner, opened June 27, with Vic Mansbacher operating the house. The J. P. Filbert Equipment Co. handled the installation of equipment.

Mary Jane Filbert, daughter of the Equipment company chief, is working for her Dad these days. Another daughter, Margaret, recently was married, and John Filbert, Jr., added to the reasons for celebrating by getting his release from the Coast Guard after three years service.

The Minor family, owners of a quartet of houses out Burbank way, were in L. A. last week.

Jack Hessick, National Theatre Supply salesman, returned from a vacation in Oklahoma. Elaine Braun is pinchingitting for Vini Oswald, on vacation in Kentucky, and John Denney, National’s shop foreman, is also enjoying a respite from work. Verna Simpson of the front office just came back from her time off.

Walt Stacey suffered some damage to his Pantages Theatre in Pantages when a fire recently broke out. Projection & Equipment Maintenance Co. rushed service and soundheads to Walt for the emergency. Stacey is again running with his own material.

Sugar Bockelage’s sister, Honey, is paying a visit from Cincinnati, Ohio. Sugar is secretary to District Manager Del Goodman of Paramount.

A. C. Crawmer, Minneapolis branch manager for National Theatre Supply, paid the local branch a visit while on a trip out here.

The Gilboy Film Delivery company moved to its new location at 21st and Vermont. Ed Hunter, general manager and owner, has added to his holdings a gasoline station.

Visitors to the Roof included Bill Martin, Henect, Hemet, and Mr. Woods of the Woods, Chino. Frank Martin came over to recuperate from the Arizona heat by basking in the California fog. Frank runs the Clifton, Clifton, Ariz., and the Moreno, Moreno, Ariz.

Gare Lewis, owner of the San Gabriel, San Gabriel, is retiring and will spend his days raising chickens on his “ranch.”

W. C. “Lew” Lewellen, special representative of the Paramount offices for L.A. and Frisco, has resigned effective July 6, to take a position with J. Walter Thompson Advertising Agency.

The Western Amusement Company added the Barf’s, Adams and Crenshaw to its chain, as well as the Fremont, Adams and LaBrea, and the San Gabriel in that town. This makes a total of 14 houses for the circuit, owned by former employees of the Griffith enterprises in Texas and Oklahoma.

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HARRISBURG

Sam Frank, new owner of the Paxtang, came on from Atlantic City for the official opening of the house under his jurisdiction last Monday. Frank, who purchased the theatre, owns a chain of twelve houses in New Jersey and Delaware, this being his first venture into Pennsylvania. Roy V. Osman, owner-manager for seven years, will continue as manager.

Mr. and Mrs. Deaver, assistant manager, has jumped on the cartoon bandwagon and has announced a “Kiddie Cartoon” show for Monday, July 8 at 9 a.m. Mr. and Mrs. Deaver is selling the special show by one-sheet frames of cartoon characters placed in the lobby, with legends scrabbled in a child-like scrawl.

New at the Colonial are Patricia Horton, Virginia Hech, and Maryanna Wilsch, Vacationing from no same home are Rachel Luciano, in Atlantic City, Bob, Olsen, technical director, and Mrs. Daisy Bumbaugh of the cleaning staff. For the first time this year Colonial employees are getting two-week holidays. In past seasons they were given one week.

Bob Sol, assistant manager of Loew’s Regent, visited his mother in Washington, D. C., last week.

The engagement of Gerard M. Lawatsch, movie reviewer of the Harrisburg Telegraph, and Susan William M. Schafer of the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis has been announced.

Catherine B. Jackson and Hope Robinson resigned from the Senate staff.

The State has installed a new screen, under the supervision of Manager E. G. Wollaston and Fabian maintenance director Herman Nowitsky.

A tie-up with a paint company for the Technicolor feature, “Renegades,” featured the extra campaign on the picture which played successfully at the State. In addition Gerry Wollaston arranged for a daily 30-minute show over Radio Station WHGB. This station also cooperated with Loew’s, Regent in plugging “A Night in Casablanca.”

Paddy Ryan, State maintenance man, is vacations in Bridgeport, Conn.

OMAHA

New owner of the Clay Theatre at Clay Center, Neb., C. E. Bradshaw. He takes over from Fred Andersen.

An Omaha Columbia delegation attended a sales meeting over the week-end in Minneapolis. Included in the party were Joe Jacobs, branch manager; Bob Wolheim, Paul Fine; Pat Jolley and William Barker, salesmen; and Mort Ives, office manager.

With the beer shortage what it is here, someone in the Paramount office did a good job in cornering five cases for the big Monday night picnic at Linoma Beach. To make things better there was an inch downpour of rain.

Dorothy Weaver, 20th-Fox assistant cashier, who recently had her home sold out from under her and was evicted, landed a house and took a week of her vacation for the moving.

K. Streuer, New York theatre exporter, spent last Monday here with Robert Ballantyne (Continued on Page 40)
of the Ballantine Company. Another visitor to the Ballantine plant on the same day was H. McLachlan of the W & Y Service at Muncie, Ind.

Earl Cowdin, owner of the Sidney Theatre, Sidney, la., is back from a week of fishing in Minnesota.

Dorothy McGuire, native Omaha, visited old friends here while staying at the home of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Trapp, and her mother, Mrs. Isabelle Barkley. She and her husband, John Spoc, were enroute to New York in their own plane.

Théo Artz, Metro stenographer, vacationed at home. 

Omaha's Stan Brown (Brad Taylor on the screen) has retired from the screen, thus dissolving the Brad Taylor Clubs. He will enter the producing business with Russell Lewis and Henry Theisen.

Frank Janecke, assistant shipper for 20th-Fox, is vacationing.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Lefitz have a baby boy. Mrs. Lefitz is the former Tibbye Wolfson, who was assistant cashier at 20th-Fox.

George Nash, Universal office manager, attended the company's annual meeting in New York City, then went on to take his vacation in the East.

After a three-week vacation, Ruth Meyers has returned to her duties as inspectoress at United Artists.

Shirley Johns, 15, recently signed by MGM, calls a farm near Omaha, la., her home, and, while enroute to visit her son in Maine.

The exhibitors meeting planned for June 26 in Omaha was called off when American Theatre Association representatives were unable to make the trip on that date.

**BOSTON**

Phil Engel, George Krasko, and Joe Di Pesa united their efforts to produce a press party for "Miss Cleopatra," the Powers model who is here to herald in advance the coming here of "Caeasar and Cleopatra."

Edward X. Cahillan, district manager of 20th Century-Fox, took his office associates on a big outing to Cohasset last week.

Extreme heat drove thousands of Bostonians to the city's nearby beaches this past week and had a noticeable effect in cutting down theatre attendance, which dropped more than 30 per cent in many of the de luxe houses.

Art Moger, publicist for Warner Brothers, went to uper New York state for a survey of条件 there.

Vernon Norton, assistant to the publicity director of Warner Brothers, is taking a special course in the drama this summer.

Harry Brownlow, chief publicist at M and P Theatres, has his Commodore's regalia adjusted once more, and now that war is ended is again commander of his own fleet on Crystal Lake in Medford.

E. M. Loew's Drive-In theatre at Lynn is doing the largest business in its ten-year history, according to Louis Richmond, Loew's chief aide.

Ann Mahony at Universal Exchange has returned from a vacation spent in New York City and in upper New York state.

Irving Isaacs, owner of the Telepix Theatre, is spending several weeks on the Massachusetts North Shore, but is commuting to the Hub four times weekly to supervise the operation of his theatre.

Central Square Theatre in Lynn recently issued "rain checks," although it is an indoor theatre. During the height of a young hurricane several windows were blown in, the resultant draft blew the theatre screen about so much the management called off the show and issued return tickets.

Louis Richmond has returned from a trip of inspection to the E. M. Loews theatres in Connecticut.

Sergeant Charles G. McGillivray, winner of the Congressional Medal of Honor, and the only living winner of such an award from New England in World War II, was guest of honor July 1 at a reception given by Lieutenant Vern A. Macaulay Post, the Theatrical Post, of the American Legion.

**CLEVELAND**

Cleveland exhibitors have not expressed any opinion on the Government anti-trust decree. General feeling is that independent theatre owners will profit by the decision, but as an appeal to the Supreme Court is practically assured they are not getting worried up over the past week's announcements.

Howard Buckhardt, Low U State Theatre manager is back on the job after a two-week vacation in the east.

Theatre business took a nose dive last week at most houses in direct proportion to the rise in temperature. People flocked to the beaches instead of to the theatres.

Charles School, MGM auditor, is spending some time in the local office. With him is Roy Webster, whom he is training for foreign service. RKO personnel leaving here Saturday for the company convention in New York included district manager Bernard Kranz, branch manager

WINNER TAKES ALL. There were smiles—especially a happy one by the lady—at the ceremony pictured above as Miss Louise Evans of Washington, D.C., received the keys to her 1946 Cadillac awarded her by the Variety Club Welfare committee. A. E. Lichtman, chairman of the Welfare committee Tent No. 11, makes the presentation as Sam Galany, Club treasurer, looks on.

Al Kolitz, office manager Otto Braemig, salesmen Arthur Goldsmith, Bob Richardson, Frank Belles, and publicity director Peter Bathory, Emery Foffrich opened his new Indian Lake Theatre at Russell's Point last week. House has 300 seats and is equipped with Fotograph installation throughout.

Nat Barach, National Screen Service branch manager, has as his guest Irving Berg of the NSS home office.

Except for the sign over the marquee the Lincoln Theatre, Dennison looks just the same. Sign gives the theatre a new name. Now it's called the New Park. Urban Anderson is manager.

Charles Rich, Warner district manager, accompanied by Indianapolis branch manager C. W. McKean, spent the week in conference with Jesse Fine, circuit owner of Evansville, Ind.

The Capitol and Star Theatres of Delphos have joined Milton Mooney's Co-op booking and buying service.

Former Columbia salesman Oscar Bloom has a broken arm—result of an automobile accident. The Urbanskys—John Sr., John Jr. and Harry, and B. W. Payne, Jr., all of Visual Communications, Inc. will attend the NAVED 16-mm. convention in Chicago August 5-7.

Nat Wolf, Warner zone manager is calling in all of his zone managers for a meeting July 9. Wolf will discuss plans for the theatres participation in the sound anniversary celebration. Joe Landau of the Loew theatre publicity staff stopped off between planes for a short visit with local Loew publicity director Ed Fisher.

**MEMPHIS**

James J. Donaline, eastern sales director for Paramount, and Duke Clark, Dallas district manager, were in Memphis on business last week.

Norman Colphoun, district manager of Republic at Dallas, visited the Memphis Exchange last week.

Connie Krebs of the RKO publicity department has been loaned to Samuel Goldwyn as advance agent for the tour of the Goldwyn Girls, who visited Memphis Wednesday.

Carol Forman, RKO starlet, visited friends in Memphis last week.

R. P. Dawson, W. G. Carmichael and Bob Wilkinson attended the Universal Convention in New York. Jimmy Priehard, branch manager, was ill and unable to attend.

Mary Katherine Wyatt, Warner booker, and Robert Dale, a medical student, were married June 29.

Martha Ann Wynne, Paramount contract clerk, has gone on vacation and Travis Carr, booker, has returned from a vacation in Dallas.

G. Knox Haddock, Paramount home office exchange service department, spent last week in Memphis.

R. V. Reagin, Grover Wray, Leonandean and Ford, all of RKO in New York, for the annual RKO sales convention.

A. M. Averey, Memphis RKO branch manager, underwent an operation at St. Joseph Hospital here last week, and is recuperating now.

Dave Lebovitz, owner of the Ace and Harlem negro theatres in Memphis, has purchased the Savoy, another negro house at Clarksdale, Miss. Abner Lebovitz, a brother recently out of the service, will be Clarksdale manager.

Henry Hammond, Bailey Priehard, branch
NEW YORK

“Cinematics of ’46,” the first jointly sponsored entertainment and dance of the Screen Publicists Guild and the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild, was held last Friday evening at the City Center Casino, as a big crowd enjoyed a show headed by Betty Garrett and later danced to the music furnished by John Kirby and his orchestra.

Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of distribution for 20th Century-Fox, took great pleasure in announcing that the first week of “Anna and the King of Siam” at the Music Hall broke all records for an opening week during a non-holiday period.

Edward L. Lachman, president of the Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey, has announced the committee of the organization for the 1946-47 season. The chairman are: David Snapper, finance; Harry H. Lowenstein, auditing; Lou Gold (North Jersey) and Sam Frank (South Jersey); membership; Lee Newbury, entertainment; Wilbur Snapper, cheer committee; George Gold, public relations; Jack Unger, business relations; Irving Doolinger (N. Jersey) and Sam Frank (S. Jersey). Irving Doolinger, David Snapper, Harry H. Lowenstein, Lee Newbury, Ralph Wilkins, George Gold, and Simon Myers, eastern regional directors.

The historic Irving Place Theatre, near 14th Street, has taken on a new lease of life. After being completely remodeled, it opened on July 4 with the new French film, “Resistance,” first production to be made in France since the war. The Irving Place, at one time a German repertory house and later a burlesque den where strip-tease is said to have got its start in New York, thus goes back to respectability in its old age.

Warner Bros., home office employing and their families—more than 1500 of them—went on their annual Bear Mountain excursion last week via the Hudson River Day Line, Sports, including a soft ball game between the men and women, were followed by dinner and a dance. It was a strenuous day.

Rube Jacker, Columbia assistant general sales manager, and his wife are celebrating their eighteenth wedding anniversary.

Charles Steiner, a pioneer exhibitor in the New York area, died last week at the age of 63. Steiner began his career in 1906 when he opened the American Motion Picture Theatre at 133 Essex Street, which was a renovated livery stable. Later he managed a chain of theatres extending from the lower east side to Harlem. He was a founder of the Theatre Owners Chamber of Commerce, a forerunner of the ITOA.

The John Golden Theatre, on 45th Street between Broadway and Eighth Avenue, heretofore playing only stage attractions, has been taken over by the Super Cinema Corporation and will be operated as a first-run showcase for European films in September. Marcello Girosi and Paolino Garli, the latter prominent in the textile industry, are the backers.

The old Miami Theatre on the Avenue of the Americas, which was recently taken over by the corporation that owns the 55th Street Playhouse, will be called The Avenue when it re-opens in September after a complete refurbishing. The house will play foreign and art films.

Walter Reade of Ashbury Park, with a chain of theatres in North Jersey coast resorts and nearby places, is reported negotiating to purchase the Long Branch Record.

INDIANAPOLIS

The 20th-Fox office staff gave a birthday party last Thursday for Kenneth Dotterer, Vera Cubertson, Joan Nofkee and Kenneth Karst. After singing “Happy Birthday to You,” cake and soft drinks were served.

John Kellums, manager of the Talbott Theatre, announced a series of improvements, including redecorating and new equipment in the projection booth.

The Drive-In Theatre, Pendleton Pike, celebrated Independence Day with fireworks displays on the nights of July 3 and 4, according to Manager Sidney Sayette. The spectacle included set-pieces of the American flag and giant serial numbers.

Syl Grove, owner and operator of the Capital Theatre, Indianapolis, has gone to New York City to attend the Elks national convention.

J. J. Grady, mid-west district manager, 20th-Fox, and J. Bloom, assistant to sales manager of the central division, were business visitors at the local branch last Friday and Saturday.

William Conway, who has been indisposed for many months and unable to operate his Irving Theatre at Cambridge, Ind., is on the mend. A 10-pound baby girl is the new addition to the household of Harry Douglas, operator of the Dana Theatre, Dana, Ind.

D. D. Lee, Montezuma, Ind., sold his Rex Theatre to James Ackron, Portland exhibitor.

Morris Blacker, operator of the Rex Theatre, Cloverport, Ky., is confined to the Veterans Hospital at Lexington.

C. W. Stahr, who operates the Union Theatre at Liberty, Ind., is confined to the Methodist Hospital, Indianapolis.

Jack Sward, head booker at RKO and his wife are spending a two-week vacation at Bear Lake, Mich.

Ted Mendelsohn, Universal manager, Salesmen Milton Ettinger, Don Hamer, and Max Meadows, and Tony Grabley, head booker, spent last week in New York City attending the Universal convention.

Film row visitors during the week included James Ackron, Montezuma; Ike Sollers, Covington; Pete Pasados and John Doer, Chicago; Harry Watts, Knightstown; B. Bennett, Fort Branch; S. C. Goodman, Poseyville; V. E. Burke, Fortville; J. F. Griffith, Boswell and W. P. McGovern, Loogootee.

The Theatre Candy Co., Inc., Indianapolis, has been incorporated to deal in candies and accessories. Incorporators are Joe Pipher, Samuel Gross, Eugene Schweda and Howard B. Sapiro.

ST. LOUIS

Employment in the St. Louis area increased about 12,000 from March 15 to May 31, according to a report issued by the United States Employment Service. Another 20,000 jobs are expected to be filled in the next four months. The report indicated that 4200 jobs were filled in the trade and service industries, 3500 in manufacturing and 2000 in the construction field.

Walter Brooks, assistant to H. M. Richy, sales promotion manager of Loew’s, Inc., stopped off in St. Louis on route to New York City after attending the Tri-States Theatre Owners meeting in Memphis, Tenn.

Safe robbers, who apparently hid in the theatre after the last show, broke open the safe and obtained $500 at the Hi-Way Theatre, the night of June 21. James Brinkmeyer, manager, reported to the police the next morning.

Glen Lentz is hopeful of opening his new theatre at Hardin, Mo., about July 15. It will seat 400. He is conducting a contest to have the name selected for the theatre. He is a newcomer to the motion picture field.

Harvey Miller, former convict, recently sen- (Continued on Page 44)
Keep your box office eye on:

- Funnybone Comedy
- Thriller Diller
- Murder Mystery
- Shock Drama
- Violent Love
- Action Romance

Type of audience!
Pictures...for every Pictures...Pictures...Pictures...
3rd sensational week at Carthay Circle, Los Angeles

**GAY BLADES**

starring Allan Lane, Jean Rogers, Edward Ashley

**BEN HECHT’S SPECTER OF THE ROSE**

with Judith Anderson, Michael Chekhov, Ivan Kirov, Viola Essen, Lionel Stander

**THE FRENCH KEY**

starring Albert Dekker

with Mike Mazurki, Evelyn Ankers

**THE GLASS ALIBI**

starring Paul Kelly, Douglas Fowley, Anne Gwynne

**STRANGE IMPERSONATION**

starring Brenda Marshall and William Gargan

with Hillary Brooke

**ONE EXCITING WEEK**

starring Al Pearce

with Pinky Lee, Jerome Cowan

REPUBLIC for 1946-47!
Two 'Chucks' return. Manager Arthur Eggert (left) of Loew's Ohio, Columbus, welcomes back two "Chucks" in their former posts at the theatre; Charles E. Kennedy (center), assistant manager, and Charles L. Richards, student assistant, both of Columbus, continuing his service as a first lieutenant in the Philippines, while Richards, who served two years, the rank of sergeant on duty in Japan.

COLUMBUS

Earl Pepper, 63, veteran local theatreman, died last week after a short illness. At the time of his death he was assistant manager of Neth's State Theatre. At one time he was employed at the old Olentangy Park Theatre and later with the James, now Loew's Broad. In 1926 he became associated with the J. Real Neth theatres.

Jean Peters, "Miss Ohio State," has been assigned her first screen role in Twentieth Century-Fox's forthcoming Technicolor special, "Homestretch." She has a seven-year contract with Fox.

George Ragle, WCOL announcer, is the new voice of KKO Matinee, Monday through Saturday program broadcast from the lobby of the Palace.

Fred Ostreichler, Loew's publicist, is on a vacation to Canada, Boston, Cape Cod and New York.

CITYWIDE contest to select Miss Columbus of 1940 will be held on the Palace stage throughout the month of July. Winners of the contest will be given a screen test which will be sent to the KKO Radio studio in Hollywood.

Mrs. Elizabeth O'Rourke, chambermaid at the Desilver-Wallick, was "queen for a day" with hula hoop, new ensemble and dinner in the hotel's Sapphire Room in connection with "Diary of a Chambermaid" at Loew's Broad.

TORONTO

Queensway Studios Limited, Toronto, Canada's producing plant sponsored by J. Arthur Rank, has announced the offer of a cash prize and a trip to England in a competition for a film script by a Canadian woman to encourage film writing and the development of original stories in the Dominion.

Toronto film-trade enthusiasts have prepared details for the third annual Canadian Motion Picture Golf Championships under the auspices of Canadian Film Weekly, to be staged toward the end of August. The following chairmen were appointed: General committee, H. C. D. Main, Theatre Amusement Co.; Tournament, Al Troyer, Famous Players; secretaries-treasurer, Thomas S. Daley, Imperial Theatre, Toronto; Entertainment, Jack Arthur, Famous Players; Prizes, Leonard Bishop, Tivoli Theatre, and Publicity, Hye Bossin, Canadian Film Weekly; and Jay L. Smith, Canadian Moving Picture Digest.

President Harold W. Bruden of United Amusement Theatres closed all five theatres in Hamilton, Ont., for the first week in July to permit all staffs to take a summer vacation simultaneously. The theatres being the Kenmore, Kealworth, Avelon, Strand and Regent. Repairs were made during the period.

A. J. Mason, proprietor of the Capitol Theatre, Springhill, N. S., and mayor of that town, was elected president and secretary-treasurer at the annual convention of the Canadian Federation of Mayors and Municipalities.

The grand finale of the week's observance of the Centennial Celebration at Hamilton, Ont., took place July 6 at Odeon's Savoy Theatre in that city, the program on the stage being a demonstration of National Groups of Hamilton residents.

No change in Canadian management and control is promised for Odeon Theatres of Canada Limited, Toronto, through the formation in London of the Overseas Cinematograph Theatres Limited, with $6,000,000 capital, to take over Arthur Rank's interest in theatres of Canada and elsewhere in the British Empire. The president of the Canadian Odeon organization is Hon. J. Earle Lawson, K.C.

The new sales manager of Oscar R. Hanson's Famous Players-Lasker Distributing, Toronto, is L. Bernardin, formerly with Wurlia Taube, recently with the R.C.A.F., and previously with various film and theatre companies. He is the son of Syd B. Taube, a trade pioneer.

Threatened strike action by projectionists over restoration of wage cuts dating back to the pre-war depression period has been dissolved through the signing of new agreements with Western
Theatres Limited and Allied Amusements at Winnipeg.
Morris Stein of Famous Players head office, Toronto, has made a tour of inspection of the company's theatres in Canada's Atlantic Provinces while L. L. Begg, Western Division general manager, made the round of the Western Canadian units.

Extensive repairs are being made to the Palace Theatre, Toronto, operated by Famous Players for 26 years with C. L. Querrie as its only manager. The heavy marble has been removed to make way for a streamlined front.

PHILADELPHIA

Edwin Bergin, brother of Warner district manager, Joseph Bergin, and manager of the Ritz Theatre in Wilmington, Del., died suddenly last week. He had formerly worked in the central city theatres in Philadelphia. His death caused the relocation of several men in the area as follows: Joseph Stewart, assistant manager at the Warner, moves to the Ritz as manager. Ray Koshin, assistant at the Grand, moves to the Warner as assistant.

Westy, the son of Al Rea, manager of the Marshal theatre, just out of the Army is going to get married.

Ruth Berger, secretary to Everett Callow, head of the Warner Theatre advertising and publicity department, is resigning to join the Snellenberg store as a copy writer in the advertising department.

George Beattie, Paramount sales manager, is resigning to join the William Goldman office as film buyer.

Ellen Sarver, file girl in the Warner theatre department offices, died last weekend from a cerebral hemorrhage.

Hugh McCallum, Columbia Short Subjects producer, was in town last week, visiting friends and members of his family. He dropped into the exchange for a short visit with Harry Weiner, eastern division manager.

Robert Bien, former member of the Warner Theatre publicity department, who resigned sometime ago to become a manager with the USO Hospital Circuit, is back in town and has opened a booking agency under the name of Western Theatrical Enterprises.

Fred Montgomery, formerly manager of the State Theatre in Chester, moves to Atlantic City to become manager of the Virginia Theatre. Clifford Gunnett, manager of the Virginia, moves to the Grove, Willow Grove, as manager to fill the vacancy left by the death of "Pop" Graver.

George O'Mara, veteran doorman at the Stanton Theatre, died last Friday. If he had lived to the 4th of July, he would have celebrated his 85th birthday.

A switch of managers in the Warner Circuit moves William Varraso from the Bronlewy to the Diamond Theatre, Pat Notaro from the Felton to the Banana; and Bob Pasquale from assistant at the Orpheum as manager of the Felton.

Esther Wurtele, Columbia Circuit sales manager, recovered sufficiently from his attack of virus pneumonia to attend the Waldorf wedding on Sunday of Herbert Weiner, son of Division Manager Harry Weiner. Among the Philadelphians who were also guests at the wedding were Dave Korson, Columbia salesman, and Esther Rudo, Mr. Weiner's secretary.

Members of Paramount's 25 year club are proudly showing off their lapel pins, and wrist watches which they received at the recent party given for the veteran employees.

RKO's office was pretty much cleaned out, with all the boys over in New York attending the convention.

Twentieth Century-Fox's plans for the premiere of "Centennial Summer" appear to grow bigger every day. The local crew of publicity men, headed by local exploiter Mike Weiss, should be complimented for the unusual amount of newspaper publicity appearing almost daily. The premiere promises to set the town on its ear. Phil Silvers has been announced as master of ceremonies for the opening night ceremonies.

SAN FRANCISCO

Two new salesmen were added to film row. Robert Wooll has joined the National Theatre Supply Company and George Archibald is the new RKO salesman.

A summer theatre at Young Brothers' Bijou Resort has been opened at Lake Tahoe.

Currently on vacation along the row are Mary Ferrara, availability clerk at Warner Brothers, in Los Angeles; Republic Cachier Mary Bottarini enjoying the sunshine at Santa

(Continued on Page 46)

SMART EXHIBITORS KNOW

The high class theatre screen advertising produced and distributed by Alexander Film Company puts EXTRA CASH in their COFFERS and builds good will for their theatres through closer relationship with local merchants.

Approximately 9000 of the nation's theatres are Alexander Theatre Partners, sharing millions of dollars for screening revenue yearly.

Alexander Movie Ads are top notch productions designed to sell merchandise for leading merchants, and result in a high percentage of repeat business.

Let us tell you what our Theatre Plan can do for YOU. A postal card will bring you information—without obligation. Mail us a card today.

Branch Offices
Principal Cities

Colorado Springs, Colorado
Craz: RKO Booker Harry Spalding; Bill and Dick Rose of the Four Roses Film Exchange, and Beatrice Skeldel, in Monogram's cashier department, plans to go to Seattle this month. Hess Humoon, MGM cashier, returned from her vacation.

Ned Stiel, owner of the Colusa Theatre, was visiting in town.

Maury Schwarz has purchased the Rita Theatre. Aubrey Pinkiert has been appointed the new manager and Schwarz plans nylon and money giveaway nights. New seats head the list of improvements for the house. Schwarz owns the Rex Theatre also.

Mickey Reed, MGM shipper, is home ill.

The Blemenfield Orpheum Theatre is returning to a pre-war basis, with a general cleanup and repair program now in progress.

New theatres scheduled to open in July are Frank Panero's Sierra Theatre in Delano with 800 seats. Another 800 seat house will be the Center Theatre in Centerville, owned by Fred and Lee Saihhi.

RKO Branch Manager N. P. Jacobs is in Pittsburgh attending the funeral of his mother.

B. F. Shearer Company reports new seat installations at the Orpheum Theatre in Lacledeport; Stanley Court's Atwater Theatre in Atwater; the Rodgers Theatre in Cornning owned by Wealthy Rodgers and Alfred Wilkins' Oakdale Theatre.

BRIDGEPORT

The Strand Amusement Co. has taken over the American Theatre from Samuel Hadderman and will add that East Main Street house to its local circuit. James Belcher, assistant manager of the Paramount, New Haven, has been named house manager. Mr. Hadderman will continue to operate his Colonial Theatre on Boston Avenue.

Joseph Tassaneri, stage manager at Loew's Poli, is busy making plans for his trip to Chicago about the middle of July when he will represent the local stage bands, of which he is business agent, at the national convention of the IATSE. Representing the projectionists of Bridgeport Local No. 27 will be Roland McLeod, union president, and John A. Martin, business agent.

Ruth Smelter, advertising director of the Strand Amusement Co. celebrated a birthday last week.

Michael J. Carroll, manager of the American, is justly proud of the new paint job on his marquee and the front of his house. Lobby doors and frames have been repainted a dark walnut. Jerome Conboy, projectionist at the Majestic, is wearing dark glasses as a result of a bit of steel lodging in his eye. Jerry started on his annual vacation this week. Lawrence Pastore, Jr., is substituting.

Michael Osnandi, special officer at the Majestic, is off on a two-week vacation with his wife, Antoinette, his children and other members of his family. Mike's vacation coincides with his 12th wedding anniversary.

Manager Harry A. Rose of the Majestic, has lost his fishing partner since his son, Sheldon, enrolled at Junior College.

Agnes Lecinsky, cashier at the American, is wearing a happy smile these days due to the fact that her soldier-brother, Joseph, has arrived home.

Walter G. Nitsche, projectionist at the American, and his wife, Lillian, have just celebrated their silver wedding anniversary.

Aresto Tommasetti, projectionist at Loew's Poli, parked his car on Bank Street and when he returned 10 minutes later it was gone. The car was found later in Newtown.

Mary Phillips, Bridgeport actress, and her husband, Kenneth McKenna, MGM producer, have returned from a trip to England.

CHICAGO

The Monroe Theatre case has been postponed until September 17 at the request of the new Monroe counsel, Seymour Simon.

Sam Chernoff has sold the Main Theatre on West Armitage Avenue to Lawrence V. Simons. This leaves only the Hawthorne Theatre still under Chernoff's management.

The Alliance circuit theatre in Syracuse, Ind. recently destroyed by fire, will be rebuilt as soon as plans are completed and materials can be assembled for the job.

The Paramount theatre circuit candy buyers met here during the convention of the National Confectioners Association at the Stevens Hotel last week. Kay Karisky, Balaban and Katz buyer, was host and Max Shosberg headed the New York delegation.

Fred Matthews, president of Motograph, has returned from a fishing expedition in Minnesota with tales of many big catches. Luckily state laws prohibit carrying fish from one state to another so Matthews didn't have to prove his stories.

The Koshan Film Exchange has advised its distributors that no advance in 16-mm, rental prices are expected at this time and that they will continue to supply their trade at present prices for some time to come.

Great States circuit has booked three J. Arthur Rank films recently. "The Seventh Veil" is to run in the A houses, while "The Man in Grey" and "Madonna of the Seven Moons" are slated for the B situations.

A strike of newsreel cameramen was averted last week when agreements were signed with all major newsreel companies giving the men a $150 weekly salary an increase of $23.50 a week. The order is retroactive to January 1. Free lance cameramen were advanced from 44 to 50 dollars a manager.

Ailan Brill of Natico, Inc., says his company will have booth No. 1 at the National Association of Visual Education Dealers exposition to be held August 5-7 at the Continental Hilton.

"Hearty V" goes into the Civic Theatre July 22 on a two-a-day basis, a deal having been completed by which "Anna Lucasta" moves out after its long Chicago run.

Popcorn news: The Western Popcorn Company has been organized at Lakeview, Iowa under the management of Thomas Chambers of Chicago. B. J. Schwarzkopf is sales manager. The company will use the brand name "Zippies Popcorn."

Warner managers now on vacation are John Field of the Grove and Steve Fitzgerald of the Stratford in Chicago and Harry Mintz of the Parthoe in Hammond, Ind.

DENVER

The Rio, Oak Creek, Colo., operated by Joe Ashby and Bob Smith, has installed a General Electric Ultraviolet Germicidal Lamp in their nursery and cry room for the benefit of mothers and babies.

The Lumar, Lamar, Colo., being built by C. U. Yaeger, will be opened the latter part of August or the first of September.

The Jewel, Denver, will be opened the "Voice of the Theatre" speakers, Earl Bell and Michael Kennedy. Mr. Kennedy, Jr. of Chicago, were married at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Denver, Saturday. Richard Klein, manager of the Elks, Rapid
Hartford—The Hartford area will have its first drive-in theatre in operation some time early this fall, according to an announcement by George Landers for the Hartford Drive-In Theatre Company, a subsidiary of E. M. Loew's. The new theatre, which will when completed accommodate 750 cars, will cost an approximate $150,000, according to Landers, and will offer patrons the latest in projection and sound equipment and modern conveniences. It is to be located on the Berlin Turnpike in Newington at the corner of Prospect Street, the site of the former Circle Restaurant which was destroyed by fire some time ago. Work has already been started on grading and landscaping. Non-critical materials, such as aluminum, are to be used in the construction of the screen tower, which will be an impressive edifice with curtain, tricky lighting simulating indoor theatre effects, and brilliant neon lighting on the turnpike side.—HTD.

Victoria, B. C.—Ray Castle, who formerly owned the Oak Bay Theatre here, and sold it to the Odeon circuit, is planning to build a theatre centering on the George district of Victoria. A theatre to seat 449, a block of stores, and a hotel will be included in the proposed community project.—VA.

Lind, Wash.—Funk, Molander & Johnson, Spokane architects, have released detailed plans for a theatre center here. The plans call for apartments plus a 400-seat theatre.—PO.

Tulsa, Okla.—Griffith Theatres has asked the Tulsa Planning Commission for additional time to start construction on its proposed theatre on Peoria Avenue between 35th Place and 36th Street. The property was zoned for business with the stipulation that work should be under way within six months. The theatre company pointed out it has been held up by material shortages.—OKL.

Altus, Okla.—H. O. Merriott has opened his new 500-seat theatre here. It has all new equipment and is also equipped for stage unit presentations.—OKL.

Wichita, Kan.—R. E. Conrad, Charles Bull, and O. F. Sullivan are getting started on a drive-in theatre at Wichita, which may be the state’s first, preliminary construction details having been worked out last week. Availability of materials, of course, is the stumbling block in announcing an opening day.—OKL.

Hardin, Kan.—Glen Lentz, a newcomer to the film business, is set to open his new 400-seat theatre here around the middle of July.—OKL.

San Antonio—San Antonio’s newest drive-in theatre, The Trail, located on the Military Highway at Roosevelt, was scheduled to open June 28. The theatre is owned and operated by the Underwood and Ezzell Drive-In Theatre Company of Texas.—OKL.

Rayne, La.—L. C. Montgomery of Fitz Theatres, Inc., has announced that the new Acadia Theatre here will be completed in the near future, after having been delayed for some time because of material shortages. The new house will seat 1000, and will be entirely modern in design and appointments. Wide, comfortable seats, air-conditioning, a cry room for mothers and babies, a 100 per cent fireproof projection room, and the best in projection equipment are promised.—OR.

Charlotte, N. C.—H. B. Meiselman plans to construct a Negro theatre here shortly.

San Francisco—Opening date for the Novata Theatre, Novata, Calif., a 500-seater has not been announced. The Enca Theatre in Pittsburgh, Cal., has just been designed by Architect V. C. Raney. Planned to seat 900, the actual construction is being delayed by lack of building materials. Owner is Salvador Eca.—VAN.

Everett, Wash.—The clearing and grading has started at a 10-acre site on the Everett-Seattle highway, for the $50,000 “SNO-KING” Drive-In Theatre, which is now in the hands of Otis Hancock, Architect.—PT.

Cleveland, Ohio—Plans have been completed by the Brooklyn Realty Corp. of Brooklyn Village for the erection of a combination theatre and shopping center on the south side of Mem- phis Road. The theatre will be a 1700-seater and cost probably about $500,000. The building will contain seven or eight stores. Frank and Roy Gross, who now own five theatres, are the heads of the realty company.

Houston, Texas—The finest suburban theatre in the South will be built by Interstate Theatres in the McCarthy Center here, it was announced this week by R. J. O’Donnell, vice-president of the circuit. The house will contain 1500 seats and is slated to have a $390,000 building budget.

Winston-Salem, N. C.—The Twin City Theatres will build a large modern theatre on West Fourth Street as soon as materials are available.

Ralph, Okla.—The first theatre in this town opened its doors on June 6. The new house was provided by the Ralphon Booster Club, and will draw from a resident population of only 300.—DAL.

Holland, Texas—This community now has a theatre, after a period of 20 years during which time residents here had to drive to other towns for their entertainment. The new theatre is called the Dutch Mill and is being operated by war veteran H. D. Arrington.—DAL.

North Battleford, Sask.—Clarence Marshall, who manages the Empress Theatre here and has a working agreement with the Famous Players circuit, will start building a $50,000 theatre shortly which will seat 1000. The Empress Theatre will continue to operate separately.—VAN.

Vancouver, B. C.—A new theatre seating 800 will be built here by the Chechik interests, who plan to include three stores and a bowling alley in the structure. The Chechiks also operate the Bay and York theatres in Vancouver.—VAN.

Astor Pictures presents

LOUISA MAY ALCOTT'S

LITTLE MEN

With JACK OAKIE
KAY FRANCIS
George BANCROFT

Jimmy Lydon, Ann Gillis Charles Esmond

Book it NOW!

Atlanta, Astor
Boston, Embassy
Chicago, Pal.
Charlotte, Astor
Chicago, Capital
Cincinnati, Popular
Cleveland, Imperial
Dallas, Astor
Denver, Commercial
Des Moines, King Emp.
Detroit, Allied
Kansas City, King Emp.
Los Angeles, Astor
Memphis, Astor-Dallas
Milwaukee, Astor
Minneapolis, Astor
New Orleans, Dixie
New York, Astor

Oklahoma City, Astor-Dallas
Philadelphia, Hollywood
Pittsburgh, Crown
Portland, Star
St. Louis, Astor
San Francisco, Astor
Seattle, Star Film
Washington, Astor
Canada, Peerless Films, Ltd.

GREAT STARS + GREAT STORY = BOX OFFICE!

All the laughs, excitement, drama, suspense and riotous fun you could ask for...
City, S. D., was promoted to purchasing agent and assistant to General Manager John Bertalero of the Black Hills Amusement Co., with headquarters at Deadwood, S. D. M. C. Kellogg, purchasing agent, and manager of the Homestake, Lead, S. D., plans to retire later this year.

Albert Coppel, San Antonio, distributor for Asteca Films, spent a few days in Denver on a sales trip.

Hugh Brady, district manager for Paramount, has returned from a trip covering all western exchanges as a part of his duties as co-captain in the "34th and Greatest" year drive.

Attending the RKO sales meeting in New York from the local exchange were Leonard Grunberg, district manager; Tom Bailey, exchange manager; and Merle Gwin, Frank Child, Joe Emerson and Ed Green, salesmen.

Tommy McMahon, Republic manager in Salt Lake City, was a Denver visitor.

J. J. Morgan, National Theatre supply manager, is spending most of his vacation fishing.

Jerry Banta, Metro booker, and Robert Sweeten, Gibraltar Theatre booker, are spending their vacation fishing on the Gunnison.

Out of town exhibitors seen on film row included Ray M. Gardner, Curtis, Neb.; George Saways, Trinidad, Colo.; and Frank Whalen, Deertrail, Colo.

Eddie Ashkins has been named Denver branch manager for PRC. He was formerly branch manager in St. Louis for United Artists.

VANCOUVER

Theatre revenue showed signs of weakening for the summer, with outdoor activities, including horse-racing and baseball, in full swing. The weather blew hot and cold, wet and dry in quick succession. A wet holiday week-end with Dominion Day helped status at box offices.

The Famous Players employs picnic held Sunday at Balcarra Beach was well attended, over 250 theatre folks being there.

Visitors to local film row this week were Myron McLeod, Patricia, Powell River, and Jimmy McCallister of the Kio Theatre, Victoria.

Dave Borland, manager of the Dominion Theatre, and his wife celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary June 21.

Four local saferackers who were found guilty of blowing the Hollywood Theatre strongbox were sentenced to eight-year terms in the penitentiary. They stole $450, most of which was recovered. All were captured 30 minutes after the theft.

The big three of Famous Players, Larry Breg, western division manager, Frank Gow, B. C. district manager, and Maynard Joiner, supervisor, spent three days checking the circuit houses on Vancouver Island. The reconstructed Royal Theatre, Victoria, after much material and manpower trouble will open on July 19. Cliff Denham of the Dominion has been appointed manager of the Royal, and Martin Cave from the Capitol, Penticton, succeeds Denham at the Dominion. Both are F. P. theatres.

Finish was written on the Plaza Theatre conspiracy case when David Tracy, former assistant manager, was acquitted by the Court of Appeals of conspiring to rob the theatre of $1000. He was serving a sentence of one year for the offense.

KANSAS CITY

Fox Midwest Theatres has purchased a lot in Raytown for a modern theatre to be built as soon as the veteran housing shortage permits the flow of materials. E. C. Rhoden, president, has announced.

A quantity of candy was taken from a vending machine in a robbery at the Gillham Theatre, 510 E. 31st Street here, last week.

The Monogram exchange lost $70 to thieves last week after a rear door was left unlocked. Doors were ransacked and the money was missing from a cash box in the office.

Blytheville, Arkansas, will get its first negro theatre with announcement that a new theatre will be constructed there by W. L. Moxley, who also operates theatres for white patrons at Blytheville, Turrell, Keiser and Crawfordsville.

DALLAS

Alan Jones, stage and picture singing star, has joined the Variety Club here.

Francis Deering, former manager of Loew's State Theatre at Houston is now manager of the Houston Symphony orchestra.

Spike Jones and his City Slickers have a date for the Majestic Theatre here August 8 for a week's run. The week following, he will play the Majestic in San Antonio.

Louis Charrninsky, manager of the Rialto and Capitol Theatres here, has been named
official tail-twister of the Dallas Lions Club.

Fire of unknown origin swept through the stage and rear sections of the Paris Theatre at Santa Fe, N. M., June 27, destroying the screen and sound equipment.

C. W. Weisenberg has purchased the Sylvia Theatre at Seagoville from William Morrow. Weisenberg formerly operated the Grand at Tulsa.

Construction of Altus, Oklahoma's new 500-seat state theatre has been completed under supervision of H. O. Merriott, owner. The Warner Theatre at Oklahoma City has changed from a subsequent to a first-run policy.

July 19 has been set as opening date for the newest Gene Autry Enterprises theatre, The Hill, here. It is understood that Autry will be on hand at the opening.

J. T. Uptown is newest staff member at the PRC exchange; he was transferred here from Oklahoma City.

**DES MOINES**

A 12-member board of directors was selected at the annual convention of the Allied-Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa-Nebraska. The board members are Howard Klingman of Primghar, John Ladue of Calmar, Rudy Raudels of Des Moines, Herman Fields of Clarinda, Charles Niles of Anamosa and Ben Brink of West Point, all of Iowa, and Neal Nuner of Deeping Water and Oscar Hanson of Omaha, Neb., and the four officers, Howard Brookings of Oakland, president; George March of Wayne, Neb., vice president; T. J. Evans of Clinton, la., secretary, and Leo Wolcott of Eldora, chairman of the board.

Kenneth Milten, husband of Mabel Milten who manages the Sun Theatre at Coin, la., died in Maine. The couple were enroute to visit their son.

Billy Chambers of Des Moines has purchased the Sheridan Theatre at Sheridan, Mo., and will take over immediately.

R. L. Bertram, new owner of the Schleswig Theatre at Schleswig is giving the house its first remodeling job in 15 years. The work includes new seats, elimination of the stage and balcony, and a new ticket office.

MOVIELAND GLAMOR AT CINEMATOGRAPHERS' BANQUET. Men and women prominent in the motion picture industry, including top executives, producers, stars, cinematographers and others attended the 28th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Cinematographers held recently in the Coconut Grove of the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles. The ACS's executive committee for the affair was composed of Leon Shamroy, Charles Rosher, Arthur Edeson, Leonard Smith and Fred W. Jackman. Principal speakers were Cecil B. De Mille, Louis B. Mayer, Eric Johnston and Darryl F. Zanuck. Some of the movieland glamour caught in candid shots by photographer Lloyd H. Goad include, above (1-r), Erroll Flynn, Nora Eddington (Mrs. Flynn), Greer Garson, and her husband, Richard Ney.

Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Black, son-in-law and daughter of the late Mrs. C. S. Hoffman, have purchased the Marion and Grand theatres at Knoxville from Mrs. Hoffman's estate. The couple have been operating the houses since Mrs. Hoffman's death early this year.

**ATLANTA**

H. C. Ritch announces the sale of his theatre in Stark, Fla., to the Reno, E. H. Brown. Arthur Bromberg, president of Monogram Southern Exchanges, flew all of his managers and salesmen to Chicago for a meeting.

After several weeks at the local branch, R. Graber, special home office representative of Monogram, has moved on to New Orleans.

Charles D. Durmeyer, head of the Southern Automatic Candy Company, has returned from New York.

Jimmie Thigpen is out of uniform and back at his old post with the National Theatre Supply.

**Box Office Slants**

**Of Human Bondage**

(Continued from Page 26)


Plot: A hypersensitive medical student, with a club foot, falls in love with a cheap Cockney girl whose strange sexual magnetism almost ruins his life. He helps her through her many indiscretions and is released after she dies.

Comment: The title "Of Human Bondage" brings back to mind that very successful Bette Davis-Leo Howard film of a dozen years ago, the picture that started Miss Davis off on the ladder of fame. This is a remake of that film with Paul Henreid and Eleanor Parker in the leading roles. Now those who remember their movies, or have read the Somerset Maugham story from which this was made, will naturally expect to find another outstanding bit of entertainment. On this premise there should be a large number of patrons attracted to the first showing, but whether business will hold up after their word-of-mouth gets around is something that will have to prove itself, for this new picture is nothing like the original version. Paul Henreid is no Leslie Howard, and he fails to create in his role the sympathetic understanding the part requires in order to win audience attention. Eleanor Parker, though good in a part that taxes the talents of the finest, is not strong enough to carry the picture alone. However, there is ample sex and love interest, and an excellent portrayal by Edmund Gwenn, and these may give a certain measure of entertainment to the less critical moviegoers and those who have never seen the original version. Edmund Goulding's direction fails to establish sympathy for the leading character, although he gets very fine portrayals from most of the cast. Production was handled by Henry Blanke.

**HOOSIER THEATRE OWNERS CONVENE.** Members of the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana held their annual convention last week at Lake Wawasee, Ind. Some of the members and guests are shown in the group above. Seated (1-r): Henderson M. Richey, MGM; Trueman Rembusch, ATOI president and president of Syndicated Theatres, Indianapolis; Sam Switow, Switow Amusement Co., Louisville; Dave Palfreyman, MPTOA public relations department, Washington D. C. Standing (1-r): Sam Neall, Gregory Circuit city manager, Kokomo; A. C. Zaring, Zaring Theatre, Indianapolis; Leon Bamberger, RKO Radio; R. L. Brentlinger, RKO's Indianapolis branch manager.
CHECK-UP ON PRODUCT IN WORK

Though Star Values Still Held Essential, Hollywood Studies Place Stronger Emphasis on Producers and Directors as Result of Growth of Independent Units

Increasing emphasis is being stressed in Hollywood on producers and directors, with numerous instances of the two positions being combined in one person. While star values are admittedly essential, more attention than formerly is being paid to the assignment of a producer or director for a film. Much of this has been brought about by the comparatively recent emergence of independent units, which are constantly gaining ground. The productive flair of one or two men is given free rein, and encourages the heightening in importance of organizations outside independent ranks. Frank Capra is an excellent example; having stamped his mark on pictures in an indelible way, he is now serving as both producer and director for "It's A Wonderful Life," which he and his Liberty Films associates are releasing through RKO Radio.

Six in Work at RKO

Besides the Capra picture, which is now shooting on location at RKO's Encino ranch, the studio has a half-dozen others going. James Stewart, incidentally, has had only one day off since the start of the film on April 15. Next RKO flier scheduled to roll is "Trail Street," which director Ray Enright will place in production at several locations on July 12. Nat Holt will produce, under executive supervision of Jack J. Gross. Also set to shoot very soon is "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer," Doris Day's production, for which wardrobe and makeup tests are being made at RKO Palme lot in Culver City. Stars will be Cary Grant, Myrna Loy and Shirley Temple.

Harve Foster is directing Walt Disney's "Song of the South," which features Bobby Driscoll, Luana Patten, Ruth Warrick and Lucile Watson. The first live-action feature to be made by Disney, the film will be completed shortly. Disney is also making "How Dear To My Heart," 80 per cent live action and 20 per cent cartoon. Harold Schuster is directing it. Both will be released through RKO. Other pictures being made by RKO now are Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives" and "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty"; "Katie for Congress"; "Beat the Band"; and "Riffraff."

Republic Finishes Several

Republic finished a number of pictures that had been shotting for some time, including Gene Autry's "Sioux City Sue" and Roy Rogers' "Home in Oklahoma." Rogers continues "Heldorado" starting July 19, a film he began over a month ago at Las Vegas. "Rio Grande Raiders," Sunset Carson release, has again been pushed back, this time to July 13. "Girl Friend," which will cost more than a million, is set to roll July 8, with Allan Dwan doing both producing and directorial chores.

Jane Frazee stars, with William Marshall, James Ellison, Victor McLaglen, Gail Patrick and Irene Rich. Miss Rich, by the by, returned to the screen after five years absence, in "The Angel and the Outlaw," which at long last has been finished. "That Brenam Girl" is also completed.

Republic, planning to make fewer small-budget films and spend more money and time, is exemplifying that trend in "The Magnificent Rogue," to start July 6. The picture will shoot longer than usual for such programmers. William J. O'Sullivan produces and Al Rogel directs.

Monogram Starts Musical

Next to roll at Monogram is "Sweetheart of Sigma Chi," musical starring Phil Breaux, Bonnie Granville and others. It starts July 8. Jack Bernhard directs and Jeffrey Bernerd produces. The studio ended Johnny Mack Brown's "Trigger Finger" and sent the western star off packing to the next national convention in Chicago along with Jimmy Wakely and Joe Kirkwood, Jr.

Producer Bernerd will finish "Wife Wanted," on which Kay Francis is serving as co-producer, in time to give her undisturbed attention to "Sweetheart." Also winding is "Bringing Up Father," based on the famous comic strip.

WB Producing 4 Films

Warner Bros. are currently producing a quartet of pictures, having completed "Stallion Road." The picture was before the cameras for almost three months. Probably the next to go will be "Pursued," which might roll around the middle of July.

"Life With Father," the Technicolor adaptation of the hit Broadway production, is moving well into its third month of shooting. Robert Buckner is producing and Michael Curtiz directing. Irving Rapper is directing "Deception," while Peter Godfrey is handling the giggling chores on "Cry Wolf." Curtis Bernhardt directs "Possessed" now in its first month.

Two End at UA

Bill Boyd finished his second "Hopalong Cassidy" for UA, titled "Fool's Gold," on June 27; and Sol Lesser's "No Trespassing," starring Edward G. Robinson and Lon McCallister, was completed after 12 weeks of shooting. However, Andrew Stone started "Strange Bedfellows" ahead of schedule, on June 22. The picture, co-starring Priscilla Lane and Eddie Bracken, is being made at Hal Roach studios. Based on Stone's own screenplay, the film marks the first appearance of Miss Lane on the screen in three years. Stone is also producing and directing the picture, no small feat in itself.

Assignments Set for 12 Directors at Warners

Assignments have been set by Jack L. Warner for 12 directors, five of whom are now guiding pictures on Warner Bros. sound stages, with the remaining seven readying properties for early production.

The five directors who now have films before the cameras are Curtis Bernhardt, "Possessed"; Michael Curtiz, "Life With Father"; Peter Godfrey, "Cry Wolf"; Irving Rapper, "Deception," and James V. Kern, "Stallion Road."


LeRoy Prinz is doing musical sequences for "Deception," and Delmer Daves is on loanout to Sol Lesser.

Goldwyn Drama in Color

Having utilized Technicolor for his lavish Danny Kaye musicals, producer Samuel Goldwyn will extend that medium to drama for the first time in his career when camera work begins on his picturization of "Earth and High Heaven," best-selling novel by Gwethalyn Graham. Many of the scenes will be shot in Montreal and in the woods of northern Ontario. The screenplay is by Howard Koch.

Kim's Contract Shared

Half of the J. Arthur Rank contract of Kim Hunter, Detroit-born actress who scored heavily as a British film star, was assumed by International Pictures in a deal concluded last week. Thus Miss Hunter will spend half her time in Hollywood before International cameras.
Enterprise Carpenter to Receive Military Honor

George Full, 26-year-old apprentice carpenter at Enterprise's Hollywood studio, will fly to Washington on July 11 to receive Great Britain's second highest military honor, "His Majesty's Medal," from a group of high-ranking dignitaries, including President Truman, General Eisenhower, Admiral Nimitz and other top officers of the British and American forces.

Full single-handedly silenced a Nazi gun position near Lambsberg, Germany, in the spring of 1945. One of 16 ex-GIs summoned to the Capital, Full is also the wearer of two Silver Stars for bravery and three Purple Hearts for wounds received in Normandy, northern France and in the Battle of the Bulge.

Dorsey, Rogers Seek Girl to Sing and Act

A search for a young lady to sing permanently with his orchestra is being conducted by Tommy Dorsey, now in Hollywood to co-star with brother Jimmy in "The Fabulous Dorsey's." In addition, Charles B. Rogers, producer of the picture, will sign the talented singer to play a role in the film if her screen test is successful.

To Produce 'Drummond'

Through a deal signed last week, Lou Appleton, Jr. and Bernard Small will produce "Bulldog Drummond at Bay," independently for Columbia release. The new producing company, to be known as Venture Pictures, will start its first picture around Sept. 1. Small is the son of Edward Small, who is also producing an independent production, "Return of Monte Cristo," for Columbia.

Ibsen Drama to Screen

Said to be the first Henrik Ibsen drama filmed by Hollywood since the advent of sound, "An Enemy of the People" will be brought to the screen by Columbia with Shepherd Traube producing. Alexander Knox will star in the film.

Buys Magazine Story

"Mrs. Hoyle and the Hotel Royalston," a magazine story by Jean Z. Owen dealing with an old lady who foils a group of racketeers, has been purchased by Monogram and assigned to Lindsey Parsons for direction.

Moss' First Property

Purchase of "The Hands of Verónica," Fannie Hurst's first novel in four years, has been contracted for from the typewritten pages by Charles B. Moss, president of the newly formed Moss Productions. It is probable that the film will be released before the story appears in book form.

Fonda in 'Miracle'

Henry Fonda has been signed by Benedict Bogeaus and Burgess Meredith for the second lead in their production, "A Miracle Can Happen," which United Artists will release next year.

Lewton to Paramount

Val Lewton, who during his four years with RKO Radio produced 11 pictures, his most recent being "Bedlam," has been signed by Paramount as a producer.

PARAMOUNT SIGNS HARRY GREY TO PRODUCING CONTRACT;
ALBERT J. COHEN TO WRITE, PRODUCE FOR EAGLE-LION

Robert Walker has been set to play the role of Spencer Tracy's son in MGM's "Sea of Grass," now in production with Katharine Hepburn, Melvyn Douglas, Phyllis Thaxter and Harry Carey in the cast. Elia Kazan directs for producer Pandro S. Berman.

Columbia has named George Sherman to direct "Secret of the Whistler," next in the studio's series of mystery thrillers starring Richard Dix, which Ralfath Flototto produces.

Edgar Hayes, boogie-woogie pianist, has been signed with his moving piano for a sequence in "Wife Wanted," current Monogram drama starring Kay Francis. Phil Karlson is directing for Jeffrey Bernard and Miss Francis, co-producers.

Harry Grey, for ten years producer of many of Republic's top budget pictures, has just been signed by Paramount to a producer contract. He reports to the studio immediately for his first assignment.

Iona Massey will co-star with Nelson Eddy in Republic's forthcoming production of the original Rudolf Friml operetta, "Will Tomorrow Ever Come," which Allan Dwan will produce and direct.

Rey Harrison was handed the coveted male starring role in 20th-Fox's "The Ghost and Mrs. Muir," which producer Fred Kohlmar expects to put before the cameras in August.

Producer Howard Benedict has given Joan Fulton a featured role in Universal's "White Tie and Tails," now in production starring Dan Duryea, Ella Raines and William Bendix. Charles Barton is directing.

Douglas Fairbanks is directing a series of screen tests at International Pictures to determine important castings for his film version of "Terry and the Pirates," second of three pictures in his initial group of productions for International.

Jim Bannon was set by Columbia to play a heavy, one of the top roles in "Johnny O’Clock." Dick Powell-Evelyn Keyes co-star to be produced by Milton Holmes with Robert Ross directing.

Loris B. Appleton, Monogram producer and director, and Harry Hays Morgan, famous mountain climber, are en route to Switzerland where they will shoot the major part of "High Conquest," drama for which much of the action will be filmed on the icy heights of the Matterhorn. Story is based on the book by James Ramsey Ullman, author of best-seller "White Tower."

Albert J. Cohen, top writer and producer, has been signed to a long-term contract by Eagle-Lion Films. He will assume his new duties immediately and his first assignment will be "Matters," a story about the New York institution for mental cases.

Gordon Douglas has been signed by RKO to direct "Prison Story," which Martin Mooney will produce with Sid Rogell as executive producer.

Joseph L. Mankiewicz signed a new long-term producer-director-writer contract at 20th-Fox. Currently, Mankiewicz is directing the picturization of the stage play, "The Late George Apley," which stars Ronald Colman opposite Peggy Cummins. Fred Kohlmar produces.

John Ridgely has been set for a featured role in Warners' "Possessed," Joan Crawford-Van Hefflin starrer, which Curtis Bernhardt directs and Jerry Wald produces.

Director-Producer Fritz Lang is scouting locations for "Winchester '73," a western melodrama which he will make for Universal release. Lang, President of Diana Productions, will make "Winchester '73" immediately following "The Secret Beyond the Door," Joan Bennett starrer, which is scheduled to go into production this fall.

Dr. Otto Robert Frieh will be portrayed by veteran character actor Martin Kosleck in MGM's story of the atom bomb, "The Beginning or the End."

Walter Lang will direct the picturization of the Miriam Young novel, "Mother Were Tight," which will star Betty Grable. Lans Fratti, who wrote the screenplay, will produce.
SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, July 6, 1946

HO\LYWOOD

CHECK-UP ON PRODUCT IN WORK

(Continued from Page 50)

Charlie Chaplin has changed the title of his offering, "Comedy of Murders," to "Monsieur Verdoux," and will continue shooting at his own studios until a later date, when he will do a little camera activity at Morey-Sutherland lot. Loo-Ewen's, "Bel Ami" has moved from Enterprise studios to KKO Pathe in Culver City. Move was necessitated by Enterprise's overwhelming schedule.

Hunt Stromberg's "Dishonored Lady" has been having a little difficulty. Holy La Marr, star of the film, walked off the set recently when ordered to wear a gown of which she did not approve. Previously, the picture had been impeded for two weeks by illness, after getting over half-way through the shooting schedule. Further complications arose when Lois Jessen, fashion designer, became ill, holding up costumes, literally to the last minute.

Seymour Nebezel used 350 extra last week for a Miami night club sequence in "The Chase."

7 SHOOTING AT MGM

Metro is currently doing seven films, with more being readied. Robert Walker was added to "Sea of Grass," Paul Dennis and Elia Kazan direct. Norman Taurog is directing "The Beginning or the End." Casting is nearly complete for the picture, which has been rolling almost two months. Total cast to date numbers 173.

Rouben Mamoulian is directing "Summer Holiday." Technicolor musical, in which Mickey Rooney plays a poetry-writing dreamer. Other MGM films still shooting are "Sacred and Profane," "High Barbary," "The Secret Heart," and "Lady in the Lake."

Frank Sinatra returned from New York, where he did Brooklyn Bridge scenes for "It Happened in Brooklyn," to roll shorty.

Director Arch Oboler, famous for his radio presentations before entering the industry, returned from Chicago with a camera crew after location shooting for "The Arndt Affair." Jerry Bressler produces the film, which will start in mid-July. Another Metro feature set to start shortly is "This Time For Keeps," for which Lauritz Melchior and Johnnie Johnston recorded Spring Song last week.

ROACH RELEASE PLANS LATER

According to present plans, Hal Roach will not announce his plans for distribution until the third picture is made. Currently, the veteran comedy maker is doing his second film, "Here Comes Trouble." The picture features William Tracy as the man "with the photographic memory," and Joe Sawyer, as his sidekick. Tracy plays the role of a newspaperman who is a kind of "superman." Roach will probably reveal his selling agent after "The Fabulous Joe" is made; the picture, to be produced by Bebe Daniels, will start in late July.

SCREEN GUILD ACTIVE

Screen Guild is plenty active these days. Bill Berke just completed "Rolling Home," formerly titled "One More Chance," winding up interiors at General Service. A few days before, Berke, who produced and directed the picture, brought his company back from location in the San Fernando Valley.

William B. David, executive producer of the Golden Gate unit, is supervising the scoring of "Flight to Nowhere," which is scheduled for release July 15. David also started scoring and dubbing at the same time on "North of the Border" and "Neath Canadian Skies." Screen Guild expects to be able to supply 38 features for 1947, with 12 coming from Golden Gate and three from Affiliated. The latter has signed a three-year contract, calling for a trio of pictures every year; Sam K. Decker is president and general manager. SG also expects three to four films a year from Jack Schwartz.

NEW FIRM ENDS WESTERN

The latest company in Hollywood to shoot a film is Wells-Shrum Productions, which just finished "Swing Cowboy Swing." Shot on the Monogram sound stage, the picture's cast included Cal Shrum, Don Weston, Alta Lee, Max Terhune, Stan Jolly, Ed Cassidy and Ann Roberts. An all-veteran organization, the new producers plan a series of western musicals centering around Cal Shrum, previously seen in Republic and Columbia releases.

NO IDLENESS AT 'U'

Previously postponed, Universal got "Vigilantes' Return" under way, with Jon Hall, Margaret Lindsay and Paula Drew doing the honors in Cucolor. Howard Welsch produces and Ray Taylor directs. Another glorified western, "Rumrodel," being made by Universal for Universal release, is on location in Zion National Park, Utah. Producer Harry Sierman's construction crew beat the materials shortage there by buying an 82-year-old cabin, cutting it in half and trucking it 85 miles to the site of shooting. Enterprise is also busy with "Arch of Triumph," preparing it for imminent camera work. Ingrid Bergman is talking photographic and wardrobe tests. The organization bought a dock, which served during the war in the San Pedro harbor, for use in the Seine River sequences.

Frank Borzage, director of "Magnificent Doll" for Skirball-Manning, has Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton set, with Grandon Rhodes and Arthur Space being assigned to the parts, respectively. Janet Murdock was added to Walter Wanger's "Smash-up," which Stuart Heisler is directing. Universal used 200 extra for 12,000 sequences in "Pirates of Mone-

trey," with Eduardo Cansino, father of Rita Hayworth, acting as dance director.

Also rolling at the studio are Mark Hel-
giner's "Sweet Guy," being directed by Frank Tuttle; and "White Tin Tacks."

20TH STARTS 2, SETS 2

Sol M. Wurtzel begins his fourth independent production for 20th Century-Fox July 9, with "Dangerous Millions" getting under way. Headlining the players are Kent Taylor, Donna Drake and Tala Birell, James Tinling will direct. Also, just arriving directed western, co-starring Cornel Wilde and Maureen O'Hara. The second unit, under director Reeves Eason, has been shooting at Hollywood Park for at-

mosphere material. Bruce Humberstone directs for producer Robert Bassler.

Set to roll July 8 is "I Wonder Who's Kiss-
ing Her Now," but the starting date is only tentative for this George Jessel opus. However, preliminary work has been done for this period story of the early 1900s revolving around songwriter Joe Howard's career. June Haver and Mark Stevens have recorded several numbers for the musical. If present plans jell, "Bob, Son of Battle," a dog film, will roll July 10, with Louis King directing and Robert Bassler producing. Cast is topped by Lon McCallister and Peggy Ann Garner. Film will be in Technicolor.

Special equipment was rushed so fast to the Boston location of "13 Rue Madeleine" that director Henry Hathaway was able to continue shooting without a moment's delay. Fox's trans-

mission department Exploded two drivers, who made the trip in trucks in 92 hours—and that's flying! Still going at the home lot are "The Razor's Edge" and "The Late George Apley."

PARAMOUNT LOCATION TREKS

Fine-Thomas have completed "Jungle Flight," which drama produced by the two action directors, Williams, P & T, and directed by Peter Stewart. The "Emperor Waltz" company returned from Jasper Lodge, Canada, to resume filming at the studio on July 4. Almost 200 made the 200-mile journey.

Cecil B. DeMille's "Unconquered" troupe went to Idaho for added preparations on its forth-

coming production. The unit came from wooded scenes around Pittsburgh, where much background footage was shot.

Mid-July will probably see the start of "My Favorite Brunette." Bob Hope-Dorothy Lamour starvehicle, which Elliot Nugent is directing and Danny Dare producing.

Having completed location shooting prior to the start of "The Big Haircut," a camera unit went to the vicinity of Spokane, Washington, to add background. Picture will be produced by Robert Fellows, his first assignment at Para-

mount. Tay Garnett will direct.

EAGLE-LION PROGRESSING

Eagle-Lion is making progress toward settling the old PRC affairs, with the settlement of Longs last week. Alden Alexander and Sig Neufeld. Latter moved from Eagle-Lion quarters and will reportedly produce for PRC release, making his films at Morey-Sutherland studios.

ONE ENDS AT COLUMBIA

"Thrill of Brazil" has been completed by Co-

lumbia's "Down Home." A Rita Hayworth-Larry Parks musical, rolls on.

Marvin Miller, radio announcer, was added to the cast of "Dead Reckoning," to enact the part of a villain. "Son of the 'Guardian,"' a serial, is expected to roll July 5, with Sam Katzman producing. "My Empty Heart," Rosalind Russell-Melynn Douglas stars, is sched-

uled to start July 8.

Just started is "The Return of Monte Cristo."

Also going are "The Outlaw Tamer" and "The Gloved Hand." "Johnny O'Clock," originally ann-

ounced as starting July 1, was pushed back.

BROWN HEADING EAST

George Brown, Paramount studio publicist and advertising director, will leave for Hollywood Friday (5) on a business trip to New York, accompanied by A. L. "Whitney" Schaifer, studio director of still photography.
Shorts Shopping
Columbia’s Procedure in Its
‘Hop Harrigan’ Exploitation
Held Worthy of Duplication

It does our heart a great deal of good to receive campaign reports on short subjects, such as those which make up the story on this page about “Hop Harrigan” showmanship. Columbia’s advertising and publicity department deserves a hand for the manner in which it made the serial a swell piece of screen merchandise for showmen by arranging special advance tieups and then sending in its field men to aid exhibitors in their campaigns. Only exception to this procedure in the campaigns reported on this page, we are told, was in Westport, Conn., where Manager William Bowman of the Fine Arts Theatre personally handled the merchandising of the chapter-play.

We should like to remind exhibitors, while we are on the subject, that the serial is not the only type of short subject that deserves extra selling. There are many theatremen who, seldom paying any more attention to the average short than booking and playing it, go to special lengths to ballyhoo a serial playdate. We certainly commend wholeheartedly that devotion to serial exploitation, but at the same time it seems only logical that other types of shorts should be worth extra selling effort.

For particularly salable shorts—those which have some outstanding entertainment merit—we believe that the procedure used by Columbia for “Hop Harrigan” could well be duplicated. Once a film company knew the importance of a short and its merchandising possibilities, arrangements could be made whereby field representatives would assist exhibitors in exploiting it. Not all shorts would receive this preferential treatment, it should be understood, only those which were outstanding. The average one- and two-reeler would be exploited by the exhibitor alone, utilizing the selling aids furnished him by the distributor. Shortly after this appears in print we will probably be reminded by various companies of the special promotion they have accorded certain outstanding shorts, and it will be pointed out that a field exploiter worked on this or that subject. Just the same, we think the practice could be expanded with extra benefit to both distributor and exhibitor. If Columbia has not exactly paved the way with its “Hop Harrigan” exploitation, neither has it trailed far behind.

Hardly had we written the above lines when two more splendid examples of showmanship reached our desk. One was the out-

'Harrigan' Serial Object of Fine Campaigns by Showmen

Given smart theatre showmanship, there is no reason why a serial campaign can’t receive the sort of attention usually reserved for features; with a corresponding jump at the box-office.

Latest example of what can be done with chapter plays can be found in a few smart campaigns turned in on “Hop Harrigan,” current Columbia serial showing across the country.

First of the campaign put on for “Harrigan” was in the Commodore Theatre, Philadelphia, where Manager Arthur Goldsmith turned in a top-flight job.

A tiptop was set with a local toy shop, which supplied models of airplanes for display in the lobby, as well as devoting a full window to the serial. The same shop also donated a complete kit, including a gasoline motor, to be awarded as first prize in an aviation contest sponsored by the theatre in conjunction with the film.

Taking advantage of the national tiup already set with General Foods, sponsors of the Hop Harrigan air show over the American Broadcasting Company, Goldsmith arranged to have station WFIL, local ABC outlet, devote spot announcements to his paydate at the conclusion of each of the five broadcasts throughout the week.

Placards were placed on both sides of all delivery trucks delivering the Hop Harrigan comics, calling attention to the local play-date, and the local comic distributor supplied the theatre with out-of-date copies of the comics for use as throwaways.

In addition, Goldsmith followed all of the other proved exploitation stunts for the film: an attractive lobby; a ballyhoo through the streets; membership in a Hop Harrigan flying club; prominent use of the trailer. All of these helped to make the serial campaign a big one.

Large cities, however, aren’t the only places where “Hop Harrigan” was given a feature treatment. In Westport, Conn., one of the smaller towns in that state, William Bowman, manager of the Fine Arts Theatre, demonstrated that ingenuity and showmanship have no substitutes.

Starting a week before the opening of the first chapter, Bowman set up a lobby display that had the town talking. Airplanes hung from all the rafters, posters were prominently displayed on all walls, and doormen and ushers all wore badges, heralding the coming of Harrigan.

Bowman also used several “off-the-beaten-path” stunts to get the story of the serial across. A special maintenance corps was elected from among the regular attendants each week, and of course the children vied for the honor of working in the theatre; a plane building contest, with handsome prizes for the best planes, was in-

(Continued on Page 55)

MGM Shorts Production Now At Pre-War Level

With war film more readily available, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer has given its shorts department the “full speed ahead” signal and production is now back at pre-war volume.

For the coming releasing season, the studio will turn out more than one short per week, for a total quota of 54 features. This will include four two-reel Specials; 16 MGM cartoons; 10 Pete Smith Specials, the first of which, “Sure Cure,” is set for September release; 6 John Nesbitt Passing Parade subjects; 12 FitzPatrick Traveltalks and six other single-reel features.

This is a marked increase over years’ production. Because of general wartime restrictions and shortages, the output slumped considerably for several years, although the studio kept up quotas with its ample backlog.

Elkins in Midwest

Saul Elkins of Gordon Hollingshead’s short subject production staff is currently in the midwest, supervising three Technicolor two-reelers based on outdoor events—the Aquatennial celebration in Minneapolis, the Soap Box Derby in Akron and the Minnesota State Fair in St. Paul. He expects to return to Hollywood about the end of August.

(Continued on Page 54)
THE SHOW BUILDER

Premiere of 'U' Short in Bluefield a Gala Event

When a short subject is backed with real showmanship, as in the case of the world premiere of Universal's "Magic Mineral" at the Granada Theatre in Bluefield, W. Va., the result might well be the same as it was at Bluefield: booked for three days and held over two more.

The campaign started with front-page stories daily in the two local newspapers, beginning a week in advance. The Norfolk and Western Railway attached a special car to its new crack train, the Powhatan Arrow, which brought people from as far away as Roanoke, Va., 100 miles.

On the night of the opening the American Legion Drum and Bugle Corps, dressed in minstrels' outfits with light on their hats (an appropriate tiup since the picture is entirely devoted to the subject of coal), headed a parade which included members of the film's cast and other notables who appeared on the stage with United States Senator Harley M. Kilgore of West Virginia. In the parade two ushers carried a sign reading: "We are on our way to the world premiere of "Magic Mineral" at the Granada Theatre."

Sned Kipple spoke at the opening ceremonies, and his speech, which was picked up by the AP and UP, climaxed the gala campaign staged by J. Bonner Sams, city manager for the Willy-Kmeyw circuit, operators of the Granada. Earlier in the evening Mayor Horace West broadcast a five-minute talk about the picture over station WHIS.

The newspaper on the opening day carried ads touting the picture from the Bluefield Chamber of Commerce and the Bituminous Coal Institute. Sams started his own advertising campaign several days in advance, and also arranged a special lobby display which was moved to the front of the theatre during the engagement. Banner pictures of poppets were used to decorate the front of the house.

The newspaper publicity which accompanied all these preparations brought huge crowds to line the parade route and accompany it to the theatre. Hundreds vainly sought admission on opening night. And, as we said before, the original three-day booking was extended to five.

Hotel Men See 'Rooms'

"Two Million Rooms," a This Is America release dealing with the hotel business, was the top attraction when KKO Radio entertained officials of the American Hotel Association recently at the Palace Theatre, New York. The hotel executives included E. J. Frawley, managing director of the Fort Shelby, Detroit; Leonard J. Hiles, managing director of the Hotel Morrison, Chicago, and Charles A. Horwirth, vice-president of the AHA.

Foy's Musical Contacts

The booking of MGM's "Musical Masterpieces" into the Sunshine Theatre, Albuquerque, N. M., sent Manager Irving Foy out to contact the local musical groups of the city as well as the University. He also used the lobby, marquee and newspaper ads to sell the short. Result: many added patrons.

Turner Sells Short With Letter to Animal Lovers

Nearly everyone is an animal lover, so Manager Arthur Turner of the Parsons Theatre, Parsons, Kans., took advantage of this fact when he played the 20th-Fox short subject, "Golden Horses.

Says Saddle Club members of Parsons and all the presidents of the district he sent a personal letter calling their attention to the showing of the short on the same program with "Perilous Holiday," in the letter he also presented a brief synopsis, thus giving the recipients a pretty good idea of what to expect.

Turner also planted a publicity story on the second page of the Parsons Sun—really, it was more of a news story of national importance and the fact that Saddle Club members had received a letter about it. Those who scoff at short subject showmanship must admit that Turner undoubtedly had more press book openings by reason of the letter and news story than would have been the case had he simply booked and played "Golden Horses" without any fanfare.

Pal Buys Rights to Series of Short Stories

Full screen righto to Ralph Stoner's series of short stories, "Magic Mineral", just before the author joined the Marines and lost his life on Saipan have been acquired by George Pal. The series will bring to the screen through Pal's Puppetoons in Technicolor a new character of the Mac West type.

All of the stories are satires on great loves of history, starting with Anthony and Cleopatra, with the main feminine character transported down through the ages through each succeeding story.

New Shorts Firm Plans 'This is Hollywood' Series

A new series of one-reel subjects called "This Is Hollywood" will be released by Filmland Productions, the top executives of which are Arthur Nadel and Harry Harris. The new company has already started shooting the first subject at Audio Studios.

The initial film will detail the inner workings of a radio studio, and subsequent reels will depict scenes centers and behind the scenes' footage of Hollywood. Nadel and Harris declare the entire series is scheduled for major release.

POINTERs. Oscar A. Morgan, Paramount's short subjects sales chief, and Ann Lewis (right), SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW's Hollywood manager, give Gloria Saunders, Paramount's Short Subject Girl of 1947, a few pointers at a reception for Morgan during his recent spring visit in Hollywood.

Shorts Shopping Cont. from Page 53

standing campaign staged in Bluefield, W. Va., for the world premiere of Universal's short subject, "Magic Mineral" (reported in detail elsewhere on this page) The other was a fine window display promoted in New York on "The Scarlet Horseman," a Universal serial.

Those press books on MGM short subjects are just about the most attractive and the most convenient we've seen in a long time. Looking for all the world like one of the small "vest pocket" magazines now on the market (example: Coronet), the front cover of the book, which they have a name, too—"MGM Shorts Story." The front-page picture is provocative enough to insure further inspection of the press book which, when opened, reveals a two-page feature article with illustrations suitable for planting in the newspaper, using in the house program, or for use in getting information as to what the subject is all about. Then the press book opens from the bottom, revealing one large page of scene cuts, publicity stories, selling angles, ad lines and ad mats. The whole thing, of course, is printed on one sheet of paper which is folded once horizontally, then again vertically. Perhaps there have been other press books designed along the same lines, but the "picture magazine" cover angle in this instance quickly catches the reader's interest and curiosity, and holds them until the sheet's contents have been perused. And to tickle the showman's funny bone, there's a clever back-page cartoon by Mulholland entitled "Show Stoppers." No matter how busy we are, we can all take time out for a laugh now and then.
Harrigan' Serial Gets Outstanding Campaigns

(Continued from Page 53)

agitated and attracted much attention. Bowman used newspaper advertising extensivelly in selling the serial to his patrons. Ads were both of the pressbook variety and originals, designed by Bowman to meet the peculiarities of his situation.

Probably the one outstanding stunt arranged was the Department Store Campaign. Each Saturday a prominent city or state dignitary was invited to address the children on some topic dealing with his department. The mayor, chief of the state police, fire commissioner, etc., all responded, and not only was the program of interest to the children, but received an outstanding amount of newspaper space as well.

Another city where Columbia's serial was given a send-off worthy of a feature was Newark, where George Kelly, publicity manager of the Warner house, handled the details. George followed the pressbook closely for his ideas, branching out where his own situation seemed to demand it.

A deal was set up with the local distributors of the Hop Harrigan Comics, with the distributors covering both sides of all delivery trucks with banner calling attention to the local playdate. The Civil Air Patrol also supplied material for lobby displays as well as sending speakers for special children's matinees of the serial.

A special feature story on serials in general, with special emphasis on "Hop Harrigan" and the local showing, was planted in all newspapers in the area. Thousands of newspapers, dressed in aviator's costumes, visited playgrounds and school yards, distributing copies of the herald.

In addition to the lobby display created through the cooperation of Civil Air Patrol, local merchants contributed several model planes which were effectively used for display purposes. Merchants in the area were also more than generous with window donations, all of which carried full playdate and film credits.

These were just a few examples of how smart exploitation can pay off at the box-office in serials and short subjects as well as in features. The principle is the same—sell your product.

Watch Out, Winchell
Bugs Bunny, Warners' popular cartoon character, has become a newspaper columnist.

His by-line and picture (eating a carrot) appear at the head of a column, "Bugs Bunny Says . . . ." on the theatrical page of the Rocky Ford Daily Gazette-Topic, Rocky Ford, Colorado. The idea was put across by Fred Knill of the Gibraltar Circuit, with headquarters in Denver.

Sample quip: "I heard that W. C. Fields is causing quite a commotion out in Hollywood. He's looking for Ray Milland's 'Lost Weekend.' Just one more: "I know a good one about crude oil but I can't tell it 'cause it ain't reined—That's a joke, Doc."

Colossal Business' for 'School's Out' Show
Manager Charles Snyder of the Rialto Theatre, Denison, Texas, assisted by Harry Gaines and Jimmy Nienast, held a "School's Out" show recently which, according to Snyder, "did a colossal business."

Snyder put over the show, which featured short subjects, through newspaper advertising, lobby displays and screen announcements. Admission was 25 cents. Children, with adults paying the regular adult price, and tickets were sold in advance. The advance sale was "unusually heavy."

Ninth Edition of Smith's 'Football Thrills' in Can
Pete Smith, whose "Football Thrills" has become an annual affair, has completed his 1946 edition, MGM announced this week. The reel will include newsreel clips featuring the highlights of the most exciting moments from games of the 1945 season.

Prominent in the new show will be sections of the USC-UCLA game, the Notre Dame-Navy battle, the 'Pray for Pennsylvania' fray and eleven other big games of last season. This year's "Football Thrills" will be the ninth of the annual series.

Lantz Completes Two More Musical Miniature Shorts

Because of the success of "Poet and Peasant," first of his new series of "Musical Miniatures," Walter Lantz has already completed two more of these unique musical shorts—"Chopin's Moments" and "William Tell." As in "Poet and Peasant," the cartoon stars are Woody Woodpecker, Andy Panda, and Wally Walrus.

The new Lantz series is unique for two reasons: the music is played as originally scored without cuts or tampered-with orchestration, and the Lantz staff writes a story and does the synchronizing after the music has been recorded, which is directly opposite to the usual procedure.

The music used thus far by Lantz has consisted only of standard works, familiar to all but the most tone-deaf. Von Suppe's "Poet and Peasant" was chosen for the first because everyone from four to eighty-four knows it. The same applies to the "William Tell" overture. When it comes to the animation for this, one we can't help wondering who is going to shoot the apple off who's head—if Woody is going to do the shooting, the apple will make a mighty small target on Wally Walrus.

For both "Poet and Peasant" and "William Tell" Lantz used full orchestra, but for the Chopin short he engaged the duo piano team of Ted Sadekien and Ed Rehner. The tunes in this number, although not as familiar over-all as the others, still are a long way from being unknown, and the idea of using only pianos provides a completely new twist for a film short.

Short-over-Feature Billing And Midnight Show Clicks

When a manager makes a short his main attraction, and not only that, but puts on a special midnight performance with it in a small town, he's doing something, son. And that's what Wallace Bruce of Lyons, Kans, did when he got hold of March of Time's "Night Club Boom." Bruce had a feature too, but he did not consider it a good draw—and so the experiment.

To put over his idea Bruce broke the short over the feature, plastered the town with handbills to the effect that a big time would be had by all at the special midnight performance, and then installed a soft drink bar in the lobby a la night club. He also dressed two of his usherettes as cigarette girls (we don't know how the conservative set of Lyons liked this if they looked like some of the cigarette girls we've seen). Anyhow, Bruce held an advance sale for the performance, and sure enough, he filled the house.

The Jingo and Johnny Mine," a radio drama heard the Death Valley Days, has been purchased by Warner Bros, for production as a Technicolor special on the company's short subject program. Subject will be filmed on location in Arizona with Cedric Freis directing.

The studio also has an idea called "The Virtual Revue," a nostalgic glance at early days of vaudeville, for early production, with Saul Elkins writing and directing.

"So You Think You're Nutrocratic," third in the "Skeez on Wally Walrus's big 'done, before the cameras within the next few days, with Richard Ware directing George Hanlon.

Gordon Hollingshead will produce.

Three New Subjects on WB Shows Schedule

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SHORT SUBJECT REVIEWS

Peep in the Deep
(Continued from Page 53)

Par. (E54) Popeye
Olive Oyl pursades Popeye to go on a secret hunt for a sunken treasure. Bluto hears about it and the two have their usual battle beneath the sea. The story is per usual script spinning out with the aid of this ever present can of spinach. In Technicolor.

Problem Drinkers
(Continued from Page 53)

20th-Fox March of Time No. 11
20 mins.

Capitalizing the interest aroused by "The Lost Weekend" and the increasing strength of prohibition advocates, this MOT dramatizes the rehabilitation of a confirmed alcoholic by Alcoholics Anonymous—coincidentally, are shown closing their mutual confession meeting by chanting the Lord's Prayer. The conclusion stresses the "modern" view that not excessive alcoholism is a disease to be treated, not a crime to be punished.

Oh, Professor Behave
(RKO Radio (63,703) Leon Errol $81

This is another variation on the now familiar pseudo-triangle theme written around Leon Errol's antics during his last several shorts, and this is no improvement on the others. This year Errol is in dutch with the wife for holding parties at his home during her absence. The wife is the female professor, bearing a letter from a mutual friend, arrives and is escorted to a guest room by the butler, The usual (Continued on Page 56)
SHORT SUBJECT REVIEWS

(Continued from Page 55)

slapstick clowns and complications take place when Errol discovers that the professor is a blonde female and tries to keep the knowledge from his returned wife. (The projection room sound was so loud when this reviewer saw the short some of the dialogue was impossible to understand. That which was understood was unbelievably trite.)

Studio Visit
MGM (S-758) Peter Smith

Pete Smith's camera and narration takes audiences back stage on a tour of the MGM studios. Highlights of the "inside" visit are, Lena Horne in a bubble bath, recording a song; Luis Zingone demonstrating his ability as a magician and three-year-old Helen Sue Geldy who nonchalantly munches an apple as her father tosses her through the air in amusing balancing feats.

Throwing the Bull (Very Good)
20th-Fox (402) Mighty Mouse

If there is such a thing as caricatured music, this one has it when delightfully presents the music of "Carmen" as a background to the antics of Mighty Mouse as he pell-mell tosses the bull (several of them) out of the ring, thus winning the hand of a glamorous Technicolor Carmenita. This Mighty Mouse is quite a guy.

Calling on Costa Rica (Very Good)
MGM FitzPatrick Traveltalk

Beautifully decorative and interestingly narrated this is one of the better FitzPatrick Technicolor Traveltalks. It takes audiences through the picturesque "Banana republic", where ancient charm still exists. It shows also the modern part of the country. Good for contrast in a comedy program, particularly.

Testing the Experts (Interesting)
Para. (R5-7)

Spotlights 9 mins.

Four questions are presented to the movie audience in this fine bit of entertainment. They range in subject matter from bee swarms to elephant herds, from wild horses to winter sports. The answers are given very picturesquely, and any audience will find the quiz an interesting one.

Script Teas (Will Do)
Universal (1346) Variety View 9 mins.

A young soldier who has written a play takes it up to Henry Hull's place in Old Lyme, Conn., to see if he can interest the actor enough for production. Hull is seen in various costumes, with the lad always after him. Finally, Hull capitulates and everybody is happy. This short is adult and holds the interest, although you may get the impression it is all a publicity stunt on the part of Hull. But that couldn't be, could it?

Magic Mineral (Very Good)
Universal Variety View 9 1/2 mins.

Our most valuable raw material—coal—is here seen in its natural state inside a coal mine of the West Virginia bituminous fields. New methods of mining and of training youngsters is shown, with the shots inside the mine very effective, indeed, especially one that shows the dust shearing off the hunks—an unusual shot in anybody's book. The film is entertainment, but also has great educational value. Don't pass it up.

The Johnstown Flood (Good)
20th-Fox (6518) Mighty Mouse

The wind blows, the rain pours in buckets (actual), it rains like pitchforks (actual), the dam bursts, the waters sweep away the houses in the valley, and all the mice people are in dire danger. The mouse in the observation tower takes a swing of atomic energy and becomes Mighty Mouse. Then he cleans up things by knocking out nature itself—a hero once more. Good craftsmanship, fine animation, and continuous action make this acceptable for any bill, although it is not overly humorous.

Men of Tomorrow (Excellent)

Even if "Men of Tomorrow" were not the entertaining and informative short subject it is, it would still be a perfect opportunity for enterprising showmen to give vent to every exploitation idea they know about. For the short is made in cooperation with the Boy Scouts of America and offers myriad opportunities to tie up with that organization and with every other civic minded group in each community. It tells about the activities of the various branches of scouting, showing films of the Cub, Star, Scout, Eagles, Sea Scouts and Air Scouts, thus covering every branch. Handled correctly, this Technicolor subject can be a box-office bonanza.

Cradle of Liberty (Interesting)
20th-Fox (6259) Movietone Adventures 8 mins.

This is a Technicolor trip through some of America's historic landmarks and, in contrast, through some present-day sights of the state, including steel mills, the Pennsylvania Turnpike, automobile speedway, the capitol at Harrisburg and other places of interest. Lowell Thomas' narration accompanies.

Newsreel Synopses

(Released Saturday, July 6)

MOVITONE (Vol. 28, No. 88)—Zero hour at Bikini; President Truman explains his veto of the OPA bill; Des Moines thrilled by colorless Iowa Centennial Parade (Des Moines only); 24 sailboats in Newport-Rhode Island-Bermuda classic; Women's golf.

NEWS OF THE DAY (Vol. 17, No. 286)—A Day at Bikini; Australia Pacific; President asks aid in OPA crisis; Youth sings for heroes (Milwaukee, Wis.); Hirohito visits from Japan; World's fastest racing yachts in Newport-Bermuda handicap.

PARAMOUNT (No. 89)—Helicopter wars on farm pests; Hirohito visits new Diet; What price OPA; dairy's zero hour.

RKO PATHE (Vol. 17, No. 91)—Hirohito attends Jap Diet; Helicopter aids war on insects; Truman signs OPA; OPA overruled.

UNIVERSAL (Vol. 18, No. 516)—President pleads for price curb; Flower fiesta; Bicycle race in England; Operations Crossroads underway.

(Released Wednesday, July 3)

MOVITONE (Vol. 28, No. 87)—Gromovsky's three vetoes mark U. N. Session on Spanish issue; Fire cases ferry terminal; Secretary of Treasury John Snyder sworn in; Army's all-wing bomber makes test flight; Preservation society tragic Chinese in Civil War; Communists stage mass demonstration in Paris; Traditional dragon festival celebrated in Belgium; Crown Prince of Akhito goes to school; Entire Gloucester fishing fleet is blessed in Port; St. Bernard's race to compete in show of champions; Lew Lehr gets a newly-wedded pair off on left foot.

NEWS OF THE DAY (Vol. 17, No. 285)—$2,000,000 fire in N. Y. Harbor; Army's "flying wing" passes first test flight; Moving-Up Day in Washington; Earl Browder home from Russia; Close-up of Jap Crown Prince; Famine in China; Fishing fleet blessed; St. Bernards take to air; French steepichase thrills.

PARAMOUNT (No. 88)—Navy analyst (N.Y.); U.S. Naval aviation visits Porky, John W. Snyder takes office as Secretary of Treasury; Merry-Go-Round maternity at Palmades Park; Japan's Crown Prince; Famine stalking China.

ALL-AMERICAN (Vol. 4, No. 193)—Fifteen Negroes on police force of Tulsa; Publishers convene in New York; City Hotel Honors women of San Antonio; Army vet not handicapped; Worshipful master of his own Masonic Lodge; Baptist Sunday School teachers convene in Chicago.

LINE UP FOR KIDDIE SHOWS. Pictured above is a typical Saturday morning crowd of youngsters in front of the Majestic Theatre, Springfield, Ohio, where Manager Woodrow Owens presents weekly programs of five cartoons, a serial and the regular attractions. Prizes promoted from local merchants are given to the youngsters. The Majestic is operated by the Regent-State Corp, whose director and general manager is Phil Chakeres.
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TITILE INDEX

(Listed in the following index are titles of features (exclusive of western series releases) with name of the distributor following the title. For data as to running time, stars, etc., refer to title under distributor company listings.)

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<td>Kane Richmond-Barbara Reed</td>
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<td>Waltzing At Dusk</td>
<td>Gilbert Roland-Marlene Clark</td>
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<td>Spook Busters</td>
<td>Leo Gorcey-The Bowery Boys</td>
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<td>Strange Voyage</td>
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<td>356</td>
<td>The Bells Are Ringing</td>
<td>Janet Blair-Ray Brown</td>
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<td>357</td>
<td>Shadows Over Chinatown</td>
<td>Sidney Toler-Victor Sen Yung</td>
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### WESTERS (Current 1944-45)

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<td>Bridge Too Far (C.F.)</td>
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<td>Riders of the Dawn (W.F.)</td>
<td>Jimmy Wakely-Lee White</td>
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<td>Border Bandits (W.F.)</td>
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<td>Moon Over Montana (W.F.)</td>
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<td>West of the Alamo</td>
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### Paramount

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<td>Bridge Too Far (C.F.)</td>
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<td>Our Hearts Were Growing Up (C.F.)</td>
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<td>People Are Funny (C.M.)</td>
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<td>Road to Utopia (C.M.A.)</td>
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<td>Stork Club (C.M.A.)</td>
<td>Betty Hutton-Barry Fitzgerald</td>
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<td>That Lucky Lady (C.M.A.)</td>
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<td>Tokyo Rose (D.A.)</td>
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<td>Virginia, The * (D.A.)</td>
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<td>Blue Skies</td>
<td>Bing Crosby-Fred Astaire</td>
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<td>Cabot's</td>
<td>Jane Withers-Ray Brown</td>
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<td>Hold That Dream</td>
<td>R. Milland-Stanwyck-Fitzgerald</td>
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<td>Cross My Heart</td>
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<td>Danziger Street</td>
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<td>Emperor Waltz, The *</td>
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<td>O.S.S. (W.A.)</td>
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<td>The Trouble With Women</td>
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### PRC

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<td>Detour (D.A.)</td>
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<td>Dangerous Daughter (My A.)</td>
<td>Robert-Jacks E. Smith-Grace Arnold</td>
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<td>Danny Boy (D.F.)</td>
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<td>Enchanted Forest * (C.D.F)</td>
<td>Edmund Lowe-Brenda Joyce</td>
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<td>Field Of Honor, The</td>
<td>Bert Gordon-Raymond Hatton</td>
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<td>How Do You Do (C.F.)</td>
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<td>Murder Is My Business (My Y.)</td>
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<td>Romance of the West (W.F.)</td>
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<td>Stranger of the Swamp (H.A.)</td>
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<td>Why Girls Leave Home (D.A.)</td>
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<td>Wife Of Monte Cristo (D.F.)</td>
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### Time, Date, Rel. Mins. of Issue

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**Note:** The table above represents a continuation of the monogram and includes information about various films along with their directors, stars, and release dates. The text seems to be formatted in a specific way, possibly for a magazine or a journal, and includes various categories like production companies and release dates.
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<td>Sp. Spiral Staircase (M-D-A)</td>
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<td>Sp. Tarzan and the Leopard Woman (AF)</td>
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<td>Sp. Tomorrow is Forever (D)</td>
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**SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, June 7, 1946**

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<td>20th-Fox</td>
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<td>Lin Joy</td>
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<td>Roy Rogers-Dale Evans</td>
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<td>A Don't Fence Me In (W)</td>
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**SHOWWEN’S TRADE REVIEW, July 6, 1946**

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<td>568 A Guy Could Change (D)</td>
<td>Jane-Lane-Elaine France</td>
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<td>569 An Angel Comes to Brooklyn (CM)</td>
<td>Kaye Douglas-Douglas-Robert (b1/25/46)</td>
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<td>573 A Strange Impersonation (D)</td>
<td>Brenda Marshall-William Gargan</td>
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<td>574 A Strange Affair</td>
<td>T. Darrell-Eldridge-Chester Carpenter</td>
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<td>574 Calman of Paris (H)</td>
<td>Carl Eason-Lenore Aubert</td>
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<td>575 Crime of the Century (M)</td>
<td>Stephanie Balkovich-Michael Monroe</td>
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<td>576 Escape - (D)</td>
<td>John Wayne-Vera Miles</td>
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<td>580 Foreign Key (My A)</td>
<td>Albert Dekker-Evelyn Ankers</td>
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<td>580 Girls of the Big House (D) A</td>
<td>Lynne Roberts-Richard Powers</td>
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<td>581 Glass Alibi, The (My A)</td>
<td>Maris Wrixon-Douglas Fowley</td>
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<td>584 In Old Sacramento (W)</td>
<td>Constance Moore-William Elliott</td>
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<td>585 Madonna’s Secret, The (D)</td>
<td>F. Lee-Brunner-A. Rutherford-G. Patrick- (b1/25/46)</td>
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<td>591 Out West (D)</td>
<td>Bill Halter-William Holden- (b1/25/46)</td>
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<td>592 Murder in the Music Hall (My F)</td>
<td>Vera Hruba-Ralston-W. Marshall- (b1/25/46)</td>
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<td>593 One Exciting Week (C)</td>
<td>A. Garret-Arden-Harrill</td>
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<td>Stephanie Balkovich-Adelle Mara- (b1/25/46)</td>
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<td>598 Rainbow Over Texas (W)</td>
<td>Roy Rogers-Dale Evans</td>
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<td>599 Return of the badge</td>
<td>Adele Mara-Edward Barrier- (b1/25/46)</td>
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<td>600 Singh of Mexico (M)</td>
<td>S. Bachelor-R. Livingston- (b1/25/46)</td>
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<td>603 Woman Who Came Back, The (D) A</td>
<td>Nancy Kelly-John Loder</td>
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**COMING**

**REPUBLIC**

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<td>592 Mysterious Mr. Valentine</td>
<td>William Henry-Linda Sterling</td>
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<td>593 Night Train to Memphis</td>
<td>Roy Acuff-Lois Mara- (b1/25/46)</td>
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<td>596 Out California Way *M</td>
<td>Monte Hale-Adrian Booth</td>
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<td>597 Pagan Soul</td>
<td>WilliamDouglas-Jay Barr- (b1/25/46)</td>
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<td>598 Plainman and the Lady</td>
<td>A. Rogers-Dal Evans-G. Hayes</td>
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<td>599 Rendezvous With Annie</td>
<td>Adele Mara-William Holden- (b1/25/46)</td>
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<td>601 Snow Cinderella</td>
<td>Louis Roberts-Charles Drake</td>
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<td>602 Specter of the Rose (D) A</td>
<td>Michael Chekhov-Judith Anderson- (b1/25/46)</td>
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<td>603 Traffic in Crime</td>
<td>James Dunn-Mona Freeman</td>
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<td>604 Under Nevada Skies</td>
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<td>605 Winter Wonderland</td>
<td>John Withers-Jimmy Lydon- (b1/25/46)</td>
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**WESTERNS (CURRENT 1945-46)**

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<td>587 Blue Mountain Skies</td>
<td>Robert Carson-Peggy Stewart- (b1/25/46)</td>
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<td>Wild Bill Elliott-Bobby Blake- (b1/25/46)</td>
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<td>596 Cherokee Flash (W)</td>
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**20TH-FOX**

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<td>633 Jesse James</td>
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### UNITED ARTISTS

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### Showmen's Trade Review, July 6, 1946

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<td>Swan Song</td>
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<tr>
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343 Ghost Steps Out... Alberto-Cisellio-M. Reynolds 6/15/46 4/6/46
316 Her Adventurous Night... Denise O'Keefe-Helen Walker 7/5/46 3/6/46
317 Inside Job (D) A. Curtis-R. Rutherford-P. Foster 6/30/46 6/2/46
318 A New Garden... Judy COLBERT 6/6/46 6/2/46
320 Little Miss Big... Jack Holden-Beverly Simmons 6/6/46 6/4/46
325 Magnificent Doll... G. Rogers-D. Niven-B. Meredith 6/2/46 6/6/46
330 Mysterious Mr. M... Ronald Main-Pamela Blake 5/15/46 6/2/46
334 No Guns-Gentlemen (D) A. MacArthur-L. Palmer 110 3/2/46 3/30/46
349 Oh Say Can You Sing... Shila Hysi-Fred Brady 6/15/46 6/3/46
535 Pirates of Monterey "T"... Maria Montez-Rod Cameron-P. Reed 8/25/46 8/25/46
538 Rain On-Elia Bella 7/14/46 8/25/46
554 Slightly Slandrous Fred Brady-Paula Drew 2/6/46
625 Smoke信号... B. Talbot-Elisabeth Allen 3/10/46
634 Swell Guy... Eunicy Tufts-Ann Blyth 5/10/46 5/10/46
646 Vigilante Return "T"... Dan Duryea-Dwight F. Kelly 5/8/46 8/25/46
569 White Tie and Tail... Jan Duryea-Elia Raines-Walton Bendix 12/18/45 3/10/46
122 Wild Beauty... Don Porter-Louis Collier 6/1/46 6/1/46
893 You're My Boy... Jackie Cooper-Ingrid Bergman 6/25/46 6/25/46
567 Too Young to Know (D) J. Hubley-Elia Bella 16/12/46 11/2/46
505 Born for Trouble... Van Johnson-Faye Emerson 4/30/46 10/6/46
312 Burton's Victory (Wa) A. Jarman-Jane Withers 6/25/46 10/6/46
313 Cinderella Jones (C) F. Phillips 5/30/46 6/12/46
506 Confidential Agent (D) F. G. Wallis 11/10/46 11/12/46
508 Danger Signal (D) F. G. Wallis 7/15/46 11/12/46
516 His Kind of Man... Z. Scott-F. Emerson-D. Clark 5/11/46 11/12/46
520 Janie Gets Married (C) F. G. Wallis 6/12/46 11/12/46
535 Mildred Pierce (D) F. G. Wallis 10/20/45 10/29/45
539 Saratoga Trunk (D) F. G. Wallis 7/3/46 11/24/46
531 San Antonio (D) F. G. Wallis 2/14/46 2/14/46
511 Three Strangers (D) F. G. Wallis 2/15/46 11/24/46
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517 Appointment in Tokyo (Wa) A. Jarman-Jane Withers 6/25/46 11/24/46
957 Big Sleep... H. Bogart-Lauren Bacall 12/1/46 11/12/46
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526 Cry Wolf... Errol Flynn-Barbara Stanwyck 6/15/46 12/4/66
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118. Gary 70... Artkino his 70... Artkino bl/22/46 122.
COMIC BOOKS


NEW EQUIPMENT.

NEW 8' PEDESTAL FANS, 24 BLADES, with rebuilt motors, $76.13; Gum Remover, $1.91 gallon; Lavatory Clean-e-Pipe Machines, $9.95; Automatic Deodorizers, $7.50; Flashlight Batteries, 5 cents; Automatic Communication System, Master, 5 sub-stations, Excellent condition, $25.00; Satellite Dows the Scale, Good, $15.00; Table's, the Breaks, All Right, $6.00.

THEATRE SEATING

250 PORTABLE ASSEMBLY CHAIRS, SECTIONS OF TWO, per chair $3.50; 2000 Stadium Chairs, $4.35; 400 American late model metalized upholstered padded backs, boospring cushions, rebuil $7.93; 150 rebuilt, upholstered American panelback boxspring chairs, $5.95; 300 American rebuilt upholstered red striped velour padded back, boospring, metal lined, $7.95; 408 American ditto, $7.95; Cardinal Red leatherette, 52" wide, 100 yards per roll, $1.14 yard; cut lengths, $1.25. Wire for stock list. S.O.S. Cinema Supply Corp., 440 W. 42nd St., New York, N. Y.

THEATRES WANTED

WANTED TO LEASE—Theatre in eastern or southern states by former manager. Excellent references. G.P.E. Box 45, Ampere, N. J.

USED EQUIPMENT

POWER S & NECHANISMS, REBUILT, RE-NICKELED $99.50; Simplex movements, good, $4.95; 4 column candy machine $9.50, 2 unit Gold Seal ticket machine $129.50; Lamphouses at bargain prices. Star Cinema Supply Co., 440 W. 42nd St., New York, N. Y.

NO GAMBLE WHEN YOU BUY THESE ARMY THEATRE BOOTH Outfits—Holmes professional late type sound projectors, 2000' magazines; lens; Strong Arclamps; rectifiers; motors; adjustable heavy pedestals; 30W amplifiers; monitor; 2 way Multicellular horn system, reconditioned and guaranteed, $1950.00. S.O.S. Cinema Supply Corp., 449 W. 42nd St., New York, N. Y.

TICKET MACHINES HAND OPERATED, WENZEL THREE UNIT, $150.00; General Four Unit, $195.00; Silverette screen rolls, 9' x 9', $29.50; Beautiful Box Office, 8' x 4' square, $79.50; 16-mm. Reels or Cans, 400'—23 cents; 800'—34 cents; 1200'—44 cents; Heavy Duty Vacuum Cleaner, rebuil, $97.50; Cobolometers with Pennies, $60.50; Send for Catalog, S.O.S. Cinema Supply Corp., 449 W. 42nd St., New York, N. Y.

PAIR REBUILT POWER S & B. Projectors with Sound Heads—$300.00; Pair Reflector Arm Lamps with Automatic Feed—$100.00; Pair Gen. Elect. M Alaska Equipment Complete Ready to Use—$60.00; Pair New 50 Amp. Rectifiers—$180.00; P. Sobo, 916 W. 19th Ave., Portland 9, Oregon.

WANTED TO BUY

WILL PAY TOP PRICES—WHAT'VE YOU GOT? BOX 716, c/o Showmen's Trade Review, 1501 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

Simplex, Powers, Sound equipment, lamphouses, etc. Star Cinema Supply Co., 440 W. 45th St., New York, N. Y.

THEATRE GAMES

DIE CUT BINGO CARDS—$2.50 in 10,000 lots. Smaller quantities, $2.50 per 1,000. 1-75, 1-100 IMEDIATE DELIVERY. S. Klous, c/o Showmen's Trade Review, 1501 Broadway, New York City 18, N. Y.

FOR YOUR BINGO GAMES. Buy you ads from us—controlled or uncontrolled, dye cut, may right, priced right—service supreme. Samples on request. Premium Products, 354 W. 44th St., New York 18, N. Y.
WORKING THEATRE MEN

NEED, USE AND RELY

UPON THE EVERY-WEEK

BOOKING GUIDE SERVICE

OFFERED EXCLUSIVELY BY

SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW
REVIEWED IN THIS ISSUE
A Scandal in Paris 24
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PRODUCT GUIDES
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JULY 13, 1946

MORT BLUMENSTOCK (See Page 8)

JACKSON WARNS THEATREMON GUARD AGAINST BURGLARIES
(See Page 18)
M-G-M presents VAN JOHNSON • ESTHER WILLIAMS • LUCILLE BALL • KEENAN WYNN in "EASY TO WED" • In Technicolor • Cecil Kellaway • Carlos Ramirez • Ben Blue • Ethel Smith at the Organ
Adapted by Dorothy Kingsley • From the Screenplay "Libeled Lady" by Maurine Watkins, Howard Emmett Rogers and George Oppenheimer • Directed by EDWARD BUZZELL • Produced by JACK CUMMINGS
The First engagement of M-G-M's sensational Technicolor Musical "EASY TO WED" in 4 Los Angeles theatres day and date is so remarkable that every showman who has it booked may look forward to a record-breaking engagement.
Mr. Henry Ginsberg
Paramount Studios
Hollywood, California

My dear Henry:

It is with great pride that as National Chief Barker of the Variety Clubs of America, I am privileged to advise you that Paramount Pictures has been granted sole and exclusive rights to the exciting and heart-warming story behind the Variety Clubs, for your motion picture to be known as "Variety Girl".

The Variety Clubs are the largest organization in the show world anywhere. They are composed of twenty-seven Tents in every large city in the United States, and several in Canada and Mexico. They have a membership of 6000 exhibitors representing 16,500 theatres in the United States.

What is more vital and impressive than these figures are their outstanding and humanitarian accomplishments. "Sweet Charity" in this case are not mere words, but an unending multiplication of good deeds.

I know something of your planning and thinking in connection with the production of "Variety Girl". It promises to be one of the truly big-showmanship screen entertainments.

We in turn promise you the complete cooperation of the Variety Clubs of America and their memberships, to help make "Variety Girl" one of the all-time greats when it reaches the screens of our theatres.

With best wishes,

Cordially

R. J. O'Donnell
Mr. R. J. O'Donnell  
Variety Clubs of America  
Majestic Theatre Building  
Dallas, Texas  

My dear Bob:

 Permit me to thank you for your letter and your gracious offer of cooperation in connection with "Variety Girl".

 I can assure you that we are not unaware of the high purposes and outstanding achievements of the Variety Clubs of America. You will be pleased to know that these are serving as an inspiration to the Paramount personnel concerned with the production, writing and casting of "Variety Girl".

 It may be of particular interest to you and your membership to know something of Paramount's plans which encompass this as one of its most important productions.

 We plan to assemble one of the all-time biggest cast of stars for "Variety Girl". We are hopeful of including Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Ray Milland, Betty Hutton, Alan Ladd, Dorothy Lamour, Paulette Goddard, Barry Fitzgerald, Joan Caulfield, Veronica Lake, Bill Bendix, Sterling Hayden, Mary Hatcher, Diana Lynn, Sonny Tufts, William Holden, Gail Russell, and many more, too numerous to mention.

 I am particularly enthusiastic about the way the story of this highly romantic musical comedy is shaping up.

 George Marshall, who did an outstanding job on "Star Spangled Rhythm", has been assigned to direct "Variety Girl". Danny Dare will be the producer. We intend to start shooting early in August.

 Enthusiasm for "Variety Girl" is running very high at the studio and this is bound to be reflected in the completed picture. I am certain that we will all have cause to be proud of this Paramount production.

 With kindest regards.

 Cordially,

 [Signature]

 Henry Ginsberg
IN CLEVELAND

THEY'RE SEEING DOUBLE

DOING EXACTLY TWICE THE NORMA GROSS WITH BETTE DAVIS IN HER DOUBLE ROLE!

"A STOLEN LIFE"

GLENN FORD • DANE CLARK
WALTER BRENNAN • CHARLIE RUGGLES

Directed by CURTIS BERNHARDT

BIGGEST DAVIS BUSINESS IN HIPPODROME HISTORY!
DITTO IN 3rd MONTH IN N.Y.
ANY FOREIGN PICTURE that achieves outstanding success in this country must do so not because of, but in spite of, its sponsors. Practically all British pictures released in this country make their bow without benefit of either public or industry pre-selling, a factor which contributes so tremendously to the success of our own product.

In view of the current enthusiasm over forthcoming British product to be released through several sources in this country, someone should tell the producers over there that, without benefit of proper pre-selling and American industry interest, their product will be severely handicapped.

If they are seeking some share of our American dollars, they should be told how to go about getting it the right way. Otherwise, some mighty fine product is destined to come and go without the playing time it deserves.

* * *

FOR THE MOMENT, all seems quiet and peaceful on the exhibitor-organization front.

From ATA comes some good news about their public relations plans which, apparently, are beginning to take form. So much so that publicity setups have been established in some 31 states thus far, with more to follow as the organization gains strength.

Should their plans materialize, it will probably be the first time that any genuine, co-ordinated public relations job was ever achieved in the industry on a basis of reaching the public and the industry.

It will be most interesting to see how ATA Public Relations Director Ned Shugrue puts the plan into operation and with what results.

* * *

IT IS GRATIFYING to note the attention being directed toward the objectionable angles of the local checking situation. If this page had anything to do with it because of the comment we made on the subject, then we are happy to have started the ball rolling.

It is difficult to understand the attitude of the distributors who control Confidential Reports in the face of the very logical objections registered by so many exhibitors whose honesty cannot be questioned.

It would seem to us that if local checking is causing all this antagonism, its sponsors should alter its policy immediately. If they don't, this controversy is going to bring more undesirable attention to our industry from governmental sources and before long you'll have the law-makers figuring out new ways of trying to enact legislation detrimental to the entire industry.

We suppose there are a few exhibitors who wouldn't hesitate a moment to try to cheat the distributors on percentage engagements. But that's no excuse for creating a situation objectionable to all independent theatre men.

One of the direct causes of the entire checking evil is traceable to the exchanges where many a deal is concluded with a tongue-in-the-cheek attitude on the part of both buyer and seller. Many branch managers and home office executives know this for a fact.

We sincerely doubt that the average exhibitor would deliberately try to cheat if the contract terms were fair and equitable and gave him a chance to make a fair profit on the engagement of any percentage picture. But make those terms tough and you are bound to invite some minor or major chiseling, and this fact is very well known to the men who create sales policies.

* * *

HOWARD HUGHES' unfortunate accident was a shock to the whole industry. No matter what he did, his pictures and his aggressive type of showmanship were always a shot-in-the-arm to the business as a whole.

We hope he'll again do the almost impossible and pull through this latest smash-up, because this industry can use him and a few more like him.

In his recent controversy with the Johnston Office, Hughes directed a million dollars worth of publicity towards his picture, and from the reports we get on the business it is doing, the fight is paying off richly and will continue to do so.

Not that we condone the type of advertising or publicity that directs the attention of the blue-noses towards our industry or the theatres. But at least it shows that Hughes fights every battle to the finish.

We hope he wins his present battle and recovers his full health and strength and continues to make the kind of motion pictures that will bring a line to the boxoffice wherever his pictures play.

—"CHICK" LEWIS
Court Rejects Schine Plans, Orders Chain To Drop Houses

**Judge Urges Speed But Indicates Will Stay Order Until Supreme Court Rules**

Schine Theatre four-state circuit faced complete revamping this week as Federal Judge John Bright in Buffalo rejected three Schine-suggested reorganization plans and issued an order which embodied the principal points sought by the government.

Judge Knight's plan, which he indicated might not be put into effect until the United States Supreme Court ruled on the Schine appeal before it, provides for:

- Divestiture of theaters in Kentucky, Maryland, New York and Ohio.
- Dissolution of properties in Ohio where Schine held joint interests with parties who were not defendants to the suit and restoration of the theaters to the stockholders who owned them before the corporations were formed.
- Outlawing buying by any defendants for theaters which he has no financial interest.
- Preventing defendants from buying additional theaters unless it can be shown that the purchases will not "restrain competition."

Schine is further ordered to get rid of either the Riviera or the Liberty and either the Monroe or the Madison in Rochester, New York, to get rid of all but two houses in Auburn and Oswego, N. Y., in Wooster, Ohio, and Lexington, Ky., to sell within six months the Strand at Cumberland, Md., the Ada, Moore and Empire house, Lexington, Ky., and half interest in the Margie Grant, Harlan, Ky., and to divest itself of all but one theatre in each of the following cities of the following states within two years:
- Ohio—Ashland, Athens, Bellefontaine, Bucyrus, Delaware, Kent, Norwalk, Piqua, Ravenna, Tiffin, Van Wert.

Judge Knight ordered that all sales should be made as "rapidly as possible."

**Hughes Fights for Life After Plane Crash**

Howard Hughes continued to fight for his life in Hollywood this mid-week against serious injuries which he received in a plane crash Sunday. Late Wednesday surgeons gave the 40-year-old producer, aviation enthusiast and equal champion to survive, though it was thought he might be threatened with pneumonia as an added complication.

Hughes was gravely injured Sunday when an experimental army photographic plane which he was test flying apparently developed engine trouble and crashed into a house, ripping off its side, bounced into another house and then jumped across to a vacant lot where it burst into flame. Hughes was dragged clear of the fire and rushed to the Beverly Hills Emergency Hospital where a dubious surgeon declared he suffered a punctured lung, a fractured leg with a possible accompanying skull fracture, second degree burns.

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**Showmen's Trade Review, July 13, 1946**

**Word Pictures' of Atom Test Begged By Films**

Showmen which reached first-run theaters on Thursday of this week demonstrated that the greatest world event to happen in a news every had failed to take the dramatic edge off the screen values of the atom bomb test held at Bikini lagoon on June 30. Veteran picture men declared that had scientists who developed the weapon given the government's publicity, this scientific test been movie writers and directors they could not have surpassed the result in spectacular and emotional impact that unfolded as the newsreel report of the nuclear explosion flashed its scenes on the screen.

The pictures were slow, as such things go, in reaching theaters—"top secret" pictures were these and there was careful study of every foot of film released to the newsreel companies. This time lag was accentuated by the fact that radio and newspaper coverage had been so extensive at the time of the bomb test. However, the spectacle and drama which word-painters of the radio and newspapers tried to inject into their descriptions was replaced by a distraction from the real thing shown by the newsreels.

Comment that the atom bomb had proved a "dud" in this test was expected to fade considerably as the public generally came to view of the terrific explosion that went off when the plane, Dave's Dream, opened bomb tests and let up with Atom Bomb No. 4. At least that was the opinion of many observers who saw the News of the Day newsreel at a press showing in New York on Tuesday, T.K.

**Mort Blumenstock**

(The Man on the Cover)

Director of advertising, publicity and exploitation, Warner Bros, and the directing head of the outstanding current campaign which is building up to the public as the major event of the year, "22nd Anniversary of Talking Pictures" on August 6, 1946. Blumenstock has been closely associated with all branches of the industry. Having made his initial impression on the publicity and exploitation man for Paramount, he later became a member of the Warner studio sales staff. Later still directing short subjects and features before returning to publicity and advertising work with Warner Theatres. For several years before the resignation of C. W. Einfelt from the industry, he was head of the division of the Warner advertising and publicity. Blumenstock was in charge of the publicity advertising and exploitation in the east and succeeded Einfelt as head of the entire activity when the latter left Warners to head the new Enterprise production company.

**SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW**

Title and Trade Mark Registered U. S. Patent Office. Published every Friday by Showmen's Trade Review, Inc., 1531 Broadway, New York 19, N. Y. Telephone 1-0nudge 3-0121. Charles E. 'Chick' Lewis, Editor and Publisher; Tom Mews, Managing Editor; Harold Blumenstock, Advertising Manager; West Coast Office, 6772 Hollywood Boulevard, Suite 202, California 2815; Ann Lewis, Managing Editor, Chicago representative, Harry W. Brown, 931 Western Electric Building, Chicago, Illinois. London Representative, Jock McGregor, 16 Leinster Road, London, W. 2; Australian Representative, Gordon W. Currie, 8 Belvedere St., Sydney, Australia. Member Audit Bureau of Circulations Inc., and National Association of Motion Picture Newspaper's Trade Review, Inc. Address all correspondence to the New York office. Subscription rates: $5.00 per year in the United States and Canada; Foreign, $5.00. Single copies, ten cents.
Not Organized, But...  
The lady employees of the Lund Circuit in Connemahick and Mather, Pa., may not belong to a union, but, brother, when they strike, they strike.

The girls walked out this week to emphasize their demand for higher wages and throw picket lines around the theatres. The pitting patrons not to attend. Although their attempt to block business was reported as none too successful, Owner Warned Lund closed his theatres. Lund declared that though the strikers belonged to no union and seemed a bit hazy about the precise nature of their demands, he was ready to confer with any representative they might select. Several weeks ago the girl usher in theater of Brownsville, Pa., also non-organized, went out strike for higher wages which they won after closing the theatres for two days.

St. Louis Exhibitors Against 'Auction' Plan

"Auction block" selling came in for its round of criticism in St. Louis this week as the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of St. Louis, Eastern Missouri, and Western Illinois met at the Coronado Hotel to listen to a digest of the anti-trust "consent decree" opinion prepared by Counsel Herman Levy.

The opinion for the most part was not a popular one with exhibitors, Mrs. Grace Rogers of I. W. Rogers Theatre Circuit, Cairo, Ill., summing up what others thought of it when she declared that if the court had "spanked" the distributors, "I would like to be spanked in the same way."

Others thought that if there was to be competitive bidding on pictures with the producer setting the minimum, the exhibitor had no protection against having his prices hiked skyward, and cut throat competition would result.

Sixteen millimeter competition, Confidential Reports use of local checkers and other trade matters were also discussed.

Warner Oklahoma Pool Will Dissolve July 18

First official announcement of a pool dissolution apparently made under the anti-trust court opinion is to be made by Warner Bros. in Oklahoma City on July 18 when the Standard Theatres Corp., will be dissolved and Warner will resume control of its three houses in the nine house pool. Regal Theatres will take over the second three and Criterion Theatre Corp. will take over the third three.

Blaze Damages House

Fire thought to have originated in a popcorn stand destroyed the 300 seat New Plymouth Theatre at New Plymouth, Idaho, last Saturday, 30 minutes before the house was to open. The loss is estimated at $50,000.

Collect for 'Polio' Fund

Chicago theatre owners aided in collecting $104,655 for the Sister Kenny Fund, according to Rodney Brandon, state chairman for the collections.

'Auction Block' Selling Stumps Anti-Trust Suit Defendants

Can't Find Way to Do It; Exhibitors Confused Too; Single Sales Soon Is Report

A technique for applying the principle of "auction sales" to film distribution appears to have the defendants in the New York anti-trust case completely stumped.

While representatives of the defendant companies have been meeting almost daily to discuss various phases of the Court opinion which, when finalized as a decree, will regulate their sales policies, little progress appears to have been made on a method of putting up each separate picture for sale to the highest bidder. On many other, if not on all other, phases of the matter the companies, individually, is believed have worked out their own problems and it is said that many of them are ready to put whatever changes have been agreed upon with the government into effect at the earliest time possible.

Representatives for the companies insist that each distributor organization is working out the matter for itself. But the general viewpoint of the "Big 5" defendants - Paramount, MGM, Warner Bros., RKO, 20th Century-Fox is perhaps, best summarized by the opinion of 20th Century-Fox General Sales Manager Tom Connors.

"We're going," said Connors, speaking of his company alone, "to put into effect as many of the provisions as rapidly as it is humanly possible. I don't know how you work under bidding. I can't find anyone who does know. We've been spending a good deal of time studying the opinion and the parts which can be put into effect we'll apply as soon as possible but I don't know of any set date for this." (Reports in the trade were to the effect that the Big 5 would start selling singly on July 25).

"We've been practically selling singly during the last four years," he continued, "as we have not sold any pictures unless they were trade shown. And when you begin to talk about pictures in small groups, you get down to individual selling."

Other spokesmen say their companies have sold pictures singly at one time or another.

Warner Bros., has been single selling for some time now. United Artists has continuously sold singly. No one however was ready to set a definite date for when any specific company would put single selling into effect. This, along with patent dissatisfaction, was one of the points agreed upon between the majors and the government and will not have to wait until the decree is finalized to be undertaken.

Universal General Sales Manager William A. Scully was unable to say what his company's policy would be. Universal has been selling a year's product at a time and to the question when it would start single selling, he said:

"We will have to wait and see."

Columbia Sales Manager A. Montague was out of the city and no one apparently knew what he planned.

The problem of providing machinery for auction selling seems to be complicated by the evident desire of the defendants not to make any slips which might be construed as non-conformity with the spirit of the opinion.

MGM Vice-President William Rodgers already has pointed out that the industry must comply with the court opinion and the general feeling is that if suspicion exists that the defendants are not trying to meet the court more than half way, further directives may result which will be even more stringent.

Some observers believe that the industry may elect to take an appeal on this auction block selling clause or may seek to have the court amend its opinion on the matter. While this is largely a matter of thinking at present, there is no doubt that the distributors feel that competitive selling will bring untold trouble to the industry. Inasmuch as this one phase of the opinion which has also met with strong exhibitor disapproval, it is possible that some compromise may be worked out.

Meanwhile the confusion in exchange centers apparently knows nothing of selling plans and exhibitors trying to find out how they are going to buy, are also in the dark. That the entire industry has no concrete plan at the moment is clearly indicated by the fact sources from which information hitherto leaked have dried up.

Lessing Suggests Auction Plan

Walt Disney Vice-President and General Counsel Gunther R. Lessing this week announced in New York that he had prepared a tentative plan suggesting a method by which features could be sold "at auction."

Lessing is to submit his plan to the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers. Briefly it provides for subdividing the country into five regions which would be subdivided into three or four sections. Each section would have a board which would register all theatres in that section along with the runs they enjoy. Distributors having pictures ready for release in that region would notify the board which would in turn notify the exhibitors who could then submit bids to the board by a specified date. The bids, made in writing, would be opened before exhibitors at the board offices. The plan, does not limit an exhibitor to accept a run he now has, allows for simultaneous bidding for theatres not in competition, does compel a distributor to accept bids he does not approve of or prevent him from seeking to get a better bid from an exhibitor not specifying what source the board personnel would have and does not say whether the bidding is limited to one bid from each exhibitor or that subsequent bids raising the offerings may be offered.

To date the plan is considered in the form of a suggestion. There is no indication that it will be presented to the court in the near future.
Officials, ATA Meet on Gov’t Films

Around a Washington luncheon table Monday high officials of the United States Government and officers of the American Theatres Association met to discuss use of government informational films in theatres. No final program was decided upon. Left to right: (seated) Commerce Secretary Henry A. Wallace; Treasury Secretary John Snyder; American Theatres President St. Fabian; OWMR Director John Steelman; OWMR Deputy Director Anthony Hyde; ATA Executive Director Robert W. Coyne; Acting News Secretary John L. Sullivan; GPA Administrator Roy Allen; (standing) ATA Program Committee Chairman Robert W. Wilby; Publicist Arthur G. Newmyer, Jr.; Attorney General Tom Clark; ATA Public Relations Counsel Arthur Mayer; General Omar Bradley, Veteran Administrator Director; Major General Groves B. Erskine, Retraining and Reemployment Administration Director (Department of Labor); Dr. L. B. Thompson, acting surgeon general, U. S. Public Health Service; Brigadier General Stanley Scott, War Department; Keith Minebaugh, Appointments (at) Housing Agency; George McGhee, State Department; Drew Dudley, chief of Media Program; Arch A. Marcey, chief, motion picture division, OWMR; ATA Public Relations Director J. Edward Shugue.

Truman Okays ATA Request for Gov’t Film Clearing House, Selects OWMR

President Truman Monday selected the Office of War Mobilization and Reconstruction as a central agency and clearing house for films which federal agencies wish to play in theatres. The President’s selection became known when a letter he wrote American Theatres Association President Si Fabian announcing the selection and stressing the fact that government requests for screen time must not be “interpreted as interfering with freedom of the screen,” was made public in Washington by Fabian.

The letter was in reply to one written the White House on May 31 suggesting such a clearing house as the President finally decided upon.

Mr. Truman, praising the work that the industry had done to assist the government’s wartime information program, added that he was glad to have “an indication from the motion picture exhibitors pointing to continued cooperation in the problems of the peace.”

“You’re suggestion,” wrote the President, “seems to be a sound one and I have therefore designated the Office of War Mobilization and Reconstruction as the appropriate agency to provide the necessary clearing house and liaison service in relation to the use of the facilities of the motion picture industry. I have instructed the Director of the agency to establish the necessary central office and to notify all Government agencies that such a clearing house will be used in connection with requests for the theatrical exhibition of Government motion picture information films. The Office of War Mobilization and Reconstruction will be responsible for maintaining liaison with the film industry in the various problems incident to presenting Government messages on the screen.”

“May I again renew my thanks to the motion picture exhibitors and the film industry in general for its splendid wartime service. I should like also to point out that any assistance which this government may request of any part of the film industry must not be interpreted as interfering in any way with complete freedom of expression and complete freedom of the screen. At a time in contemporary history when freedom of expression is being jeopardized in many parts of the world I want the film industry to know that freedom of the screen is an important attribute to our democratic system and must be firmly protected.”

Coyne Denies ATA Rejected ‘Seeds’

American Theatres Association Executive Director Robert W. Coyne late Wednesday denied that the ATA had rejected the much discussed famine short, “Seeds of Destiny,” as discussion of such alleged refusal reached such large circulation media as Drew Pearson’s syndicated column and Bosley Crowther’s New York Times Sunday article, as well as drawing comment from UNRAA Administrator Fiorello Laguardia.

Coyne, making public a letter he had written to Samuel Bendheim, a member of the Virginia Motion Picture Owners, said the film had been reviewed by members of the ATA program committee in such scattered sections as New York, Boston, Atlanta, Philadelphia, Dallas, Denver, Minneapolis, Seattle and St. Louis and that the Office of War Mobilization and Relief had been advised as to their reactions.

The majority, Coyne explained, found the film took up too much running time, was repetitive and tended toward the gruesome. He said it had been explained that a shorter film would stand a better chance of wider exhibition.

“Seeds of Destiny,” Coyne wrote in his letter to (Continued on Page 17)

Dallas Gets Censors

City censorship came to Dallas this week as the city welfare board set up a motion picture censorship committee and named Dr. L. N. Wells, pastor of the East Dallas Christian Church as its head. Other members are W. J. Harris, Mrs. J. C. Vanderwood and Mrs. Currie McCutchen. The censor board charges no reviewing fees and is not expected to exert much influence.

ATA Names 33 Regional Publicity Directors

Thirty-three public relations directors representing 31 states and 650 theatres were appointed this week by the American Theatres Association.

The directors, who will work on a regional basis and will help formulate the ATA “identification” campaign which will be used at familiarizing the public and the industry with ATA aims, are:

Alabama—William N. Wolson, Montgomery; Arkansas—Sam B. Kirby, North Little Rock.

California—Ray Plocher, San Francisco; Southern California—Thornton Sargent, Los Angeles; Colorado—Harold E. Rice, Denver; Iowa—A. Don Allen, Des Moines; Kansas—James Lawler, Kansas City, Mo.; Kentucky—Lew Henders, Lexington; Louisiana—Maurice F. Barr, New Orleans; Maine—Harry Botwick, Portland; Massachusetts—Harry Browning, Boston; Michigan—Mrs. Alice N. Goreham, Detroit; Minnesota—Charles Winchell, Minneapolis; Missouri—I. D. Cohn, Kansas City; Eastern Missouri—I. L. Plessner, St. Louis; Mississippi-Burgess Walton, Columbus; Nebraska—Homer LeBallister, Reno; New Hampshire—Mel F. Morrison, Dover; New Mexico—George L. Tucker, Albuquerque; North Carolina—Norris Hadaway, Greensboro; North Dakota—Ed Kraus, Fargo; Oklahoma—C M. Chatham, Oklahoma City; Oregon—Russell F. Brown, Portland; Eastern Pennsylvania—George Fishman, Philadelphia; Rhode Island—John Carroll, Providence; South Carolina—Sam Suggs, Columbia; Tennessee—Ed P. Sapinolsky, Memphis; Texas—Ray Beall, Dallas; Utah—Helen Garity, Salt Lake City; Vermont—Arthur S. Allaire, Barre; Virginia—George Peter, Richmond; Wisconsin—William V. Geenan, Milwaukee; Wyoming—Tom E. Knight, Riverton.

The directors will work in association with Public Relations Counsel Arthur Mayer and Public Relations Director Ned Shugrue at the national headquarters in New York.

Cincinnati Buyers Ready For Business

Theatres Owners Corporation, new booking and buying combine of the Greater Cincinnati Theatre circuits and individual houses, is expected to get under way this week. The organization was formed two weeks ago with Louis Wiethe as president; Ralph Kinsler and Willis Vance, vice-presidents; F. W. Huff, Jr., Treasurer, and Herman Hunt, Secretary. The buyer for the corporation, which will have its offices in the Keith Building, is Irving Sochin, one time branch manager for 20th Century-Fox at Indianapolis.
HEART APPEAL!
(in "THREE WISE FOOLS")

ACTION!
(in "COURAGE OF LASSIE")

DRAMA!
(in "BOYS' RANCH")

ROMANCE!
(in "FAITHFUL IN MY FASHION")

M-G-M's NEW GROUP HAS EVERYTHING!
LETS SELL TICKETS!

M-G-M-MASTERPIECE OF ENTERTAINMENT IS SURE-FIRE BOX-OFFICE!

"THREE WISE FOOLS"

THE TRADE PRESS PREDICTS MONEY! MONEY! MONEY!

"'Three Wise Fools' rings up highest grosses..."
—HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

"Human warmth, pathos and flashing humor which showmen instinctively associate with happy days at the box-office...beckons to young and old..."
—MOTION PICTURE HERALD

"Shure and it'll capture the hearts of the family audience and do foine at the till in the box-office, begorrah..."
—FILM DAILY

"Lots of appeal for young and old... for better business..."
—EXHIBITOR

"A natural box-office bid for the family trade..."
—DAILY VARIETY

"Excellent...will amuse and entertain..."
—SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW

"Has both comedy and heart-tug for surplus value..."
—MOTION PICTURE DAILY

"THREE WISE FOOLS" • MARGARET O'BRIEN
  LIONEL BARRYMORE  •  LEWIS STONE  •  EDWARD ARNOLD  •  Ray Collins  •  Jane Darwell  •  Charles Dingle
  Cyd Charisse  •  Harry Davenport and THOMAS MITCHELL
Screen Play by John McDermott and James O'Hanlon  •  Story
by John McDermott  •  Based Upon the Play by Austin Strong
Staged by Winchell Smith  •  Presented by John Golden  •  Directed
by EDWARD BUZZELL  •  Produced by WILLIAM H. WRIGHT

The little Irish girl who brought sunshine into the lives of three hard-bitten bachelors.

The Picture With a Heart of GOLD!
LASSIE'S GREATEST HIT!

Capitalizing on his past successes with the BIGGEST production yet!

M-G-M PRESENTS IN THRILLING TECHNICOLOR

"COURAGE OF LASSIE"

"The Best of the Lassie jobs to date!"

—M. P. DAILY

The trade press gives the tip-off! Here's a BIG production that will delight the millions who made the previous Lassie pictures tremendous grossers. Filmed in the majestic Blue Sierras in gorgeous Technicolor it packs a wallop every thrilling minute that will pack your house!

LASSIE in a New Adventure "COURAGE OF LASSIE" in TECHNICOLOR • ELIZABETH TAYLOR • FRANK MORGAN • TOM DRAKE • Original Screen Play by Lionel Houser • Directed by FRED M. WILCOX • Produced by ROBERT SISK

M-G-M gave you the sensational "BOYS' TOWN" that lifted MICKEY ROONEY to stardom—and now box-office history repeats.

M-G-M presents

"BOYS' RANCH"

Out of today's headlines, a story of juvenile delinquency that makes thrilling human entertainment!

"BOYS' RANCH" • JACKIE "BUTCH" JENKINS
JAMES CRAIG • SKIPPY HOMEIER • DOROTHY PATRICK • Original Story and Screen Play by William Ludwig • Directed by ROY ROWLAND
Produced by ROBERT SISK

M-G-M presents the delightful comedy romance

"FAITHFUL IN MY FASHION"
"You're so EASY TO WED Leo!"

"Of all my GREEN YEARS this is the greenest, toots!"

"THAT'S AN AD SON!"

(for two of the greatest attractions of all my friendly days!)

LOOK AHEAD! M-G-M IS HOTTER THAN EVER!

"HOLIDAY IN MEXICO"  
(Walter Pidgeon, Jose Iturbi, Roddy McDowall, Jane Powell, Ilona Massey, Xavier Cugat)

"UNDERCURRENT"  
(Katharine Hepburn, Robert Taylor)

"NO LEAVE, NO LOVE"  
(Van Johnson, Pat Kirkwood, Keenan Wynn, Xavier Cugat, Guy Lombardo)

"A WOMAN OF MY OWN"  
(Greer Garson)

"TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY"  
(June Allyson, Lucille Bremer, Judy Garland, Kathryn Grayson, Van Heflin, Lena Horne, Van Johnson, Angela Lansbury, Tony Martin, Dinah Shore, Frank Sinatra, Robert Walker)

and remember, "THIS IS THE YEAR OF THE YEARLING!"
Orson Welles will join Sir Alexander Korda to make a Technicolor version of the soup to nuts extravaganza "Around the World" in London during 1947. The Cole Porter score will also be used in the screen play.

Riding the Queen Mary to London for conferences with J. Arthur Rank this week are United World President Matthew Fox, General Counsel Robert Benjamin, International Pictures Leo Spitz, Universal President Nate Blumberg and Board Chairman J. Cheever Cowdin.

Another Queen Mary passenger is 20th Century-Fox International President Murray Silverstone, who sailed for Europe this week with Great Britain Managing Director Otto Bolle.

Sid Mesibov, formerly trade press contact for Paramount, moved up this week as assistant to Curtis Mitchell in the field force and theatre service department. A former newspaperman who worked on the Philadelphia Record, Mesibov entered film business as a booker, salesman, then as a theatre manager and later a publicity head for Warner Bros. out of town division in Philadelphia. He joined Paramount in 1941 as a field representative, later shifting to trade contact.

Motion Picture Association of America Censor Joseph I. Breen sailed for London this week to discuss his production code with British producers.

RKO President N. Peter Rathvon is back in Hollywood.

Four Canadian theatre men last week were awarded decorations by King George for work done during the war. They are Famous Players Canadian Corporation President J. J. Fitzgibbons, made a commander in the Order of the British Empire for his work as motion picture war service chairman and chairman of the motion picture section of the war finance committee; Jack Arthur of Famous Players home office, who was also made a commander in the Order of the British Empire for organization of the citizens' committee for troops; Odeon Theatres Director D. C. Coleman, J. S. Duncan and Leonard W. Brockington, made members of the distinguished order of St. Michael and St. George.

Morris Helprin, production executive for all Sir Alexander Korda's interests now vice-president of London Films, from which outfit Laudy Lawrence recently quit as president.

Robert Schless, Paramount International Division Manager for Continental Europe, North Africa and the Near East, resigned this week.

It was some clamohake that MGM Vice-President and General Sales Manager William F. Rodgers threw a party for former eastern sales manager Edward K. O'Shea, who resigned to become Liberty films sales manager. The shindig, a luncheon at the Astor Hotel's Yacht Room was attended by F. W. Aaron, Ben Abner, J. J. Bowman, William C. Brewster, Alan F. Cummings, Howard Dietz, Tyrone Dillard, Jr., William R. Ferguson, Jay Cover, William D. Kelly, Ben Melniker, William Ornstein, Ralph Piecho, Harold Postman, Henderson M. Richby, Paul J. Richrath, Silas F. Seader, Mike Simons, Charles K. Stern and William B. Zoellner. Rodgers presented O'Shea with a gold cigarette case.

Ivan Was a Statesmen?

New York offices of the Soviet Artkino films could not add anything this week to a news story in the New York Times which said that the second part of the contemplated motion picture trilogy "Ivan the Terrible" would not be released anywhere.

The Times, quoting Culture and Life, a Soviet organ, declared the objection to the film was that it did not show Ivan as "a progressive statesman but as a maniac and like a scoundrel who behaves in a crazy manner surrounded by many young cutthroats."

The publication also attacked "fairy tale themes." Artkino could not say whether this phase of the attack might cause "Robinson Crusoe" reputed to be the Soviet film with third dimension, not to be released.
Life, Health Insurance Possible for Operators

What is considered to be the first contract between projectionists and exhibitors which provide for a possible incorporation of life, health insurance and other social benefits, was reached in New York this week between the Independent Theatre Owners Association and Moving Picture Machine Operators Union, Local 206, IATSE.

The contract, which will extend the present general agreement until Aug. 31, 1952, according to union attorney Harry Sacher, provides that the parties, who may be called upon to consider wage rate claims in 1948 and again in 1950, may make pensions, life insurance, health benefits and the like part of the wage arrangements in the future. It also provides for a 15 per cent wage increase, voluntary agreed to by the exhibitors over the present scale, retroactive to May 1, 1946.

Sacher said he knew of no other theatrical labor contract with such "social-clauses." According to him, the subject of wages may be reopened in 1948 and 1950 but only for raises. Reductions are expressly forbidden and if both sides cannot agree upon the raise, arbitrators who are bound to consider only a question of whether increased wages are justified or not, may be called upon to decide which change their daily hour operating policy or reduce their number of seats also may not demand reduced wages, Sacher added. Other questions such as hours and manpower remain unchanged.

In announcing the settlement, TFO President Harry Brant said:

"This agreement... has provided a firm basis for harmonious labor relations between exhibitors and operators. Despite the fact that the amended agreement called for the maintaining of existing wage scales until Aug. 31, 1947, the new agreement provides for a 15 per cent wage increase retroactive to May 1, 1946, which was granted voluntarily by the exhibitors."

IA Sound Service Men Get Pay Boost, Day Off

Contracts between Altec Service, RCA Service and the IATSE were closed this week granting Hollywood workers raises, reduced hours and one day off a week to approximately 400 motion picture sound service engineers and inspectors employed by both companies.

The contracts, which are retroactive to May 1946 and expire June 30, 1948 raise wages in two classifications. Workers who remain in one geographical area will receive $105.04 as compared to a former $92, those whose travel from one geographical area to another will receive $108.88. IATSE has seven or eight such areas into which the United States is divided.

Probably what labor considered the most important point is the reduction of hours from 54 to 48 and the granting of one day off a week.

Publicists Vote July 19

The National Labor Relations Board has set July 19 for an election to determine whether the Screen Publicists Guild or the Motion Picture Studio Publicists Association shall be bargaining agents for Hollywood studio press agents. The recently granted raises of 25 per cent to Hollywood workers will apply to those presently employed meanwhile.

Heat Closes Houses

Heat closed three Hartford theaters this past week end. First to close was the State which plans to use the period to redecorate and will reopen in August according to Manager Theodore Har- rish. Second was Warner's Regal, which has set a reopening date for July 20 and third is the Grand, with no reopening announced.

Form Coast Committee On Sound Anniversary

Industry leaders representing all important theatre circuits in Los Angeles County have organized to participate in the observance of Warner's 20th Anniversary of Talking Pictures.

The group is headed by Charles P. Skouras of National with theatres such as El Capitan; Marco Wolf, representing the Paramount Theatre; Rodney Pantages, Pantages and Hillstreet houses; Sterrill Corwin, Metropolitan Theatres; Gus Metzger, Metzger Circuit; Thornton Sargent, Fox West Coast, RKO, and RKO Circuit.

Beginning July 22, theatres and Los Angeles streets will be decorated in observance of the event which comes to a climax August 6.

Empire-Universal Meets, On Post-War Conference

Enterprise Pictures in Canada will be distributed on a franchise basis by Empire Universal. This was announced by President A. W. Perry this week as Empire-Universal Films held its post-war sales conference at the hotel Frontenac.

Distribution tie ups were also discussed with United World Pictures. Speakers at the convention were E. T. Gomersall, Enterprise sales manager; William A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager of Universal, and James R. Grainger, president of Royal Pictures.

Marcus, Schwabie Buy 4

Ben Marcus and Ed Schwable this week bought four theatres at LaCrosse, Wis. They are the Rivoli, the Wisconsin, the River and the Strand. The last two are neighborhooders.

MGM Signs Philippine Deal

MGM International announced this week that it had closed a 32 week contract with Southern Movies Corporation in the Philippines for a circuit of 18 16-mm. locations. Deal is on a percentage basis.

Theatre Video 2 Years Away

Practical theatre television is but a year or two away. Ralph B. Austrian, president of the RKO Television, told Anderson declared in New York. Austrian stated that he company's policy remained that of program manufacturers and that their experience was that programs suitable to the public for general television use will have to be filmed in the form of 15 to 30 minute shorts.

Gilman May Shift

Irv Gilman, who operates the Cooperative Independent Theatres buying and booking combine in Minneapolis this week was reported as planning to enter a buying combine in Salt Lake City as buyer and booker.

UA Adds 3 Features, 2 Cartoons to Program

United Artists this week announced three new distribution deals at the conclusion of a Board meeting held in New York Wednesday.

First on the list of new arrangements is with Arthur W. Kelly former United Artist vice president who is now heading his own unit and who will produce the Edmund Goulding play, "The Ryan Girl" and Eric Baume's "Hall Caste" for United Artist distribution.

Next listed is a single shot arrangement for Arnold Pressburger's "Last Year's Snow." Number on the list are two feature length cartoons to be produced by Harman-Isting. They are "King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table," and "The Little Prince."

Scully Announces Sales Bonus for Universal

Universal this week adopted a percentage sales bonus plan, to be based on increased business, according to an announcement made by Vice-President and General Sales Manager W. A. Scully. The plan calls for five per cent of the increase made in Canadian gross over the past year's figures for the period of September to August 1947, to go into a bonus pool which will be distributed as follows: 2½ per cent to salesman, bookers, office managers; 1½ per cent to branch managers; one per cent to district managers.

Minneapolis Prices Up

General price rises in the Minneapolis area were reported this week with the raises ranging from five cents on 30 cent admissions to 11 cents in the neighborhoods. The price rises followed increases made by several independent houses in Minneapolis and St. Paul recently.

PRC Meets Sept. 7

PRC has changed its plans for three separate regular meetings and instead will hold one national sales convention at Hollywood in late September, City from September 3 through September 7. President Harry Thomas announced in New York Tuesday.

The change, Thomas said, was to allow the convention to take place coincidental- ly with the close of the PRC Employees Bonus Drive which closes Sept. 6. Winners of the drive will be announced before the close of the convention and prizes will range from one week's to four week's salary. Announcement of promotions will also be made at the meeting, Thomas said.

The convention, to be held at the Ambassador Hotel, will be presided over by Thomas and Sales Manager Lloyd L. Lind. Home office executives including Grover C. Schafer, Sam Siedelman, Elmer Holland, Jack Bellman, Arnold Stoltz, George Fletman, will attend as also will Studio Publicity Chief Robert Goodfried.

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SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, July 13, 1946

NATIONAL NEWSREEL
Coyne Denies ATA Rejected Famine Short
(Continued from Page 10)
Bendheim, "was not turned down in any definite sense. Officials of the OWMR were given the benefit of the reactions to the film as they came in from the field and after a number had been received it became apparent that there were definite reservations in the minds of the exhibitors making up the committee concerning the film in its present form. Every reviewing committee thought that the subject was worthy and that the members of the committees should show a film subject at an early date. Their reactions varied; most of them felt that the film was too long and that it would receive more showing if it were one instead of two reels. Several committees felt that the horror scenes were strong for general theatrical audiences, particularly children, and that inasmuch as there were repetitions of such scenes, flashbacks to the starving baby, etc., that some of this material should be eliminated.

"They did not object to realism but felt that it was unwise to "reach" for realism by techniques that were patently theatrical. It was also thought by several that the film lacked a specific message to the public as to what might be done about these conditions. Every committee reviewing the picture was moved by the impact it carried. The committee of New York exhibitors felt that they might set up special showings for interested persons without charge. The consensus was, however, that the film should be cut down with repetitious sequences eliminated or that a shorter subject with a strong message should be obtained.

"I know you realize that the purpose of the program committee is not to "vet" the showing of films desired by the government or other public agencies. Its function is to review suggested films from the standpoint of advising the government as to how the screen can be best used. The members of ATA feel that it would be questionable cooperation if they were to approve a film which by reason of length or context, or by subject matter, be advantageously worked into the average theatre program. If such a film is recommended, it is foregone that many, many exhibitors will not run it.

"The Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion was advised of the reactions of the committees as each was heard from. The ATA is now working with OWMR to obtain a famine short that will conform more closely..."

Drop Free Famine Show: Reason? No Audience
Lack of public interest in the special matinee it was running free of charge to present a program of stage shows and pictures in behalf of the famine program for war torn countries caused Skouras Theatres in the New York area this week to abandon the special showings they had scheduled.

The circuit tried the free shows which consisted of the much discussed "Seeds of Destiny" and several other shorts as well as as one act stage play and singing in the Long Island Jamaica, Jackson, Midway and the Manhattan Academy of Music with a view to interest them. The attendance was slight, it was decided to abandon the policy. The short "Seeds of Destiny" was not contemplated as part of their regular programs, a Skouras spokesman said.

Consider 10% Tax
A special tax committee set up by the District of Columbia Commissioners this week recommended a 10 percent tax on theatre admissions in Washington. The tax, which is expected to run into firm opposition from theatre groups as well as other civic leaders, has not yet been approved by the District Commissioners. The tax would be in addition to the 20 percent Federal tax now imposed. The Commissioner's tax committee had been studying District financial problems for the past year. Meanwhile, Congressional and Treasury sources indicated that there was "no chance" that the Federal tax would be lowered this session of Congress.

Hughes Fights for Life After Plane Crash
(Continued from Page 8)
...and third degree burns and lacerations of the face and hands.

Later he was removed to the Good Samaritan Hospital where the producer's insistence on running his own affairs apparently was not diminished by the gravity of his injury where he reportedly went to consult with business associates despite medical opposition.

This was not Hughes' first air accident. The producer, who had a liking for aviation and pictures, had repeatedly used the air in test flights and was almost to have crashed up once or twice before. Owner of the Hughes Tool Company, which has the patent on an important bit needed for oil drilling, Hughes entered the film business shortly after his father's death, making such silent pictures as "Two Arabian Knights," "The Racket," and later the sensationally successful talking picture, "Hell's Angels."

His latest release, "The Outlaw," involved him in difficulties with the Motion Picture Association which he sued as a monopoly in a legal battle which so far has been constantly won by his opponents. The MPAA said this week that due to Hughes' accident it would not proceed against the release of "The Outlaw."

Prior to that it had been reported that MPAA would seek to exel Hughes.

MPAA Answer July 30
Answer to Howard Hughes' suit charges of anti-trust violation against the Motion Picture Association of America are to be answered by July 30 in federal district court, it was announced here Monday.

"Outlaw" Enters Michigan
First Michigan date for the "Outlaw" has been set for July 21 at the Temple Theatre in Petoskey, a summer resort. To date the "Outlaw" has played 74 communities and 98 theatres.

N. Y. MPTO Meets
The Motion Picture Theatre Owners of New York State met in Buffalo Thursday afternoon to hear a report on the national MPTOA board meeting made by Pres. Merritt Kyser and an address by M. A. Lightman, president of Malco Theatres of Tennessee.

Monkeys See Marx’s Do; But It’s All for Science
Monkey slices by the Marx Bros. in “A Night in Casablanca” were submitted to the acid test of simian study this week before three chimpanzees of the Cincinnati zoo in what Ward Farrar, sponsor of the event, termed a “scientific” experiment.

Showing a world of experience in human cynicism not often associated with the cloistered quiet of the laboratory, Scientist Farrar did not take upon himself to do the experiment alone, but brought along Dr. Gustave Eckstein of the University of Cincinnati.

This use of an associate was thought to have been caused by Farrar's fear that since in his less scientific moments he is a publicist for United Artists his interest in anthropoid behaviorism might have been construed as crass ballyhoo for "A Night in Casablanca" which by a coincidence common in every day life as well as in scientific circles, also happens to be distributed by United Artists.

Dr. Eckstein observed the chimpanzees; the chimpanzees observed Dr. Eckstein and Scientist Farrar. All observed the Marx Bros. Dr. Eckstein reported a reliable but unscientific observers, to have laughed.

The monkeys? Well at first they were more interested in Dr. Eckstein, Scientist Farrar, the crowd and the photographers (the last there for scientific purposes only to be sure) than they were on the screen. But when the murder scene flashed on Papa and Mama Chimpanzee took a sudden interest in the film while their son, Billy, ducked and dodged in accompaniment to the violent movements of the screen.

At a late hour this week United Artists Sales Manager Grad Sears could not reach to comment on rumors that UA planned to establish a 16 mm. section to furnish entertainment for zoos or that Jimmy, star chimpanzee of the Bronx, had been offered the post of public relations director for the new reported movement.

Texas Oilman Founds New Producing Firm
J. D. Weather, Jr., reputedly wealthy Texas oilman who is already producing 16-mm. films for industrial firms, announced this week that he had formed a producing company which would enter the 35-mm. field to produce three features, first of which would be "Turning Point," built about the tumultuous East Texas oil lands and starring Brian Donlevy. The other productions he announced were an original, "Demagogues" and Rev. Charles Sheldon's "In His Steps."

Authors Beware July 22
MGM has set July 22 as the final day for submission of manuscripts in its Third Annual Novel Award. A minimum of $125,000 will be paid to the author of the winning novel, plus an additional flexible bonus that may amount to $10,000 if the book sales reach 300,000. All novels selected must already have been selected for publication by an American publishing firm.

Guild to Resume Talk
Negotiations were to be resumed Friday between the Screen Publicists Guild (CIO) and the home offices of the major distributors.
Gentlemen and ladies of the reading audience, we interrupt this program of reports on experiences encountered during our recent illuminating and most enjoyable cross-country trip to call attention to a matter which, unfortunately, is becoming very acute as stories of robberies and attempted hold-ups of theatre cashiers and personnel accumulate in the editorial offices of STB.

If you or your employees derive any benefit or profit in any way from the contents of this article a deep curtsy and such thanks as you feel like offering is due to J. P. Harrison, City Manager for Interstate Theatres in Denton, Texas, who recently experienced his eighth theatre robbery in 30 successive years of service.

I paraphrase Mr. Harrison:

"... during these 30 years I have actually been an eye-witness to two of eight theatre robberies. If you have never experienced the dubious pleasure of having a gun stuck in your ribs and being commanded to "dish over" the money you have missed out on one of the vital lessons in theatre management. Feeling that robberies do constitute one of the greatest hazards of theatre operation and management and knowing that carelessness is, in a great measure, responsible for the vast majority of successful stick-ups, safe-breaks and pilfering, I am accepting your invitation to pass along any ideas that might be helpful to the newcomers in the management field—and to a lot of the old timers, too—An article on this subject may be the means of saving the life of some manager or employee."

Thanks, J. P. from all of us. It's a swell suggestion and one that warrants far better treatment than I will be able to give it, but I'm going to do my best to recount preventative measures—as they have been found practical for application "after the horse had been stolen," in my personal experiences.

**Careful Planning Precedes Theatre Robberies**

Let me say right at the start that few if any theatre robberies are committed without careful planning on the part of the malefactors. Days, weeks and sometimes months and years are spent in meticulous charting and blue-printing of the routine followed by theatre personnel in handling cash. A tab is kept of the days when the most money is being handled; how, by whom, and where said cash is kept in readiness for banking. The protection provided, the route taken, the means of carry and all other details of the transfer of money to the bank are carefully observed. Then, with complete information at hand, the robber or gang of robbers, lay plans as to when and how to proceed with the least chance of failure and capture.

Usually—though there are instances where holdups are perpetrated by amateurs whose conduct is unpredictable—every step and every move of cashier, treasurer and manager in the handling of money is well known to the thieves well in advance of the stick-up. They even have a fair idea of the amount of the prospective "haul" and plan their "risk" accordingly. If the amount at stake is large enough the prospect of "shooting it out" with the law, with consequent killing or maiming of a couple of employees or patrons who happen to be in the way of success is calculatingly weighed by the robber group.

You've read enough detective stories and enough newspaper reports to know that every word of the foregoing is true, but because you've never been pistol-whipped or been forced at a gun's muzzle to live over a crowded lifetime as you gazed down the business end of a sixshooter pointed by a desperado, you may be under the delusion that such things happen to others, never will happen to you.

Let me tell you, Mr. Showman, that it is not only your own life you are risking but the lives of your customers and employees when you fail to take every possible precaution against robbery.

I agree with J. P. Harrison who says: "I visualize the crime wave that is already casting its nasty shadow over the nation." He has just finished lesson number 3 and is entitled to a diploma in the victim's department of robbery and as such Mr. is deserving of rating as an oracle. We must all admit that crime is on the rise and that prospects for continued increase are well above par. Insurance will protect your money losses but no provision exists for the potential loss of lives of customers and employees that can result from inadequate preventative measures. Remember it's not what a robber takes from you but what he gives you that lingers. The money can be replaced but dead or maimed bodies can haunt you forever.

The following by no means covers the subject of what NOT to do in the handling of money, but it is my sincere hope that the suggestions will cover sufficient ground to stimulate your own "robber-stopper" to where you will set down rules, conduct meetings for instruction of employees, establish procedures and take precautions that put your theatre in the class of being "least desirable," "too risky" or "not recommended" on the prospect list of robbers or robber gangs.

* Don't allow money to accumulate in the box-office.

* Don't allow the door to the box-office to be left open at any time—not even

(Continued on Page 23)

**Sticks Sell Candy**

Theatres selling candy in the lobby might well take a tip from William Welton, manager of the Strand Theatre in Salina, Calif., if certain pieces of the confection are not going fast enough.

Welton had a particular bar that wasn't selling. For some time the problem of how to sell it simmered in his mind. Then he got an inspiration. He hurried to the dime store where he bought a supply of little sticks, or skewers, like the butchers use for rolled roasts (when they have rolled roasts). He stuck these sticks into the bars so that they looked like suckers. Result: he sold out his entire supply in one day.
Reckless vows of ardent lovers...an ex-marine trying to make the grade...a girl trying to make him happy. Romance triumphant over the new fears and conflicts facing youth today!
starring
Dorothy McGuire and Guy Madison
Robert Mitchum • Bill Williams

with
TOM TULLY • WILLIAM GARGAN • JEAN PORTER
JOHNNY SANDS • LOREN TINDALL

A DORE SCHARY PRODUCTION
Directed by EDWARD DMYTRYK
Screen Play by Allen Rivkin

Robert Mitchum
in "The Story of G. I. Joe"

Bill Williams
in "Those Endearing Young Charms"

Guy Madison
the sailor in "Since You Went Away"
233,457 people saw the WORLD SERIES last year.

RKO advertises *Till the End of Time* in 56,674,390 copies of national magazines, more than 260 times the number of the attendance at the World Series!

*Till the End of Time* ads appear in such top publications as LIFE (3 insertions)—LADIES' HOME JOURNAL—SATURDAY EVENING POST—WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION (2 insertions)—McCALL'S—COSMOPOLITAN—TIME—LOOK (2 insertions)—LIBERTY—SEVENTEEN—AMERICAN WEEKLY—the FAN LIST and five Canadian magazines.
THEATRE MANAGEMENT

Guard Against Theatre Robberies, Warns Jackson

(Continued from Page 18)

for a few seconds while the treasurer is counting and removing surplus cash.
• Don’t allow the cashier to count her excess bills above the window line. Insist that this duty be performed below the shelf and out of sight of ticket buyers or hangers-on.
• Don’t allow envelopes (macked with the amount of bills enclosed) to be kept on the change shelf or in sight of customers. Keep the envelopes on a shelf below the window line.
• Don’t allow the door to the box-office and to the treasurer’s office to be without a safety-chain latch and see that the latch is in place at ALL times.
• Don’t permit ANYONE, not even the manager or higher executives, access to places where money is being counted, payrolls being made up or money being readied for transfer to the bank. THERE SHOULD BE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE. This rule should also apply to check-up time at night.
• Don’t allow the treasurer to check money in the box-office while standing upright or where his handling of envelopes or money can be observed. This duty should be performed beneath the line of ordinary vision.

Handling Money

• Don’t allow any one person to handle money from or to various parts of the theatre. Insist that an usher or some other employee be in company with the person carrying the money even if only across the lobby.
• Don’t permit any regular procedure of handling money to be inaugurated. Insist that different routes be taken from the box-office to the safe or to the treasurer’s or manager’s office. Vary every occasion to keep the “spotters” from any definite “line” on where best to intercept the money messenger.
• Don’t permit any regular route or any definite time or procedure to be established in the transfer of money to the bank. The services of an armed officer of the law should be secured for the purpose of protection and if such is not available at least two employees should be used in the transfer.
• Don’t use the same receptacle for carrying money every day. Try wrapping it in newspaper, carrying in a suitcase, using a brief case and as many other forms as possible.
• Don’t allow visitors at the cashier’s window. Insist that the cashier be polite but emphatic in disposing of even her friends and acquaintances who visit at the window and caution her about calling the attention of the manager to strangers who frequent the theatre front and seem to be overly interested in box-office procedure. Have her be particularly pre- cautious about unknown custom- ers who make a practice of frequenting the theatre, presenting bills of large denomination for tickets or change and being too observant of where the change comes from.
• Don’t allow money to be piled for removal with the larger bills in evidence. Place the big bills at the bottom of all piled money and the small bills on top.
• Don’t allow rolled silver to accumulate in sizable quantities on the side shelves or in sight of customers or passersby. Use a lower shelf for storage pending removal by the treasurer.

There’s a lot more don’ts about the handling of money in the box-office but the above list gives you the nucleus for some definite instructions to fit your particular theatre. Now about the safe and the office.
• Don’t work the combination while any but the most trusted of employees are present. With labor turnover what it is carelessness in this regard can prove very costly.
• Don’t establish any set time for removal of money. The morning hours are every bit as dangerous as evening so far as robbers are concerned.
• Don’t allow any one person to attend the duties of transferring money to the box-office for opening. Have the cashier on hand,—preferably just outside the office—to accompany the manager or treasurer.
• Don’t allow the same combination to remain after any employee knowing the process of knob-turning leaves the services of the theatre. It is a swell idea to have it changed at irregular intervals “just in case.”
• Don’t establish a practice of leaving a key to the office where the safe is kept in any supposedly “hidden” spot for the convenience of another member of the executive staff. If the other executive is entitled to a key have another made and charge him or her with its possession.
• Don’t permit the manager, treasurer, cashier or others to boast about the size of the day’s business away from the theatre. Thieves have been highly successful in getting first hand information by frequenting restaurants or other places where theatre employees congregate and “listening in” on conversations or striking up an acquaintance with theatre employees for the express purpose of securing information.

There are a lot more “don’ts” to be listed in connection with the handling and safe keeping of money after it leaves the box-office but space is running out and the above should serve to start your mental motors going. These new all-glass box-offices are an invitation to robber gangs. Possibly the placement of decorative curtains would serve to mask operations and help remove temptation.

Don’t Resist Robbers

By all means caution EVERY EMPLOYEE not to resist or offer defense when robbers make their appearance and demand the contents of safe or cash drawer. Unless your premises are equipped with secret “easy-to-operate” warning signals instruct the service and cashier staff not to attempt any act of warning prevention or reprisal—to comply with every demand of the robbers without resistance of any kind. Your first duty in the case of a running of life or injury to your employees and your customers. The insurance company will care for the money losses. The best protection against robbery is the prevention of carelessness in the handling of money. If you keep your staff on its toes and make it very evident to any and all observers that every precaution is being taken to insure the safe and efficient handling of money the chances of your theatre being “next” on the robber list will be minimized. Asking the policeman on the beat and other uniformed officers to make frequent visits to the theatre is another swell way to discourage the plans and planning of malactors.

Was the Risk Worth It?

The recent story about Compton Jarrett, manager of the Rex Theatre in Clay Center, Kansas, who risked his life to make sure the show went on, is an example of the ends to which a real showman will go in his efforts to keep his patrons from getting disappointed. What happened was that when Jarrett received his feature for the day from the express company he found the last two reels missing. He called up the Kansas City exchange and they said they would rush the reels as far as Topeka, but couldn’t get them there until that night. Topeka is 98 miles away from Clay Center, and anyone would have said it was impossible to get the reels for the show that night—but not Jarrett. He jumped in his car, got to Topeka, and left for Clay Center with the reels at 7:15. He had told his staff to start the show at the usual time, then came the race. Jarrett got there in time, but to do it he had to make the 98 miles in 97 minutes, this including some delay for traffic. Was the risk he took worth it?
**The Phantom Thief**

Columbia Mystery 65 mins.

**AUDIENCE SLANT:** (Adult) Another Blackie film for the patron who enjoys a type of mystery.

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** Just another filler for a double feature program.

**Cast:** Chester Morris, Jeff Donnell, Richard Lane, Dick Anderson, George E. Stone, Frank Sully, Marvin Miller, Wilson Geff, Murray Alper, Forbes Murray, Joseph Cehan. **Credits:** Directed by D. Ross Lederman. **Photography:** George B. Meehan, Jr. Produced by John Stone.

**Plot:** Blackie is suspected of a killing when a young man is fatally stabbed during a fight. Learning that the spiritualist has been blackmailing a wealthy woman, Blackie searches his offices and finds the body of another spiritualist. There is still another killing before the police apprehend the real culprit, which frees Blackie of all suspicion.

**Comment:** These Blackie films seem to fall into the filler class mainly because little effort has been expended to make them anything else. And even in that category, this one is just a standard offering. It is a formula tale about a killing that again forces Blackie to solve the crime just to protect himself. There is a certain amount of suspense and excitement to any mystery, and that holds true for this one.

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**Night and Day**


**AUDIENCE SLANT:** (Family) Cole Porter and his music, known to every American, is immortalized in this musical drama which tells the story of his life, and shows in magnificent Technicolor production numbers built around his wonderful music. Offers even moviegoers exceptional entertainment with a power and appeal that will bring many back for another showing.

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** The advance buildup, the title draw, the pull of the Cary Grant name and Technicolor should help this build up record-breaking grosses.


**Plot:** This biography of Cole Porter begins in 1914 and goes on to relate the failure of his first musical venture and his enlistment in the French Army. While in a French hospital as the result of an injury, he again meets the girl he fell in love with when he was at home in Indiana, and he leaves her behind when he goes to America where he becomes successful. Called to England to put on a show, he meets her again, they are married and return to America. As he becomes involved in his music, his wife drifts into the background and eventually leaves him. When he is injured in an accident, he suffers through countless operations without her, but she learns of his misfortune and returns to Europe to be with him.

**Comment:** Much was expected of this Warner Brothers production of the life of Cole Porter and his wonderful music, especially when it was announced that Cary Grant would play the role. It seemed a natural . . . and it succeeds in living up to expectations. That is saying a great deal for the dramatic content, acting, writing and direction and mounting (without mentioning the music), but the picture carves every bit of praise that can be heaped upon it. It is exceptional entertainment in every respect and should, once the public gets to see it, pile up record-breaking grosses throughout the country. There is a good chance that it may even nose out some of the already listed outstanding productions, for it has the title draw, the pull of the Cary Grant name, and the music that is a household byword, synonymous with everything American. The magnificent Technicolor photography enhances the eye appeal of the superb production numbers and this, plus the beauty of the gowns and the girls and the heart interest in the romantic story . . . make for a power and appeal that remains constant throughout and is particularly potent for the feminine contingent. There is a wealth of Porter numbers presented, among them such old favorites as the title number, Begin the Beguine, My Heart Belongs to Daddy, and many, many others. Quite a few of these Ginny Simms sings and there’s a surprise in store for those who have seen Jane Wyman in dramatic roles. Here she not only does a little stepping, but she also sings several number with lots of talent and appeal. Cary Grant rises to new distinction for a warmth of personal magnetism and his Cole Porter seems destined to be remembered as one of his finest and most human delineations. Alexis Smith scores a most understanding and affecting performance as Porter’s wife and Eve Arden does very well with a bit part that requires a French accent. Monty Woolley, as Porter’s protégé and friend, plays himself in a most ingratiating role that mixes typically Woolley dialogue with expert thespian ability. The master hand of Director Michael Curtiz is responsible for the splendid way in which the picture is kept moving without a letup in interest and for the distribution of the production numbers . . . Another picture to be added to his long list of box-office successes.

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**The Life and Miracles of Blessed Mother Cabrini**

Clyde Elliott Biographical 60 mins.

**AUDIENCE SLANT:** (Family) Should have special interest for Catholics, especially in view of the fact that Mother Cabrini was recently canonized a Saint.

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** Should draw well in predominantly Catholic communities.

**Cast:** La Chedzuzi, Mila Lanza, Luigi Budaitis, Gennaro Quarranti. **Credits:** Produced by Roma Film Co. Distributed by Amerullo Bittencourt. Distributed in the U. S. by Clyde Elliott, 1600 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

**Plot:** This film biography integrated with newsreel sequences, traces the career of religious devotion and depicts the miracles that led to the sanctification of Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini 29 years after her death.

**Comment:** Filmed in New York, Chicago and Italy through specially enacted sequences and the integration of newsreel shots, “The Life and Miracles of Blessed Mother Cabrini” should attract wide interest in Catholic communities, especially in view of the fact that formal canonization took place in Vatican City on July 7 when Mother Cabrini was formally ordained a Saint. The picture is factual, with commentary interspersed and delivered by the Rev. Cletus McCarthy. Scenes enacted by La Chedzuzi as Mother Cabrini are marred by sound defects, making it difficult to understand the dialogue. Perhaps the most impressive of the sequences are those showing a novena for the Saint at the chapel of the Blessed Mother Cabrini High School in New York, the Eucharistic Congress at Chicago, and the beatification of the Mother in Rome. The latter, a show catering to predominant Catholic patronage should do well to book this subject, and it also will undoubtedly be shown in Catholic churches and schools throughout the country.

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**A Scandal in Paris**

United Artists Drama 100 mins.

**AUDIENCE SLANT:** (Adult) This picture is overloaded with dialog that slows its pace to the boredom point for all but the most intellectual moviegoers. Could stand drastic cuts.

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** A name cast will get this film through all right, plus the angle that Sanders is once again dallying with crime on both sides. It is big, but topheavy, and can not go for it a single.


**Plot:** Eugene-Francois Vidoqo was a real-life criminal in France during Napoleon’s time who emerged from the depths to spend the remainder of his span as a great detective. Comment on a two-fisted picture, a sequel to the earlier part of Vidoqo’s career—born in jail, a thief with grand pretensions, who later got
BOX-OFFICE SLANTS

BOX-OFFICE SLANTS:

Players make it a "must" for Irish districts.

Cast: Deborah Kerr, Trevor Howard, Raymond Massey, Brian O'Rearke, John Laurie, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Vivien Leigh, Hugh McDermott, Ben Lyon, Alan Badel, Peter Finch, James Hayter, Henry Daniell, Michael Hordern, Donald Wolfit, Frank Lawton, Sir Ralph Richardson, Enid Bennett, Constance Collier, Derek Farr, Josephine Campbell, John Albery, Alfred Burke, Bill Owen, Cyril Raymond, Joan Greenwood, and Terence Morgan.

Plot: Deborah, brought up in Eire to hate the English, sets out in 1944 to make her own war on them. Her plan is not enthusiastically received in Dublin, but she meets Huntley, a Nazi agent making his way to England, and he takes her with him. Huntley and an accomplice are killed and Deborah finds herself in sole possession of vital details of "D" Day. Realizing what slaughter this information would cause in the wrong hands, she repents, with the help of British intelligence, catching up with her in Eire on "D" Day when the information is no longer of importance. A subsidiary romance with a British officer is introduced.

Comment: Frank Borzage and Sydney Gillian, having graduated from script writing for Alfred Hitchcock, reveal that they have learned much from the old master of suspense and are now turning out consistently interesting productions. "See a Dark Stranger" is in the Hitchcock tradition, with thrills, action and comedy neatly blended. The backgrounds are logically introduced and the film skirts from one end of the country to the other so smoothly that its length is not noticeable. Indeed, in selling the picture, the locations provide a strong card. Where Irish communities exist, showmen should plug the local interest and use their players from the Gate and Abbey Theatres, Dublin. All parts are satisfactorily played by Deborah Kerr (in a remarkable performance), John Laurie, Brian O'Rearke, and Stephen Moore. The cast is well supported and the direction behind the director's picture and though there is a background of war this is not a war drama in the accepted sense. There isn't much "name" power and the title is meaningless, but word-of-mouth publicity should be good.

Danger Woman

Universal Drama 59 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Adult) Good dramatic fare built around the most important subject of the day, atomic energy. Though slow on pace, it should entertain generally.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: The timeliness of its subject should help sell this dramatic program offering.


Plot: A secretary helps a professor develop his theory on atomic energy and they fall in love. When success crowns his efforts, his estranged wife, after a three-year absence to reclaim her place in the household. A gang of crooks use her to try to get the papers on the new discovery, but she loses her life when the crooks break up. This leaves the husband left in the lurch he loves.

Comment: The leading topic of this day and age, atomic energy, has been used as the theme for this dramatic program offering. This makes it timely and very satisfactory for most situations. And in man respects it lives up to what is expected, for it has fine performances and is ably directed. There is, however, one definite fault which may hinder its ready acceptance by the average audience, and that is its slow pace, caused by the excess of explanatory dialog necessary throughout the film.

Don Porter does very well with his role of the professor who tries to prevent his discovery from falling into the wrong hands. Both Brenda Joyce and Patricia Morison, as the women in his life, do acceptable jobs in their roles and Milburn Stone, Samuel S. Hinds and Kathleen Howard are fine in supporting parts. Direction is by Lewis W. Collins and Morgan S. Cook.

The Devil's Mask

Columbia Horror 65 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Adult) The second in the film version of the radio series of "I Love A Mystery" is just another horror picture without too much rhyme or reason for its existence.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: A satisfactory second feature.


Plot: When a transport plane falls and is burned, one rescued package contains a shrunken human head. This starts an investigation which discloses that the murderer hated and murdered a famous explorer and substituted his head for one in the museum. This solves the mystery of the explorer's disappearance and presumed death.

Comment: If incredible tales are overlooked by the patrons who seek horror-thriller fare, just so long as the film has a spooky atmosphere, then this picture should prove acceptable fare. For those patrons there is the usual amount of horror and suspense and eeriness that goes with it should give them the shudder-appeal they seek. Picture is the second in Columbia's "I Love A Mystery" series from the radio show of the same name. Jim Bannon and Barton Yarborough play Jack Packard and Doc Long, respectively, and Anita Louise and Michael Duane play the leads with Mona Barrie doing well in the role of the victim's widow.

I See a Dark Stranger

GFD (Eagle-Lion) Spy Drama 112 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Excellent—directly with suspense, action and comedy neatly carded into the Richardscience spy drama. The war is kept to the background.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Despite lack of star power, word of mouth will build this picture. Lovely Irish locations and character

*George Sanders originally played the Falcon role; now it is portrayed by Tom Conway.

PASSKEY TO DANGER

Republic Drama 57 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Adult) Mediocre offering that will prove of little entertainment value.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Will get by as lower half of double-feature program.


Plot: An advertising campaign by an ambitious young man inadvertently opens a big embezzlement case that occurred many years before. The three crooks involved are afraid their secrets will be revealed. When the hero learns of the sinister doings behind his innocent advertising stunt, he sets out to bring the crooks to justice, which he does.

Comment: The best that can be said about this mediocrity is that it is relatively short, causing the audience comparatively small discomfort. There are too many obvious situations and not enough suspense for a murder mystery. The premise of the tale is weak and lacking in conviction. Kane Richmond tries hard with his part and Adele Mara screens rather well, but Stephanie Bachelor looks too old for Richmond's pert young sweetheart and speaks her lines—already too theatrical—in a too theatrical fashion. Technical departments are up to par.

TRAIL TO MEXICO

Monogram Western 57 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Fair western that will manage to get by with action fans.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Wakely's and Lasses White's names will pull 'em in and the Mexican slant should also help.


Plot: Jimmy Wakely comes to Mexico to help a local mining operator overcome efforts of a gang to rob the Mexican. With the help of "Lasses" White, Jimmy discovers that the
RENDE

with
WILLIAM GARGAN · PAT O'MOORE · MARIA PALMI

Directed by JAMES TINLING · Produced by SOL M. WURTZE
ATOMIC TIMELY!

RED-HOT FOR IMMEDIATE PLAYDATES NOW WHEN THE ATOMIC BOMB IS HEADLINE HOTTEST IN THE NEWS!


ZVOUS

Herman Bing - Kay Connors - Eilene Janssen

ROD., INC. • Story and Screenplay by Aubrey Wisberg
Fry, Austin Join Forces
To Exploit 'Green Years'

Concentration on radio exploitation just prior to opening and on newspaper publicity for six weeks in advance, together with the wide use of other standard channels for publicity and exploitation, piled up an impressive campaign to exploit MGM’s “The Green Years” at Loew’s Grand, Atlanta, Boyd Fry, manager, and MGM exploiter Emery Austin cooperated in setting it up.

A wealth of newspaper publicity was planted on the film, with Fred Moon of the Atlanta Journal using large cuts of Charles Coburn six weeks ahead of opening, with appropriate credit to “The Green Years.” The same writer featured pictures and stories about the MGM exploitation dirigible which has been announced to exploit the film. Sunday ahead of opening Moon was given the whole of the film and the constant use of squibs about it in his column over a six-weeks period. Ralph Jones of the Atlanta Constitution devoted a large part of his editorial column on two different occasions to “The Green Years.” The Sunday before opening he gave the picture a large layout and editorial comment. Angus Parkenson, editor of the Atlanta Journal magazine section, came through with a full page of stills on the picture for weeks ahead of opening. All these extensive breaks were in addition to the regular space accorded motion pictures as they are scheduled to open in Atlanta theatres.

Fry and Austin set up their extensive radio coverage to break just prior to opening and currently with the run of the picture. A feature of the campaign was a roundtable discussion of the film on station WATL, with the participants shrewdly picked to give the discussion weight. These included Fred Moon, Journal movie critic; Paul Jones, Constitution critic; Miss

(Continued on Page 29)

Lux Newspaper Ad Tieup
Set on ‘Night and Day’

A tieup has been concluded by Warner Bros. with Lever Bros., manufacturers of Lux soap, whereby “Night and Day” and two of its stars, Alexis Smith and Jane Wyman, will be featured in large newspaper ads coincident with local openings in key cities.


Turner and Beauty

When you have Lana Turner in a picture, as in “The Postman Always Rings Twice,” you’re likely to think of the beauty angle, and that is what E. T. Claffey of the Academy Theatre, Mendiaville, Pa., did. His method was to arrange a beauty co-op ad featuring the star and getting a window display on cosmetics and fashions.

$6 Million Ad Budget
Set by RKO for ’46-47

(Picture on Page 27)

A six-million-dollar pre-selling advertising schedule that will reach a billion readers of newspapers and magazines throughout the country was outlined by S. Barret McCormick, director of advertising, publicity and exploitation, in his address at the closing session of RKO Radio’s 15th annual sales meeting last week at the Waldorf-Astoria. Magazine advertising, said McCormick, is the spearhead of a campaign which will also utilize an impressive amount of newspaper space.

The advertising program outlined by the RKO executive includes 1200 full-page ads in American and Canadian magazines, Sunday supplements and Sunday sections, during 1946. “This means,” he added, “one billion individual copies which, following the standard publishing practice of figuring four readers for each copy, reaches the staggering total of three and one-half billion readers, or about double the entire population of the Globe.”

Referring to the $6 million-dollar budget, McCormick reminded his listeners that just spending money on advertising was not the answer to the whys and wherefores of the huge expenditure, “It’s spending it right that counts,” he said. “If our showmanship is just and practical knowledge confirmed by research show that we have a potential market in any particular field, then we go after that market. This means careful exploring and selection of media and the preparation of advertising aimed directly at that particular market.”

“Sister Kenny,” McCormick said, is a picture loaded with what he termed “mattress money.” He explained that “this is the kind of dough that’s hid in moth-proof pocketbooks, in sugar bowls and tucked away in the bed-ticking. To reach infrequent moviegoers or owners of “mattress money,” RKO will buy 18 million additional circulation in farm journals and publications with circulations concentrated in the small cities and towns and appealing to the masses who have a special interest in the story of “Sister Kenny.”

PRC, Missouri Pacific in
‘Missouri’ Premieres Tieup

Completion of a tieup with the Missouri Pacific Railroad for statewide promotion and cooperation throughout Missouri in connection with the series of simultaneous premieres of “Down Missouri Way” to be held in that state on August 1 was announced last week by Arnold Stoltz, PRC’s national director of advertising and publicity, and Col. T. C. Davis and Paul J. Neff, respectively chairman of the board and president and chief executive of the Missouri Pacific.

Window displays, outdoor billposting and newspaper advertising throughout Missouri, as well as radio and merchants tieups, comprise the details of the arrangement between the film company and the railroad. Following the “Down Missouri Way” world premieres, the Missouri Pacific will extend the tieup nationally on the same pattern established for Missouri.

Bathing Beauty Finals
Set for Week Aug. 22

Finals of Loew’s circuit-wide series of bathing beauty contests to select “Miss New York,” will be held on the stage of Loew’s State Theatre the week of August 22nd, it was announced this week.

The following Loew’s theatres will stage preliminary contests in conjunction with their regular evening stage and screen programs on the dates indicated: Melba, July 15th; Boulevard, Commodity, Fairmount, 46th Street, Gates, 1375th Street, Orpheum and Premier, July 16th.

On Thursday evening, July 18th, Loew’s Bay Ridge and Hillside theatres will stage contests; on Friday night the Boro Park will hold one; and on Tuesday evening, July 25th, preliminaries may be viewed at the Coney Island, Prospect

(Continued on Page 29)

Comic Strips Basis of
Pekin ‘Adventure’ Contest

An excellent example of newspaper-theatre cooperation took place recently in Pekin, Ill., when Manager Paul Morgan of the Pekin Theatre, with the assistance of Bill Green, MGM exploiter, promoted a contest in connection with the showing of MGM’s “Adventure.”

Idea was to find out which type of adventure was the most popular using the Pekin Daily Times’ comic strips as guinea pigs. The newspaper published a Selection Coupon, from which contestants numbered the comic strips in accordance with their ideas of which was the most adventurous. Those whose selections most nearly corresponded with the popular choice of all selectors received guest tickets.

The newspaper devoted 142 inches of display space to the contest without charge, and also ran three publicity stories. Nearly 700 entries were received, representing about ten per cent of the publication’s circulation.

*Participating in the discussion (l-r) were: Betty Douilette, women’s editor of the station; Paul Jones, announcement editor of the Atlanta Constitution; Christine Smith, city censor; Dan Horsey WATL program director who discussed the film from the viewpoint of “the common man”; and Fred D. Moon, announcement editor of the Atlanta Journal.
Rubens Calls for Experience, Imagination in Advertising

Some observations containing a goodly amount of common sense advice on newspaper advertising and showmanship have been forwarded to managers of Publicx Great States Theatres by Maurice M. Rubens, executive of the circuit. Rubens, in his article analyzing the War-Boom Momentum (capitals are Rubens') and tells his managers that many owners of important theatre properties are now asking how long it can go on. He makes a point of the fact that merchandisers of nationally advertised products are devoting considerable time and money to training their new advertising and sales forces and states that "only with effective advertising and promotion, with effective personal selling, merchandising and sales promotion . . . can a downward trend be largely averted . . ."

Interior Ads Harmful

Analyzing newspaper advertising, Rubens states forcefully that "interior newspaper advertising serves no purpose whatever. In fact, it can actually be harmful." In addition he has charged all advertising heads, district managers and city managers to instruct their managers and assistants in all phases of advertising and exploitation. He believes that under this plan, men with a flair for the aspect of show business may be brought to light . . . affording "new selling approaches" and replacing many stereotyped routines.

The analysis notes that much of the newspaper advertising "trouble" lies with the smaller newspaper layouts; that they are sometimes confusing . . . scattered . . . buried . . . and emphasis that layouts can be accomplished without art charges and simply by using theatre signature cuts and material culled from the mats offered in press kits. He attaches a series of such layouts made up by Balaban & Katz Theatres and Great States Theatres, one of which is reproduced with this article.

In discussing activities in connection with exploitation Rubens deplores the fact that many merchandisers have discontinued the Special Morning and Midnight shows, Children's Parties, Community Trips, Style Shows, Bathing Beauty Contests and similar activities and points out one very important fact that "those who have entirely discontinued activities must eventually retrain their entire staffs and lose much valuable time and money."

Lending just a touch of comedy to his serious discussion, Rubens tells how all sorts of commercial enterprises have borrowed the exploitation tricks, giveaways, specials, etc., that originated with show business, stating "Everyone wants to get into the act!" And even Jimmy Durante would agree with him.

Concluding, he declares: "All in all, advertising and exploitation are intangible things. No particular approach ever covers the entire field! Just stop to think . . . firms which have a popular product much in demand will spend millions covering the 'entire field.'"

"You will find such advertisers use local newspapers, national periodicals, radio, billboards and in addition will use many standard merchandising ideas as well as contests, giveaways and other stunts which we class as Gimmicks."

"Therefore let us not deceive ourselves that Advertising and Exploitation can be covered by any set formula. They require Imagination, Con- stant Thought and Experience! Avoid duplication. Analyze the coverage afforded by local newspapers . . . You will find many sections in your Trade Area it never reaches. . . . Plan your campaigns accordingly."

"The man who becomes efficient in selling the theatre's merchandise (motion pictures) becomes an Indispensable Man!"

Radio 'Spots' Recorded On 'Searching Wind'

Recordings of one-minute, half-minute and 15-second duration have been made by Paramount on 'The Searching Wind' for distribution without charge to 350 first-run exhibitors throughout the country for broadcasting.

A chorus of eight men and women and a 21-piece orchestra were used to record the spot announcements for radio exploitation.

Bathing Beauty Finals

(Continued from Page 28)

and Willard.

The following theatres will hold inaugural contests without additional vaudeville programs: Loew's Kings, Oriental, Paradise and National theatres on Tuesday evening, July 16th; the Delancy on Monday, July 22nd; and the Pitkin on Tuesday night, July 23rd.

Valuable prizes and gifts will be awarded the contestants at the preliminary trials as well as the finals at Loew's State. Managers of the theatres involved have already announced a record number of applications for entry blanks.

Fry, Austin Join Forces To Sell 'Green Years'

(Continued from Page 28)

Christine Smith, Atlanta censor and Dan Hornsby, a citizen, the moderator was Betty Doolittle, critic for the radio station. The fifteen-minute program was unrehearsed, with all participants unwittingly or deliberately plugging for the film as their discussions brought out one point or another. (Ed Note: This kind of program is dangerous unless the film to be discussed is so good as to eliminate possibility of unfavorable criticism by participants. In this case "The Green Years" was safe enough.)

Miss Doolittle also used the film as the basis for a daily thriller to reach her Hollywood Highlights program for five days ahead of opening.

The man-on-the-street program, a daily feature of WACA, gave a copy of The Green Years to passers-by. Pictures for eight days ahead of opening. Plug for the picture were inevitable, with the announcer constantly bringing in the film's title as he told contentants what they would win if they correctly answered a question.

Another radio highlight was a "critic for a day" contest which ran for a week on station WATL. Listeners were asked to write their own reviews of the film in 100 words or less, with U. S. Savings Bonds and guest tickets going to winners.

Other highlights of the campaign included a street ballyhoo, advertising on taxicab bumpers, book marks, printed paper napkins, and elaborate lobby and front displays.

Eastman Camera Tieup On 'One More Tomorrow'

As an advance promotion stunt for "One More Tomorrow" in Detroit, Warner Bros. field representative Lucia Perrigo arranged a tieup with the Detroit Times to conduct a contest for women news photographers, with a camera donated by Eastman Kodak as the first prize.

The stunt hinges on the fact that Ann Sheridan plays a lady photographer in the picture. The Times invited petticoat photographers to show their ingenuity in shooting scenes of a big city. Prominent Detroit artists will be judged as the entries are made, and the grand prize will be 20 awards of tickets to a screening of "One More Tomorrow," at the Palm-State Theatre.

This is an example of the kind of layout, advocated by Maurice M. Rubens, used by Great States Theatres. The ad is a composite, made up entirely without art work. Signatures and wash-outs on hand-printed press books are simply put together and surrounded by a stock border. Note white space, which makes the layout stand out among competing ads.
SELLING THE PICTURE

Postwar Premiere Ballyhoo

The City of Brotherly Love on Wednesday became the scene of a flamboyant demonstration of postwar exploitation when stars and executives of 20th-Fox shared the spotlight honors with the company's new Technicolor production, "Centennial Summer," at a 'world premiere' which took place at Philadelphia's Fox Theatre.

The 20th-Fox publicity, exploitation and advertising forces under the direction of Charles Schlaifer had set the stage well in advance for a three-day festival which was marked by all the colorful ballyhoo known to the trade, coupled with the producer's box of exploitation for the picture which had been built up by years of experience in film showmanship. The presence of stars from the 20th-Fox lot in Hollywood gave the event that "coast-to-coast" flavor when some such event as this occurs — whether the place be a metropolis or a whistle stop.

The stars arrived in Philadelphia well in advance of the celebration, which got under way on Monday when the glamorous girls and boys visited famous Independence Hall and Betsy Ross House. The Hollywood contingent included Jeanne Crain, Phil Silvers, Downs, Waring, Weiskopf, Kukor, dancing and David Street. They were joined by Carole Landis and Otto Preminger, producer and director of "Centennial Summer."

After a two-day warm-up, the premiere events went into a salubrious high on Wednesday with a civic luncheon for 1,200 guests tendered by Mayor Samuel Citizen's Committee and a huge street parade through downtown Philadelphia.

In addition to the star contingent and the working 20th-Fox publicity and exploitation men headed by Schlaifer, the company was represented by top home office executives, including Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of distribution.

Theatremen in Booking Jams Solve Problem with Smart Showmanship

A dearth of current product, or a way to play second-rate pictures that will prove profitable, are problems that many theatremen may be facing these days. How some are tackling their difficulties and turning them into profits is recorded herewith.

Take, for example, a dearth of product. Or it may be a delay in making a deal. Whatever it is, Ralph Bartlett of the Palace Theatre in Wichita, Kansas, has gotten out of it on three different occasions. He sets up a solid week of revivals — one picture a day — and calls it Encore Week. His pre-opening ad carries this copy at the top:

"Something New! Request, Repeat Showings of Seven of the Past Seasons' Truly Great Hits to Thrill You Again! Each Picture Will Be Shown for Just One Day Only! Great Pictures You Missed and Those You Want to See Again." And then he lists the week's attractions, playing up each one by means of a two-column box enclosing a two-column slug mat.

During Encore Week he runs a one-column model of the same advertisement, scratching off each attraction as it plays with a large X, leaving only the remainder of the week's films to be advertised.

Bartlett has found there are still plenty of people who either haven't seen the pictures or, having already seen them, want to see them again. So hewiths these patrons and at the same time helps himself out of that booking jam.

Now it may also happen that a theatre has several "bottom-of-the-bill" pictures on tap — more pictures than "bottoms," shall we say. At the same time, there may not be enough top pictures to go around. Has he hitherto give the public what it craved?

Well, out in the Midwest they team pictures of the same type and give the program an over-all title. For example, Margie Hart in "Lure of the Islands" and Ann Corio in "Jungle Sirens" were advertised on one bill as a Sarong Revue. A frontier frolic consisted of "Rockin' in the Rockies" and "Billy the Kid." "Reverie with Beverly" and "How's About It" were packaged as a Rockin' Rhythm Revue. And a Screwball Promenade featured Abbott & Costello in "Lost in a Harem" and Laurel & Hardy in "The Big Noise."

Of course, putting two pictures of similar entertainment content on one program is contrary to the accepted theory of double-billing. But the principle of the unit show is to appeal to only one class of patronage with a double dose of what they merchandise with a clever, showmanship title. And it works.

Perhaps you are in a situation where a large number of people are music lovers. Out in San Francisco a theatre has set up a Light Opera Festival. During this three-week period the following musical films will play: "Jeannette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy in 'Naughty Marietta';" "Paderewski in 'Moonlight Sonata';" "Mary Martin and Alan Jones in 'The Great Victor Herbert';" "Jacoba de Heifetz in 'They Shall Have Music';" "Gladys Swarthout and John Boles in 'Rose of the Rancho';" and "Dennis Morgan and Irene Manning in 'Desert Song.'"

The theatre has issued an attractive herald announcing the Festival, and offers season tickets for any four attractions at $3. Single tickets are 85 cents each. An order blank is provided for this advance box-office sale on a season ticket basis.

Surely one of the foregoing ideas could fit your situation. And whether you're having a product shortage or whether you'd simply like to try something different as a stimulant to jaded movie appetites, it certainly wouldn't hurt to give studied consideration to ideas that have proved their box-office worth.

Rose Knows How To Get Fine Publicity Breaks

Few theatremen have as close a newspaper contact as Harry Rose, manager of the Loewn-Poli Majestic Theatre, Bridgeport, Conn. Hardly a picture plays his house that Rose doesn't get some sort of publicity break in the local newspapers.

For instance, when he played RKO's "From This Day Forward," he tied in with the local United States Employment Service office and, as a result, planted two- and three-column art in the Post and Herald showing the office in operation.

The office also cooperated by plugging the picture on "The Veteran Speaks" program over WICC and the Jane Dillon program on the same station.

Through his feminine radio commentator, Rose got the names of 15 war brides whom he invited to the opening-night performance of "From This Day Forward." Of course, you just can't keep those newspaper photographers away, so what could Rose do but have the subjects in the lobby and then look on helplessly while the photographer rushed back to the newspaper office to have the photo made into a two-column cut?

'Harvey' Costume Display Treated as News Event

A Hollywood star's motion picture costume is interesting if arbitrarily displayed in any town, but just the fact that it would be displayed in the comparatively small town of Angola, Indiana, was reason enough for the local newspaper editor to make a page one, second section story about the event. The story was headlined, "Hollywood Star's Costume Displayed Here," and then told about Judy Garland's costume in "The Harvey Girls" having been shown in some of the local department store windows and announced that the costume would be shown in one of the local store windows. The yarn concluded with the information that the "Harvey Girls" would play the Brokaw Theatre, and gave the date.

The same day a three-column by eight-inch display ad was bought by the Angola Dress Shop, featuring a photo of Judy Garland and announcing the window display showing as a news event. The ad carried a prominently displayed announcement, too, of the engagement of the film at the Brokaw. Stunt was arranged by Austin Brokaw manager, assisted by MGM's Chicago exploitation representative, Bill Green.

100 Per Cent Coverage

Charles Middelburg of the Capitol Theatre, Charleston, W. Va., really made a book store tieup stick recently when he got every book shop in town to cooperate on "The Postman Always Rings Twice," both in promoting the book itself and getting the picture tieup with window displays.

Unusual Tieup

An unusual tieup was effected by John Ware of Eagle-Lion recently when the rugs and carpets used in "Caesar and Cleopatra" were included in an exhibition of European and Oriental rugs at the Royal Water Color Society's Galleries in London.
Roman Emperors Did It Big—So Will Warners with ‘2 Guys from Milwaukee’

The Emperor Tiberius, Nero, Cleopatra and Alexander were folks who used to do things in a big way. In their cloaks they never used a horse when they could use an elephant; never bothered with a man-to-man fight when they could make it man versus lion; they did not hesitate to construct an artificial lake if they wanted to put on a sea battle for the entertainment of the public. There was no limit but the sky—and even then Vesuvius used to get in on things once in a while. This was many, many years ago, but for showmanship those boys and girls were tops. Can we still do things on a big scale today?

The answer is “yes” if we take as a criterion the campaign being arranged by Warner Bros. for the Milwaukee premiere of “Two Guys From Milwaukee” at the Warner Theatre on July 25. Just cast your eyes on this line-up: Dennis Morgan and Jack Carson, who are starred in the picture, are making the trip to the premiere from Hollywood. They are both Wisconsin boys—hence WB is playing the “local boy” angle heavily.

They’ll Come in Yacht

Now comes the works. They will arrive on the last lap of their journey via a yacht from Great Lakes, Ill. with a U. S. Navy escort under the command of Admiral G. D. Murray. More than 100,000 spectators will see the film stars enter the harbor in their yacht, surrounded by 25 Coast Guard Reserve vessels, four 80-foot Coast Guard cutters, one 180-foot Navy training ship, and an umbrella of 25 Navy planes. If that isn’t doing it big, we’re a cock-eyed so-and-so. Who is this guy Nero anyway?

The events lined up for the day include a “mammoth” parade at noon, with the Admiral, 160 sailors, Navy Band, the Mayor and other dignitaries taking part, and floats, including an elaborate display on the 20th Anniversary of Talking Pictures. Later the by-this-time-overwhelmed stars will fight their way through a luncheon, a cocktail party and press reception in the Schlitz Hotel at 4:15, and a banquet at the same hotel, attended by the Governor, Mayor, Admiral and 300 prominent personalities. Still later they are booked for personal appearances in front of the theatre to greet the people who cannot get into the premiere, and—if still able to move—will wind up the day at a party given by the Ulitine family at the famous Schlitz Brown Bottle. Then the following morning—here’s luck, boys—they are scheduled to take part in a golf match at a local country club.

‘Young Widow’ Stunt

Popular in Memphis

Tommy Baldrige, U.A. field representative has created a lot of interest with an exploitation stunt for “Young Widow” in Memphis. A “gag” newspaper is published and sold at the Peabody Hotel Roof, Memphis’ leading night club. For several days before “Young Widow” came to town Baldridge had the concessionaire carrying a sample paper about the roof with a headline heralding Miss Russell’s forthcoming appearance at Loew’s State.—ME.

Box Office Slants

Trail to Mexico

(Continued from Page 25)

foreman is a double-crooser and leader of the group of badmen. Wakely has to do some fancy impersonating before cornering his enemies, but he comes out on top.

Comment: This is an average western, bordering on the mediocre side. Wakely impresses with his voice, which is very similar to Gene Autry’s, but he lacks those qualities that mark a topnotch cowboy star. Lasses White does yeoman work as the humorous sidekick, but the rest of the cast, especially on the villainous side, is inadequate. The leader of the gang, Faron, looks like a first-class villain but has a miserable speaking voice. When previewed, the audience laughed every time he talked. Dolores Caselli shows promise as the pretty Mexican girl. Picture should get by despite its shortcomings because of Wakely’s popularity and the excellent choice of songs.

Down Missouri Way

PRC  Musical  74 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) A neat, clean package of entertainment that can hold up its head in any company. They’ll leave your theatre smiling after seeing this one.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: If bought right and properly exploited this slick little musical may well give you a pleasant surprise at the box-office. Especially good for small towns and neighborhoods.


Plot: Martha O’Driscoll, a college professor (no foolin’), lends her trick mule to a film company that comes to her farm in the Ozarks on location. She and producer William Wright fall in love, and it is in-again-out-again, with the third party, star Renee Godfrey, eventually frustrated, as it all ends very happily indeed.

Comment: The current trend toward rural musicals is recognized by PRC in “Down Missouri Way” with completely happy results. Joseph Berne has done a bang-up job of direction, with fine pace and a general atmosphere of good feeling throughout. The players without exception seem ingratiating, with Martha O’Driscoll getting her personalty over as never before. The script is smart, but not SMART, and Carradine is allotted some very funny lines. Credit must go also to Kim Gannon and Walter Kent for the eight songs that pop up during the story. They are decidedly in the popular vein, and Never Knew That I Could Sing—which is plugged—should soon be heard on every juke box. Keep that in mind for an exploitation angle. In fact, keep exploitation in mind, for this is a fine exploitation picture. PRC promises a heavy advertising campaign and has already put in some effort on publicizing the mule, Shirley. Animal promotions are usually successful, so that Shirley should be a help to the till.

FROM KISSES TO MURDER

That’s the theme of this provocative lobby display used by Manager George Peters in advance of the showing of MGM’s “The Postman Always Rings Twice” at Loew’s Theatre, Richmond, Va.
INDEPENDENCE

Verne S. Gorrell, exhibitor at Winamac, Ind., was robbed en route to western Wisconsin of $150 in cash, a portable radio, provisions, typewriter, watch and all his belongings. The thieves even tore the buttons off his clothes to see whether he had money concealed. The bandits driving a truck, edged his car into a ditch and proceeded to take his belongings.

The Monogram exchange is being enlarged by taking over the adjoining room to the south of the present exchange.

W. W. Candler has been appointed manager of the Marcus Enterprises theatres here, including the Ambassador, Alamo and Cozy. Vernon Elmer has been named assistant manager. Announcement was made by Rex Carr, general manager.

Lillis Cummins of Warner Bros. office staff and Gerald Anderson have announced their wedding date as July 20. The wedding will take place in Indianapolis.

Ralph Abbott, now manager of Monogram exchange, Seattle, Wash., is a Filmrow visitor during the week.

The Universal exchange staff held a farewell dinner Monday night, in honor of L. J. McGinley, who returned to Indianapolis before assuming his new duties with Prestige Pictures.

Visitors seen on Filmrow during the week were: W. P. McGovern, Logotee; Pete Pana
gos and John Doerr, Chicago; Joe Schilling, Connersville; V. E. Burkle, Fortville; Harry Waits, Knightstown, and James Ackron, Montezu
ma.

William (Bill) Merriot, former manager of Republic exchange here, and now manager of Republic's branch in Los Angeles, spent several days in Indianapolis calling on old friends.

The Mallers Circuit of Ft. Wayne, Ind., has acquired the State Theatre in Greenwood, Ind.

The Dixie Theatre (colored), Claysburg, Ind., has been leased to Clayborn Davenport, who is planning to open the house July 15.

CHICAGO

Five carloads of MGM actors and film crews went north on the Pere Marquette to Mackinac City, Mich., for the filming of "This Time for Keeps," headed by Jimmy Durante, Lauritz Melchior, Esther Williams, Van Johnson and supporting players. They will be on the island for some time.

The Walton Davis Company, theatre concessions, are now located in larger quarters at 1218 South Michigan Avenue.

The Schindler Theatre, one of the oldest film houses here, was robbed of a five-hundred pound safe, with the night's proceeds, according to Assistant Manager Edward Chrobak.

P. J. Des, president of the Alliance Theatre circuit, is flying to Ireland with his wife for a visit to his friends in that country.

Sid White, booker for the Miami Theatres in Miami, Fla., is visiting friends in the Chicago territory.

Ludwig Sussman, owner of the Adelphi The
tre, has returned to his home after a hospital operation and is doing nicely.

Van Nomikos, Allied vice president, has returned to Chicago from his Binghamton trip.

Glory Holzman of the Manza Rose circuit was recently married to Harold Silver and is now hometoing in Michigan City.

The Columbia exchange sales staff has completed its part in the nation-wide sales drive and is up among the leaders, according to the Chicago management.

A. Kopetzky has organized the Signet Corporation to handle advertising and news for film companies and accessory manufacturers in the Chicago area.

Bob O'Donnell, Chief Barker of the National Variety Club, and George Calson were here from Dallas for a visit. L. R. Pfeifer and Mike Cohen from Dallas Tent 17 were also Chicago visitors.

Al Raymer, booking director for the Manza Rose circuit, says that action dramas seem to be in most favor with audiences, then musicals, comedies and mysteries in that order. Technicolor is always in demand. War films are out.

Marie Frye has been named director of the merchandising department of Tristates Theatre circuit, Des Moines, the first woman to hold such an important position in that company.

Jack Rose, Chief Barker of Chicago Variety Club 26, reports the appointment of the follow
ing chairmen for the coming year: Sam Levinson, membership; Lester Simansky, house; Fred Mindlin and Dick Sachsell, entertainment; Larry Stein, publicity; Irwin Fensin, editor of the Variety Ticker, house organ; George Topper, tickets; Bill Baker and Harold Loeb, sports and pastimes; Chick Evans, celebrities committee; Walter Immerman, heart committee; and Henri Elman, the welfare committee.

DALLAS

Phil Isley Enterprises, Inc., has taken over operation of the Rita Theatre, East Dallas suburbain house, at Columbia and Collett, on a lease-purchase deal with the former owner, C. V. Caver. They operate the Granada on Greenville Avenue here.

"Dutch" Olsmith, local Universal executive is back from his home town's New York meeting and raving about "The Man in Grey."

Variety Club bigwigs will be straddling and spurring giant turtles at the opening of the Turtle Derby in Fair Park Arena, September 14. The Western idea is predominant in the scenery being prepared for the charity affair, proceeds of which go to the Boys Camp at, Coppers Cove.

Conrad Krebs, RKO advance man for the Goldwyn Girls, in town via rail last week, but left for Hollywood by air.

Ross McCausland, Telenevis manager, reports there is a growing demand in Houston for a news theatre.

The Drive-In here, Bill Underwood and Claude Ezel's big pre-war outdoor theatre, is going to be converted into an auditorium theatre.

Last Saturday was opening for a veteran's drive-in, however. At Tyler, where Horace Douglas and Bennett Delamely opened their Rainbow Theatre to good attendance,

Bill Hurst has opened his new Harlem Theatre, exclusively for negroes, at Denton. He's a former Columbia salesman.

Tim Stamps has moved over from Columbia to a booking job for the Wallace Blankenship circuit.

CLEVELAND

Holiday business took a nose dive generally, due to the weather. Beaches, parks and highways were jammed during the day. And in the evening, the Stadium was crowded with some 80,000 people for the free Fourth of July Clevel
land Sesquicentennial celebration.

Louis Astor, Columbus sales executive, was scheduled to be in town on Wednesday for a conference with local branch manager Lester Zucker and the members of the sales force.

Bob Snyder, Film Classics local manager, inst
alled Arthur Isaacs as his new salesman before leaving for Detroit to confer with Al Dexel. Isaacs is a newcomer in Cleveland. His home was formerly in Pittsbur.

F. Arthur Simon is back in the film fold after a year's absence during which he headed a chemical company. Former Universal city salesman, Simon has joined the RKO family as a member of its foreign department. He has been assigned to the office of Jack Osserman, South American sales representation with headquarters in Rio de Janeiro.

The Abe Kramer family had plenty of excitement this week. Hope, their oldest daughter was married in Covington, Ky., to Dr. Manning Cohen of Cleveland and Marilyn, one of the twins, announced her engagement to Al Kaufman, also of Cleveland. Hope was on a promising movie career, her most recent role having been the feminine lead in a PRC production. Her professional name was Hope Adams. Abe

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CI

NEWS

PHILIPPE

SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, July 13, 1946
Kramer is one of the top officials of the Associated Circuit.

Bill Onie, Monogram Cincinnati manager, joined his wife in Cleveland over the Fourth. Mrs. Onie stayed here while Bill attended the Monogram convention in Chicago.

Domenic Grillo has sold his Waldorf, a subsequent run theatre, to A. C. Cole. He still operates the Apollo Theatre.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl B. Moore, owners of the Ohio Theatre, Van Vert, were Film Row visitors during the week. Bill Biggio of the Grand Theatre, Steubenville, posts cards the stay-at-homes that he is grand on his ranch out in Valley, Wyoming.

July 29 is the date set for the annual 20th-Fox Club summer outing. Turkeyfoot Lake, near Akron, has been selected as the spot for the all-day affair.

Jack Gatilla is remodeling his Attica Theatre, Attica during July and August while the house is closed.

Jack Sogg, MGM branch manager, and Mrs. Sogg left last week to celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary... Dorothy Sacheroff, assistant to Warner publicity director J. Knox Strachan, has chosen August 11 as the date of her marriage to Samuel Apel.

Charles Rick, Warner district manager and Jerry Wechsler, Warner branch manager, were in Girard last week calling on Peter Wellman, who owns a chain of houses in Girard and Youngstown.

The local 20th-Fox exchange boast a new record in weddings. They report four of them within eight days. Brides were Mildred Ostrowski, inspectress; Marion Leitchag, bookers' secretary; Lillian Szabo, telephone operator and Anne Shaver, bookers' secretary. That leaves the score as four down and one to go. Geraldine Williams of the cashier's department, will be married on July 17.

LOS ANGELES

Exhibitors Service, Inc. moved from its 1914 S. Vermont home to spacious new quarters at 1977 S. Vermont, formerly inhabited by apartment-dwellers.

Joe Markowitz, MGM office manager, returned from his vacation to Big Bear Lake. Ed Urschel, traveling auditor for Metro, visited the local branch.

Ollie West, PRC inspectress, was another vacationist.

Visitors to the Row included Joe Koliski, former Warner Bros. manager in Cleveland; Mrs. Dick Lemuchhi and son, from Bakersfield, where Dick is still recovering from that recent severe auto accident; Orland Karr, LaMont, LaMont.

Fay Navin, secretary to MGM's Sam J. Gardner, was married June 24 to Charles Goldberg of Philadelphia at Elkton, Md. Fay and her husband, only recently discharged from the Navy, honeymooned in New York and Atlantic City.

Lloyd 'Stony' Goad is making preparations for a dark room at the Exhibitors Service new suite, and will be able to develop film and service the Row's photography enthusiasts.

Moz Burles, former local Paramount salesman, was in town for a spell, coming down from Portland, where he now works for Monogram.

Columbia's John DeCosta is anxiously awaiting final word as to his office's standing in the recently completed sales drive. The L.A. team was neck and neck with San Francisco.

United Artists' new biller is Clara Ingram, a newcomer to the Row. Ruth Wolfe of UA's contract department just returned from her vacation.

Sam Decker, local Screen Guild franchise holder, served as associate producer on "Rolling Home," recently completed Affiliated Productions feature.

Paul Williams, general counsel of the Southern California Theatre Owners Association, advises that the city's marquee ordinance has been revised. The new law allows adequate space on marquees. Williams gave special credit to W. H. Lohrle, chairman of the SCTOA's public relations committee, for his efforts in effecting the repeal.

Al Galston and Jay Sutton have confirmed rumors regarding the new policy of their Marcal Theatre. Negotiations have been finished regarding first-run films for the house, previously a second-run run with a top of 36 cents. Prices rise to 85 cents and $1 for loges.

MEMPHIS

The annual picnic of the Memphis Variety Club is being held Saturday, July 13 with barbecued chicken and beer dominating the bill of fare. Hosts are Ray Bailey Prichard, branch manager of Monogram, and Tom Kirk, branch manager of Republic, are the crowd major domos.

Faye McIntyre, secretary to Al Rothchild, branch manager of National Screen, motored to New Orleans over the 4th of July. Norwood Bilger of National Screen is on his vacation from the shipping department, and Catherine Morgan, booking clerk for Arkansas, has returned to work after an absence due to the death of her mother.

The former Mary Katherine Wyatt; biller at Warner Bros., has returned to work after her recent marriage to Robert Daz, a Memphis medical student. Sarah Dumain is a new stenographer at Warners.

The Fourth of July week kept the majority of the mid-South exhibitors close to their own theatres and very few were seen along Film Row in Memphis. However, among those noted were Slim Brewer of Clarksdale, Miss.; John Mohrstadt of Hayti, Mo., and Art Collins of Paragould.

Tommy Baldwin, former Warner exploiter and Metro salesman, has gone to Miami for ten days on an assignment from United Artists. He recently handled the publicity on the Bob Hope personal appearance in Memphis.

HARRISBURG

Representatives of Projection Union Local 488 and Stagehands Union Local 98 are planning to attend the annual national convention in Chicago. Heading the local delegations will be Lawrence Katz, of 488, and Ike Davis, 98, with Sam Rubin, representative.

Vacationing from the State are: Alice Butler, Foster Napper, Mrs. Daisy Zimmerman, James Thompson, and Albert Conrad.

The marriage of Gloria Oyler, cashier at the State, to James Shuman, took place Sunday, June 30 in West Fairview. A reception at the home of the bride's parents was attended by Gerry Wollaston, Spike Todorov, their families, and other members of the staff.

Midge Funk Breeman and her infant son were in Harrisburg last week for a visit with her parents. Midge, cashier at the Senate, visited former fellow-workers there. Her husband re-enlisted in the Marines for a two-year period.

Manager Bob Sidman of the Senate finally was successful in his campaign for homes for veterans, when, taking the matter to Congress.

Continued on Page 36.

MONOGRAM MEN HAIL NEW PRODUCTS. Details of the 1946-47 schedule of 46 features and two specials met with evident approval from members of the sales organization when Monogram's new program was announced at the recent national sales convention in Chicago. Above are two of the several groups of the Monogram selling organization at the sales sessions. At top: Jack Farkas, Eta Segal, Max Tabackman, Ed Lurie, Sidney Furst, Harry Lavine, Si Borus and Meyer Solomon seated 'round a table. Below the delegates from Kansas City, Denver and Salt Lake City (that's Sol Francis, midwest district manager, at third from left).
SAN FRANCISCO

Conventioners from the local Monogram, Universal and RKO exchanges have returned home. Howard Butler and James Myers, Monogram salesmen, report they came home with the Los Angeles delegation because of a mix up with their reservations. Gordon Allen, branch manager at Monogram, added his vacation to the convention trip and is now visiting in Minetosa. Metro Auditor, Ed Urechel, has left the local exchange for Los Angeles. Urechel has been acting office manager since Thomas J. Aspell, Jr., was appointed branch manager for the Seattle exchange. John Coyne, recently appointed office manager, has found living quarters for his family in nearby Richmond.

K. K. Chang, head bookkeeper for Royal American in Honolulu, and his wife have been visiting the local exchange row.

C. H. Granoski becomes the new manager for the Tower Theatre in Marysville, replacing Chester Bell.

Andrew Larson, Columbia shipper, has returned from his Mexico City vacation.

New seats will be installed in the Esquire Theatre in Stockton, the Lux located in Sacramento, and the Del Paso Theatre in North Sacramento by B. F. Shearer Company in August.

Robert L. Lippert, owner of the Robert L. Lippert Theatres and executive vice-president of Golden Gate Pictures, and Francis Bateman, Golden Gate's general sales manager, are on a tour of key cities.

Awaiting new additions to their families are Jess Wright and Stanley Lefcourt, bookers at Warner Brothers. Joseph Blumenfeld, general manager of Blumenfeld Theatres, recently welcomed a new son.

Five Paramount exchange employes are now

Gulistan Wilton Theatre Carpet
JOE HORNSTEIN has it!

SIGN 16-MM. CIRCUIT DEAL. Ramon Escano, seated, president of Southern Movies Corp., Philippines Islands, signs MGM's first 52-week circuit contract for feature and short entertainment films in 16-mm., while I. Cohen, right, MGM territorial manager, and Leon Applestone, look on. The deal said to be on a straight personal basis, covers service of four programs monthly for 18 permanent 16-mm. theatres operated by Southern Movies Corp., in Leyte, Negros, Cebu and Bohol.

on vacation. They include Ken Derby, booking manager; Seena Taylor, inspectors; Helen Bennett, secretary to H. Neal East, branch manager; Leona Van Alshe, accountant, and Eva Gohrman of the maintenance department.

Al Smith has been named the new manager for the Lippert Rio Theatre in Richmond. Smith comes from the Pablo Theatre in San Pablo. Otto Schmit is the new manager at the Pablo.

New sound systems have been installed in the Royal Theatre in Sanger; the Pablo Theatre in San Pablo; the Oakland Roxie Theatre; Alfred Wilkin's Oakdale Theatre in Oakdale; The Local's Century Theatre; and the Garverville Theatre in Garverville.

DES MOINES

Film row in Des Moines was saddened by the sudden deaths of two well-known exchange men within the same week. They were Oscar Dixon, 42, manager of National Screen Service, and Harry Strikeley, 48, veteran salesman for 20th Century-Fox. Dixon, who came to Des Moines from Milwaukee three years ago, died at his home of coronary thrombosis. Strikeley, former president of the Iowa film salesmen, was senior salesman for Fox for the last 20 years. His death followed a nervous collapse. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy Day, a long-time employee in the publicity department of Tri-States Theatres.

Austin McGough, MGM exploiter, served as a judge in the "Miss Iowa" contest held at the Paramount Theatre in Des Moines in connection with the Iowa centennial celebration.

Tri-States and Central-States celebrated with a picnic at MacRae Park in Des Moines, and after dinner adjourned to the Paramount screening room for a showing of "Night and Day." Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Black were the guests of Clear Lake of Tom Arthur, Mason City exhibitor.

Plans are being made to remodel the Rex Theatre at Fairfield, according to Harold R. Stewart, who recently took over as manager. The renovation includes a complete new booth and redecoration both inside and out.

The Tri-States Theatre Corp. has announced the formation of a new policy in the candy departments, with the corporation now owning its own concessions.

Bob Leach, former RKO booker, was a visitor in Film Row, spending part of his vacation in Des Moines. Leach is now managing theatres for Fox West Coast, with headquarters in Los Angeles.

Mrs. Douglasi, booker at Republic, will be married this month to Dr. O. Edwin Owen, dean of the Des Moines College of Osteopathy.

BRIDGEPORT

James Denning, usher at the American, has just undergone an appendectomy. Joseph Gali is substituting while Jim is convalescing.

The Jepson, Hollywood stunt man, was a local visitor recently to see his folks.

Murray Rider, manager of the Community Theatre, Fairfield, celebrated a birthday last week.

Mrs. Ida Shaw, mother-in-law of Harry A. Rose, manager of the Majestic, is on the sick list.

Ernest Grecca, publicity director for the Al Schuman circuit in Hartford, is vacationing in his newly purchased Bridgeport home.

Sara Levine, of the Strand Amusement Co., is recuperating in Bridgeport Hospital from injuries received in a recent auto crash in Milford.

Something for Ripley's Believe It Or Not: "The Falcon's Affair," second feature at Loew's Majestic, was a plug for "Bamboo Blonde," running concurrently as the second feature at the Warner.

Charles (Charlie) Schae, a Bridgeport boy who seems to be doing all right in Hollywood, is responsible for some of the dialogue in "From This Day Forward" at the Majestic. Manager Harry A. Rose made use of this fact in his exploitation.

Ted Holt, who formerly managed the Globe here, and who is now located in New Haven, was a recent Bridgeport visitor, calling on his old friends in show business.

Edgar Lynch, manager of the Roger Sherman, New Haven, who was in charge of the Warner here for many years, postscairs his friends from Florida, where he is vacationing, that the weather there is uncomfortably hot.

Al Domini, manager of the Globe, is on vacation. Robert Carney is pinch hitting.

Herbert Alpert, assistant manager at the Globe, has returned from his leave of absence and is feeling much better.

The Klein Memorial is being cleaned and repainted for the coming season. Manager Don Felix expects to have an entirely new sound system installed before Fall.

CHARLOTTE

Craven B. Roebuck's Hamilton Theatre in Hamilton, N. C., opened recently. Many people in the surrounding neighborhood came to the theatre and also attended the barbecue which was held beforehand.

Bob Sullivan, office manager of the local PRC exchange, reports that the simultaneous run of "Tree Enchanted Forest" at Tom Little's Plaza and Visulite theatres here did "standing room only" business every night that it played.

Ike and Harry Katz announce the completed plans for the opening of their new Kay Film Exchange. Distribution rights have been acquired on several Selznick and Hal Roach re-
issues, as well as a number of westerns, independent features and comedies. Ed Helder will serve as local branch manager.

Scott Lett, formerly with Paramount and United Artists, has been appointed branch manager of the local Screen Guild and Film Classics combined exchange, according to J. Francis White, franchise holder.

Reports are that Pauline Griffith secretary to the Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina, is recuperating from a recent operation. While she has been out much of her work has been done by Ben Strother of Rock Hill, S. C., president of the organization.

Heck Everett, president of Everett Enterprises, one of the territory's largest circuits, reports that his company has just purchased the Wades and Royal theatres in Morehead City, N. C. from Marvin Willis.

CINCINNATI

Harry McWilliams, roving publicist from Columbia's New York office, was in town recently. The local Columbia group is proud of having finished in first place in the district billings' play date drive.

J. J. Grady, district manager for the Central Division of 20th Century-Fox, recently completed a tour of Division cities in connection with the Bill Gehring drive.

Dick Miller, new office manager at Paramount, finally has licked the housing shortage and is moving his wife and child from Indianapolis.

Fred Myers has been appointed chef for the Paramount Pep Club's August picnic.

Vacationists from Film Row are streaming to Florida's beaches, a once-over local distributor's offices reveals. Virginia Monahan and Louise Brown from MGM are browsing themselves at Miami Beach. At the same city are Mr. and Mrs. Robert Banker of Universal. Mrs. Cora Molitieri of 20th Century-Fox recently returned from Daytona Beach. Other vacationists with different ideas are Robert Morrell, MGM, in New York City last week; June Beck, MGM, no special plans; Laverne Treeslein, PRC, recently returned from Chicago; Bill Burns, Columbia booker, did not commit himself. More Florida vacations include: Mary Spierer, PRC; Helen Winkler, Dorothy Maxfield, Rita Geotz and Myrtle Dietz, all of Warner Brothers. The Misses Eleanor Ingrout, Mary Weller and Eredine Carter, also of Warners, are in the western reaches of the U. S.

P. S. on vacationists: Don Galvin and Chester Stacey of Warners are staying in home territory. Galvin has been planting fruit trees on his newly acquired acreage near Sharonville; Stacey chose northern Ohio as his summer spot. Mrs. Cora Molitieri, 20th Century-Fox, spent her two weeks recently with her husband whom she was about to lose to overseas Army service. Marion Cowley, Paramount cashier, recently visited her family at Portland, Maine. Acolean Breen, Paramount head contract clerk, recently blew in from two weeks in the Windy City.

The featured event of Variety Club's picnic Monday at Summit Hills Country Club was a softball game between Ralph Kinzie's "Bull Dogs" and Levitt Bjug's "Tigers."

Ben Cohen, manager of Telenews-Strand, has added a new secretary to his staff—Bonnie Powers.

ATLANTA

The Paramount exchange threw a barbecue at Black Rock Country Club for John F. (Jack) Kirby, veteran of 20 years with the firm, who resigned after five years as southeastern division manager. Jack's future plans were not disclosed and his successor has not yet been named.

Twenty-eight State Patrol officers, city and county police chiefs, ministers, judges, welfare workers and educators, previewed "Boys' Ranch" at the invitation of Charlie Kessich, Loew's district manager, and were his guests afterwards for luncheon at the Capitol City Club.

Upon completion of the new Universal exchange building late this year, Film Row will have a wholesale moving day. United Artists has acquired the lease on the present Universal building and PRC Pictures has leased the present UA exchange.

Olivia Joan Fry, daughter of Boyd Fry, manager of Loew's Grand, celebrated her fourth birthday with a party at the home of her parents.

Paul Jones, theatre editor of the Atlanta Constitution, and Mrs. Jones are the parents of a son born June 28 at Georgia Baptist Hospital.

Ben Hill, southern publicity manager of United Artists, has returned to his home in Dallas after a swing through this part of his territory via air.

District Sales Manager Dave Prince and his staff have returned from the national RKO Radio sales meeting in New York.

Home from the Monogram sales convention in Chicago are Arthur C. Bromberg, president of Monogram Southern Exchanges, and members of his sales force.

Bert Cohan, Monogram branch manager, visited New Orleans.

Al Hill and Elmer Sodin, home office representatives of RKO Radio, have ended their visit to the local branch, the former leaving for New Orleans, the latter going to Chicago.

Film Row visitors: H. Greene, booking manager Or Amusement Company, Albertville, Ala.; John Stillsman, Franklin, Tenn.; Mrs. Rufus Davis Sr., Martin-Davis Theatres, Dothan, Ala.; High Martin Sr., Martin-Thompson Theatres, Columbus, Ga.

Another promotion within the ranks of MGM was announced this week with the appointment of Tom Casey, who has been with the company for 18 years, to the post of acting branch manager for the Atlanta branch. The temporary assignment will fill the vacancy created by the promotion of William B. Zochner, who now heads a special department at the home office.

BOSTON

The Thub Thumpers of America dedicated their annual dinner and initiation ceremony to the Emergency Food Collection fund for the starving people of Europe, and conferred honorary life memberships on Governor Maurice J. Tobin, "Dr. L. Q."

and his assistant, Allen C. Anthony. Harry Browning, of M. & P. Theatres, president of the affair, introduced Bill Cunningham of the Herald as toastmaster. He in turn introduced Thomas A. Pappas, New England Chairman of the Greek Relief Association, Denis W. Delaney, Mass. chairman of the Emergency Food Collection, and Isadore H. Y. Muchnick, city councilman. The famine dinner consisted of 1 cup clam broth, baked beans, ½ slice of brown bread, and Indian pudding.

John J. Scully, district manager of Universal, Branch Manager Meyer Felman, Office Manager Henry Wolper, Publicist Bob Ungerfeld, Sales Manager Art Greenfield, and Salesmen Jud Parker, Ken Mayer, Fred Shohet, and Alex Schmelz went to the annual Universal sales meeting in New York last week.

Herman Riklin's marriage to Miss Annette Karson, of New York, brought hearty congratulation.

(Continued on Page 38)

IT'S MATTRESS MONEY THEY'RE AFTER TOO. Holding a high spot in RKO's increased $6,000,000 advertising budget for 1946-'47 is appeal to the infrequent theatregoer and get what Advertising and Publicity Director S. Barrett McCormick (extreme right) calls "mattress money" or the money hidden in "sugar bowls and tucked away in the bed ticking." To this end, in addition to increasing newspaper space as newsprint becomes available, RKO will buy space in farm journals and publications with small-circulation. McCormick says: (left to right) Advertising Manager Ben Grimm, Executive Vice-President Ned Depinet and President N. Peter Rathvon. (Story on Page 26).
lations to the Monogram vice-president and owner of the Boston exchange.

Arthur Barwood of Hanover, N. H., has announced the sale of Film Transportation Company. The New Hampshire and Vermont business was sold to Thomas Claveau of Salem, Mass., and the Maine run to Wallace Taylor and Robert Turner of Brookline, Mass. Edward Young, skipper at Columbia, was married June 30 to Miss Florence Marcelli, New York, at the bride's home in New Rochelle, N. Y. The groom is a member of the executive board of local B-3, Film Exchange Employees Union.

Thieves, breaking into the Magnet Theatre in Dorchester, smashed the lock on the safe, but were unable to open it. They missed the $700 inside the safe, but stole some petty cash in a desk.

The new structure for the Film Exchange Transfer Company, which is being built on the old Cocomo Grove site will be a modern, one story, concrete and steel garage, with office. It is expected to be ready for occupancy by Nov. 1. George Ramsdell, Middlesex Theatres, has recovered from his serious illness and has left the hospital.

Harry B. Rosenblatt, branch manager for MGM at New Haven, has fully recovered from his recent operation at a Boston hospital.

HARTFORD

Members of the Hartford theatre—press and radio have been invited by Ralph D. Stitt to a dinner party at the Taft Hotel in New Haven, June 15, in connection with the pre-showing of "Anna and the King of Siam." Loew's Theatres and 20th Century-Fox are hosting the affair, which begins at five with cocktails.

Frank S. Mort, manager of the Regal, who has been ill, is back on the job and says he is feeling much better.

Manager Fred Greenway of Loew's Poli Palace is on vacation visiting friends here and there throughout New England. Lou Cohen is filling in for him during his absence.

NEW YORK

This was promotion week in the Paramount ranks, the company announcing three shifts in the distribution department. Clyde Goodson has gone from New Orleans to Atlanta as branch manager; Gordon Bradley, sales manager at Atlanta, changes to New Orleans as branch manager; and Albert Daren, salesman in the Atlanta exchange, assumes the post of sales manager there.

J. D. Alexander, president of the Alexander Film Co. and chairman of General Screen Advertising, Inc., is in New York until nearly the end of July. He is working from the firm's headquarters at 500 Fifth Avenue.

Halsey Ramsden of MGM's publicity department is the father of a second boy, born on July 2. The new arrival weighed 8 pounds, 13 ounces, and has been named William Guy.

"Don't Be a Sucker," United States Army Signal Corps short fighting race and religious prejudice, which Paramount is distributing, plays 15 day-and-date Broadway spots in New York this week. They were Ambassador, Capit- tol, Loew's Criterion, Globe, Gotham, Holly- wood, New York Theatre, Paramount, Republic, Rivoli, Roxy, Loew's State, Strand, Broadway Translations, and West Garden.

John P. Byrne, MGM district manager in Detroit, who has been promoted to eastern sales manager with headquarters in New York, was honored Thursday by the Detroit Variety Club at a special luncheon.

MGM notes: Bill McCormick of the publicity department is vacationing in Connecticut. Howard Strickling, MGM studio publicity chief, is expected from the coast the first week in August. Jack Goldsmith of the studio publicity department has arrived in Kansas City for a brief visit.

When they're not talking about the weather they're talking about vacations or sunsets along film rows. At Monogram, Booker Vivian Segall is set to hop off for two weeks at Miami Beach and Nat Furst's assistant, Jack Parkas, is off on vacation at an unknown location. The Monogram crowd is het up about "Suspense," which hasn't been sold generally, but which will get an early release for the sea- shore trade with openings in Asbury Park, Atlantic City and Long Island spots.

Over at United Artists Head Booker Ben Levine is set for his two weeks at Schuon Lake, while Pat Marcone, assistant office manager, is off to Bermuda, and Assistant Shipper Al Wartel is taking his days of leisure at Pochanau. Assistant City Booker Arleen Deutsch is also sending postcards back to the office with "wish you were here" messages. City Booker Myron Storr is off to Vermont. Evelyn Paquita is replacing Catherine Israel, resigned, on the secretarial staff, while Pauline Wishnoff has been added to the film inspectresses.

Paramount's Mary Satter is sweating out the heat in Connecticut, while Eddie Bell of the sales department didn't leave a forwarding address to where he is going.

At 20th-Fox Bessie Goldstein, who is tanned like tobacco from sun-bathing, will get off next week on her vacation, while Sophie Sheliin plans to spend her free time in Norwich, Conn., and Office Manager Joe Burke is set for Cedar- hurst, L. I. E. McManus, from the 20th-Fox Panama exchange, is taking a sailor's holiday by visiting the New York exchange during his four-week vacation. The office is excited over the prize money that it's trying for in the current division managers' drive. Quitting the outfit as a booking agent is Joseph Horwitz, who is interested in the stork's flying low, and Kate Harfield, who plans to keep house.

LITTLE ROCK

O. B. Abernathy, who has been assistant manager of the Ride and Joy theatres in Malvern since 1943, has been named manager of the Peit Jean Theatre at Morrilton.

Bill Headstream, manager of the Melba at Batesville, has been named president of the Batesville Rotary Club.

Construction work on the Cove in Red Rock and the Burrnann, both suburban theatres in Tulsa, Okla., has been permitted to proceed following a committee report that classified the structures as "assembly halls" and not subject to provisions of theater classification proper as issued by the city fire marshal, who issued stop orders on the work recently. The report specified that the theatres must be equipped with exit and emergency lights, with proper provisions for egress from rear exits into street and alley.

Malco's Park Theatre in North Little Rock here has changed from subsequent to first run policy.

Sam Kirby, publicity manager for Malco and assistant manager of the Prince here, has resigned to become an exhibitor and will open his new Nahor, suburban theatre here, as soon as construction work has been completed.

OMAHA

The Midwest Popcorn Company, one of the largest in the industry, suffered loss of its plant at Valley, Neb. as a result of a fire believed started by boys playing with fireworks. James Berggren, a partner in the company, which has offices here, estimated damage at $250,000 to $300,000. The biggest loss, he said, was in canned popcorn.

Jane Fuoco, Columbia statenographer, is vacationing at Lake Okoboji.

When Columbia held up its sales conference in Minneapolis, Joe Jacobs, Omaha branch manager, decided to stay on in the cooler climate for a week.

RKO sent Salesmen George Hinton, N. N. Golbrich, Dave Arthur, Branch Manager A. A. Renfro, and Exploiter John Matts from the Omaha office to the national convention in New York. Arthur joined the RKO sales staff, re-

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**Loew Switches**

Loew's metropolitan theatres in New York this week switched from a Thursday weekly change to Wednesdays in an effort to see if the dead spots in the mid week could not be built up. The changed opening dates apply to all houses in the metropolitan area excepting Loew's State on Broadway, Loew's Metropolitan in Brooklyn and the theatres in Newark and Jersey City. Eugene Picker, general manager for Loew's New York, said.
placing Max Rosenblatt who recently was promoted to branch manager at Des Moines.

Bob Bertram, who recently purchased the Schleswig Theatre, Schleswig, Ia., is giving the house its first remodeling in 15 years. New seats will be installed, the ticket office made flush with the sidewalk and stage and balcony eliminated.

Mayor Leeman spoke at the Saturday Variety Club meeting telling the film people about the city's need for more money and possibilities for progress through the post-war planning program.

Leila Kunze, Universal contract clerk, is spending two weeks in Kansas visiting relatives, Teresa Yeche, MGM inspector, is on vacation.

Purchase of the Clay Theatre at Clay Center, Neb., makes it No. 2 for C. E. Bradshaw, who also has a house at Martin, S. D.

Marian Wallace, 20th-Fox, and Lois Brown, Paramount, are vacationing together at Lake Okoboji.

Clarence Bubbaugh, MGM salesman, is currently mailing use of the cabin he has in Minnesota.

W. S. Powers, Glenwood (La.) exhibitor, returned from Los Angeles, where he visited his son, Paul.

Melina DeGostia and Tony Culotto, who were married here late in June, are honeymooning in Colorado. She is a Paramount contract clerk.

Kay Kane Theiler, Paramount secretary to the branch manager, is back from Hollywood and her honeymoon.

PITTSBURGH

A cocktail party was held by 20th Century-Fox at the Variety Club on Friday afternoon, July 12, in honor of the Caravan of Stars visiting the city in connection with the day and date premiere showing of "Centennial Summer," which was attended by more than a hundred persons of the motion picture industry.

The local Variety Club, Tent No. 1, will hold its annual golf tournament at the Highland Country Club on July 26. The committee members in charge are: Herb Dimling, chairman; Art Levy, John J. Maloney, Steve Swetonic, Jerry Castelli, Art Morone, Max Shalgold and Tom Bird. There will be a number of prizes for the contestants and competition will be keen, according to advance reports.

The Park Theatre, Meadville, Pa., will close temporarily on August 4 for extensive renovation and remodeling, which they expect to be completed for reopening on Labor Day.

Dorothy Tice, daughter of George Tice, sales manager for Columbia Pictures, who was seriously injured in an automobile accident several weeks ago and is still confined to the Greenville Hospital, Greenville, Pa., is reported improving.

Lew Leaton, salesman for Republic Pictures, and William Kloos, booker for Paramount Pictures, both of whom were recently in automobile accidents, are also reported to be on the mend.

His legion of friends were happy to see William R. Wheat, Jr., veteran exhibitor who operates the Sewickley Theate, Sewickley, Pa., back on Film Row after an illness of several months. He has just returned from a long stay in Florida.

An employe insurance plan and trust fund was recently inaugurated at the local Paramount exchange during a special meeting held by Earle W. Sigart, eastern division manager. in conjunction with the 94th and Greatest Year Drive, which will start September 1st. William Brooks, booking manager, and Grace Benitz of the service department were appointed co-capitains of the drive.

The 20th Century-Fox Family Club will hold its annual picnic at the Snyder Farm in Warrendale, Pa., on Saturday, July 13. There will be swimming, dancing, games and other entertainment in addition to the usual picnic refreshments. C. E. Peppiatt, District Manager, will be the guest of honor at this affair.

DENVER

Producers Releasing Corporation exchange has brought in Eddie Ashkins, recently Los Angeles city sales manager for Columbia, as exchange manager, succeeding Bill Williams, resigned. M. R. (Bud) Austin, office manager and booker, has been promoted to sales, and will cover the southern territory. Frank Sheffield, salesman for Republic before entering the Merchant Marine, has been made office manager and booker. Harry Stein, district manager, was here from Los Angeles to make the changes.

Buzz Briggs, manager of the State, was made godfather to Diane Jean Burgess, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James R. Burgess, at the christening of the baby. Burgess is assistant manager of the State. The child is a grand-daughter of Clarence Olson, United Artists manager.

George Simms has sold the Frederick, Frederick, Colo., to Robert Patrick, formerly with Republic in Atlanta, Ga. The house has been closed for remodeling and redecorating.

Tom Robinson, Columbia booker, is on vacation.

Everett Thorner has been brought in from New York as publicity director for Warner Bros., succeeding Richard Brill, who returned to New York. Allen Cohen, WB publicity man from Omaha, was here for a few days introducing Thorner around.

Vacationers at WB—Kathleen McCamney, cashier's secretary, flew to Minneapolis; Versa Hogan, secretary, flew to Grand Junction, Colo., for a few days, and then to the mountains.

Frank Barnes, who recently bought the Elite, Crawford, Neb., plans to spend about $6,000 in remodeling and redecorating, including installation of new seats and a new marquee. The Hart Theatrical Decorating & Display Co. are doing the redecorating.

Helen Stone, 20th-Fox contract clerk, went to Lincoln, Neb., for her vacation.

Hugh Reeney, 20th-Fox salesman, has been ill and is taking a couple of weeks off.

Annemae Bradbury, 20th-Fox contract clerk, has been discharged from the Marine Corps.

Charlotte Oberosler, RKO inspector, and Lloyd Halbert, also of Denver, were married June 30.

PHILADELPHIA

An attempted robbery at the Princess Theatre netted nothing for the burglars. After smashing the combination of the safe of the theatre, the thieves were unable to get at the money.

Mrs. Gloria Dietrich of Columbia's office cut her foot on the Atlantic City beach the first day of her vacation. The cut was so severe physicians in the Atlantic City Hospital had to put three stitches in the sole of her foot.

Jim Ashcraft, Metro's exploiter, was hitting the Scranton area this week.

Hank Howard, RKO's exploiter, is back on the job after last week's vacation.

Miss E. V. McCaffery, head booker of United Artists, and John Ziegler, Atlantic City adver-

(Continued on Page 40)
(Continued from Page 39)

Eddyville, now hoped civic back is musical nearing Idaster to Warner is to the desk Mr. Walter Williams open neers on of N. Hatch, Saxe owners. Some customers. It is six pairs of nylon so far for 20th Century-Fox booker Lil Rosentool, who is local exchange chairlady in the Andy Smith Drive.

Warner Theatre offices and the Metro exchange closed down for four days last week to give the employees advantage of the long weekend, Vine St. on Saturday morning was as deserted as it usually is on Sunday. Even the restaurant owners were complaining of the lack of customers.

MILWAUKEE

Eddie Speers, who was with RKO in Milwaukee years ago, but who has been in the advertising for some time, is back in Milwaukee, as manager of Film Classics.

Raymond Bonner, former RCA radioman, now managing the Milwaukee office of Gallagher Film Service (main office at Green Bay, Wis.), reports that the Gallagher firm has several weeks' work on a color and sound film on fire protection for the Ansul Chemical Company, Menomonee, Mich.

A man well-known to Milwaukee theatre pioneers died on July 4 at the age of 90. He was Rocco de Lorenzo, a musician. In 1908 when Tom Saxe operated the Theatormin in Milwau-

NEW THEATRES

New Hope, Ala.—R. P. Higginbotham will open his new theatre, the Galo, here about July 25.—ATL.

Guerneville, Calif.—A new 750-seat theatre will be opened here on September 1. D. A. Williams is the owner.—SFR.

Charlotte, N. C.—H. B. Meiselman has announced that he plans to commence construction on new theatres in Orangeburg, S. C., Ashevilie, N. C., Waynesville, N. C., and Charlotte as soon as required materials are available.—CHA.

Cash ton, Wis.—A building permit has been taken out by L. V. Bergtold for the construction of a theatre here. It is to be known as the Cashron Theatre. Beumey, Schubert & Sorensen of La Crosse, Wis., are the architects.—MIL.

Hatch, N. M.—The new Bohannon Theatre here is nearing completion. The Bohannon brothers, owners, have just purchased complete new Motograph projection booth equipment from Service Theatre Supply Co. The house will seat 400.—DEN.

Chatsworth, Ill.—The Virginia Theatre, recently destroyed by fire, is being completely rebuilt and will be equipped by National Theatre Supply. Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Kaiser are the owners.—CHI.

DISNEY-RKO PACT RENEWED. A new two-year contract, extending the RKO-Disney distributor-producer association to a total of 10 years, was signed in New York late last week. In the formal finalization of the agreement pictured above are N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president and Roy Disney, seated, while Ned E. Deplin and Gunther Lessing, of RKO and Disney respectively, look on.

LaSalle, Ill.—Contractors' bids have been invited for the new theatre to be built by the Alger circuit in this city. Rapp & Rapp of Chicago are the architects.—CHI.

Portland, Ore.—W. H. Dassler has sold the Bungalow Theatre at Woodburn to Peter J. Koppinger of New English, N. D. Included in the sale is the site for a second theatre in Woodburn. Plans for the new house are now complete and contracts for equipment have been signed, and it is hoped the STOP order will soon be changed to GO.—PRT.

Kuttawa, Kentucky—L. B. Faqua, owner of the Kentucky Theatre in Eddyville, has been granted permission by the city of Kuttawa to build a new theatre here on a site recently purchased in the business section. Application for materials has been forwarded to the Civilian Production Administration and construction will begin as soon as the application is granted.

London, Ont.—Approval has been granted by the London city council, through the amending of a civic zoning by-law, for the erection of a large theatre by Odleon Theatres of Canada, to be called the Princess. Odleon has no theatre in London and the new house is to cost at an estimated $25,000, TOR.

Elmer Pratt, employs copper oxide rectifiers, and costs about $1,500.

An amateur holdup man tried to get the cashier at Milwaukee's Miller Theatre, in the downtown section, to come across with the cash, while the audience in the show house was viewing a thriller. Quick thinking of the cashier saved the cash and scared the would-be hold-up man away. "Gimme the bills!" said the intruder. "No, I won't," replied the cashier. "I'll call the manager." These simple words did the trick.

KANSAS CITY

The Folly is set for considerable remodeling work before re-opening again this fall as a combination burly-films spot; one of the few remaining burlesque shows in the country.

Bob Hope's personal appearance, to be made as we write this, is scheduled to be S.R.O., judging from advance ticket sales. Hope is to receive a gold citizenship medal in recognition of his entertainment of overseas troops from the Vietnam of Foreign Wars while here. The citation pointed out that Hope "followed our troops to all parts of the globe. To the millions who saw and heard him, whether in the foxholes of the Pacific and Africa and Italy and Europe, or in the hospitals here and abroad, his sparkling wit was of untold value in keeping up morale and providing the 'lift' so vitally needed when the going is tough."

Alfred Adler, former city salesman with MGM here, is now manager of the local exchange, succeeding Frank C. Hensler who has moved to Detroit as district manager.

Les Durland is the new manager for Film Classics exchange here. Betty Carruso has moved over from Monogram to the cashier's post at FC.

Leland Allen has resigned as manager of King Enterprises and Screen Guild Productions. Late film row on Monday will honor Frank C. Hensler, local MGM branch manager recently promoted to district manager with headquarters in Detroit, and Albert L. Adler, former city salesman who succeeds Hensler in the post of manager here, at a special luncheon.

ALBANY

A Greenwich Village-styled art show was held by the Strand Theatre, Albany in connection with the showing of "A Stolen Life." The exhibit marked the second such event to be sponsored by this theatre for the Albany Art community. Well over one hundred artists entered their works. Leo Rosen is manager of the Strand Theatre, and was assisted in this stunt by Jerry Akin.

Just in time for the long Labor Day weekend, the theatre reopened and included George Thornton of Saugerties; Walter Wertein of Chestertown; Fred Baroudi of North Creek; Alec Mallory of Corinth; Vacationists include: Warner Bros. clerk Evelyn Segel to Burden Lake; Idastor Dembo at home; secretaries Mildred Belkin and Irene Smith to Schroon Lake and Pearl Weissblum to Green Mansions, Warrensburg; Paramounclerk Bea Graybill to Quebec, and exploiter Ed Wall and family to Hampton Beach, N. H.;
Columbia's biller Edna Joyce to Luzerne; MGM's Ruth Hogan and Elizabeth Konieczny to Burden Lake; Floyd Simmons and family to Long Beach.

TORONTO

Tragedy struck deeply in a level-crossing accident in the nickel-mining country of Northern Ontario when three persons were killed, Frank Fera, 3, Mary Fera, 19, a daughter, and a friend of the family, when their car collided with a train near Creighton Mine. They were driving from Sudbury to Creighton Mine, where Miss Fera had been managing one of the three theatres owned by Fera, who was prominent in the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario. His theatres were the Rio at Sudbury, the Regent at Creighton Mine and the Rio at Levack Mine. Fera is survived by his wife, four daughters and three sons.

After returning from 18 months Overseas service with the Canadian Red Cross, Lise, Bettyann T. Stapleton, daughter of D. B. Stapleton, owner of Odeon's Centre Theatre, Ottawa, has announced her engagement to Stephen, Ldr. M. J. LeBlond of the R.C.A.F., the wedding to take place in July.

Manager Russ McKibbin of the Famous Players Victoria Theatre, Toronto, has added Billy Lynch to his ushering staff. The youth is a son of late Jimmy Lynch, widely-known Toronto manager, who was in charge of the Rumnymede Theatre.

Following the return of the Canadian delegation from the Monogram sales convention in Chicago, announcement was made by Oscar R. Hanson, president of the Canadian company at Toronto, that the 1947 sales conference of Monogram Pictures had been arranged for Montreal, the first time the general meeting will have been held outside of the U. S. A.

The Strand Theatre at Port Colborne, Ont., has been re-opened after extensive renovation following a recent bad fire. Some years ago the theatre was owned by the Allens. It had to be practically rebuilt because of a blaze.

Toronto theatres have their entry in the "Miss Toronto" Beauty Contest of the annual Toronto Police Games in the person of Margaret Marshall, cashier of the Victoria Theatre. Canadian theatre men are mourning the death of William J. Melody, 72, at his Hamilton, Ont., home following a lengthy illness, the funeral being conducted under the auspices of the Canadian Motion Picture Association, which is now commemorating the opening of the first film theatre in Hamilton.

Johane Irene Nathanson, sister of Paul L. Nathanson, former president of Canadian Odeon, and daughter of Mrs. N. L. Nathanson, was married to Jerome L. Ostron of Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mayor A. W. Shackelford, owner of the Capitol Theatre, Lethbridge, Alta., operated in partnership with Famous Players, has been elected vice-president of the Canadian Federation of Mayors and Municipalities.

Viscount Alexander of Tunis, new Governor-General of Canada, is scheduled to officiate at investitures early in the fall on behalf of King George VI for the bestowing of high honors which were earned by prominent Canadians for war services. Among those in the recent honors list is President J. J. Fitzgebhohn of Famous Players, who was made a Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire. This week, as chairman of the Canadian Motion Picture War Services Committee and of the Motion Picture Section of the National War Finance Committee, Jack Arthur of the same company has become a member of the same order.

The board directors of Odeon Theatres of Canada, Leonard W. Brockington, J. S. Duncan and D. C. Coleman, were made Companions of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George.

NEWSREEL SYNOPSIS

(Released Saturday, July 13)

MOVIE TONE (Vol. 28, No. 99) — Fourth atomic bomb exploded at Bikini in awesome test.

NEWS OF THE DAY (Vol. 17, No. 288) — Complete list of spectacular scenes in atom bomb tests at Bikini.

PARAMOUNT (No. 91) — A Day at Bikini a milestone for mankind.

RKO PATHE (Vol. 17, No. 93) — Bikini atom exploded.

UNIVERSAL (Vol. 19, No. 518) — First pictures of atomic bomb blast in Pacific.

(REleased Wednesday, July 10)

MOVIE TONE (Vol. 28, No. 89) — V-2 rocket test; Japanese-American troops return from war; Army families arrive in Japan; UNRRA brings food to starving people of China; Fluffy girl swims 15 miles to safety in yachting tragedy; Turf thriller; Royal horse show; Lew Lehr in "How to Beat the Heat."

NEWS OF THE DAY (Vol. 17, No. 287) — Japanese-American heroes home from war; Reuben in Japan as wives join GI's; Congress memorial tribute to F.D.R.; Pope Fions appears for Vatican's 13th-century cyclings; King and Queen of England take up residence in Edinburg; Rocket record in new V-Z test; Help for China's starved millions; Strange adventure of three little bears.

PARAMOUNT (No. 90) — Track Olympic style; Congress honors Rosencrans; Spotlight on Troops; UNRRA sends help to starving China; Japanese-American 442nd Combat Team come home.

RKO PATHE (Vol. 17, No. 92) — Allies on guard in Trieste; UNRRA fights famine in Hainan Province; British women rebel at being rebound; GI families take up new homes in Japan; Nisei war heroes return to U. S. 89 Britons bid farewell to big screen.

UNIVERSAL (Vol. 19, No. 517) — Heroes come home; Army wives reach Japan; Air bus transfer; New high in weddings; Golf champs.

ALL-AMERICAN (Vol. 4, No. 194) — War pilots organize in Los Angeles; Tulsa stages annual musical festival; Clowns trim Montagues in Chicago night game; Negro stars are champs in Texas; Quadruplets are the talk of North Carolina.

Shorts Reviews

Olio for Jasper (Good)

Para. (US-3) Puppets (7 mins.)

Jasper refuses to relinquish his Yo-Yo to the Scarecrow. The Scarecrow, at the urging of his friend, the Crow, tells Jasper a very much embiggened story of his life. Starting as an impoverished youth, he is given a nickel by a loan company. This five-cent piece sets him on the road to amass a fortune and become a Wall Street tycoon. All is lost in the crash, and, says the Scarecrow, the Yo-Yo is all he now wants from life. Jasper still refuses, and a lively chase concludes this Technicolor cartoon.

Panama

(Fair)

RKO-Radio This Is America (20 mins.) Series 4 No. 8

Essentially a travelog of the Panama Canal, opening with a cartoon map showing the distant importance of Capt. Coolidge and moving on to the talking seagulls. Merchant and naval shipping are seen in passage; the mechanism and controls of the locks are explained in detail and their action explained by a brief animated cartoon. The failure of the French effort to dig the canal is graphically shown, by shots of rusting French machinery, in contrast to the American success. The Panama Zone railroad, hotels, commuters and police are touched on; maintenance work to keep the clear is demonstrated.

The Pennsylvania Railroad's conclusion stresses the importance of the waterway both in war and for peaceful trade.

LONDON OBSERVATIONS

By Jock MacGregor

Without a doubt the time has come for the Motion Picture Producers' Association of America to institute a public relations program in this country. Panting Hollywood pictures has become a too-popular pastime here.

Recently, Caroline Lejeune, one of the most popular of British film critics, reviewed "Do You Love Me?" in two words. They were: "Frankly, No." Yet she had devoted much space to the British version of "Othello" for which no release has yet been arranged and when it is released, few, in comparison to those who will patronize the 20th-Fox musical, will see it. Such notices must be damaging to the exhibitor who has paid a heavy percentage for the film.

It is also fashionable to criticize Hollywood re-makes of continental pictures, and this reached a new high recently when the BBC broadcast an interview with Simone Simon and Anthony Asquith in which they all but begged the Halkin Brothers not to re-make "Le Jour Se Leve."

They roasted "Heartbeat," a copy of "Battlement du Coeur," a film which some people have been waiting to see, but from which the public stayed away in droves.

BBC seems very apt at poking fun at films in general and Hollywood in particular.

Congratulations to Bill Attrell, who used to assist Dick Hamer, on his appointment in the army as a captain and adjutant. He is due for desk-odd soon.

"The Victory Newsreel" in Technicolor has proved one of the biggest box-office attractions this country has seen in many moons. This two-reader has had them lining everywhere and was sold on very generous terms by GFD.

Spent a very interesting evening with R. W. Altshuler, Republic's foreign manager, and Nora Mumford, their British publicist. He was very enthusiastic about the new Teclurco and surprised me by stating that with rising Hollywood costs it is necessary for a picture to get an international release to cover its outlay. In Britain, Republic is handled by Alexander Kordia's British Lion. "I've Always Loved You" ("Concerto"), their first Technicolor release, has received a big ovation from the trade press critics.

Arthur Rank can chalk up another big winner for the home market with "I See a Dark Stranger," a spy thriller. Now if you have a strong Irish community and play this picture, plug the Irish angle. With its beautiful exteriors and many players from the Dublin Gate and Abbey Theatres, it will bring real screen hearts. Warner Brothers are to re-build the "doodlebugged" Teddington Studios and hope to import leading Hollywood stars.
CHECK-UP ON PRODUCT IN WORK

Two-Day Strike Slightly Hampers Production at Ten Major Studios, But Loss Held Light as Settlement Brings Shooting Schedules Quickly Back to Normal

The two day strike July 1-2, hit every studio of the so-called "major" group in varying degrees, with MGM and Warners bearing the brunt of the picketing troubles. Early Monday morning (1) when the strike started, production was halted in at least one of the 10 lots, for which the Conference of Studio Unions was striking. Some of the majors picked up enough steam, however, to resume work Monday afternoon. Others were so fortunate and didn't get going until Tuesday morning. The overall result is a loss of time, naturally, but the loss is not as severe as it might have been had the strike not ended so fortuitously. Several films were delayed in starting and a few were kept off ending, but Wednesday morning found the situation normal again. Of course, Independence Day, coming during the week of the strike, didn't help shooting schedules.

500 Picket MGM

During the strike, as many as 500 CU pickets guarded the MGM gates, and some violence occurred. The only film the studio was able to put into action during the two-day difficulties was "Uncle Andy Hardy," which was enabled to finish. The film had been previously delayed by the illness of Sara Haden. Since the producers wanted Miss Haden to be present for a "family" dinner scene, the end of "Uncle Andy" had to be held up.

"The Unfinished Dance," set to roll July 2, was delayed until July 5. A story of the ballet, the picture stars Margaret O'Brien with Cyd Charisse and Danny Thomas. Henry Koster is directing and Joe Pasternak producing. Pasternak is also producing "This Time for Keeps," which has not gone before the cameras yet. The picture is due for more location work in Michigan.

Producer Sam Marx returned from Washington with permission to portray Dr. Vannevar Bush in "Beginning or End" and OK of his treatment of England's part in the atomic project. Metro is cashing in on the current Bikini experiments, matching headlines. Guy William was set for the role of bombardier of the Enola Gay, plane that dropped the first atom bomb.


WARNERS START 2 FILMS

Warner Bros., principal scene of last year's extended picketing, was again in trouble this time when the strike came. Second most stringently affected lot, the studio could only get two pictures going during the two days. A number of the WB stars refused to go through the picket lines, which naturally obviated the premise for shooting. "Stallion Road," which was scheduled to be completed, was held up, being able to work only Tuesday afternoon. The other film that managed to get before the cameras for a brief spell, anyway, was "Cry Wolf," Erroll Flynn-Barbara Stanwyck starrer.

Other WB features going are "Life With Father," and "Possessed."

UNIVERSAL UNITS BUSY

Universal was more fortunate than some of the other studios, being stymied only the first morning by the strike. By afternoon, several units were at work.

Now shooting are "Vigilantes' Return," Cinecolor outdoor drama, which just started; "Pirates of Monterey," Technicolor special starring Mark Monteza and Rod Cameron, which has been shooting almost three months; "Smash-up," Walter Wanger Production; "Magnificent Doll," Skirball-Manning costume opus of the days of President James Madison; "Swell Guy," Mark Hellinger Production; and "White Tie and Tails" Dan Duryea-Ella Raines-Bill Bendix starrer.

"Lawless Breed," Kirby Grant western with Fuzzy Knight, started July 5. Wallace Fox is serving as producer and director. "Ramrod," Enterprise's contribution to the Universal program, ended seven days of night shooting at Grafton, Utah, on the outskirts of Zion National Park. The company shoots two more weeks there and then returns to the studio to wind up production.

SG STAYS ON SCHEDULE

Because it did not fall into the category of the 10 major studios being picketed, Screen Guild was able to finish its latest film on schedule. Producer-director Bill Berke completed shooting on "Killing Home" on July 2, second day of the strike. Berke, who shot the picture for Affiliated Productions, a unit of SG, returned to RKo after making it. Affiliated, presided over by S. K. Decker, Los Angeles franchise holder for SG, plans additional pictures shortly.

UA LUCKY ON STRIKE

United Artists was holding horses when the strike came. Sol Lester managed to wind up his "No Trepassing" just a few days before the CSU imbroglio began, and all others except Andrew Stone's "Strange Bedfellows" and Loew-Lewin's "Bel Ami" were able to continue. Stone was immediately back because he is shooting at the Hal Roach lot, one of the studios picketed, Loew-Lewin, because they moved to RKo Pathe studios in Culver City, were also affected inasmuch as RKo was picketed. Seymour Nebenzal's "The Chase" was also held up a bit at the Goldwyn lot.

"Dishonored Lady" moved right along at General Service studios without a hitch, and Charles Chaplin's "Monsieur Verdoux" worked at the Chaplin sound stages. (Continued on Page 44)

Para. to Film Story of Variety Clubs as Musical

Arrangements have been completed between Henry Ginsberg, Paramount studio head, and R. J. O'Donnell, National Chief Barker of the Variety Clubs of America, for the exclusive rights of Paramount to film the story of that organization in the form of a romantic musical, "Variety Girl," scheduled as one of the company's most important productions.

The studio will assemble the all-time biggest cast of stars for the picture, including Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Kay Milland, Betty Hutton, Alan Ladd, Dorothy Lamour, Paulette Goddard, Barry Fitzgerald, Joan Caulfield, Veronica Lake, Bill Bendix, Sterling Hayden, Diana Lynn, Sonny Tufts, William Holden, John Lund, Robert Preston, Gail Russell, Billy De Wolfe, Mimsy Farmer, Cary Grant, Cass Daley, Marjorie Reynolds, Mary Hatcher, William Demarest, Olga San Juan, Arleen Whelan, Patric Knowles, Cecil Kellaway, Virginia Welles, Howard Da Silva, John Hoyt, Wanda Hendrix, Johnny Coy, Frank Faylen and others.

Production is scheduled to start in August with George Marshall as director and Daniel Dare as producer.

Largest organization in the entertainment world, the Variety Clubs comprise 27 units in every large city in the United States and several in Canada and Mexico. The clubs have a membership of 60000 exhibitors representing 16,500 theatres and have attracted world-wide attention for their outstanding humanitarian accomplishments.

Harrison Assigned

Rex Harrison will have the leading role in 20th-Fox's "The Ghost and Mrs. Muir," based on a novel by R. A. Dick. Fred Kohlimar has named producer and Philip Dunne is writing the screen adaptation.

Singer Signs Pact

Geraldine Sunter, 19-year-old shapely beauty whose singing created a sensation at the recent Silver Jubilee banquet of the American Society of Cinematographers, has been signed by Paramount to a long-term contract.

Vidor to Direct

King Vidor has been signed to direct these scenes in which Charles Laughton appears in "A Miracle Can Happen," to be produced by Benedict Bogeaus in association with Burgess Meredith.

Reagan's Assignment

Korda-Welles to Make 'Around World' in 1947

A Technicolor film of Orson Welles' musical comedy, "Around the World," will be the first of Sir Alexander Korda's scheduled productions to be made in financial participation with American motion picture stars. Welles will co-produce the picture with Korda, whom he will join in England late this fall for conferences. Production is slated to get under way in London early in 1947.

Although no release for the picture has been arranged, Korda is currently holding discussions with Warner on the establishment of an international distributing organization. Goldwyn's present releasing agreement with RKO Radio will expire at the end of this year.

Crew Off to Paris for 'Triumph' Backgrounds

A production crew under the leadership of Nate Watt, assistant to Lewis Milestone, is scheduled to leave New York this Friday (12) for Paris to film backgrounds for "Enoch Arden," Remarque's "Arch of Triumph," which Milestone will direct for Enterprise Productions.

The crew will spend seven weeks photographing backgrounds in Paris, on the French Riviera and in Freiburg, Germany.

Jan Bryant Signed

Jan Bryant has been signed for the feminine lead in "The Silver Trail," Monogram western drama starring Johnny Mack Brown with Raymond Hatton. Other cast additions are Ted Adams, Frank LaRue, Eddie Parker, Lane Bradford, Terry Frost and Cactus Mack. Lambert Hillyer directs, with Charles J. Bigelow supervising.

Set for Co-Ed Roles

Six girls have been signed for co-ed roles in "Sweetheart of Sigma Chi," Monogram musical for which Phil Regan and Phil Brito have been announced as leading roles. Girls are Bonnie Nolan, Beverly Johns, Ruth Allen, Dorothy Reisner, Adele Eaton and Jean Cronin.

'Gal' in Trucolor

Republic has assigned George Blair to direct the studio's first straight feature-length picture to be filmed in Trucolor, "That's My Gal," which Armand Schaefer will produce. Up to this time the colors had been used exclusively for the series of musical westerns starring Monte Hale and Adrian Booth.

Get Studio Space

Edward Small and Lester Cowan, heading their own independent producing companies, have concluded a deal which will give them the exclusive two-year use of the Hal Roach studios in Culver City except for space required for Roach for his own product.

Colbert to be 'T'

Claudette Colbert will have the leading role in International Pictures' "The Egg and I," which goes before the cameras early this fall. Producers Fred Finklehoffe and Chester Erskine are preparing the script from the Betty MacDonald best-seller.

STUDIO NEWS & PROGRAM NOTES

Roy Rogers to Star in Two Trucolor Republic Films; Gregory Ratoff to Direct 20th-Fox's 'Hollywood Story'

Harry Warren and Ralph Blane will do the musical score for MGM's version of "Huckleberry Finn," which will be produced by Arthur Freed.

William Nigh has been signed to direct Monogram's next Cisco Kid outdoor drama starring Gilbert Roland, with Scott R. Dunlap producing.

Charles Dingle will play the principal heavy role in "My Favorite Brunette," Bob Hope-Dorothy Lamour co-starring for Paramount. Other top roles in the picture, which Elliott Nugent will direct and Domet Dure produce, have been assigned to Peter Lorre and Lou Charney, Jr.

June Lockhart, daughter of veteran actor Gene Lockhart, has been signed to a long-term contract by Audrey Schenck, executive producer at Eagle-Lion, and will have a major feminine role in "That's a Joke, Son."

RKO exercised its option on the services of Harriet Parsons, producer, and she is currently preparing "A Very Remarkable Fellow," screen adaptation of the George M. Cohan stage success, "Pigeons and People."

To Reginald Owen goes one of the top male roles in 20th-Fox's Technicolor production, "Bob, Son of Battle," producer Robert Bassler's picturization of the famed dog classic by Alfred Oliphant. He joins a cast headed by Lon McCallister, Peggy Ann Garner and Edmund Gwenn. Louis King will direct.

Universal picked up the options of writer-producers Michael Frater and Ernest Pagano for another year. The team is currently preparing the script of "Flame of Tripoli," which will be filmed in Technicolor with Yvonne De Carlo and George Brent.

Producer Charles R. Rogers has signed Arthur Shields, brother of Barry Fitzgerald, for a leading role in "The Fabulous Dorseys," based on the lives of Tommy and Jimmy Dorsay. "At Green will direct for United Artists release.

Michael O'Shea was signed to play one of the top roles in "Mr. District Attorney," film based on the radio show, which will be produced by Sam Bischoff for Columbia release. Adolph Menjou has the title role, and other leads are to be played by Dennis O'Keefe and Margaret Chayovan. Robert Sinclair will direct.

Katherine DeMille was given the top supporting role in Paramount's "Unconquered," Cecil B. DeMille's next picture which will star Gary Cooper and Paulette Goddard.

Charles Trenet, French crooner, has been inked to a long-term contract by Eagle-Lion and will be starred in a story which he himself is writing, called "Of Thee I Dream."

Gregory Ratoff will direct "Hollywood Story," which Sam Engel will produce for 20th-Fox. Cathy Downs and Victor Mature have been set for starring roles.

Jane Greer was cast by RKO in the second important feminine role in "They Won't Believe Me," Robert Young-Swan Hayword starer which will be directed by Irving Pichel and produced by Joan Harrison.

Frank Gruber has been signed to write the treatment of "Bulldog Drummond at Bay," to be produced for Columbia release by Venture Pictures, independent unit headed by Lou Appleton, Jr., and Bernard Small.

Roy Rogers will make his debut in Trucolor in "Apache Rose," a story with a Spanish background which Edward J. White will produce for Republic as the first of two color specials on the studios' 1946-47 program.

British actor Sir Cedric Hardwicke will portray one of the top dramatic roles in David O. Selznick's "The Paradine Case," the Alfred Hitchcock film which will have Gregory Peck in the male lead.

Miklos Rozsa has been set by Benedict Bogeans and Casey Robinson to do the musical score for "The Short Happy Life of Francis Macomber."

First film for Richard Greene, following his war service, will be the literally Johnson story, "The Night the World Shook," to be produced by Gene Markey for 20th-Fox.

Carlson Back Again

Following his return from two years in the Navy, Richard Carlson will play a featured role with Martha Scott in RKO Radio's "So Well Remembered." He leaves for England the latter part of August, when production gets under way there with Edward Dmytryk directing and Adrian Scott producing.
CHECK-UP ON PRODUCT IN WORK

(Continued from Page 42)

Lewis Rachel, producer of the "Hopalong Cassidy" series starring William Boyd, has named the third of the group "Whispering Walls." The picture gets under way July 17 at Lone Pine location.

RKO Still Active Lot

RKO RKO Radio, most active of all lots in the number of films currently before the lenses, was only moderately affected by the strike. The damage done to production schedules was not serious enough to seriously rupture starting and finishing deadlines.

Latest RKO flicker to get under way is "Code of the West," a James Warren western with John Laurenz and Debra Alden. Herman Schlom produces and Bill Berke, just back from a Screen Guild stint, directs. Schlom is a busy matchmaker in the fire, however. Criss Wilbur Thumbs a Ride, Lawrence Tierney starrer. "Riffraff," now called "Mr. Fix," is being directed by Ted Tetzlaff. "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Sooxer," starring Gary Grant, Myrna Loy and Patric Knowles, is due to start July 15, with Dore Schary producing. Schary is also doing "Katie for Congress."

"It's a Wonderful Life," Frank Capra's producer-director special for Liberty Films, is moving into its last weeks, Samuel Goldwyn, whose studio was one of the 10 picketed by the CSU, was held up a few days on "The Best Years of Our Lives" and "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," but is now rolling again.

Other RKO pictures before the cameras are "Beat the Band"; and Disney's "Song of the South" and "How Dear to My Heart."

Republic Stopped Slightly

Republic had a slight work stoppage because of the strike, but got off better than most of the other lots. Most recent starter at the San Fernando Valley lot is "Homesteaders of Paradise Valley," a Red Ryder, with Allan Lane as the new hero. Sidney Picker produces and R. G. Springsteen directs.

"Rico and the Dancers," Sunset Carson western, started July 8, with Linda Stirling, Bob Steele and Tom London. Roy Rogers is making "Heldorado," which he started in Las Vegas some time back. Still going, too, is "The Son of Zorro," a serial.

Kenney Baker has been added to the cast of "Calendar Girl," big-budget special that started July 8.

Eagle-Lion Unaffected

Eagle-Lion was unaffected by the strike because nothing was in production. A number of projects are on the air, however. C. B. Welles finished his screenplay of "It Can Happen to You," which will be produced next month with Wilbur directing. The film will be made with the cooperation of the National Safety Council and Parent-Teacher Association.

Aubrey Schenck, E-L executive producer, signed Peter O'Crotty to write an original called "Luxury Train."

No Trouble at Paramount

Because there was absolutely nothing shooting at the Paramount lot during the strike, the studio was unaffected. Since then, the "Emperor Waltz" company has returned from Canada and was scheduled to resume shooting at the studio. "My Favorite Brunette," Bob Hope-Dorothy Lamour starrer, is expected to start work July 15, with Peter Lorre featured.

Monogram on Schedule

Being outside the pale of the so-called "majors" Monogram said goodbye to shooting during the writers' strike. "Sweetheart of Sigma Chi" started July 10, with four songs set for crooner Phil Bricco, co-starring with Phil Regan, Bricco sings "Sweetheart of Sigma Chi. And Then It's Heaven, Five Minutes More, and It's Not I'm Such a Wolf—It's Just You're Such a Lamb."

Johnny Mack Brown started "The Silver Trail" July 8, with Raymond Hatton, Lambert Hillyer directs and Charles J. Bigelow supervises. Others in the cast include Ted Adams, Frank La Rue and Eddie Parker. An untitled "Cisco Kid" is due to start July 18.

"Bringing Up Father" and "Woman Wanted" have been completed and are now being edited.

Columbia Works On

Columbia managed to keep some production going during the strike and was not too badly hurt. Despite the existencies created by the emergency, the studio finished "The Gloved Hand," Anita Louise starrer, on time, and also completed "The Outlaw Tamer," Charles Starrett—Smiley Burnette western.

Hotel sequences were shot by director John Cromwell at Columbia's Sunset studio for "Dead Reckoning." With the return of Lizabeth Scott from abroad, everything is rolling per schedule in the Humphrey Bogart starrer. Also shooting is "Down to Earth," which is now in its fourth month before the cameras. "My Empty Heart," Rosalind Russell—Melyn Douglas starrer, was supposed to start July 10.

Edward Small is shooting his "Return of Monte Cristo," with Barbara Britton sharing starring honors with Louis Hayward. Producer Milton Holmes started "Johnny O'Clock" several days before the last days of the strike, but it is now shooting under director Robert Rossen. Dick Powell stars with Evelyn Keyes, "Ghost Town," Judy Canova vehicle, is scheduled for a July 15 start.

Sam Katzman acquired rights to "Betty Coe," which he will produce independently through Columbia.

Production schedules call for Richard Dix to start another "Whistler" picture on July 15. Rudolph Flothow is set to produce and George Sherman to direct.

Bassler Busy at 20th-Fox

Delayed a bit by the strike, 20th-Fox now has several new pictures before the lenses; "The High Window," starring George Montgomery, Nancy Guild and Reed Hadley, started July 8. A mystery thriller by Raymond Chandler, the picture is being produced by Robert Bassler and directed by John Brahm. Bassler is also producing "The Homestretch" and "Bob, Son of Battle," which qualifies him for the title of "production mogul" because of his company town. "Homestretch," which just started, is a Technicolor racing story, with Cornel Wilde, Maureen O'Hara, Glenn Langan and Helen Walker. "Bob" is a dog picture, which was due to start July 15. Sol M. Wurtzel is shooting "Dangerous Millions" at Morey-Sutherland studios for 20th-re- lease. On the home lot are "The Razor's Edge," moving into its fourth month of shooting and "The Late George Apley," finishing its first month before the lenses. Possibly rolling by the time this appears in print will be George Jessel's "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now," originally set to start July 8, but postponed several times. William Frawley is the latest addition to the cast, which already includes Mark Stevens and June Havner with Martha Stewart.

Pine-Thomas Writers Busy on 6 Scripts

With six writers working on as many scripts, the Pine-Thomas story department is busier than at any time since the Paramount unit was organized five years ago. Cecile Kramer, David Lang, Whitman Chambers, Fritz Blocki, and Tom Ahern are on the unit's writing staff, working under supervision of Producers Pine and Thomas and their story editor, Maxwell Shane.

Ahearn is working on "Stepplejack," an occ- occ, with Blocki. Lang is working on the screenplay for "Albuquerque," big-budget western based on John Short's Saturday Evening Post story, "Dead Freight For Pine." Lang is at work on "They Fly by Night," original action murder vehicle. Chambers is preparing an outline of "Liquid Gold," his original on gold dredging activities. Blocki is doing the treatment of his original, "Harbor Patrol." Shane is working on an original oil story.

Pollock Book to Comet

Screen rights to Louis Pollock's "Book Storks Bane," have been acquired by Buddy Rogers and Ralph Cohn, co-producers of Comet Productions, and has been set as Comet's fourth in a series of pictures to be released by United Artists. The first, "Little Island," has been completed and is now awaiting release.

Band Stars Join 'Dorsey's'

NAME band leaders continue to gravitate toward the Bud Rogers production unit for "The Fabulous Dorsey's," the latest being Gene Krupa, Woody Herman and Lionel Hampton. Previously signed for this United Artists release were Paul Whiteman, Charlie Barnet, Art Tatum, Henry Busse, and Bob Crosby.

Holt in 'The Chase'

Jack Holt has been signed by Seymour Nebenz- al to portray a Navy doctor in the producer's forth coming United Artists release, "The Chase," starring Robert Cummings and Michele Morgan.

Two Options Lifted

Options on Alan Young and Beryl Ives have been lifted by 20th Century-Fox. Young will be seen shortly in "Margie" and Ives is currently appearing in "Smoky."

Lang to Direct Grable

Twentieth-Century-Fox has engaged Walter Lang to direct the next Betty Grable film, "Mother Wore Tights."

International's House

Billy House has been signed to a long-term contract by International Pictures. He will appear in "The Egg and I."
TITILE INDEX

Listed in the following index are titles of features (exclusive of western series releases) with name of the distributor following the title. For data as to running time, casts, etc., refer to title under distributor company listings.

A

Title
Abbott & Costello in Hollywood . . . MGM
Abie's Birthday . . . UA
Abbie Towne . . . UA
Abilty . . . UA
A Black Angel . . . UA
Accent on Horror . . . Misc.
A Close Call for Boston Blackie . . . Col.
Adventures for a Day . . . PRC
Adventure with Me . . . Misc.
A Game of Death . . . RKO
A Letter for Evi . . . MGM
Also Billy the Kid . . . UA
A Likely Story . . . RKO
Allentown Nights . . . UA
Along the Navajo Trail . . . Rep.
Alludl Travel . . . PRC
A Song of Love . . . UA
Avalanche after Midnight . . . UA
A Walk in the Sun . . . 20th-Fox
A Walk in My Own Shoe . . . UA
A Yank in London . . . 20th-Fox

B

Bachelor's Daughters . . . UA
Bad Badman . . . 20th-Fox
Badman's Territory . . . RKO
Bamboo Blonde . . . UA
Bandit of Sherwood Forest . . . Col.
Battle of Music . . . Misc.
Beast Without a Head . . . WB
Best the Band . . . RKO
Because of You . . . UA
Beulah . . . Misc.
Beulah's Chance . . . UA
Beginning of the End . . . MGM
Bird of Paradise . . . UA
Behind the Mask . . . UA
Bell of St. Mary's . . . RKO
Below Twenty . . . UA
Believe . . . Misc.
Beloved Dead . . . UA
Best Years of Our Lives . . . RKO
Beyond Passage . . . Univ.
Big Sleep . . . WB
Big Town . . . UA
Birth of a Star . . . Astor
Black Angel . . . UA
Black Beauty . . . 20th-Fox
Black Market Babies . . . Mon.
Blonde Alibi . . . UA
Blonde Knows Best . . . Col.
Blonde with a Bra . . . UA
Blondie's Baby Bum . . . UA
Blondie's Lucky Day . . . Col.
Blue Jeans . . . UA
Blue Skies . . . UA
Border Badmen . . . PRC
Bordering Danger . . . UA
Borne for Trouble . . . WB
Bos of the Black Hills . . . UA
Box Office Success . . . UA
Boy's Ranch . . . MGM
Breakfast in Hollywood . . . UA
Bride Wore Boots . . . Para.
Bride of the BlackHand . . . UA
Bring Up Father . . . Mono.
Brute Man . . . UA
Burma Victory . . . WB

C

Caeasar & Cleopatra . . . UA
Calcutta . . . UA
Caliban . . . Astor
Calendar Girl . . . Rep.
California . . . UA
Captive Heart . . . UA
Captain Kidd . . . UA
Captain Nemo . . . UA
Captive . . . Misc.
Caravan Trails . . . PRC

FEATURE BOOK

ASCTOR PICTURES

Prod. No.
Beware (M) . . . Louis Jordan-Frank Wilson.
Beyond Tomorrow . . . Winninger-Carey-Aubrey Smith.
Fangs of the Wild . . . Rin Tin Tin, Jr.
Glenda from Arizona . . . King-Joe-Bar.*
Hell's Angels (D) . . . Lynn-Harlow-Hall.
Her Enlisted Man (CD) . . . Barbara Stanwyck-Robt. Young.
I Cover the Waterfront . . . Luana De Bue-Garrett.
Let 'em Have It (G) . . . Bruce Cabot-Virginia Bruce.
Little Men . . . Oakie-Frances-Baenocrat.
Silver Devil (D) . . . H. Gibson-Stephon Fitch.
Sky Devils (C-D) . . . Spencer Tracy.
Still the Good Die Young . . . Robert Young.
Thunder in the City . . . Edw. G. Robinson.

COLUMBIA

Current 1945-46

7030 A Close Call for Boston Blackie (M-F) . . . C. Morris-R. Lane-L. Merrick.
7034 Bandit of Sherwood Forest *(T) (D-F) . . . Cornel Wilde-Anita Louise.
7022 Crime Doctor's Warning (My-F) . . . Warner Baxter-Dusty Anderson.
7035 Dangerous Business . . . Lynn Merrick-Tucker Forrest.
7030 Gilda (D-F) . . . Rita Hayworth-Glen Ford.
7031 Hit the Hay (M-F) . . . J. Canova-R. Hunter-L. Merrick.
7033 Just Before Dawn (My-A) . . . Warner Baxter-Adelle Roberts.
7032 Spot & Tell (CD-F) . . . Shirley Temple-Jerome Courtland.
7019 Life With Blonde (C-F) . . . P. Singleton-L. Simms.
7031 Once Upon a Day (C-F) . . . Warner Baxter-D. Greer.
7037 My Name Is Julia Ross (D-F) . . . Nina Foch-George Macready.
7033 Murder in the Dark . . . Richard Dix-Baron MacLean.
7033 Night Editor (D-A) . . . William Gargan-Jans Carter.
7030 Notorius Wives (C-F) . . . Gerald-Ann-Milne.
7032 One Way to Love (C-F) . . . W. Parcer-Marguerite Chapman.
7036 Perilous Holiday (D-A) . . . Pat O'Brien-Ruth Warrick.
7035 Renegades *(T) (W-F) . . . Evelyn Keyes-Willard Parker.
7032 Return of Rusty . . . Ted Donaldson-J. Lefet-Mark Dennis.
7036 She Wouldn't Say Yes (C) . . . Russell-J. Luna-Bowman.
7033 Snafu (C-F) . . . R. Bencheley-V. Vague.
7033 Talk About Lady (D-A) . . . Jinx Falkenburg-Jessie Rosenthal.
7037 Tars and Spars (CM-F) . . . A. Drake-J. Blair-M. Platt.
7032 Voice of the Whistler (D-A) . . . Richard Dix-L. Merrick.
7033 Walla Came Thumbling Down, The (D-F) . . . Lew Bowman-Marguerite Chapman.

COMMIX

Blondie Knows Best . . . Penny Singleton-Arthur Lake.
Down to Earth *(T) . . . Rita Hayworth-Larry Parks.
Death Rides the Range . . . Glenn Ford-Jane Blair.
It's Great to Be Young! . . . L. Brooks-E. Stanton-J. Donnell.
Johnny O'Clock . . . Dick Powell-Evelyn Keyes.
Peyton Place Kid . . . Louise-Michelle Morgan.
Thrill of a Romance . . . Diane Ladd.
Jolson Story *(T) . . . L. Parks-E. Keyes-D. Demarest.

WIRELESS CURRENT (1945-46)

7204 Frontier Gunlaw (W-F) . . . Charles Starrett-Tex Hardin.
7236 Galloping Thunder (W-F) . . . Charles Starrett-Smiley Burnette.
7266 Lawless Empire . . . Charles Starrett-Tex Hardin.
7206 Roaring Rangers (W-F) . . . Charles Starrett-Smiley Burnette.

FIlm Features Classification is indicated by following titles:
A-Adult; F-Family. Letters and combinations thereof in parenthesises indicate type of story in accordance with following key:

(B) Biographical
(D) Drama
(Doc) Documentary
(G) Gangster
(H) Horror
(M) Musical
(W) Western

*Documents given in the story for Westerns.

REVIEW, 4/17/45
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351 Spook Busters  
231 Strange Voyage  
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REVIEW  
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Gilbert Roland-Marjorie Riordan  
Leo Gorcey-The Bowery Boys  
Eddie Albert  
Bela-Harry Sullivan-P. Pallete  
B. Granville-P. Regan  
Francis-Robert Shayne  
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COMIC BOOKS GIVEN FREE INCREASES MATINEE BUSINESS. Comic books for premium purposes only 3 cents each. Books are exactly as sold thru newsdealers for 10 cents—minimum order $2.00. Check with order. Sidney Ross, 334 W. 44th St., New York City.

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WANTED TO LEASE—Theatre in eastern or southern states by former manager. Excellent references. G.P.E. Box 45, Ampere, N. J.

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PRICES REDUCED—Complete Army Theatre Outfits—Hollers professional latest sound projectors, 2000’ magazines; lens; acoustics; toilets; motors; heavy pedestals; 30W amplifier; monitor; 2 way Multicellular horn system, ready to go, $1969.00. With regular amplification and single speaker, $1250.00. S. O. S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., 449 W. 42nd Street, New York 18.

HERTER 10/6 GENERATOR SETS, $135.00; Westwiltage 25 W, $85.00; Ticket Machines band operated, Wenzel Three Unit, $135.00; General Four Unit, $195.00; Beautiful Box Office, 9” x 4’, sound motors, $79.30; Heavy Duty Vacuum Cleaner, rebuilt $95.70; Conometers with Pennies, $69.50, Send for Catalog. S. O. S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., 449 W. 42nd Street, New York 18.

THEATRE SEATS—PROJECTORS—Folding Chairs. 16mm. film—lights—new screens. Lone Star Film Co., P. O. Box 1734, Dallas, Texas.

SUPER-SIMPLEX MACHINERY, $5,000 serials, like new, $900.00; Powers mechanisms, rebuilt, reconditioned, $95.90; Simplex interments, good, $4.95; Morelite automatic arc lamps, rebuilt, $135.00 pair; Thousand other bargains. Write for catalog. STAR CINEMA SUPPLY COMPANY, 440 West 45th St., New York 19, N. Y.

PAIR REBUILT POWER 6 B. Projectors with Sound Heads—$100.00; Pair Reflector Arc lamps with Automatic Feed—$100.00; Pair Gen. Elct. Masts Equipment Complete Ready to Use—$60.00; Pair New 30 Amp. Rectifiers—$180.00; P. Sabo, 916 N. W. 19th Ave., Portland, Oregon 9.

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SKY HIGH PRICES PAID for Simplex, Powers, Sound Equipment, Lamplhouses, etc. STAR CINEMA SUPPLY CO., 440 West 45th St., New York 19, N. Y.

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USED POP CORN MACHINES. Send make, model, price and condition. Russell’s Korn Krib, Box 132, Hartsville, Tennessee.
WE TALKED About YOU!

What a party for The PRIZE BABY!... Every salesman, branch manager and Home Office executive... of the En Es Es Family... in America... and from London... gathered in a 3-day International meeting... to talk about our most important subject...YOU!

Yes sir! One Hundred and Sixty-five service-minded guys... discussing ways and means for getting 1800 NSS employees to render an even BETTER SERVICE to the Exhibitor!... and we DID IT!

From this annual round-table hooplah... came the plans for setting up DISTRICT DEPOTS... for improving Accessories Service... A couple of eye-popping XMAS DISPLAYS... and a bell-ringing XMAS STANDEE took bows!

A trained staff of SERVICE SUPERVISORS... learned from a show-minded gang of enthusiastic SALESmen... WHAT you WANT in the way of SERVICE... and HOW you’d like to GET it!

The Commander-In-Chief and his Cabinet laid down the RULES... for IMPROVING service, sales policy, and YOUR profits!... And they stressed the fact that YOU were the fellow who had to be pleased!

The PRIZE BABY gets the “gang” together... EVERY YEAR... for a man-to-man taffy-pull like this... and each year we talk about YOU!... BUT... this year... with most of our boys back from overseas... with plenty of that “Magic Touch of Showmanship” up our SALES and SERVICE sleeves... you can “make book” that the plan is in the bag... and that the guy to benefit MOST... will be YOU!
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Vol. 45 No. 1
JULY 20, 1946

Entered as second class matter, February 20, 1940, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Published weekly by Showmen's Trade Review, Inc., 1161 Broadway, New York 18, N. Y., U. S. A. 10 cents a copy, 50 a year.

CHARLES E. 'CHICK' LEWIS
Editor and Publisher

The Motion Picture
THEATRE
Equipment & Maintenance
Begins Following Page 30
M-G-M presents VAN JOHNSON • ESTHER WILLIAMS • LUCILLE BALL • KEENAN WYNN in "EASY TO WED" • In Technicolor • Cecil Kellaway • Carlos Ramirez • Ben Blue • Ethel Smith at the Org
Adapted by Dorothy Kingsley • From the Screenplay "Libeled Lady" by Maurine Watkins, Howard Emm Rogers and George Oppenheimer • Directed by EDWARD BUZZELL • Produced by JACK CUMMIN

While Los Angeles continues its record-breaking run of "EASY TO WED" in 4 theatres, Broadway hails this new M-G-M record-breaker at the Capitol, N.Y. Sure the BIG ONES come from M-G-M!
Almost Unanimous

Thus far we have heard of only one exhibitor who believed that the recent court decision was a blessing of some kind for the independent. And he was probably influenced by the fact that he had a first run in which he hoped he'd be able to bid for the top pictures. (He'll wake up, too.)

With this sole exception, every other exhibitor opinion has been that the decision, viewed from every angle, can only hurt, not help, the average exhibitor.

It is simply wishful thinking for any theatremen to actually believe that he will be able to walk in and bid against the previous first runs. All he'll ever succeed in buying is a headache at a price he cannot afford to pay. The smart, top operators will probably bid up the price and then let the suckers have it, along with the losses that must result from sky-high prices.

At this writing it appears that even the Department of Justice has just about come to the conclusion that the auction selling portion of the decision and decree just will not work and they, too, are seeking a solution.

Another phase that has many people guessing is the ultimate fate of the buying combines. Several exhibitors now parties to such combines are trying to figure out whether the decision will end this kind of buying.

Our advice right along has been to continue to carry on your business to the best of your ability until these vexing problems have been solved or clarified and then to adjust yourself and your picture buying to conform to whatever is finally decided, according to the best information that will be available if, as and when.

ATA Marching On

This newest national exhibitor organization is apparently catching on with exhibitors all over the country, and our prediction of many months back seems headed for confirmation.

This week witnessed the formation of a New Jersey unit, and, according to what we hear, several others will also soon tie up, including old, established state units presently unaffiliated.

We don't wish our editorial comment about ATA to sound too much like horn-blowing for this new outfit. But we sincerely feel and believe that it has great possibilities for the good of all exhibitors and we are anxious to see it get a real trial and to observe how it will behave under heavy fire.

The acid test will come when the organization has units or affiliates in nearly every state in the union, so that when it says it represents the great majority of theatres, the statement will be a fact and not just a claim.

Good or Bad?

According to many reports reaching this desk there is a growing tendency among exchange managers and salesmen to acquire ownership or partnerships in theatres. No doubt, the boom theatre business during the past four or five years has made them anxious to cash in while the opportunity is good.

We are not passing judgment or even an opinion at this time on this growing practice. Certainly any man has a perfect right to better his opportunities and future.

The moot question is whether or not it is ethical or good business for a man in distribution to be active or interested, financially, in exhibition and in probable competition with other theatres who are his customers.

A great many years ago a similar condition almost resulted in a scandal. As a result, the branch managers involved found it advisable to dispose of their theatre interests and stick to the distribution branch.

From the several sales managers we sounded out it is obvious that they are not aware that any of their branch managers are also exhibitors on the side. Their opinions on the subject were varied, with some running from an emphatic "against" to a lukewarm "I don't care."

No Surprise

At the Allied Atlantic City Convention, Al Sindlinger, of Audience Research Institute, told the assembled exhibitors that it was no bargain to be able to play ahead of the big city keys.

We found this out from actual experience as far back as 1927 when Middletown, Conn., was able to play pictures ahead of New Haven and Hartford. In those days we tried out several top-flight pictures ahead of those two important cities and did much less business than when we followed them by a week or so.

By playing ahead we not only lost the effectiveness of their advance campaigns but also the equally valuable word-of-mouth that always filtered through into our own town.

It is hard to believe that exhibitors similarly situated haven't learned this lesson for themselves long ago.

—"CHICK" LEWIS
Theatre Sues for $2,100,000

Suit for $700,000 damages, which tripled under the punitive provisions of the anti-trust laws would amount to $2,100,000, and an injunction establishing competitive bidding, was filed in the federal district court of New York last week by the National Theatre of downtown Louisville, Ky., against nine distributors and two theatre corporations.

The suit charges that the defendants—Paramount, Loew’s as owner of MGM, 20th Century-Fox, Warner Bros., Universal, Columbia, United Artists, RKO, Republic, the Marcus Loew Booking Agency and the United Artists Circuit—had conspired to prevent the 2500-seat National from obtaining first run product in favor of houses operated by the Fourth Avenue Amusement Co., and the Fourth Avenue Realty Corp. Suing are theatre owner Albert J. Hoffman of Louisville and his lessee operators, the Fifth Avenue and Walnut Corp.

“The National has not been able to get a first run since 1930,” plaintiff attorney Monroe Stein declared, explaining that the injunction sought would restrain an alleged conspiracy that would establish competitive bidding. This is the first damage suit filed since the three-judge statutory court in New York handed down its anti-trust “consent decree” opinion.

Box-Office Holds Price Line
As Food, Vacation Costs Jump

Public Is Shopping for Its Pictures; Attendance Drop Thought Due to Heat

Box- offices of the United States continued to hold price lines firm this week as an OPA-less nation was gradually jacking up prices on other commodities as well as vacations.

While theatre admissions were never subject to government control, the strange fact is that the only rises noted were generally prior to June 30 when the OPA expired, while since that time practically no price in admissions has been noted, a survey made by SHOWMEN’S Trade Review indicates.

Actually, as far as the nation is concerned, the average community has not increased its admissions. The general overall rise, prior to June 30, caused by increased admissions in scattered sections of the country, was estimated at 8.05 per cent, breaking down to an increase of 8.75 for the downtown houses and 7.4 per cent for the neighborhood houses.

Even before June 30, figures show that for the most part the theatre admissions had shown no appreciable increases when compared to the advances made by food and clothing which were controlled.

Chicago, which showed a 15 per cent admission rise, claimed a 25 per cent increase in clothing and 10 to 30 per cent increase in food costs. Omaha estimates its admissions went up 15 per cent, but that clothing, tops, with 30.9 per cent, and food costs have more than doubled.

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One Reel or Less, Gov’t Agencies Told by OWMR

The Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion this week moved to carry out the functions President Truman delegated to it as a clearing house for government films by recommending to all government agencies which planned film production for theatrical showings to send a running list of output to OWMR.

The OWMR also instructed the agencies to prepare scripts of the films in advance and submit them to the American Theatres Association for review together with a notation on the running time of the feature. Future production, the OWMR advised, should await ATA review, evidently in an effort to avoid a repetition of “The Seeds of Destiny” incident.

Other requirements OWMR listed were that subjects should be factual and of a non-controversial nature, sufficiently important to warrant national distribution and of enduring interest so that the presentation would not easily be outdated.

The OWMR said it stood ready to deal with any theatre or industry group but that only ATA has indicated a desire to cooperate with the government so far.

Seeks to Reduce Canadian Tax

Efforts to get the Canadian government to reduce taxes generally and especially to modify the 20 per cent amusement tax on admissions, were made in Toronto this week by Donald Fleming, a member of the House of Commons. Fleming argued that the admission tax was a burden on the low bracket income groups.

John P. (“Jack”) Byrne
(The Man on the Cover)

Whose appointment to succeed E. K. “Ted” O’Shea as Eastern Sales Manager for Loew’s, Inc., was announced recently. Byrne assumes his new duties with a wealth of experience behind him, having proved during his 20-year association with Loew’s his possession of the qualities that have made him so progressively more important and responsible assignment. Since joining the company in 1925, he has been a salesman in various territories as well as branch manager in New Haven and Boston. In 1931 he was named Denver district manager, supervising the Denver, Des Moines, Omaha and Salt Lake City territories. He comes to his new high post in New York from Detroit, where he was district manager for 13 years.

SHOWMEN’S TRADE REVIEW

Title and Trade Mark Registered U. S. Patent Office Published every Friday, by Showmen’s Trade Review Inc., 1301 Broadway, New York 18, N. Y., Telephone Long Island 3-1212, Chas. E. Chick Lewis, Editor and Publisher; Tom Kennedy, Associate Editor; James A. Croh, General Manager; Ralph Colon, Managing Editor; Harold Rendall, Equipment Advertising Manager; Sam Silver, Booking Manager; William E. Haggard, Hollywood 28, California; Telephone Hollywood 2053; Anson R. Hays, Business Manager; Harry W. Brown, 932 Wrangler Building, Chicago 11, Illinois. London: Representative, W. H. Currie, 14-17 The Strand, London, W. C. 2. Australian Representative, Gordon V. Curtis, 1 Elliott St., Homebush Sydney, New South Wales. All contents copyright 1946 by Showmen’s Trade Review Inc. All rights reserved. Address for subscriptions: Showmen’s Trade Review, 1301 Broadway, New York office. Subscription rates: $1.00 per year in the United States and Canada; Foreign, $5.00. Single copies, ten cents.
Nice Business

It's been a nice year in the film business thank you.

Industry dividends during May 1946 reached a total of $1,610,000, the highest of any period, Department of Commerce figures show. In May, 1945, they were $129,000. The balance was tipped in 1946 by RKO's common stock dividend declaration which reached $900,000.

Yamins Heads Allied's
Boston Meet Committee

Allies States Association Tuesday appointed a committee of 20, headed by Nathan Yamins, to map plans for the national organization's 13th annual convention, which is scheduled for the Copley Plaza Hotel in Boston for three days starting Sept. 12. This will be National Allied's first convention since the war.


New Jersey Organizes
American Theatres Unit

Approximately 45 theatre owners, representing over 125 New Jersey theatres met in Asbury Park Tuesday and overwhelmingly voted to form a New Jersey unit of the American Theatres Owners. Prominent in the enrollment was David Weinstock, representing the Independent Theatre Owners of New Jersey whose 35 theatres joined the movement.

The meeting selected an organization committee consisting of Chairman Adam Adams of Paterson and Newark, Maury Miller of Harry Hecht Enterprises, Walter Reade, Jr., David Weinstock of Raybord Theatres, Samuel Frank of Hammonton, S Meyer of Trenton, Leon Rosen of Rosenblatt-Welt; David Silverman of Wrightstown; Isadore Hirshblond of Toms River.

The meeting was opened by Harry Hecht, who turned over to ATA Executive Director Robert W. Coyne, a copy outlining ATA aims and pleading for a united local and national front, said that the industry might be on the threshold of federal regulation because exhibitors had lacked the proper representation.

Gomersall Goes to Coast

Enterprise General Sales Manager E. T. Gomersall left New York Thursday for Hollywood to confer with Board Chairman David Loew and President Charles Einfeld. This is his first visit to the studio since taking over his new post.

Auction Selling? It's $64 Question to Puzzled Industry

What's going to happen?

That's still the $64 question exhibitors and distributors are asking each other as the "auction selling" feature of the anti-trust "consent decree" opinion continues to remain officially announced and a state of confusion as to selling policies seems to have spread across the nation.

One thing seems fairly certain though. Partly because of the opinion and partly because of increased production costs (Hollywood granted 25 per cent pay boosts to almost all union labor and to musicians, making a conservative total of over $18,000,000 added to production costs yearly), motion pictures during the coming year are going to cost more over the counter.

Part of this increased cost will come from what distributors say is going to be the increased cost of single selling. Another part will come from what the exhibitor believes is going to be the increased cost in paper work, travel and time, of buying singly. No one has even hinted to what extent costs will be blasted upward under the impact of auction selling, when and if this part of the opinion is put into effect.

None of the "Big 5" distributor defendants in the anti-trust suit to date Paramount, Loew's as owners of MGM, Warner Bros., RKO, 20th Century-Fox—have announced or will acknowledge that they have designed a plan by which they can sell by auction. However, it is reported that an attorney for at least one company has put out feelers on the auction system to the United States Attorney General's office.

That department has said that it will welcome suggestions from defendants and non-defendants and has declared that if the suggestions, in its opinion, have merit, the Government may present them to the court as its suggestions. The Department has made it plain however that it would not take under its wing any suggestions which it did not approve and has suggested that interested parties seek the court's permission to present their suggestions directly.

Exhibitors and distributors at the moment (Continued on Page 6)

Allied Will Ask Dept. of Justice to
Appeal 'Auction' Sales, Says Myers

National Allied will urge the Department of Justice to appeal the auction selling phases of the anti-trust "consent decree" opinion Allied General Counsel Abram F. Myers said in Washington Wednesday at the conclusion of a two day meeting of that organization's executive committee.

Myers blamed an alleged "dearth" of films on the "confusion and uncertainty" which he says resulted from the opinion, and indicated that Allied bought theatre divestiture.

The Allied counsel, with Allied President Jack Kirsh, Col. H. A. Cole, M. A. Rosenberg, Sidney E. Samuelson, Martin G. Smith and Nathan Yamins—all members of the executive committee—conferred Wednesday with Robert L. Wright, Special Assistant to the Attorney General.

Myers explained the committee had made known Allied's objections to the opinion to the Department of Justice and said:

"The only way to correct the erroneous features of the decision is to appeal from the decree the court's unprecedented remedy of auction selling."

The Allied General counsel said there was "conflict . . . between the court's findings on trade practices and the loosely written features at the end of the decision" and claims the court should have called for the "traditional remedy of divestiture and dissolution."

Dissolution and divestiture, he added, "without a doubt" would remedy a "dearth" of films which he claims exists by bringing more pictures into the market.

It was understood that the subject of divestiture and dissolution had been broached to the Department of Justice but Myers would not comment on the remainder of the program adopted by the Allied executive committee claiming it was "tentative" and that it must meet with the Allied Board's approval. The Board will be notified by mail and in case of dispute, the matter will be taken up at its meeting in Boston on Sept. 14-15, two days before the Allied 13th annual convention.

Wright did not comment on the Allied plans, Myers said, but declared he would welcome suggestions from exhibitors and other groups. These suggestions he said could be revised in the light of subsequent information up to Sept. 15.

Pity the Poor Buyer

Circuit buyers with a large sized theatre list to handle this week were wondering just where the anti-trust "consent decree" opinion put them with its single selling feature.

One executive who buys for a large circuit of distributor-owned houses acknowledged that he expected to have to make separate contracts for each of his houses on each of the pictures he bought that was not produced by his company, and declared gloomily that it was "impossible to say" how much extra paper work or how much overhead this practice would add to the office.

Another major circuit Booker said: "It's very difficult to say, but I believe it will be mostly added paper work."

A Circuit-Boy, who buys for a nation wide circuit which is located only in key cities, declared: "I don't know whether we will have to put each house on a separate contract. It's too early to say."
**Swedes Will Fight 16-mm. Entry, Exhibitor Says**

Organized Swedish theatre owners are determined to fight any attempt to introduce 16-mm. competition into their situations and they have the weapons to do it with, Carl A. Nelson, owner of 24 theatres, motion picture producer and distributor, said in New York Wednesday.

The weapons, it seemed, are a tight exhibitor organization which exercises a monopolistic control over the Swedish theatre industry and controls Swedish films, as well as a possible boycott against foreign distributors who might try to force the 16-mm. issue.

Nelson, who came to the United States to procure a theatre for the four-stage studio he plans to build seven miles outside of Stockholm, declared that every one of Sweden's 2000 theatres had been shut since July 1 by a strike of the Swedish Business Employes Association, a vertical union which covers all theatre employees as well as those of other industries. The employees are striking for a 100 per cent pay increase and two days off a week.

Nelson explained that the present walk day in theatres is around five hours a day for six days a week, and that salaries for projectionists are around $150 a month. He declared the managers association—the Swedish Business and Industry Association—was unable to operate but that theatres could afford "to stay closed in summer when there is not much business," and indicated that he did not think there was any hope of settlement until September.

The Swedish managers are determined that 16-mm. importations will not enter the country for possible competition, Nelson said. The association is powerful, he pointed out, in that it exercises a control over the exhibition industry through the licenses it issues for membership. Those who do not hold these licenses cannot get Swedish pictures, and American distributors introducing the 16-mm. product might find that Swedish exhibitors lacked enthusiasm about buying their 35-mm. film.

"The Swedish people like the type of picture Universal produces," Nelson said. "They like action pictures and musicals; they like color. British pictures are not very popular...they didn't like 'The Seventh Veil,' very well. "Henry, V," he added, "was popular in Sweden but a failure in Denmark."

The Stockholm Rigoletto Theatre plays MGM product with Swedish titles exclusively, while the Park and Royal play Universal. There is no problem of product shortage, for a picture that makes the grade can expect a 15-week run.

**Fight 16-mm. Restrictions**

Local 16-mm. distributors and equipment men are fighting an attempt by the city of Chicago to pass ordinances which would tax 16-mm. showings and require them to be licensed.

The group was to meet again this week with the dealers; John Duffy, chairman of the building zone committee and with Dave Talbott, director of the Chicago electrical department. Last week the dealers met with these two centered about a $1.65 permit fee for each 16-mm. showing. A license plan, which would have the effect of making use of union projectionists mandatory was tabled.

**Not Confidential**

Rumors that Confidential Reports might abandon the employment of local checkers were said to have no basis in fact by the organization's home office in New York this week.

Equipment in Sweden was no problem, he explained, since it was available during the war and consequently properties are not run down. The average house is a 600-seater built at the cost of $100,000, and the country's total picture production is around 50 features yearly.

Nelson himself plans to make the musical "White Horse Inn" which, according to Swedish budgets, will be a top bracket picture at the estimated cost of $350,000. Grosses on pictures, he said, are comparatively high, with a picture coalbeded to cost $100,000 having the chance to gross better than $200,000 at admissions of from 40 to 90 cents.

"**Auction Selling?** It's $64 Question These Days**

(Continued from Page 5)

seemed most impressed with the need to rid themselves of the threat of auction selling. Allied (see story, p. 5) Wednesday went on record in Washington as asking the Department of Justice to appeal this phase of the opinion to the United States Supreme Court.

The Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, whose committee of independent theatre owners was meeting this week with the Attorney General's office, presumably will offer a similar suggestion regarding "auction selling" to which it is opposed. The MPTOA committee also believes that a buyer's business reputation and the rights of an old customer should be recognized in the opinion and wants parties guilty of over buying subjects to punishment.

The Conference of Independent Exhibitors Association meeting scheduled for Detroit was postponed to an unfast date in late August. President Jesse Stern explained that the Allied Washington meeting would keep many of the CIEA committee from attending and that a later date would permit state meetings on the subject so that the will of the country at large could be better interpreted at the national conference.

**End Paramount-Warner Pool in October**

First announced dissolution of a Paramount-Warner Bros. pool will be that of Stanley Bros. Paramount operation in Philadelphia, scheduled to be dissolved in early October. Paramount will resume operation of the Nixon, Tower, Franklin and Roosevelt, while Stanley will operate the State, Circle, 69th Street and the Kent for Warners.

**Burke Quits Monogram To Head Buyers**

Monogram Minneapolis Branch Manager Thomas A. Burke will take over as general manager of the Theatre Associates of Minneapolis, a buying and booking combine which consists of Edmund Ruben, Ben Berger, Ben Friedman, Frank and Woempner and Volk Bros. theatres.

**Health Week With All Helping—Goldenson**

That motion picture industry leaders had considered the feasibility of a national week devoted to the dramatization of fights against disease in the United States by motion pictures, newspapers and radio, was revealed in New York Tuesday by Leonard Goldenson, Paramount's Vice-President in charge of theatre operations.

Speaking at a luncheon given to start off the arthritis movement, Goldenson told those present that the question of national health had been considered by members of the industry. He suggested that President Truman he asked to dedicate a yearly "national health week" and that all media of information be used to dramatize the search of science in its fight against diseases.

**Washington Tax Unlikely To Pass Congress**

An added 10 cent admission amusement tax in Washington, D. C. shows little chance of passing the Congress at this session, Government sources declared Wednesday.

**Name Blowitz Enterprise Publicity Dept. Chief**

William Blowitz, who helped establish the publicity department of Enterprise Pictures, this week was appointed publicity director for that company according to an announcement by President Charles Einfeld and Board Chairman David L. Loew.

**Act Against Arthritis**

Spyros Skouras

St Fabian

Appointed chairman of the dinner which will open the New York phase of the national campaign to raise $2,500,000 to fight arthritis was 20th Century-Fox President Spyros Skouras (left). Serving with him will be Fabian Theatres President St Fabian as co-chairman. The dinner is scheduled for Oct. 7 at the Waldorf-Astoria and is expected to raise $500,000 of the million-dollar New York quota.
20th Century-Fox has set a celebrated Best-Seller to Jerome Kern's music - set for top grosses! - set for long runs!
JEROME CENTER

JEANNE CRAIN • CORNELIUS BURNEHAN

PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY OTTO PREMINGER
20th Century-Fox  
the studio of wonderful musicals, presents  
the wonders of its most wonderful show!  

JEROME KERN SONGS  
—never so glorious!  

7 TOP-NAME STARS  
—of top boxoffice power!  

BEST-SELLING NOVEL  
—of that joyous summer!  

TECHNICOLOR  
—enchantingly beautiful!  

... and the marvelous, marvelous  
CENTENNIAL FAIR!
All through America,

"ALL THROUGH THE DAY" is the nation's No. 1 Hit Song! (Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II)

and

"IN LOVE IN VAIN" is on the way to the top! While all America is singing and dancing to "Railroad Song," "The Right Romance," "Up With the Lark," "Centennial," "Long Live Our Free America" (Lyrics by Leo Robin) and "Cinderella Sue" (Lyrics by E. Y. Harburg)

JEROME KERN'S enduring genius shines in

Centennial Summer in TECHNICOLOR

—from 20 Century-Fox
Scrounges’ Own Houses But Gets Circuit Going

By adapting standard army procedure whereby he “scrounges” from his own theatres, Run-Run Shaw, a Malayan circuit operator, has been able to put back 44 of his 73 houses into postwar operation and is now awaiting construction materials to start a rebuilding program.

Shaw, who with his brother, Run-Me Shaw, operates as Shaw Bros., Ltd., said in New York this week, where he is contracting for film and equipment, that business in Malaya is excellent because the public has money with nothing much other than motion pictures to spend it on. He anticipated a drop in attendance when luxury goods became available but thought that this might be taken up as the country’s exports of tin and rubber increased.

When the Japanese were ousted, the Shaw brothers checked up on their houses and found some had been destroyed in warfare while others had been gutted. By taking parts of equipment, chairs and the like, from one house and moving them to complete another, they got 44 houses of the circuit operating again.

The circuit is divided into two divisions, one which shows American and British pictures at admissions ranging from 50 cents to $1.50, including the 20 per cent government tax, and another which shows Chinese pictures for Asiatics with admissions from 30 cents to $1.

The Chinese pictures, he explained, originally came from the Shaw studios in Hong Kong, which have been reopened and which will probably produce four features during the year. Prior to Japanese looting, the studio had a capacity of 20 features. The Asiatic houses can play films without any quota restrictions, but theatres using English-speaking pictures are required to play one week of British films out of every 70 days’ operation. All houses operate five shows daily, seven days a week.

Shaw is building two new houses, both called Rex and seating 1500 each, one in Singapore and the other in Kuala Lumpur. But he has difficulty getting equipment, and replacing war damaged equipment is next to impossible, he says. However, one benefit came out of the war.

“We had,” he says, “a very strict censorship before the war, but since the war the censorship is very mild.”

Mrs. de Rochemont Dead

Funeral services for Sarah W. de Rochemont, 72-year-old mother of 20th Century-Fox Producer Louis de Rochemont and March of Time Producer Richard de Rochemont were held at St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, Chelsea, Mass., Thursday. Mrs. de Rochemont, widow of the late Louis L. G. de Rochemont, died on July 15 at her home in Cambridge, Mass.

12,000 OK for Sound

More than 12,000 theatres were lined up to take part in the Warner Bros. 20th Anniversary of Talking Pictures, tabulation received from all parts of the United States indicated this week. Warner officers in announcing the figures, said that the numbers were mounting during Sound Anniversary Week, Aug. 4-10. Of the houses which signed up for the celebration 9,500 are independent theatres.

Charge Fraud In Harris Houses

Charges that Harry A. Harris, Harris Theatrical Enterprises and its two corporations—Convent Theatres Corp. and Dorset Amusement Corp.—had defrauded it on percentage and flat rental pictures in a period extending from Jan. 1, 1940 to January 1946, were filed Monday in the federal district court of New York as United Artists sued for punitive damages to be determined by the court and an injunction to prevent the defendants from altering or destroying records.

Two of Harris’ four theatres—the Delmar and the Dorset in New York—are involved in the suit which claims that by incorrect box-office returns and other methods, the defendants failed to make proper returns to United Artists on percentage pictures and procured reduced rates on straight rent deals.

MPA Code Misunderstood Breen Tells English

Misunderstanding by the British of the American motion picture code’s purposes is largely due to the failure of the Motion Picture Association in publishing a Code Administrator Joseph I. Breen was quoted in London as explaining to a press conference.

Breen, who has been invited to England to explain the code to producers so that British producers will be acceptable to the American viewpoint, told the conference that the Motion Picture Association was opposed to censorship but that nevertheless it existed as law in several American localities.

(SHOWMEN’S TRADE REVIEW, June 8, p. 11, carried an interview with Congressman F. Edward Hebert, Democrat, Louisiana, claiming that the industry needed a better general public relations job.)

Des Moines Ducks Sunday Law Closing

Theatre operators in Des Moines breathed with plenty of relief with the passing of the scare of possible enforcement of the state’s blue laws. Sheriff Vane Overturf, who had made the threat, announced he would not carry out his plan because it would call for “too strict enforcement.” The sheriff had been advised by the county attorney that he could not close establishments for violating the laws, that he could only make arrests. Earlier he had announced he would close all establishments on Sunday.

Lutherans Form 16-mm. Film Producing Unit

Formation of a $2,500,000 corporation by the Lutheran Church to produce 16-mm. films intended to correct juvenile delinquency was announced this week in Cleveland.

The corporation, known as the Federation of Lutheran Clubs, will have studios in Cleveland and plans to produce promotion and institutional films as well as educational subjects. Rev. F. L. Oberschulte of St. Paul is executive secretary.

St. Louis Will Require Fire Boxes in Theatres

An ordinance requiring that all motion picture theatres within the city limits of St. Louis be required to install fire alarm boxes was passed this week by the St. Louis Board of Aldermen. The ordinance requires one box, placed in the front of the house, for theatres whose seating capacity is from 200 to 1500 while those above 1500 seating capacity must have a second box placed near the stage.

Cites British Loan As Fine for U. S. Films

Motion Picture Association of America President Eric Johnston this week termed the United States Loan to Britain as “excellent” for the American motion picture industry and criticized trade by government monopolies.

“The loan,” Johnston said, “will be an excellent thing for the motion picture industry because of the effect it will have in establishing the British market for motion pictures. But, still more important, it will be a healthy thing for the entire world because it will lay the foundation of international trade on a normal basis.

When international trade is carried on by government monopoly only, the inevitable result is international friction and eventually war. That happened in the prewar world when Hitler inaugurated his pernicious system of international trade by barter.”

Woodworth CIO Organizer

Kenneth Woodworth this week was appointed Canadian Representative of the CIO United and Professional Workers of America in a prelude to that body’s move to organize the white collar workers of Canadian industry, especially in films, social service and radio.

SWANK SETUP ON SWANK STREET. New home for Universal Pictures will be in this 21-story structure under construction on Park Avenue at 56th Street, New York. To be known as Universal Pictures Building, the structure is to be ready by May 1, 1947 and will have the third through the tenth floors—about 80,000 square feet—reserved for Universal. United World Pictures, International Pictures, Enterprise Productions and the J. Arthur Rank organization.
**PICTURE PEOPLE**

MGM's Howard Dietz, who has done about everything from reporting on the *Brox Home News* to writing songs, will be an "Information Please" expert on July 29 when he joins Clifton Fadiman, Franklin P. Adams and PM's Louis Kronenberger in a special "Information Please" on George Bernard Shaw.

The occasion is the party which *The Saturday Review of Literature* is throwing for the American première of Gable Pascal's United Artists, Release of Shaw's "Caesar and Cleopatra" and will be in the nature of a birthday dinner in honor of Shaw at the Sert Room of the Waldorf-Astoria. Participating in addition to the "Information Please" crew will be Cornelia Otis Skinner and Maurice Evans giving excerpts of Shavian dramas in which they have appeared and such speakers as Maxwell Anderson, Margaret Webster, John Mason Brown, Henry Seidel Canby, Deems Taylor, *Saturday Review* President Howard Smith. United Artists "Caesar and Cleopatra" will be shown privately at the dinner and the formal American opening is set for the Winter Garden on Aug. 15.

United Artists Foreign Manager Walter Gould flew to the coast this week with Puerto Rico Manager David Gould flying in another direction—back to his post in Puerto Rico.

**SHOWMEN'S SILHOUETTES** by Dick Kirschbaum

- **Senator—You Were Born?**
- **Er—Yes—and No!**
- **Started as a Newspaperwoman—Later Went into Advertising.**
- **She's Grooming John J. Jr. to Take Over Her Job.**
- **She Can See All of the "City of Roses" From Her Hilltop Home.**
- **Business Ed. (Grad).**
- **Guess I'll Catch Up on Some Back Work.**
- **Relaxes on Weekends at the Seashore.**
- **Mrs. J. Parker Heads a Chain of Independent Theatres and Eleven Corporations—Known as "First Lady of Oregon's Movies."**

**SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, July 20, 1946**

- **P.R.C. Western Division Manager Harry Stern is out traveling around the country's exchanges.**
- **Louis Lazar, who during the past dozen years was general manager for the litigating Schine Theatres, this week joined Paramount International Films. After a brief period here he will sail for France to assume charge of Paramount International's theatres in France and Belgium.**
- **It's on the record now as far as the libraries of the nation are concerned. The Motion Picture Association of America this week sent out 1000 bound copies of the reports of what the industry did in war activities from 1942-45 to the principal libraries of the United States.**
- **Warner Bros. Great Britain Managing Director Max Milder arrived this week from London. Why? To attend the 20th anniversary of sound international sales convention in Atlantic City.**
- **Film Classic Secretary-Treasurer Eugene Arnstein is taking the lake air of the Wisconsin areas on vacation this week.**
- **Loew's International Vice-President Morton Spring promoted two this week. They are: Panos Coutsoucos as Greek territory manager, and Sacha Epstein, manager of the Metro Theatre at Cairo.**
- **Milton Cohen, who used to manage for RKO in Detroit, moved up to the post of Eastern Central District Manager on July 19, replacing B. G. Kranze, who reportedly is going to United World.**
- **Citation Committee Created by Engineers**
  
  That the Society of Motion Picture Engineers would widen the scope of its awards, was reported in New York this week as that body announced creation of a new citations committee which would make awards in the future to individuals or groups making important advances in technical and other phases of the industry. Before this, awards had been made by the society's governors. New committee chairman is John I. Crabtree of Eastman Kodak.

**Swap a Lot—for an Alley**

By swapping a paved lot for permission to close up an alley, the Wometco Theatre at Coral Gables, Fla., will become part of that city's "miracle mile."

The action followed a petition by the citizens who wanted to close up an alley so the theatre could be built through the entire block. The council agreed to the swap for a paved lot to prevent the alley from being dead-ended. The new house, a 1500-seater, will serve the community and the citizens of the University of Miami.
Stag Screening Thanks
Merchants for Tieups

Now let's be fair about this thing. We constant
cally call upon merchants for tieups and spon-
osorships in one sort of exploitation campaign
or another. Often such tieups are of mutual
benefit. But often, too, such tieups are really
more beneficial to the theatreman than to the
merchant, even though we try to convince him
otherwise.

Out in Atchison, Kans., Willis Shaffer must
call upon the merchants for help. And he well
knows that in many cases he gets the best of
the deal. So he has worked out a plan whereby
he can show his appreciation of their coopera-
tion.

At periodic intervals Shaffer holds what he
calls a Stag Screening. To the town's business
and professional men he sends out cleverly im-
printed invitations embellished with correct
art, asking his guests to come to a tieup that
won't come down to his theatre on a stated evening
to enjoy a picture with him. Wisely he chooses
a picture he is sure the men will like but will
not be attracted to through routine advertising,
and one he is certain they will help publicize
with word-of-mouth comment.

Following the screening, Shaffer serves a
dutch lunch, cooks and smokes, and everybody
sits around and eats and smokes and has a
good time.

And Shaffer is frank with his guests. He
tells them he supposes they will mention the
picture to their customers. In addition, he gets
a capsule comment from them which he uses in
an endorsement display ad as part of his cam-
paign.

So while thanking his tie-up merchants for
their cooperation, thus winning loads of civic
goodwill, Shaffer is also plugging his current
attraction through the men he is thanking for
having helped him sell previous attractions. It
may be slightly confusing, but it's all there,
and it's a swell idea that could be worked to
advantage in other communities.

New Manager to Work
For Civic Betterment

James George Belcher, new manager of the
Capitol Theatre, Bridgeport, Conn., has some
sound ideas of the work of a motion-picture
theatre manager and his position in the com-
munity. Belcher, who has been in show business
but a year-and-a-half, declared that a theatre
manager must work continuously and hard for
the betterment of the neighborhood in which
his theatre is located and take an active part in
all civic enterprises. He plans to make his
home more than ever before a spot to which
neighborhood residents will turn naturally and
happily when in search of relaxation and enter-
tainment.—BR.

Ultimate Convenience

The South Main drive-in Theatre in Dallas
has installed what may be the ultimate in the-
atre conveniences—individual bottle warmers for
preparing baby's evening snack.—OKL.

The Brass Tacks of Efficient
Picture Theatre Management

PRACTICAL SHOWMANSHIP IN ACTION

By Jack Jackson

At this moment I have the profoundest un-
derstanding for the bewilderment of the
chap we've heard of who "lives so close to the forest he can't see the trees." To say that
I amFoundering in a mental haze of experiences and observations obtained on my
recent trip through 15 of our country's 48 states is to put it mildly indeed.

That trip and those experiences convince us once more of the tremendously varied
character of a theatreman's activities—which range from studies of human nature, to
flights of imagination for ideas to improve house management and adapt advertising
to changing conditions, and meet problems of censorship and tax problems.

Selecting individual personages and situations for special comment is in itself an
exhausting task and I want to send up my smoke signals of apology in advance to
such as are not specifically mentioned in these reports. The chronology is certain to be
more or less confused, and space limitations prohibit other than "highlight treatment,
making your further indulgence necessary.

One of the newer headaches of managers in larger cities is the continued shortage
of newspaper, which necessitates curtailment of theatre advertising in daily news-
papers. Those of you who are in such situations and who haven't already negotiated
an abbreviated "time table of events" (showing the attractions, stars, theatre, etc.)
should immediately take up the matter with your local editors. This space is being
given free in most situations where the pinch is on because of newspaper shortage and it
is serving well in keeping theatre customers advised of program changes, show times,
etc. Many are diverting their newspaper funds into radio channels. Some of these are
leaving the selection of the times and placement of "spot announcements" to the radio
station, feeling that any mention is better than none at all. Experience has proved
that this is 99 and 44/100 per cent wrong since the listening audiences vary in size
with the time of day and the quality of entertainment preceding and succeeding your
announcement. Let me suggest that you investigate the charts of your local station
and, if the more desirable "spots" are sewed up, arrange for a special 5, 10 or 15
minute period for your theatre message. You may have to combine with other theatres
to keep the price in line with your budget, but this procedure is preferable to your
announcements being wasted on untuned radios. If this idea is followed be sure that
you publicize the period on your screen, and in your lobby to attract as many
listeners as possible. One of those "package" record shows with well known radio
talent may be available at the local station at low rentals and these can be built into
sure-fire "listening" appeal with little effort on your part, as the station itself will
donate time to publicize and popularize these units.

Ted Barker of Loew's in St. Louis and Frank Ryan of Chakeres Theatres are
among the many who reported excellent business on Saturday all-cartoon carnival
shows for kids. These seem to be getting quite a play throughout the central states
everyone reports turnaway business at prices ranging from 17 to 25 cents admis-
sion. The range of "stars" in the animated hand drawn field is such as to permit
assembly of a string of "name" draws on one program that would put "Grand Hotel"
and other multiple star features far in the shade. If you are in need of a sure-fire kiddle
stimulant, try contacting your exchanges for some of the older cartoons that you can
get "at a price" and set them loose on Saturday morning. Spend some money adver-
sising and boost the price to double or better the normal charge. Have plenty of
candy and popcorn on hand and get out the S.R.O. sign. You should be able to chalk
up a nice profit on three or four of these before school starts this fall.

I gathered some interesting data regarding admission price increases. In most
(Continued on Page 13)

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LOVE AT ROY ROGERS
King of the Cowboy TRIGGER
The Smartest Horse in the Movies

Everybody's MY PAL
featuring GEORGE "GABBY" HAYES • DALE EVANS
Directed by FRANK MCDONALD • Screen Play by
"Essential ingredients of good boxoffice in abundance ... Will fatten the exchequer plenty."

HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

"Warmly pleasing ... picture looks sure to earn back extra moola."

DAILY VARIETY

"Wholesome, entertaining story ... novel plot twists."

MOTION PICTURE HERALD

"Best Rogers picture in many seasons ... an exceptional parcel of entertainment."

BOXOFFICE

"Handsomely mounted ... Set for plenty of business wherever it plays ... it's real aud."

FILM DAILY

"Plenty swank ... should move it's pair of stars up another rung on the popularity ladder ... a class production."

WEEKLY VARIETY

"Sure boxoffice ... production values high ... Grand Roy Rogers Special."

THE INDEPENDENT

"Lots of appeal and entertainment ... should do better than usual at the boxoffice."

SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW
Newspaper Tells Story of Theatre Operation

A patron may attend his favorite motion picture theatre once, twice thrice or more frequently per week for a period of years and yet have little or no knowledge of the "inside workings" of the institution. Yet there is a wealth of unusual and interesting information in the story of "what makes a theatre tick."

Some showmen bring the "behind the scenes" information to their patrons through institutional advertisements, printed folders or notes in their programs. But there are so many ramifications to theatre operation—and most of it so readable when set down properly on paper—that there should be no need to purvey it as part of the institutional advertising budget.

Invited the Editor

J. L. True, manager of the Rita and Howard theatres, Taylor, Texas, knew there was an "inside" story in the operation of his theatres—how the sound works, the size of a frame of film, etc.—and he believed it would make good reading. Accordingly, he invited the editor of the local newspaper to a personally conducted tour of the Howard, explaining the functions of the equipment to the reporter in a non-technical fashion. Liberties were taken in some cases to make the article interesting and more understandable to the layman. And when all was said and done, the story behind the scenes of Rita and Howard theatre operation utilized considerable space in the Taylor Daily Press. Other theatremen can duplicate this space-generating stunt, True believes, by inviting a reporter to go on a Cook's tour of their theatre.

Under a five-column headline, "Local Picture Shows Are Evidence of Modern Magic and Sleight of Hand," Mrs. Alma Lee Holman, Daily Press reporter, wrote as follows:

You won't believe it—but this is what happens when you go to the Howard or Rita Theatre: You see 1440 separate pictures each minute—

**Showman Takes Reporter On Tour of House, Reaps Liberal Publicity Space**

and each one is flashed twice so that you actually see 2880 pictures per minute.

You are seeing pictures on a perforated screen, not a smooth screen.

You are listening to the "sound track" which is 19 pictures ahead of what you are seeing at the moment.

You are listening to sound—music, speaking, noise, or what-not—from two speakers, not one.

You can avail yourselves of earphones with individual volume controls if you can't hear.

Just to substantiate these statements, let's take a trip through the Howard, which as far as the projection and sound machines are concerned, is a duplicate of the Rita.

And mentioning that word "duplicate"—genial Lester True, manager of the two theatres, will tell you that all of their equipment in each theatre is in duplicate so that if one set of machinery should have some trouble, the other set can be turned on without anyone in the audience even knowing that there has been a failure.

Mr. True will first take you to the projection room which is located on the second floor in a completely fire proof room which would protect the rest of the building from flames should they ever originate in the operator's booth. Hanging in strategic places all over the room which is only about 6 by 10 feet, are glass chemical containers held up by metal chains with links which melt when an unusually high temperature is reached, dropping the containers, breaking the glass, and releasing the fire-smothering chemicals. These are only a few of the many devices planned for the audience's comfort, safety, and pleasure.

Most interesting in the projection booth, of course is the actual projection machine—or rather, the two machines. To eliminate the "flicker" of the old time picture show, modern equipment such as is found in Taylor uses a special generator which translates the alternating current from electric light lines into direct current. The direct current in turn operates the special carbon arc light which gives light the nearest like actual sunlight of anything that man has invented. This carbon light, much too bright to be looked at for any length of time, is reflected, and directed, and spotted on the celluloid film which is about one-half inch by three quarters of an inch oblong. A lens in front of the film magnifies this bright light shining through the print, magnifies it too many times to tell, giving you a screen size which you see when you are in and sink into the comfortable seats provided for your pleasure.

At the present time, the brightness of the arc light used in the Howard Theatre is about 1000 per cent brighter than that used in the Rita. Go from one show to the other, and you will see the improvement that the new arc installed only in the past few months, can make in the clearness, the brilliancy, and the "sight comfort" of the pictures. It is particularly noticeable in Technicolor films. Again a duplicate of this improved light source will be installed in the Rita as soon as the equipment is received. Just another question of shortages. Equipment for the new theatre has been on order about 15 months, and the management is hopeful that it will all be here soon.

**Clicks Quicker Than Eye**

The speed of the machine awes one. Carefully timed, the little shutter clicks quicker than the eye can measure—you don't actually see a moving picture. You see such a quick succession of still pictures, each one flashed twice to be sure that you do see it, that it all seems like liquid movement with no interruption by the time it gets on the screen. Actually 90 feet of film, which comes in large rolls like a huge roll of Scotch tape, flashes before your eyes each minute. No wonder it seems like "moving" pictures. It's too fast for the eye to follow the shutter clicks and the regular jerks of the machine which pulls the film through so that each picture gets its two flashes in perfect timing.

Even more amazing than the magnifying of these tiny pictures into screen size and the resultant brightness of the screen images is the method by which you see and hear people talk and sing—and in your mind trace that sound right to the mouth of the speaker.

That's right—it does come from that exact area, if not the exact spot where you see his lips moving.

On one side of this little roll of film there is the sound track which is about one-eighth of an inch wide. Along this portion of the film one sees little black or gray marks, varying in intensity and in size. A special "electric eye" mechanism does the job, but which Mr. True declares is simple after all, translates these little markings on the side of the film into light waves. These variations in light, in turn, are translated by the vibrations of the sound which one finds on a phonograph record. The chief difference is that the light waves

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cases I found prices to be remaining at the levels set when the Federal 20 per cent tax took effect but practically all exhibitors were contemplating early increases and a great many who had already increased 15 to 20 per cent related instances of surprisingly cheerful public acceptance. I don't want to mention names but the head of one circuit comprising more than a score of theatres in small and large towns alike commented that his managers suggested the raise. He, like most of us, being "triumph bound," kept discouraging the hike but finally, when his general manager took up the battle, permitted a trial period in seven towns. The "up" was a little better than 20 per cent and applied to adults and children alike. When the anticipated pandemonium of protest failed to materialize in these guinea pig spots, similar increases were instituted throughout the circuit. The managers were instructed to keep constant vigil with ears to the ground and eyes on the box-office. Their "all's well" cry was the only note reverberating through the general office of the circuit.

Similar reports are emanating from big cities and small towns alike, so if you're thinking about sticking a little of that extra "nut" of yours on the admission pasture-boards—and if you're not you ought to be—the experience poll as well as the barometer of economics promises fair sailing.

**Trotting Under Taxation**

The exhibitors of Mississippi and Alabama are trotting under an aggregate of 30 per cent taxation (10 state and 20 Federal) with some few communities threatened with added municipal burdens. That's what happens when discriminatory levies are accepted too placidly. Once the tax saddle is firmly cinched on the back of any individual or business you can depend upon it that as many politicians as can get aboard grasp for and hang from the pommel or drag from the stirrups.

At the first threat of discriminatory taxation every exhibitor should get out that efficacious blackjack of "patron resentment" as expressed in signed petitions and swing for all it is worth over the heads of any and all office holders and office seekers. Municipal and stage law makers must be awakened to the fact that it is not only the exhibitor (who has only one vote) whose pocket is being flitched but that the thousands of citizens who patronize theatres—each of whom has a mighty ballot to cast on election day—will be required to foot the bill and are militantly opposed to doing so. Jolted into such consciousness they'll change tactics quicker than a chameleon suits his colors to a plaid background. Moreover the office-holders will be in your lobby kissing the customer's babies by way of apology.

There is nothing newer or better than the "patron petition" method chosen by the St. Louis theatres to combat the proposed 5 per cent municipal tax levy. And there is nothing older or worse than the "house divided against itself" example that the "Show Me" city's exhibitors displayed when they let their campaign fall apart and found themselves headed bell-bent for nowhere.

You can't do an "on-again-off-again-Finnigan" act and expect to score against the clever conviving and razor-edged scheming of today's expert tax sharp-shooters who now come in all sizes from ternine to titan and in all guises from pan-handler to philanthropist. It requires concerted thinking, ingenious planning and, above all, unification of effort to frustrate the legislative maneuvers which threaten to make every theatreman a pack horse plodding under a burden of political plunder.

It's up to you, Mr. Showman, to take an active interest in "what goes" around your City Hall and State Capitol. Keep your gun up at all times to make sure that some highly laudable legislation authorizing funds for repairs to the Crippled Kiddies Home does not include a few well paraded and apparently innocuous sentences to the effect that the needed finance is to be secured from theatre admission levy. If you are on your toes and do a good job of public relations with your customers and at the same time go to the trouble of getting personally acquainted with those to whom the voting public delegates the duty of enacting laws and raising necessary revenue you will experience little difficulty in establishing the levy as tax.

But, and it's a big but, you can't do it alone! The job requires organization of you and your fellows and the kind of thinking, planning and action mentioned earlier. Remember always that the tax experts make their own rules and cut their own patterns. If you want to be successful against a group like that you have to use your Sunday punches in the fight for survival. I'm talking about lobby displays and trailers to inform the customers how the theatre taxes take toll of their personal pocketbooks; buying time on the radio to reach those who are not regular attendees at theatres; having an attendant in the lobby solicit signatures to petitions protesting the legislation. If this doesn't work then get out heralds and distribute them door to door so that the citizens will know exactly how unfair the tax really is. Go before the civic clubs yourself to enlist the aid of other business men and their employees. Don't leave anything undone that will make the public pressure unbearable for the legislators, and never lose track of the fact that the one thing a politico cannot afford to lose is votes. Have every move you make and every protest you register thoroughly permeated with the threat of ballot-box losses. Again I admonish: WORK TOGETHER.

**Carry Your Full Share**

Municipalities cannot raise the level of wages for employees and absorb the other extra costs of administration without increasing assessments. The extra money has to come from some place. Be ready and willing to carry your full share—and a little excess if necessary—but resist with every means at your command any attempt to saddle your customers or your business with any form of taxation not shared equally by the entire community.

Local censorship is again showing its fangs in many communities and will undoubtedly spread as rapidly as most "reform" waves unless the exhibitors stamp out the practices that give root to the nuisance. I repeat what I've said before that reformers are very seldom picture fans and are usually influenced in their opinions by newspaper advertising and theatre front displays. Very few pictures contain objectionable matter in quantities that warrant complaint and most of such complaints are born of disease or at least marked mentalities who can see only the worst in even the best of pictures. Nashville, Tenn., for years free from busbody interference, is the latest to report a local censor group. And its birth came from the exhibition of some level dance scenes in all-colored cast reel being displayed at a white theatre. Using common sense in your bookings and being careful about your ads and front displays is one of the surest ways to prevent the censor nuisance.
Gala Activities Mark
Premiere of 'Passage'

Climaxing two days of activities in which top-ranking Hollywood celebrities participated, including Joan Bennett, Lou Costello, Yvonne De Carlo, Hoagy Carmichael, Peggy Ryan and Jess Barker, the world premiere of Walter Wagner's "Canyon Passage," based on the Saturday Evening Post story by Ernest Haycox, was held last Saturday evening at J. J. Parker's Broadway Theatre in Portland, Ore.

Some 4000 Portlanders and colorful Indians of the Yakima tribe were on hand at the Portland airport on Friday afternoon to greet producer Wagner and the stars accompanying him. Mayor Earl Ryley presented Wagner with a State of Oregon flag after being introduced to the producer by Jack Matlack, advertising and publicity director for the J. J. Parker Theatres.

At the elaborate all-Oregon barbecue held Friday night, composer Carmichael of Stardust fame, was introduced by Wagner and dedicated his recently released tune, Silver Saddles, to the memory of the late William S. Hart.

Saturday's events was highlighted by an all-state parade which had 35 entries in addition to the stars. Other activities; Haycox was awarded a doctor of literature degree at Lewis and Clark College; a buffet luncheon was held at the Haycox home, with Governor and Mrs. Snell attending; a manhunt was held for "The Man From Canyon Passage"; and stars visited the Indian Village in Chapman Park Square.

Just before the premiere, the stars rode up Broadway to the Broadway Theatre where they were introduced to the public from a platform in front of the theatre. Along with Governor Snell, they were also introduced to audience at the world premiere, which was sponsored by the Oregon Advertising Club.

'Sister's Secret' Set for
Campaign in Magazines

A national magazine advertising campaign designed to reach 40 million readers has been set by PRC for its first million-dollar production, "Her Sister's Secret," according to Arnold Stoltz, national director of advertising, publicity and exploitation. Included in the schedule are the Ladies Home Journal, McCall's, Good Housekeeping, Personal Romances and True Confessions, as well as all motion picture fan publications.

Placement of space for the campaign, which will be inaugurated in October issues, was set through the Buchanan Advertising Agency.

Family Writes Ad

E. R. Brennan, operating the Bay Theatre, Green Bay, Wis., attracted considerable attention with a Fourth of July ad on Warners' "Janie Gets Married" by tying his whole family into the piece.

In nearly half a page of space, Brennan incorporated pictures of his wife and kids under the heading of "We are a 'Family,'" thus telling how much the family enjoyed "Janie Gets Married."

'Briem in Missouri on
Premiere Arrangements

Life Briem of PRC's exploitation department left last week for St. Louis, Missouri, where he will complete arrangements for statewide premiers of PRC's "Down Missouri Way."

Briem will visit every city in Missouri where the film will have simultaneous first showings on August 1. Later in the month, he will be joined by Arnold Stoltz, national director of advertising, publicity and exploitation. Robert Goodfried, studio director of publicity, will also join the party to supervise the activities of "Down Missouri Way" stars who will make personal appearances during the statewide premiers.

At the same time it was learned that souvenir cards have been designed by the Missouri Pacific Railroad as one of the features of their tieup on the film. Bearing the message, "Greetings from Down Missouri Way," the postcards will be made available to all passengers on Missouri Pacific cars and in the railroad's waiting rooms and terminals. Reverse side of the card shows Martha O'Driscoll and John Carradine in a scene from the film.

Arrangements have also been completed between PRC and the ATA-Toy Company of Kansas City, manufacturers of mechanical novels, whereby ATA-Toy will make available a special toy to be known as "Shirley, the Mule," named after the featured mule in "Down Missouri Way." Distribution of the novelty mule will take place at the same time as the statewide world premiers of the film.

Guidetti's Stunt Old
But Still Effective

Louis Guidetti of the State, Charleroi, Pa., used door knob hangers to exploit "The Postman Always Rings Twice." A thousand of them were hung on car doors. Some car owners resent this because they are fooled into thinking they're getting a summons. But who will say it isn't effective?

'Missouri Way' Booked
in 30 Houses for Premiere

PRC's "Down Missouri Way" has been booked into thirty key situations in Missouri and Kansas for the world premiers on August 1, with additional bookings expected to be announced.

Heading the list of theatres in which the film will be shown simultaneously are the St. Louis Theatre in St. Louis and the Tower Theatre in Kansas City, Mo. Edie Donn, Renee Godfrey, Roscoe Ates and The Sunshine Boys, stars of the picture, as well as Helen Mowery, star of "Avalanche," will be present for the opening at the two theatres.

Other theatres in which the musical will be shown as part of the simultaneous world premiers are: Fox, Joplin; Electric, Springfield; Orpheum, St. Joseph; State, Jefferson City; Ritz, Chillicothe; Uptown, Columbia; Main Street, Warrensburg; Plaza, Topeka; Sona, Moberly; Uptown, Sedalia; Plaza, Independence; Tarkio, Tarkio; and the Missouri, Maryville.

Typical American Girl
Stunt Held for 'Janie'

Clyde Smith, city manager for Malco Theatres in Hot Springs, Ark., and Clarence Duvall, manager of the Malco Theatre in that city, worked up city-wide interest in a competition for Janie, the Typical American Girl, staged in connection with the opening of "Janie Gets Married" immediately following the world premiere of the Warner picture at the New York Strand. Tied up was made with local Mutual Network station KWFC, which participated contestants daily on its luncheon program from one of the town's top restaurants, and the Hot Springs merchants cooperated so wholeheartedly that "Janie Gets Married" received more than 60 spot announcements daily on their programs for over

Ignorance Is Bliss?

It's all right to put on a fine advertising campaign, but what if your patrons can't read? This peculiar problem faced Bill Kroeger at four theatres at Portageville, Mo. He is in a district where many of the patrons can not read or write. The solution? Kroeger says: "I've found radio an excellent medium for these people because they all have radios. However, my problem is aggravated because the stations are sufficiently close. The coming of FM radio, with scores of small stations blanketing the country, will be a distinct exploitation development for the theatres in districts where patrons are unable to read the advertisements."—ME.
Universal takes great pride in presenting

Walter Wanger's

Technicolor production of Ernest Haycox'

Saturday Evening Post story and novel,

"CANYON PASSAGE"

One of the truly great motion pictures

in the American tradition.
The distinguished producer of "Stagecoach", "The Trail of the Lonesome Pine" and other noteworthy interpretations of our nation's magnificent heritage, now brings to the screen a sincerely dramatic saga of the pioneer struggle to conquer the great American Northwest... a motion picture destined to take its place with such films as "Cimarron", "The Covered Wagon" and "Union Pacific" in the hearts and minds of the American people.

WALTER WANGER presents
Dana ANDREWS  Brian DONLEVY  Susan HAYWARD
in
CANYON PASSAGE
in TECHNICOLOR
introducing Patricia ROC
with HOAGY CARMICHAEL  WARD BOND  ANDY DEVINE
STANLEY RIDGES  FAY HOLDEN  VICTOR CUTLER
Directed by JACQUES TOURNEUR  •  Produced by WALTER WANGER
A UNIVERSAL RELEASE  •  Screenplay by Ernest Pascal
Adapted from the Saturday Evening Post Story "Canyon Passage" by Ernest Haycox
Ingenuity, Inspiration

Good Selling Assets

The old story about "where there's a will, there's a way" has been brought out again to good advantage in National Theatres' publication, Action, in an article headlined "Shears, Paste and a Will . . ." in which the editors explain how three showmen of their own organization have exercised considerable ingenuity, and not a little expendable, sweat, to get the most out of the small theatre budgets with which they do their weekly exploitation and advertising.

Action's editors point out that until you try no one will ever know just how handy he might be in adapting standard six-three- and 24-sheets and other paper and advertising accessories to elaborate lobby displays, street ballyhoo, etc.

Just what can be done by the small theatre is illustrated by a lobby display on "Tarzan and the Leopard Woman" from the Varsity Theatre, Palo Alto, Manager R. M. Gibbons and his staff cut out stock paper, mounted it on comix board, added a few palm fronds and had a swell looking display, certain to stop the average passerby. They took life-size figures of Johnny Weismuller, the younger who plays "Boy" and another figure of the Leopard woman herself. These and palm fronds arranged with the same sense of design it takes to tie a tie straight, or to arrange the household furniture, did the job.

Manager Dick Conway of the Skyline Theatre, Canon City, Colorado, also exhibited plenty of ingenuity when he produced an imitation PT boat, made of comix board and considerable insulation, to ballyhoo "They Were Expendable," and turned out a job that looked as though he had spent quite a bit of money on it. He consisted of, however, was just the comix board, nailed to a frame which was attached to an automobile.

Another manager, Charlie Reed of Hays, Kansas, used on-the-spot ingenuity when he cut up a 24-sheet on "Doll Face," mounted the sections on an un-used fence surrounding a demolished building and attracted as much attention in Hays as an illuminated sign might get on Broadway.

These are just a few illustrations, but they all prove whatever the wide-awake showman can do.

LOBBY DISPLAY OF BABY CONTEST ENTRIES. Photographs of entries in the Baby Contest staged by Julius Lamm, manager of Warners' Uptown Theatre in the Glenville section of Cleveland, were displayed in the lobby. Each picture was numbered, and patrons voted for their favorites by posting the number which appeared under his or her picture on a coupon which they dropped in a ballot box.

10,000 Votes Cast for 125 Entries

In Baby Contest Staged by Lamm

Any veteran showman can tell you that running a contest can be one of the most difficult jobs — and at the same time, one of the most rewarding — in the whole field of exploitation. Managers are likely to side-step the assignment merely because they groan at the thought of the work involved. However, it needn't be so tough if you have a definite plan outlined; in fact, it is darn hard to do if you haven't a good schedule. Therefore, we present a contest campaign put on by Julius Lamm of the Uptown Theatre in the Glenville district of Cleveland to serve as a model upon which other managers can build similar contests of their own.

Lamm not only ran a contest, but a baby popularity contest, which is the last word in difficult undertakings — the babies are hard to handle and the mothers even more so. The fact that Lamm is still alive and unruffled after his experience proves that he is a great diplomat.

Well, to get down to business, Lamm knew he would have to start far ahead and also that he would need a major tieup. Since the best idea for judging babies — that is, the preliminary judging — is by photograph what could be better than a tieup with a photo studio? He accomplished this with the Free-Mor Studios in the neighborhood, and added six other stores to act as agents to hand out entry blanks. The photographer made a picture of each entrant and promoted $50 for prizes. These photos were displayed in the lobby of the theatre, with credit, of course, to Free-Mor.

The balloting began one month before the closing date and the ceremony of naming the winning baby took place two days later. Since the voting could be done only in the theatre, it is easy to believe that attendance jumped — and Lamm says it did in healthy fashion. The friends and relatives of the 125 entrants turned out loyally and by the time the contest ended more than 10,000 votes had been cast.

A few necessary details included getting space in Cleveland and neighborhood papers, with the editor of the local paper and the proprietor of the studio invited to count ballots; cards announcin the contest in 12 stores; a trailer announcement two weeks in advance giving the date of the presentation ceremony on the stage; and promotion of corsages from the local florist for the baby winners.

The four prize winners, based on the balloting, were notified by phone to appear at the theatre with their babsies on the night of the prize distribution.

Monday night was chosen for the ceremony — and before noting anything else, Lamm reports that it brought out the largest Monday crowd in years. Merchants, the editor and the studio owner were introduced from the stage. The winners were then called on the stage with their mothers, the first prize winner, the second prize winner, then the third and fourth. Flashlight pictures were taken of each winner and then one of the entire group. The first prize was $25 in cash and a complete baby wardrobe, second prize was $15, and third and fourth received $5.

It should be added that a series of quarter-page newspaper ads paid for by the merchants were of great aid to the success of the contest. They plugged the angle that the studio was offering a free $5 portrait, so that actually all entrants received prizes just for going in.

The question remains: was it worth it? Julius Lamm says "yes."

Typical Girl Stunt

(Continued from Page 14)
LaFalce Runs Promotional Gamut in 'Gilda' Campaign

DREW ATTENTION IN BUSY SHOPPING CENTER. The entire window of the Campbell Music Store, Washington, D. C., was given over to this display on Columbia's "Gilda." That large blowup of Rita Hayworth, prominently spotted, drew the attention of thousands of passers-by daily, since the music shop is located in a busy downtown shopping center. Window was one of the promotions in the campaign for the film's showing at the Earle Theatre.

With his usual flair for the smart publicity stunt, Frank LaFalce, Warners' Washington publicity director, aided by Fred McMillan, manager of the Earle, and Sid Zins, Columbia field representative, put on an outstanding campaign for "Gilda" in the nation's capital.

LaFalce based the vast majority of his campaign on ideas suggested in the pressbook. The local point was a fashion show, put on in cooperation with the J. J. Slater Shoe Company, presented in the Pall Mall room of the Hotel Raleigh two days before the opening. Over 300 prominent Washington society women were present at the show, which highlighted the "Gilda" fashions designed by the Martini Frock Company, a national tieup set up by Columbia. All newspapers covered the affair with their fashion editors, and a number of them also sent city desk reporters to cover any human interest angles which might present themselves. Naturally the proper theatre and playdate credits were attended to, both being announced over the room's public address system.

Still working with fashion, LaFalce obtained a direct tieup with the local Martini distributor, which resulted in several half-page ads in local newspapers both before opening and during the run of the film. Woodward and Lathrop, the Martini dealers, also devoted several of their windows to "Gilda" displays.

Sets Radio Promotion

Radio promotion was another of the keys of the campaign. Decca recordings of both Amado Mio and Put the Blame on Mame, the two tunes from the film, were planted with local "disk jockeys" and received an exceptional amount of attention on the air, always with theatre and playdate credit. In addition, LaFalce arranged to have the popular "Open House" program over the local Mutual outlet dedicated to hit tunes from the film on opening day. Plugs were plentiful, not only on this program, but on other "Open House" shows the week preceding opening. The final radio promotion, while not one that can be repeated in other towns, is an example of taking advantage of the opportunities presented which has marked the work of LaFalce in the past. Mrs. Vivian Howell, aunt of Rita Hayworth, is a resident of the city, and as a human interest personality proved invaluable to LaFalce. Not only was she set on numerous programs during the week, but on opening day was present at the opening of the film, a guest of the house. Local papers played up her appearance widely and the resultant publicity was outstanding.

Opening day stunts were varied and interesting. In addition to the appearance of Mrs. Howell, a number of roses were given to the early arrivals at the theatre. Named the "Gilda" rose, the presentation of flowers created a great amount of word-of-mouth publicity for the film.

In working with the unusual, LaFalce didn't fail to take advantage of the routine exploitation which makes any campaign a success. A tieup was arranged with the local Arthur Murray school, which resulted in a number of ads, all of which carried full playdate credit. The two tunes from the film were plugged on the Arthur Murray radio program, and 2000 cards carrying playdate information, were distributed at the dance studio, with another 1000 being placed on downtown drug store counters. A "Gilda" contest, suggested in the pressbook, was held by the dance studio in the popular Pall Mall room of the Raleigh, and at all times the full credit was given to the local playdate.

All local orchestras were contacted and special orchestrations of the two hit songs supplied them. As a result, practically every bandstand in the city "Gilda" tunes were played, with the orchestra leader giving full credit to the local showing when announcing them.

Windows were plentiful, the most impressive coming from such shops as the Plaza Sports Shop, a full window built around a 40x60 of Hayworth; Campbell's Music Store, another 40x60, with a number of 30x40 credit cards; and Murphy's Store, the largest of its kind in the city.

The Murphy tieup was an exceptional one. In addition to a full window, built around a huge cutout of Hayworth, all with full credit for the local playdate, the store placed disc signs, visible from any point in the shop, over 24 counters, calling attention to the opening of the film at the Earle.

Creative advertising played its usual big part in the campaign, with the local Lux distributor running a full page in all newspapers.

All in all, the campaign was one of the most impressive put on in Washington. No detail was overlooked in seeing that every possible bit of publicity was obtained, and the results at the box-office undoubtedly reflected the attention given to exploitation by LaFalce and his aides.

LUGGAGE TIEUP. A large blowup of Rita Hayworth, surrounded by luggage and topped off by a large credit card and scene stills, comprised this display on Columbia's "Gilda" in the window of the Plaza Sport Shop in Washington, D. C., for the showing of the film at the Earle Theatre.
Double Your Time!

EVERYBODY'S DOING IT FOR

Bette Davis

HER DOUBLE ROLE!

A STOLEN LIFE

Lenn Ford  Dane Clark  Walter Brennan  Charlie Ruggles

DIRECTED BY CURTIS BERNHARDT

SCREEN PLAY BY CATHARINE TURNER - ADAPTED BY MARGARET ROSS WILSON

FROM A NOVEL BY AMIEL J. MURDO - MUSIC BY MAX STEINER

WALTHER ANNU.SUM. TALKING PICTURES
SELLING THE PICTURE

Newspaper Tells Story Of Theatre Operation

(Continued from Page 12)

must be translated into impulses which will propel sound on the two large speakers located directly behind the screen on which you see the pictures. This "translation" is done by a primary and a master amplifier controlled in the projectionist's booth—and again with an emergency amplifier standing by in case of necessity. The electrical impulses are transmitted to the immense bass speaker which takes all the lower registers of sound and gives them off in sound waves intelligible to the human ear; while the sounds of a higher range are sifted from the low ones by the same mechanism and are automatically directed to the upper speaker with a smaller diaphragm.

The two speakers are located directly behind the screen so that the sound actually seems to come from the mouths of those speaking. Remember when you used to watch speakers and hear their voices coming from way over at one side of the stage? Now the screen is perforated, with hundreds of tiny holes in it so that the sound may come through it from the speakers. The perforations call for an even more intense light than would otherwise be necessary so that when you look at the picture you will see just the smooth light reflection.

The sound track is so perfectly synchronized with the light track that one hears the speakers as they are actually speaking. This is one of the most marked improvements of "talkies." It wasn't long ago that those who read people's lips realized that what one heard was actually different from what was being said. That is entirely a thing of the past now.

Also a part of the sound system is a microphone which can be used as the need arises—and a record player amplification which is used while people are waiting for the show to begin, while a small button in the projectionist's booth controls the curtain which softly slides across the screen when occasion arises.

And if the normal tones which most people hear are not audible to you, you may sit in special seats in the back of the theater, ask for headphones which the theater provides, and tune in a volume which you want on your individual control. Just because you are hard of hearing, you shouldn't have to miss the lovely music or the spoken words which others hear in the modern show. The highest tones of the violin or the flute are clearly within your range, whether you hear normally or not, as well as the lowest tones of the bass horn or the deep booming of the sea, and all of this because of the equipment which your local shows have installed for your pleasure.

But you go to the show just for pleasure, and not to consider all the scientific equipment which makes your pleasure possible. Well, unless you want to take note of it, it certainly isn't evident. The projectionist in his little booth upstairs changes his films, switches from one machine to its mate which stands ready and waiting at the end of each film—and you never even see the flicker of the change, or realize that one amplifier has been changed for another. It's just modern magic.

SHOWMAN SAM SAYS: When adjectives fail you, those 8x10 stills can do a swell job of show-selling. Use them liberally.

Levy, Gilman Says It's 'Wonderful' Differently

Larry Levy, manager of Loew's Colonial, Reading, Pa., and Sam Gilman, manager of Loew's Regent, Harrisburg, might have gotten their heads together in outlining their selling campaigns for MGM's "The Green Years" at the respective theatres, for both theatremen report that every item in their campaigns "is pointed toward emphasizing the slogan, "The Green Years" is a wonderful motion picture" through as many channels as possible.

But, although their methods were the same, the two showmen differed somewhat in their procedures. Both, it is true, held a special screening to which department stores clerks, workers in city and state office buildings, and workers in factories and other representative places were invited. And both showmen used the "closed" stunt—cards bearing the copy, "Closed, Have Gone to See a Wonderful Motion Picture, 'The Green Years' at Loew's, we're closed on doors of stores on Sundays or holidays.

But there, for the most part, the similarity ended. Levy used the slogan on street car cards; Gilman overprinted the front pages of 1000 copies of the Harrisburg Telegraph. Levy had the slogan imprinted on newspapers' aprons; Gilman put it on the traffic umbrella at the town's busiest intersection. Levy projected the slogan on the wall of a building across the street from the theatre; Gilman released 500 large balloons from the highest building in town (yes, they carried the slogan). Levy had special postcards made up which patrons were invited to mail to their friends; Gilman stretched a 50-foot banner across empty store windows. Levy made a tieup with a local laundry to distribute 8000 heralds carrying the slogan; Gilman went to the dairies and had them put it on their milk bottle caps. Levy used a rubber stamp to imprint the slogan on outgoing mail, restaurant menus, napkins, etc.; Gilman arranged with the Penn Harris Hotel to have its place mats imprinted. Levy had special heralds made up carrying praise from the various personality, film in the national ads; Gilman had small cards imprinted and placed in all menus of a large restaurant, as well as being otherwise distributed.

Thus Levy and Gilman did the same thing differently, yet both got results at the box office. Which goes to show that there are so many variations to the same stunt that exhibitors should never be at a loss as to what to do.

Dance Sequence Layout Planted in Newspaper

In cooperation with Bob Hickey of RKO Radio's field staff, Manager Louis Mayer of the RKO Palace in Chicago promoted a two-page layout in the rotto section of the Saturday Daily News on Walt Disney's "Make Mine Music." The layout was based on a dance sequence in the Technicolor feature called "All the Cats Join In," the corresponding steps on which were carried out by Dick and Edith Barstow, nationally known dance instructors, through arrangement with Rutgers Neilson, home office publicity manager.

A screening was arranged by RKO District Manager Herb Greenblatt for the Chicago Hat Retailers in connection with the "Johnny Fedora and Alice Blue Bonnet" sequence from the film. Several tieups resulted.

Ties-in Star's P.A. to Forthcoming Picture

The personal appearance of Jack Carson at the Tower Theatre, Kansas City, was tied-in with the future showing of the star's Warner film, "One More Tomorrow," at the Newman Theatre by M. D. "Babe" Cohen, managing director.

Cohen ran a one-column ad which welcomed Carson back to Kansas City and congratulated him "for the swell acting job you do in Warners' "One More Tomorrow."

Sign Tests Eyesight

Novelty has again captured Broadway in the guise of a new departure in outdoor painted-board advertising.

In ushering in the advance build-up for David O. Selznick's forthcoming Technicolor film, "Duel in the Sun," Sidney G. Alexander, eastern advertising and publicity director for Vanguard Films and the Selznick enterprises, has arranged a novel outdoor board at the southeast corner of 48th Street and Broadway in the form of an opicians eye chart which urges persons to "test their eyeshot.

To inward focus attention to the board, a stunt was arranged whereby a huge telescope was placed on 48th Street and Broadway. Attached to the telescope was a sign reading: "Do You Need Glasses to see 'Duel in the Sun'? Take a Free Look Now!"

Stunt drew huge crowds and within the first half-hour more than 50 persons tested their eyes—all claiming they could see the sign without the aid of a telescope.

UA Plants 'Henry V' Color Page in Dispatch

Marking a new milestone in publicity planting, a full-page full-color scene from "Henry V" was promoted in the rotto section of the St. Louis Post Dispatch by the rotto service department of United Artists. It's a "first" in the newspaper's history.

Bovim's Beauty Tieup

A beauty tieup with a department store which featured a window display and store ad with photos of Lana Turner was promoted by Russ Bovim, Loew's Midland, Kansas City, as part of his campaign on MGM's "The Postman Always Rings Twice."
Columbia Pictures presents

Cowboy Blues

with

THE HOOSIER HOTSHOTS from THE NATIONAL BARN DANCE

KEN CURTIS • JEFF DONNELL

GUY KIBBEE • GUINN (BIG) WILLIAMS

MRS. UPPINGTON • ROBERT SCOTT

PEG LA CENTRA • THE TOWN CRIERS

DEUCE SPRIGGINS & HIS BAND with

THE PLAINSMEN and CAROLINA COTTON

Original Screenplay by J. Bantam Cheney

Produced by COLBERT CLARK • Directed by RAY NAZAR

WHAT ACTION!
WHAT A MUSICAL!
WHAT STARS!
WHAT SHOOTIN'
WHAT SINGIN'
WHAT LOVIN'!
The Dark Horse

Universal
Comedy
59 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Satisfactory entertainment for those who enjoy the age-old plot about corrupt politics.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Acceptable fare for half of any double bill playing a heavy top feature. May create some extra draw if sold as a timely subject about corrupt politics.


Plot: Two important events mark the first day of a soldier’s return to civilian life: one is a chance meeting with a girl and the other is a mix-up in a plot which brings him to the attention of a political boss who decides the young veteran would make a good candidate for alderman. Although without political ambition, he is high-pressured into running, and after complications, wins the girl and the election.

Comment: This is satisfactory entertainment with a timely topical slant. It is a comedy based on corrupt politics, a plot that may be age-old, but which has created a new interest in itself in view of present-day conditions. And this subject should be the basis upon which it is sold, for it has no box-office names and can hardly be counted upon for any other drawing qualities. Most of the cast turn in smooth performances, with Phillip Terry playing the part of the returned veteran who turns out to be the "Dark Horse" and Ann Savage as the girl he loves. Such fine troopers as Jane Darwell and Allen Jenkins are seen in top featured roles and Donald MacBride is the crooked politician. Direction by Will Jason plays up the comedy, which should make it saleable for half of any double bill playing a heavy top feature.

Canyon Passage

Universal
Drama
92 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Based on the Saturday Evening Post story of the same name, this is an exciting, thrilling outdoor romantic drama about the men and women who pioneered our Pacific Northwest. It is photographed in Technicolor, which makes each individual scene look like a gorgeous painting. Should appeal to every type of moviegoer.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: If sold correctly in advance, the returns on this picture should be exceptional, for once seen, word-of-mouth will probably call it one-of-the-best outdoor dramas in sometime.


Plot: This is the story of the struggle of the pioneers who settled in the Pacific Northwest. They have many problems, among them the Indians when they are on the warpath, but they manage to survive and continue in their work of building up this country.

Comment: Producer Walter Wanger has taken the Saturday Evening Post story by Ernest Haycox and turned it into an excellent motion picture that will entertain average moviegoers. It is a picture for all lovers of outdoor fare, for it is filled with all the excitement and thrills experienced by the early settlers who pioneered the Pacific Northwest. Story deals with such things as Indians hunting and massacring the white man, the white man's struggle to survive in the uninhabited territory, and the fight between the good and bad elements among the pioneers themselves. For background Wan- ger used the rugged beauty of the Oregon locale Haycox described, and by photographing it in Technicolor, brings to life the magnificent scenic beauty of that part of our country. It is a robust, wildly exciting, romantic tale of those days, with the kind of performances that make each individual character look like he stepped out of a history book. There are many other entertainment features besides those mentioned above, one of them being the music Hoagy Carmichael wrote ... and sings. Co-starred in the picture are Dana Andrews, Susan Hayward and Brian Donlevy, and each in their individual way turn in performances that are outstanding. Ward Bond makes an exceptionally good heavy, and Patricia Roc, an English girl making her American debut in this picture, proves herself worthy of bigger and better parts. Dependables like Andy Devine, Stanley Ridges, Fay Holden and Lloyd Bridges all turn in excellent delineations in supporting roles. For a good, exciting, outdoor drama, one that patrons will consider "one-of-the-best-they-have-ever-seen," sell them "Canyon Passage." Credit for the excellence in other departments goes to Jacques Tourneur for his masterful direction; to Edward Cronjager for the photography and to Alexander Golitzen as associate producer.

Sunset Pass

RKO
Western
59 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Although this western moves slowly, it has one or two fast-fights and some gun-slinging.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Not up to the par of the average western.


Plot: Warren and his pal, Laurence, are hired by the banker of a small town to stop the robbery of gold being sent to his bank. They fail in their first attempt, but manage to locate one of the holdup men through the invaluable help of their associates. Laurence accidentally discovers the hiding place of the money, which makes it unnecessary for War- ren to arrest the brother of the girl he loves. Through this evidence, he finally nab the real culprits and peace settles on the little community.

Comment: "Sunset Pass" is just another western, one that may not live up to the expectations of the fans, for it lacks the customary amount of gunplay. There is some, but not until the latter part of the film, so that throughout most of the footage it is just an outdoor film minus excitement and fast-moving thrills. James Warren and his pal, John Lauren, is a Mexican and who renders one song during the unfolding of the story, work together satisfactorily in the foiling of the skullduggery. Nan Leslie is the feature point of interest, a role that she handles exceptionally well. In other featured roles are Jane Greer, Robert Barrat and Robert Clarke. William Berke's direction is handicapped by a script that lacks the usual excitement for a good western, but he gets satisfactory performances out of the cast. Herman Schlom gave it the standard production values.

Sister Kenny

RKO
Drama
116 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Adult) Superb motion picture about Sister Kenny's struggle for recognition of her methods is for all thinking people. It has pathos, tears and laughter, a romantic love story and some wonderful humanitarian scenes.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: In class situations, it should be a top money-maker. Others will have to depend on the Rosalind Russell name draw and the word-of-mouth advertising. Once they're in, all classes of patronage will enjoy this.


Plot: Sister Elizabeth Kenny, an obscure (Continued on Page 32)
Holiday Booms L. A.; ‘Kid’ Sock!

Hub Hotsy; ‘Kid’ Wow!

Mpls. Soars; ‘Kid’ Socko!

Pitt. Soars; ‘Kid’ Huge!

Chi. Great Despite Heat; ‘Kid’ Regal!

B’way Tilts; ‘Kid’ 12th Stanza Beats 11th!

PITTSBURGH FLASH!

“‘Kid From Brooklyn’ broke all existing records at the Fulton Theatre by over $1,000 in the hottest weather this summer and we have no cooling system.

John Walsh, Fulton Theatre
**CHARLOTTE**

The new Berry Theatre in Hartville, S. C., opened last week, featuring the Paramount picture, "Our Hearts Were Growing Up." The theatre is modernistic and features the latest sound and projection equipment, as well as the new type of Heyward seats. A number of Film Row people went to the opening, which proved to be a huge success with many town officials on hand to witness the affair. The theatre is managed by H. R. Berry, Berry managed the Center Theatre the years he ran out last December and he also built the Temple Theatre in the town. The booking for the new Berry Theatre will be done by the Everett Enterprises.

Charles Leonard of the local Columbia branch and George Royster of the local Universal office have been signed up to go to Chicago on July 21 to represent the Charlotte film exchange employees in the national film union meeting to be held there.

Mrs. Charles Leonard, wife of the Columbia Booker, and their two boys are spending a two-week vacation in New Haven, Conn.

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**SAN FRANCISCO**

A party formally announcing the start of trailer shipments from the National Screen Service Corporation's branch office was attended by over three hundred local film row executives. The building was completely renovated so that 500 theatres could be serviced with trailers from San Francisco instead of Los Angeles. "Mac" McGlinchey, head of the service department, is supervising the new division.

An undisclosed amount of money was taken from the Temple Theatre's safe by two armed robbers. Janitors Joe Garreffa and Clifford Evans were tied up with wire cord and left on the office floor while the thieves forced open the safe during the early morning hours.

Frances Maxwell has replaced Jean Manheim as secretary to Nathan Blumenfield of Blumenfield Theatres.

Returning vacationists include Laurad Schmitt, head bookkeeper; Virginia Lewis, accounting department, and Ximina Watson, payroll clerk, at the Nasser Brothers Theatres office; W. J. Helm, associate in the Peterson Theatres organization; Dick and Bill Rose of the Four Roses Film Exchange, and Gordon Allen, Monogram branch manager.

A new main Bookcarpet has been installed at the Blumenfield's Orpheum Theatre. The RKO Theatre, operated by Robert L. Lippert Theatres in Richmond, has a new redecorating job.

Three division managers are in town visiting the local exchanges. They are George Hickie for MGM, Jerry Sefron of Columbia and H. M. Herbel at Warner Brothers.

Currently on vacation are Ed Gieger, Fox shipper; Mrs. Dee Kittenberg, biller, and Charles Rohr, head shipper, at Metro; Eddy Smyth, Universal booker, and Joe Cannon, cashier at Warner Brothers.

Nat Nathanson, United Artists branch manager, is planning for the New York sales meeting in August.

Jerry Adams has taken over the assistant branch manager duties at Metro. He will assist L. Wingham.

Auditors Jerry Lubin of Warner Brothers and E. C. Schickelmann of Columbia are in the local exchanges.

Additions at Columbia include James Bergman as new contract clerk and Peter Chilstrum, a billing clerk.

Walter Doerre is the new manager at the Royal Theatre in Sanger, replacing Charles Minehart, who resigned. Doerre was formerly at the Ryan Theatre in Fresno. James Phoenix from the local P&x Theatre has been named as assistant manager.

All the theatres are operated by Robert L. Lippert Theatres.

**BRIDGEPORT**

Ralph Stith, exploiter in this territory for 20th Century-Fox, was host Monday for his studio at the Hotel Taft, New Haven, to celebrate the opening of "Anna and the King of Siam," in Loew's Poli New England houses. There were cocktails, a dinner at the Connecticut Club, and a special screening of the picture, which made its local debut Thursday at Loew's Poli here.

Dorothy Grega is the new cashier at the Capitol.

J. Carroll, manager of the American, has installed a new neon sign, with two arrows pointing to the balcony of his theatre so that patrons will have no trouble in finding it when the orchestra seats are filled. A special P. A. announces the Stratford Theatre, which has been visited in Amenia, N. Y., where his daughter, Reyna, is spending the summer at camp.

Phil ("Roxy") Oliver, celebrating his fifteenth anniversary as manager of the Strand last Sunday, is another local manager who will probably be the feature picture of the Season.

Rose Segrow, chief of service at the Majestic, is away on her annual vacation.

Ramon Goodman, junior assistant manager for Manager Matt L. Saunders, of Loew's Poli, was a dinner guest at an informal banquet given last week at the Stratfield Hotel by Larry ("Buster") Crabb.

Pearl Perrigo, cashier at the Globe, is enjoying a cool vacation in Maine.

Mrs. Helen Freundheim, cashier at the Strand, has just celebrated her twelfth anniversary in the box-office of the theatre. She is the oldest employee of the Strand Amusement Co., which operates the house. She is the wife of Harold Freundheim, owner of the Main Cigar Store, and has an 18-year-old daughter, Natalie.

**INDIANAPOLIS**

Irving Sochin, sales and office manager for 20th-Fox, has resigned. According to his announcement, he will enter the distribution end of the business. Thomas O. McCleaster of the company succeeded him. The Kentucky territory, formerly covered by McCleaster, will be taken over by Kenneth L. Dotterer.

J. J. Grady, mid-east district manager, 20th-Fox, was a business visitor at the local branch Monday.

Marceline Deason, assistant booker at Republic Pictures, and Virgil Dillwun are being married this Friday.

Herman Morgan, Republic salesman, is spending his vacation fishing in northern Indiana lakes.

Film visitors include C. Marshall, Sunshine, Darlington; W. J. Haney, Milan, Milan; A. B. Thompson, Park, North Vernon; John Mica, Iberia State, Fort Wayne; Roger Scherer, Halle's Circuit, Fort Wayne; E. H. Austin.
AUSTIN, Texas—The Board of the United States of America has declared the Texas Theatre, an historic landmark, to be a national monument.

The theatre, located at 1601 Congress Avenue, was opened in 1913 and operated continuously until 1980. It was closed due to financial difficulties and has been vacant for several years.

The theatre is considered to be one of the most important examples of early 20th-century American cinema architecture. It features a grand entrance, a large auditorium, and a variety of decorative elements that reflect the time period.

The decision to declare the Texas Theatre a national monument is seen as a significant step towards preserving this piece of cinematic history. The theatre is now protected from further commercial development and will be maintained and restored.

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REGIONAL NEWSREEL

MILWAUKEE

Two fire scares occurred in Wisconsin theaters during the Fourth of July weekend:

During one of the worst electrical storms in the city's history, at the Garfield Theatre in a residential area of Milwaukee, power wires entering the building were struck by lightning, and the smoke from the burning insulation followed the wires into the building. No damage was done, but it put the air conditioning system in reverse by drawing smoke into the theatre instead of pure air. There was no fire inside the building.

At Chilton, the Chilton Theatre was emptied of patrons while "Dark Corner" was shown, as smoke was rapidly filling the house, but there was no fire inside the building. The smoke came from a rubbish fire nearby, and the ventilating system pulled in smoke, which filled the neighborhood. There was no panic as 500 patrons filed out slowly. When the intake fans were shut off by Acting Manager Mrs. John Dombrock the smoke was soon drawn out and the customers filed into their seats again.

At Webster, up in northern Wisconsin, Louis Simmons has leased the village hall for 10 years to operate a movie theatre, for which he is now purchasing projection machines.

DEN B. Poblocki, Milwaukee's marquee and box-office manager, was re-elected from a business trip to Memphis, Tenn.

At the opening of the New Falls Theatre at Black River Falls, Wis. the picture shown was "God's Country," the first showing of this film in the state of Wisconsin. The theatre was opened to the public on July 2. Among the features of this new house may be mentioned the location of the box office, inside the building, so that ticket buyers are protected in inclement weather. Although cry rooms are no longer a novelty, this theatre has such a room with built-in cribs so that babies can be put to sleep and mothers can enjoy the show through the glass enclosure and hear music and sound through loud speakers, toned down. Cushions for the seats in this theatre are of the self-filling type. Another feature is the pitch of the floor, so that the screen can be seen from any position.

The Door Theatre at Sturgeon Bay, Wis., has had new sound equipment installed, as well as powerful carbon lamps, projectors and double sets of amplifiers and horns. In addition other improvements include new leather upholstered seats of the latest style, which are changed automatically when the patron gets up. Other improvements are scheduled when materials are available.

ST. LOUIS

The 600-seat Uptown Theatre in Clinton, Mo., a meat market and a grocery, a paint store, a home-appliance shop, two cafes and a barber shop were destroyed by fire which originated from a bonfire behind a meat-locker plant, almost adjacent to the Clinton Fire Department headquarters. In all the fire destroyed a total of nine buildings, including the theatre, and for a time threatened the entire business district.

Melbourne Sanowski, president and manager of the Fair Theatre, St. Louis, was fined $50 and costs by City Court Judge George J. Grel- ler following his plea of guilty to a charge of failure to provide unobstructed exits from the theatre, as provided by the city ordinance. Judge Grel- ler placed Sanowski on probation for one year. Three other charges of violating the safety rules for theatres were dismissed for lack of prosecution after Edward Rick, an in- spec- tor for the City Fire Marshall's office, testified that the theatre owners had cooperated with the city authorities and corrected the other conditions found at fault.

City officials in the Building Department and Division of Public Safety plan to advise officials of Moving Picture and Projection Machine Operators Union Local No. 143 which on several occasions recently inspectors for the Building and Fire Department have found only one projectionist in the booth of local motion picture theatres, although the union has a city ordinance that requires the presence of two projectionists when shows are in operation. This ordinance passed during the administration of former Mayor Jerome K. Dickmann was put on the law books at the request of the union, which has argued that two projectionists are needed to safeguard the public.

Taylorville, Ill., went back to God's time on Sunday, July 7 after enduring daylight saving time for a period of two months. The City Council repealed the daylight saving time ordinance in compliance with a mandate of the voters of the city, who at a special election favored a 10-minute standard time by an overwhelming majority.

The general industrial outlook in the Eighth Federal Reserve District appears brighter than at any time since the end of the war with Germany and Japan, the bank's monthly review of business conditions indicate. The district comprises Arkansas, the eastern half of Missouri and parts of Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi and Tennessee.

A joint funeral service was conducted at Sun- set Burial Park last Friday, for Rex Howe, 42, St. Louis showman, who died at Barnes Hospital at 4:25 a.m. July 9 after several months illness, and for Ralph L. Peters, 34, who formerly operated Sylvan Beach on the Meramec River with Howe. Peters died of a heart attack at 8 a.m. July 9 without knowing of his friend's death.

All-cartoons shows, which have proven so popular and profitable at Loew's State and Loew's Orpheum in the first-run field, have now been taken up in a big way by neighbor- hood houses. For instance, on the night of July 10 the O'Fallon, Baden, Salisbury, Bremen, Janet, Lowell, Bridge, Pauline, Robin, Queens and Ashland theatres, all units of the Kaimann Circuit in North St. Louis and St. Louis County, day and dated on a "Carnival of Cartoons."

CHICAGO

The cancellation of the "Outlaw" showing by Balaban and Katz last week resulted in the chain putting on two bills of reissues. This is very unusual for B & K. for the circuit very seldom plays reissues.

A committee has been organized to aid the campaign of Will Bennett, Washington IATSE leader, in his candidacy for president of the Interna- tional Union at the Chicago convention July 22. Ora Bebb heads the Chicago group, assisted by Harvey Schrunt, Joseph Britsk, and Phil Kore.

When the IATSE delegates gather next Mon- day at the organization meeting they will have at least two candidates for Secretary-Treasurer, Dwight Green, Mayor Kelly and William Green, president of the A. F. L., are scheduled to speak at the afternoon session, while Eric Johnston will talk Tuesday afternoon.

They're making quite a fuss about MGM's (Continued on Page 24)
SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, July 20, 1946

REGIONAL NEWSREEL

(Continued from Page 22)

location trip to Mackinac Island for "This Time for Keeps." Newspaper writers from many cities were invited to join the company during the filming, the Chicago writers being Henry Murdock, Dale Harrison, Ann Marsters, Nat Gross, Doris Arden, and Irving Kupcinet. Incidentally, last week in this space we announced the cast as including Van Johnson; since then MGM has sent word that Van is not in this picture, crooner Johnnie Johnson being the lucky man who gets Esther Williams.

Legal slain: Alex Huleenberg, arbitror in the Vision Theatre case, has postponed the hearing until September 24. The Monroe Theatre case has been set for September 17.

The Chicago Variety Club, Tent 26, reports the addition of the following members: Glen A. Sharp, Saul Lockwood, Simon Lax, Max Berenson, Louis Korem, Herman Goldberg, Fred A. Mann, and Glenn Blackshear. The club's summer golf tournament will be held at Hickory Hills County Club on August 22. The Alliance Theatre circuit has started a weekly house organ called "News and Views." The new rag will be a help to the circuit's annual summer drive, which ends August 10.

The RKO Grand Theatre will soon have one of the largest vertical electrical signs in the loop theatre district. The Whiteway Electric Co., Tom Flannery manager, is building a 72-foot up-and-down sign which, combined with a new front, will give the Grand the most modern decor in Clark Street.

Jack Lieb, midwestern representative for MGM's News of the Day, has organized the Telecolor Film Company, with offices at 33 North Second. Lieb is at present in New York holding conferences.

Kamol Sukosol, DeVry's representative in Siam, is visiting the home office here.

The MGM Employees Club held its annual lake outing at Lake St. Clair, two miles east of Detroit, last Saturday, sailing to St. Joseph, Mich., where they were met by a band provided by the Butterfield circuit.

Eugenia Sarree of the Alliance Theatre circuit has returned from her Hollywood vacation.

WASHINGTON

Permission to build a large office building, theatre, garage and shopping center on Temple Heights was granted to Charles Tompkins and Morris Cafritz, owners of the property, by the District Zoning Commission.

20th Century-Fox played host at a cocktail party at the Carlton Hotel to local members of the press in connection with the Washington showing of "Centennial Summer."

Newcomer at MGM is Mavis Jordan, former with the U. S. Tariff Commission.

Ray Brooks, Columbia home office representative, was a recent visitor at the local exchange office.

Paul Wall, former MGM Washington booker, has been transferred from the Charlotte sales force to the local exchange office. Paul is pinch-hitting for salesmen Frank Scully, who is vacationing in Maine.

Oscar Blumenthal, Columbia office manager, is happy to report that Mrs. Blumenthal is back home again after her recent hospitalization.

John Allen, MGM district manager of the Cincinnati-Columbus-Washington territory, is receiving congratulations on last week's trade paper announcement of his having the Cleveland exchange added to his jurisdiction.

BEST WISHES. Barry Buchanan (right), United Artists' west coast publicity director, is one of Edward C. Raftery's well-wishers following the recent Hollywood wedding ceremony of the UA president to the former Rae Thetford.

LOS ANGELES

IATSE, Local 150, Motion Picture Projectionists, gave a dinner dance at Meadowbrook last week.

Mrs. Ida Marshall, cashier for J. P. Filbert Equipment Co., is on her vacation. Another Filbert employee set for a vacation is Jimmy Lucas, expert sound man.

Wylie Piper, just out of the Navy, has opened his Mammoth Theatre at Mammoth Lake.

Visitors to the Row included Henry Dreher of the American at Newhall, a theatre, incidentally, which the late William S. Hart built; L. F. Long, head of the Long-Griffith circuit, in from Safford, Arizona, with his wife; Gene Bandelier, Long's manager of the Azteca and Rex, Phoenix; and Hugh Detloff, Wilcox, Wilcox, Arizona, who was in town with his family for a vacation.

Charlie Sugarman, son of Al Sugarman, Columbus, Ohio theatre chain operator, was on the Row, his first visit to California.

George Pickow, Eastern Coast sales manager, dashed up to San Francisco to install a new assistant branch manager. Gordon Wilson, Metro's booking supervisor, has been enjoying a vacation.

Harry Morgan, former Fanchon and Marco representative at the Manchester Theatre for 17 years, died recently after a six-month illness.

Dave Gross, Southeastern Alaskan theatre owner, was a visitor to the Row. Gross runs houses in Juneau and Ketchikan.

The Western Amusement Company took over Bard's and the Fremont in town, and the San Gabriel house, instead of the others, as reported last week. Carl Benefield is managing Bard's and the Fremont, having come over from Pampa, Texas; while Norman Hartley, former New Mexico theatreman, is managing the San Gabriel house.

Warners has a new cashier, Mildred Weber, who succeeds Dorothy Wate. Booker Bill Wate is on vacation. Lola Foley, who has been inspecting film for a record run of 25 years, is on leave of absence from WB.

Those happy faces belong to Universal's branch office, which won first place in the recently completed national sales drive. Bookers get three weeks' pay and the rest of the personnel get two weeks' pay.

Jack Broder has started a new revival first run policy in his Cinema Theatre, along with the Picfair, Vermont and Arlington.

Dan Johnson came over from Escanadillo, and Clarence Walter was a visitor from his Grande Theatre, Arroyo Grande.

The Oatman Theatre, Oatman, Arizona, opened July 12, under the supervision of the Richardson Brothers. The house was remodeled.

Exhibitors Service is handling the booking.

New employe at Screen Guild is Janet Latt, who joins the contract department.

PHILADELPHIA

Mirtam Blumberg, wife of Irving Blumberg, assistant advertising and publicity manager of the Warner Bros. Theatres, died last Saturday afternoon of a kidney ailment. She was buried on Monday in the Montforte Cemetery, with many of the executives and managers of the Warner Bros. Theatres attending the services. They have one child, Eleanor, eight years old.

The local RKO exchange won first prize on "Tarzan and the Amazonas" billings in the Ned Denipret drive, while salesmen Vincent O'Donnell, Ely J. Epstein, Mike Wolfish and J. J. McFadden, Jr. won special "This is America" prizes.

The returning Universalists who attended the convention brought back with them pigskin brief cases and pen and pencil sets. The salesmen got the briefcases and the head bookers the pen and pencil sets.

Salesmen Ben Bacher is ripe to the tune of a handsome leather wallet as the result of winning the first prize during the 11th week of Warner's Wild West Show Drive.

"Miss Philadelphia" and her court of honor will be guests at Wildwood as part of the Hunt's Theatre 40th Anniversary celebration. With Miss Hunt is a member of the Wildwood cops.

Morris Gerson is at Mt. Sinai Hospital following a heart attack. Morris is a prominent theatreman in this territory.

CINCINNATI

Jack Ferrer, West Virginia salesman for RKO Radio, covered himself and the Cincinnati branch of the East Central District with glory by cop- ping the "Best Salesman" prize of the East Central district. The presentation was made by District Manager Bernie Kranze at the national convention in New York.

Renovation and modernization of the Masonic Theatre in Hinton, W. Va. is going forward, E. L. Keesling reports. The theatre, which recently was damaged by fire, will seat about 800, according to new plans.

Air conditioning will be installed in the Mate- wan Theatre, Matewan, W. Va., Frank Allara, owner, reports.

Lee Goldberg, manager and owner of Popular Pictures, left Sunday for New York to attend the convention of Goodwill Pictures Corp. His first release from this company will be "Meet John Doe."

The local Warner Bros. exchange has been very active during the past week lining up last open spots in territories for Warner's 20th Anniver- sary Week. James Ambrose, manager, spent the week with salesmen from eastern Kentucky and West Virginia with special attention given to arrangements for the Anniversary Week. Warner employees are planning a picnic to be held (Continued on Page 26)
Always ready for a fight or a love affair is Sinbad, played by Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. in RKO’s technicolor production featuring the adventures of Sinbad the Sailor. Maureen O’Hara is Sinbad’s siren. Cast includes Walter Slezak, thousands of extras.

“Sinbad the Sailor”

“I love a fighter... and Sister Kenny is a champion,” says Rosalind Russell, who plays the coveted title role in RKO’s much-discussed Sister Kenny, one of the world’s great stories of love, sacrifice and conflict. Alexander Knox shares star honor.

“Sister Kenny”

Made tall. Diminutive Joan Bennett mounts box for close-up with towering Robert Ryan, her co-star in RKO’s drama of secret love and flaming jealousies, Woman on the Beach. Studio “grip” steadies box, keeps eyes on waves. Star cast includes Charles Bickford.

“Woman on the Beach”

All wet, all set. While movie technicians crowd around pool, Robert Young and Barbara Hale await call for action in scene for RKO’s Lady Luck, which concerns riotous honeymoon escapades of a gambling bridegroom. Frank Morgan is co-starred.

“Lady Luck”

These big RKO pictures will soon be shown at your theatre.
THEATREMAN ON HAND TO SEE 'SISTER KENNY.' Caught by the camera at this week's tradeshowing of RKO Radio's "Sister Kenny" in New York were these three theatremen (l-r): Harry Britwar, Prudential Theatres; Irving Kaplan, Randforce Circuit; Elmer Schissel, Century Circuit.

VERSAL, visited her hometown of Ames, Neb., on vacation.

Lois Brown of Paramount and Marian Wallace of 20th-Fox had weekend visitors during their vacation at Lake Okoboji. They were Regina Healey and Irene Kosut, completing a foursome that frequently takes weekend trips today during the year.

Robert Quinn, Paramount’s new publicity chief at Denver, was in town for a couple of days.

Alice Neal, Warners office manager, will double in time at the cashier’s department with Adele Anderson, regular cashier, going to California on vacation.

“Night and Day” was screened specially here for Victor Record sellers of the city.

Evelyn Cannon, MGM booker, is vacationing with her husband in Colorado.

Jack Conner, former exploiter for MGM, is currently piloting a group of six American fishermen trying out fishing possibilities in remote God’s Lake in the northern Manitoba country.

The World-herald tree show to kiddies having birthdays in June attracted 1,800 to the Omaha Theatre.

Joe Scott, Fox branch manager, made a trip to Des Moines to attend funeral services for Salesman Harry Gottlieb.

G. Ralph Branton, Tri-States Theatres general manager, and Dale McFarland, booker for the circuit, were in Omaha two days.

Tri-States Publicist Stan Blackburn is pinch-hitting as Omaha Theatre manager during Rollin K. Stonebrook’s vacation.

Louise Cotter, the RKO-Brandes publicity chief, picked Chicago for her vacation.

Jimmy Schlatter, Orpheum Theatre assistant manager, is passing out the cigars following the arrival in the family of an 8-pound son.

NEW YORK

Approximately 300 men, good and true, turned out at the Preakness Hills County Club in the sovereign state of New York last week for the annual Fabian Theatres golf tourney, at which Si Fabian and Sam Kosen played hosts. The golfers, every one of them, had a strenuous day and went home or in that general direction around 2 A.M., every man of them happy, according to truthful reports. Those who won were: Low gross, Harold Kinzler; Runner up, Abe Schneider; Longest Drive, Mitchell May; nearest the pin at the 18th hole, Raz Goldstein and Bob Sherman; Putting Contest, William White (Frank Davis) runner up; Kicker’s hand-out, Charles Stonebrook, Lewis; World’s Worst Golfers, Lou Gold and Ray Moon; Foursome prizes, S. Wheeler, Harry Weiner, Charles Alcoate, Jay Goldberg, M. Sanders, Miller, Roy Haines, Bob Sherman; Leon Bamberg, Herman Rips, Max Cohen, Lip Friedman, Sidney Hecht, Nat Fellman, William Beckelman.

The Scoop 14th Street Corporation announced over the week-end that Morris Levy has entered into a special arrangement with the organization whereby he became a partner in the company and acquires complete control of the City Theatre on 14th Street.

Nyman Kessler, supervisor of the Odeon, Renaissance and Roosevelt Theatres, is spending a week next week in Monticello, Sullivan County, with his wife and family. They have a bungalow there.

Dr. Edward W. Friedman, son of Stanleigh P. Friedman, Warner Bros, vice president and attorney, and Winifred T. Herman were married last week in Mt. Vernon.

Like the weather, the anti-trust court opinion continues to be talked about by folks along film row, with not much being done about it and the general attitude being that which may be described best by that phrase from World War I—"watchful waiting."

Meanwhile vacations continue, with Allen Toby of Republic going off to Filler, while the thermometer outside that MGM center was blamed itself and tried to go higher. And Republic Inspector I. B. Friding is taking the cool breezes from some unspecified resort.

Dr. and Mrs. Seymour Kinzler are the parents of a son born Saturday at Doctors’ Hospital. Grandfather of the newborn is Sam Kinzler, exhibitor leader and head of the Randforce Theatre Circuit.

There are some changes being made at 20th Century-Fox, with Florence Farmer, known as the blonde bombshell for reasons which have to be seen to be fully understood, moving up the ladder formerly held by Kate Hartfield, who retired to housekeeping, with Antoinette Taglianti, former assistant to the former, moving into Florence’s spot. Other changes include Jeanne Kusman, who takes Miss Taglianti’s former post and is replaced by Harriet Hurwitz.

Warner Bros. these days is all dressed up for its wild west show, play day drive with the usual aura of interior livened by banners and canopies simulating a tent.

Phil Gerard of William R. Ferguson’s home office exploitation staff at MGM yesterday became the father of a girl born at Woman’s Hospital. The new arrival has been named Jenifer.

VANCOUVER

The Roxy Theatre, Saskatoon, has terminated its connection with the Odeon Circuit and reverted to the original charter with Rothstein Theatres, Ltd. Rothstein said his company was withdrawing its eight theatres in the provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan from Odeon because it felt that it could better serve the public as an independent chain. Nelson Warner has been named manager of the Roxy in Saskatoon, the largest unit of the Rothstein Circuit.

One of Vancouver’s oldest theatrical land-
marks, the Beacon Theatre, is going to be completely modernized. It has been closed for six weeks for a new face-lifting job. The old box seats will be removed and the theatre completely recasted. Dressing rooms will be entirely made over and the whole aspect of the theatre changed. Whether the former policy of stage shows and films will continue is undecided at present. The Beacon is a unit of the Odeon circuit.

Harold Warren, who now has his own radio station CJAV at Port Alberni and uses it to advertise his three theatres in the district, is definitely sold on radio to advertise his pictures. The station covers most of the district of Vancouver Island, and Warren has installed the latest in radio equipment.

Frank Fisher, Odeon western division manager, and Larry Greyburn, publicity chief for Canada, after a week's visit to British Columbia left for the east. No changes in personnel or policy at the present time, they report.

Steve Donnelly, recently returned from Bulgaria where he was a pilot with the RCAF, is back in show business as a projectionist at the Capitol Theatre, Port Alberni, B. C.

Don McLean, recently discharged from the Army, is now assistant manager at the Plaza Theatre, Vancouver, an Odeon circuit first-run theatre.

Plenty of Hollywood names are on the register at the Hotel Vancouver for the Diamond Jubilee celebrations. Among them are Ed Gardiner, the “Archie” of Duffy's Tavern; Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce (Sherlock Holmes and Watson); Richard Greene, Eddie Canto, Harry James and his wife, Betty Grable and Alon Young of 20th-Fox.

The Roxy Theatre at Alberni was badly damaged by the recent earthquake and is closed for repairs. The theatre operated by Harold Warren was badly damaged, walls were cracked, and much damage done to the interior.

Ian Ackery, manager of the Orpheum Theatre, is taking his vacation in relays this year. At present he is on a Hollywood visit with Bill Ballee of the Famous Player Art Shop. Lloyd Muri is pinch hitting for him.

Leslie Plotted, manager of Empire-Universal Films, and Fred Stone, manager of Sovereign Films, are away to Quebec City to attend the E-U sales meeting.

George Miller, owner of the Vogue Theatre at Wynyard, Saskatchewan, recently installed two Century projectors and RCA unit at a cost of $4,000.

Visitors to Vancouver are Bill Sharpe of Sharpe's Theatre Supply, Calgary; Jack Watson of the Rex, Regina; and Fred Vairlow of the Capitol, Edmonton.

CLEVELAND

Not even air conditioning enticed the general public away from their homes last week when the thermometer was hovering in the high nineties. Only “The Green Years” attracted large audiences at Loew’s State Theatre. The continuous pre-release advertising campaign had so whipped the public attitude that it overcame the weather handicap, holding up very strong in its second week.

Romance broke out last week in the Film Building with announcement of the engagement of Mary Maxwell of the Scoville, Essick and Reit Circuit to Leonard Stefens, head booker at Command Pictures.

Ray Brown, III arrived Tuesday of last week to increase the local population. He is the son of Ray Brown, Jr., manager of the Halt- north Theatre, a Washington Circuit house, and grandson of Ray Brown, southern Ohio Warner theatre district manager.

Paul Mooney of NSS was in town for a routine check-up at the Cleveland Clinic. Bert Diener has resigned as manager of the Liberty Theatre, Akron.

George Delis, managing director of the A. G. Constant Circuit, received an enthusiastic welcome home from his trip to Greece at a

(Continued on Page 28)
SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, July 20, 1946

REGIONAL NEWSREEL

(Continued from Page 27)

dinner in Canton Tuesday.
Another Film Building romance soon to result in marriage is that of Virginia Kransteuber and Dean Buell, both Republic Pictures bookers. The wedding is set for Lansing, Mich. on August 17.

Anthony Reinhart has resigned from Columbia Pictures as assistant booker to become head shipper for Republic Pictures. Harry Weiss, 20th-Fox resident publicity director, has reservations for August 11 to join his family in the Adirondacks where he has a summer home.

J. W. Services, National Theatre Supply home office official, returned to New York on Friday, concluding a brief visit here with local branch manager Frank Masek.

Herbert Horstmeier, Universal office manager and head booker, is all geared to leave on July 27 for a short trip to Yellowstone National Park with Mrs. Horstmeier.

F. T. Murray, Universal supervisor of exchanges, concluded a visit to the local exchange last Friday, at which time he returned to New York.

Nat Barach, local branch manager of National Screen Service, put into effect this week the five-day work week. This, according to Barach, is an all-year policy.

The Columbia Club of Cleveland is seeking new quarters—as yet unsuccessfully. Edwin R. Bergman, PRC branch manager, is chief booker.

The Fremont Drive-In, with accommodations for 650 cars, opened to the public last week. It was built and is being operated by Mosser Brothers of Fremont. Complete simplex equipment—both projection and sound—was installed.

Leo Jones, Upper Sandusky circuit owner and his younger son were in town before leaving for Providence, R. I. where the family will spend the rest of the summer.

PORTLAND

Ray Brown, with Hamrick Evergreen Theatres since the company was formed, has resigned his position as booker in Portland and will act in similar capacity for the Ted Gamble Theatres circuit in Oregon. He is succeeded by another veteran Lou Metzbar, formerly with Columbia Pictures.

Art Adamson and Associates announce the opening of the Parroso Theatre, Portland, adding another 635 seats to its theatre chain, which already has houses in Vancouver and Ridgefield, Wash., and Albany and Corvallis, Oregon.

Mrs. Mary Pulver of the Lewis-Clarke Amusement Company, announces early construction of another $150,000 theatre at Lewiston, Ids.

C. E. Farrell has purchased the Junior Mercy Theatre, in Ellensburg, Wash. for approximately $100,000, and will remodel the Amdian theatre as well and dismantle the Mid-State.

Tommie Braatelien, of the firm of Braatelien & Drews, 16 mm. film producers, is covering Pacific Northwest key cities shooting industry and scenic wonders.

The million dollar exploitation campaign on “Canyon Passage” culminated in huge parade, led by Hollywood stars in picture, finishing at Broadway Theatre, Portland.

Mitchell Leisen, director for Paramount, is in Portland in search of the Black Forest and Rhine River of Germany. Actually he is looking for a location for “Golden Earring.” He has decided that Oregon, with the Columbia River and natural forests, is the most likely place. Oregon City, some 20 miles from Portland, he has decided, greatly resembles a thriving German industrial town, and he intends to use it in his new film.

Elsa Maxwell was the mistresses of ceremonies at the dinner for Answer Ernest Haycox and Governor Earl Snell at the Oregon Advertising Club, whence he started the posse for the hunt of “The Man From Canyon Passage.” Later all took in the “Canyon Passage” parade, which wended its way downtown and to the premiere opening at J. P. Parker’s Broadway Theatre.

HARRISBURG

Managers were hard-pressed this week for their art work, and expect the output to be pretty slim during the next eight weeks, due to an injury to principal sign man of the area. He is Henry Schoening, proprietor of the Harrisburg Display Service, who has contracts with almost all the downtown and neighborhood theatres for their display and art work. Henry fell from a ladder at his home, suffering a dislocated shoulder. He will be incapacitated for at least eight weeks. Meanwhile his principal assistant, Harry Pahl, former Loew’s Theatres sign man, will carry on.

The doorman at Loew’s Regent here was tempted to make his appearance one night in the summer uniform sent on by the home office—a pair of trousers and a hat. Until the rest ar-

DEAL CONCLUDED. John J. Jones, president of Screen Guild Productions, and Jack Schwarz shake hands after concluding a deal whereby Schwarz will produce ten pictures during the next three years for Screen Guild release. Schwarz’s first for SG will be “Return of Buffalo Bill,” which he hopes to get before the cameras late in September.
others caught the limit in short order.

Fred Zekman, booker for Black Hills Amuse-
ment Co., is taking an extended vacation and
has gone to Plymouth, Mass., to visit relatives.

The Rocky Mountain Screen Club put on a
Summer Round-Up that was a corker. It
started off with a horseback and hayride and
went on to a big outdoor barbecue and camp-
fire jamboree.

Ted Halmi, publicity director of the Orpheum,
has sold his Denver Advertising Co. to Frank
Karsh.

Harry Huffman, Denver city manager of Fox
Theatres, took his first plane ride last week on
occasion of a goodwill trip of Denver busi-
ness men to Grand Junction, Colo.

Sam Langwith, owner of the Western Service
and Supply Co., has returned from a southern
selling trip.

Denver friends will be interested to learn that
Jack Byrne, former district manager here for
Metro, has been named eastern sales manager.

**DES MOINES**

Leaders in the 15th anniversary campaign of
Tri-States Theatre Corp. at the end of the
third week are Everett Peterson of the Strand
Theatre at Waterloo, Ia., R. Johnson of the
Strand at Hastings, Neb., and Borger Iversen of
the State at Cedar Rapids. Each of the
managers lead in their respective leagues. A.
G. Stolte of Des Moines is ahead among the
district managers.

Leo Wolcott of Eldora, Ia., board chairman of
the Allied-Independent Theatre Owners of
Iowa-Nebaska, showed the boys he can still
shoot a mean game of golf. Wolcott came to
Des Moines and entered the Iowa amateur tourn-
ament, pouting out a 40-19 for a 79 total in
the qualifying round. Wolcott dropped out of
the tournament after losing out in a play-off
for the championship flight.

Betty Evans of the booking department at
20th Century-Fox exchange at Des Moines was
married last week to William F. Russell, who
is on leave for Merchant Marine duty.

The bride will return to work after her husband
reports for duty on Aug. 2.

**BOSTON**

"Henry V" closed Tuesday after a run of
sixteen weeks at the Esquire Theatre, first
American appearance. The picture has played
to capacity for 15 of its 16 weeks, and it is now
announced that it will not be booked into other
New England theatres for another year. Never
before has a road show picture been shown to
so many persons here since the days in 1560
when "The Gilbert & Others" broke all records at
the old Majestic Theatre.

Twentieth Century-Fox reports that Edward
Callahan has left on a trip to Buffalo and
Albany. Their new office manager is Al Conmex.
On vacation now are Mrs. Mary McCarthy, who
made her first plane trip down to Nantucket, and
Mrs. Dorothy Moriarity, also vacationing in
Nantucket.

PRC has two new employees—Alvira Mac-
Donald and Armone Parravan.

Paramount has a new telephone operator,
Mrs. Dorothy Waldo. Harry Schlar is back
from the wars. A Lieutenant in the Army,
Schlar was a motion picture booker in Wash-
(Continued on Page 30)

**Lamar, Colo.—Dr. L. E. Likes has made
arrangements with Charles D. Strong, Denver
architect, to draw up plans and specifications for
a new theatre to be built here. DEN**

**Buckeye, Ariz.—Wade Loudermill’s Roxy
Theatre will open on July 23, replacing the old
house which burned down. Kroehler Pushback
Seats is installing the seats in the new house
for Loudermill. LAN**

**Covington, Ky.—Plans for a 600-car drive-in
theatre to be built in Lookout Heights, ad-

dacent to Covington, were announced recently
by Willis Vance, president of the Dixie Drive-In
Corporation. It will be located on Dixie High-
way, main traffic artery from Cincinnati to the
south. The F & Y Building Service of Columbus,
Ohio, has drawn up plans for the project, while
equipment is to be furnished by the Midwest
Supply Company. CIN**

**Roanoke, Ill.—Construction is proceeding at
a satisfactory pace on the new 550-seat theatre
being erected here by Martin Moritz, who is
Woodford County service officer for the state
War Veterans Commission and also commander
of the Benson Legion Post. The new building
will be of cement block construction. STL**

**Sturgeon Bay, Wis.—Work on the new Omah
Theatre here is progressing satisfactorily, the
management reports, but reinforcing steel for
the concrete floor is still lacking. The back
wall for the screen is being completed, and work
has been begun on the front of the theatre. No
date for opening has as yet been set. MIL**

**Lewiston, Idaho—Lewiston’s $150,000 theatre
project will get under way before the month is
out, it has been announced by Mrs. Mary Pulver,
president of the Lewis-Clark Amusement Com-
pany, now owning the Liberty, Granada and
Roxy theatres. The theatre will be located on
Main Street in the heart of the downtown area.
Buildings on the site are being razed. The
building and landscaped ground adjacent thereto
will have a frontage of 100 feet on "D" street.
The same frontage on "C" street, and a length of
175 feet on Old Sixth street, covering ap-
proximately one-half block. The theatre will
have a seating capacity of 1200.—PIK**

**Portland, Ore.—Arthur W. Adamson, leading
small chain operator, recently opened his new
Parkrose Theatre at N.E. 101st and Sandy
Boulevard. A 635-seat modern house. This the-
atre will be added to his operations in Van-
couver, Ridgefield, Wash., and in Albany, Ore-
—PRT**

San Francisco — New theatre construction
projects are listed for Carson City, Nev., and
half Moon Bay, Calif. A. R. Bowen, owner of
the Carson Theatre, plans a 1000-seat house in
the Nevada city. Alvin Hatch, operator of the
475-seat Half Moon Bay Theatre, will build a
new auditorium across the street from his pres-
ent house. Both men are awaiting the assign-
ment of materials. SFR

**Chicago—Frank Fink, director of the Outdoor
Theatres Company, plans an early August open-
ingen for the new 1000-car drive-in theatre at
Irving and Harlem avenues. CHI**

**Yazoo City, Miss.—T. G. Solomon plans a
new 670-seat house at the cost of $15,000 on
South Main Street here. It will be called the
Palace.**

**Gloucester, Va.—W. C. Danton has started
construction of his new theatre at HUDGINS, Va.**

**Springfield, Mass.—Frank Crivelli plans con-
struction of a 750-seat house here with construc-
tion scheduled to start shortly.**

**MEXIA, Tex.—Maurice Esterling, who owns
the National and Palace here plans construc-
tion of a third house to seat 750 shortly.**

**San Jose, Calif.—Plans for construction of
$125,000 theatre to be called the Garden, with a
seating capacity of 800 were announced this
week by Milton F. Samis, owner of the Hester
Theatre.**

**Washington, D. C.—Permission had been
granted this week for construction of a shopping
center which will include a theatre at Temple
Heights.**

**Natchez, Miss.—Levee Montgomery of New
Orleans, circuit owner, will build a new 750-
seat house here to be known as the Clarke, after
Eugene M. (Pop) Clarke, former sheriff of
Adams county and exhibitor who operated the
Baker Grand.—NOR**

**NOW IDEAL THEATRE CHAIRS**

**JOE HORNSTEIN has it!**
A preliminary Canadian Government report for 1945 reveals that theatre grosses totaled $2,618,000, exclusive of amusement taxes, which aggregate is a decrease of $555,000 from the 1954 total receipts at $593,000. The Federal amusement tax during 1955 was an additional $130,000. On the other hand, the revenue of all film exchanges in the Dominion last year showed an increase over the previous period of $301,000. Total 1955 receipts of $16,293,000 represented $15,850,000 from film rentals, $466,000 from the sale of advertising accessories and the balance from miscellaneous sources. The official trade report of the government will be issued in August.

The announcement is made of the resignation of Oscar R. Hanson as general manager of Gaumont-Kalee Limited, Toronto, his successor being E. J. Harris, a brother-in-law of the late N. L. Nathanson. The company, which has been appointed Canadian distributor for British theatre equipment, was organized five months ago and Hanson had made a trip to England to survey the equipment field. He continues to be the head of a number of other Canadian companies, including Monogram Pictures of Canada. The president of Gaumont-Kalee Limited is Hon. J. Earl Lawson of Toronto, who is also the chief of Odeon Theatres of Canada.

Empire-Universal-Films Limited, Toronto, has announced the appointment of Lew McKenzie of St. John, N. B., as special representative for the Canadian Provinces east of Ontario. McKenzie was for many years the St. John branch manager of Canadian Warner Bros. until his recent resignation.

Joseph Zibul, 21, leader of the trio which broke into the Kent Theatre, Windsor, Ont., was sentenced to five years in prison in the police court there while another companion, Alex Radlin, was given two years after both pleaded guilty. Edward Triolo, the third man, has been committed for trial by a higher court.

Tentative arrangements for Canadian pre-

"Kick in Pats"'s

The recently handed down anti-trust opinion gave exhibitors a "kick in the pants," Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America Vice President M. A. Lightman told the New York State MPTO last week in Buffalo.

Lightman claimed that the very people whom the government had intended to help would be hurt and that the opinion will work a "definite hardship on independent exhibitors" to the advantage of distributors.

President Merrit Kyser presided and announced appointment of George J. Gammel as vice president and the following directors: Constantine J. Basil, Robert C. Hayman and Matthew M. Konczakowski.

BACK ON BROADWAY. Robert Alda, who left New York four years ago to seek a screen career in Hollywood and became a Warner Bros. star in "Rhapsody in Blue," returns to Broadway for a series of personal appearances beginning at the Strand Theatre on July 26. Alda will next be seen in United States Pictures' "Cloak and Dagger."

A Albany

About 75 people attended a dinner tendered to Louis Lazar, general manager of Schine Theatres, who has resigned to accept a post in Paris in charge of all foreign Paramount theatre operations. Dinner was held in Gloversville and Albany, schine and Albany folks who attended included Charles A. Smakwitz, Ben Smith, Jack Armin and Charles Dortic.

Holbrook Bissell, Columbia branch manager, has resigned. He will join the advertising business here with Charles James J. B. Bullwinkel, former Buffalo city salesman, replaces Bissell in Albany.

Harry Lamont's Lake George Drive-In Theatre, located on Lake George-Gen Falls road, will open next week.

John Moore, Paramount branch manager, has gone to Oneida to confer with the Kallet circuit.

Andy Roy, Stanley Theatre, Utica manager, is in town for the day.

Eugene Vogel, Universal branch manager, is in Utica and Oneida conferring with exhibitors.

Mary Flynn, booker of Upstate Theatres, is very happy at having as her guest her sister, Betty Albright, who now resides in Los Angeles. Betty was one time assistant booker in the Albany Columbia office.

Richard McKay has assumed ownership of Earthville Theatre, Earthville, N. Y. Booking and buying will be done through Upstate Theatres.

Leonard Rosenthal, who formerly operated the State Theatre, Troy, has been discharged from the army after almost four years' service. Leonard will return to law practice and his mother, Mrs. Rose Rosenthal, will continue to operate the theatre.

Stewart McDonald, Warner Bros. theatres treasurer, is in town for conferences.

Ralph E. Crabill, Warner Jamestown district manager, is in Albany for a conference.

Jack Mundtuk, MGM Buffalo branch manager, is conferring with Warner Bros. Theatres bookers.

Ray Smith, Warner manager, has returned to his desk after a bout with summer flu.

Frank Bonomo, Warner Bros. and Fabian artist, spent several days at Lake George.

Evelyn Sussman Scher, Warner Bros. secretary, has resigned and will leave this Saturday to assume housewifely duties.

Visitors along Film Row included George Thornton of Saugerties and Tannersville; John Rossi of Schroon Lake; Jerry LaRoque of Verplanck; Sun Davis of Phoenixia; Sam Rosenblatt of Waterford and M. Kofsky of Waterford.
Introducing

THE STR
PROJECTION
ADVISORY
COUNCIL

See Page E-3

STR Projection Advisory Council
Equipment Showcase
STR Theatre Advisory Council on Carpet
When Sound Was Young
New Theatre—the Variety, Miami Beach
Maintenance Memos for Projectionists
Maintenance Memos for Managers
Glamourizing with Glass
Curved Screen Reduces Distortion
Theatre Carpet Production Rising

Aaron Nadell, Technical Editor
for
brighter pictures...
better projection...
greater economy...

National offers a line of projection lighting equipment that meets the requirements of all theatres. The Simplex High Projection Arc Lamp delivers twice as much light as any low intensity lamp—the snow-white light that is essential to the satisfactory projection of Technicolor pictures. National Rectifiers afford the most efficient and dependable means of supplying your projection arc power requirements. National Reflectors are the logical choice for replacement in your lamp-house as they are manufactured by specialists.

NATIONAL
PROJECTION LIGHTING EQUIPMENT

The National Four-Tube Rectifier for 40 and 50 ampere High Intensity Projection Arcs.
The National Heavy Duty Six-Tube Rectifier for use with Magnates.
The National Heavy Duty Two-Tube Rectifier for 15 and 30 ampere Low Intensity Projection Arcs.
The Acme Two-Tube 30 ampere Rectifier for Low Intensity Projection Arcs.

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The name National assures you of the best engineering and production brains in the industry.
Good Projection Practice—As Explained By Men Who KNOW

The Leading Experts Discuss Efficient Operating Procedures at Inauguration of New STR Projection Advisory Council

At their first meeting the members of the newly-formed STR Projection Advisory Council confined their attention to questions of good operating practice, and on some matters achieved total unanimity of opinion.

In the matter of re-winding and inspecting all newly-received prints before showing them for the first time the Council experts were completely agreed. This should be done in all houses, they held.

“We insist that our men inspect every print before they run it. This helps prevent stops, and prevent fires. It also is protection against claims by distributors of film damage.”

“Faults are not always mended by the exchanges,” one noted.

“All theatres should do it. It makes for better projection and reduces fire hazard.”

On the matter of paying the projectionists to report early so they can make these inspections, opinion varied.

One member has the projectionists under his supervision report an hour early for each change of program, and considers this “the best investment any theatre ever made.”

Others note that such inspection is taken care of in their union contracts.

“The contract with the local should provide that the projectionists report 15 minutes to one-half hour before show time in order to check both film and equipment.”

“Hours worked by our projectionists include sufficient time for checking film.”

“There are two projectionists in all our projection rooms who report 15 to 30 minutes before starting their show.”

Others, however, did not think the projectionists should be paid for such inspection.

“I don’t agree with paying a man $50 a week and then $5 extra to come in early and inspect his film. Pay him $50 a week and make inspecting the film part of his job!”

Checking Equipment

On the matter of inspecting all projection and sound equipment before beginning each day’s show the Council again was unanimously agreed.

“Definitely yes, in all houses.”

“Yes, in all houses.”

“Yes, in all types of houses.”

But their views again divided on the question of paying the projectionists to come in earlier in order to carry out such inspection routines.

One member pays for 30 minutes per projectionist per day all theatres. Others pointed out that this matter also, as well as inspecting film, is covered in their union contracts, or in the hours normally worked by the projection staff. Still others thought that equipment inspection also should be considered part of the projectionist’s job, something for which he himself ought to feel responsible, and be encouraged to feel responsible. His pay should be sufficient to induce him to take a real interest in his work, and to want to do whatever is necessary. “How can you get a man to feel a sense of responsibility, or of the importance of his work, if he has to be paid additionally for taking care of every separate detail of it?”

With respect to rewinding the used film, some members insist that their projectionists rewind by hand to assure that each reel is inspected anew after every showing.

“Our company rules do not permit use of automatic rewinders.”

“Hand rewinding in all types of houses.”

“We request and recommend that hand rewinding and inspection be made after the running of each reel, in all houses.”

“I recommend inspection and hand rewinding in all houses.”

Others, however, favored automatic rewinding, and some approved hand rewinding under certain conditions only, or in certain theatres only.

“It all depends. Hand rewinding is a matter of preference.”

(Continued on Page E-19)
CARPETING in the physical sense consists of tufts of wool raised out of a woven foundation of tough cotton and jute, or sometimes a foundation of cotton and jute plus wool. This general structure can be achieved by a number of different methods, the method used determines both structural details and the carpet name—such as Velvet, Wilton, Axminster, etc.

Quality is primarily dependent on the quality of the materials, and on the number of wool tufts per square inch. The type of weave is of secondary importance; relatively good and poor carpets can be woven by any method.

Economy, however, is somewhat governed by the type of construction, inasmuch as the method of weaving influences the cost of manufacture.

**Velvet**

Velvet is widely favored for theatre use because of its economy in price. This in turn arises out of its type of weave. In Velvet, practically all the wearable wool is on the surface. It consists of horseshoe-shaped tufts of wool fibre which are built into a jute-and-cotton foundation in such a way that the open ends of the

horseshoes are up and protrude above the foundation.

Since cotton and jute cost less than wool, and since no wool is used in the woven foundation of Velvet, the construction is economical. The tufts can be very closely packed together; in good Velvet they are. The method of achieving this construction, moreover, is such that only high grade, long staple wool can be used.

It is a characteristic of all Velvet patterns that the shadings are subtle and tend to blend into each other. This results from the way in which the color is achieved—a very intricate operation. The original pattern is divided into tiny number-ed squares. The wool is wound on a huge drum; as this revolves dye-carrying mechanisms touch the wool here and there, dyeing it according to the numbered square which that bit of wool will occupy in the finished carpet. The wool is then very carefully removed from the drum and very exactly inserted in the loom so that when it is woven into carpet the differently colored portions will appear at the points required. Although the pattern can be reproduced with extreme accuracy, very abrupt contrasts of color cannot be achieved. But there is...
Wilton contains wool as part of its foundation as well as the sole material of its tufts, or "pile". Woolen threads of different color are woven in with the jute and cotton. The loom is set to cause one color to loop up out of the foundation here and another there, according to the pattern. If the protruding loops were left uncut the result would be essentially a Brussels carpet; but when they are in effect cut at the top so that tufts rather than loops of wool protrude, the carpet is a Wilton. There is very little other difference between Wilton and Brussels; the same loom can be set to weave either with only minor changes. Wilton, however, looks more luxurious, and feels richer under foot.

The Wilton pile is not as closely packed as the Velvet. Because the color-variety of Wilton depends on the number of threads of different color that can be woven into the foundation, the range is limited, usually to five colors. On the other hand, sharp contrast can be achieved if desired, with no subtle blending of shades into each other.

Axminster

Axminster is woven on a special Axminster loom, so complicated that weeks of preparation may be required each time it is set up for a new pattern. The clear-cut color contrasts of Wilton can be achieved, and there is no limit to the number of colors that can be used. The pile, however, is less compact than that of either Velvet or Wilton, and for that reason Axminster is not always recommended where traffic is heavy, but rather where deep, soft pile and rich coloring are more important than value alone.

General Considerations

Broadloom is not a weave. It is simply a seamless carpet, made on a broad loom. It may be of any type, any quality.

The eye-appealing beauty of carpet is exemplified in these photographs (reproduced here by kind permission of Alexander Smith and Sons Carpet Company). Its indispensability in the auditorium, where clicking of shoes and sabots would otherwise interfere with enjoyment of the sound, needs no elaboration.
Feature Attraction
365 Days a Year

Push-Back

The World's Finest Theater Chair
for the World's Finer Theaters

Now in Production!

INSTALLATIONS BEING MADE.

FOR DETAILS... WRITE OR WIRE

KROEHLER PUBLIC SEATING DIVISION
666 Lake Shore Drive, Chicago 11, Illinois
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206 Lexington Ave., New York 16, New York
Only True Carpet Economy Is to Buy the Best

Theatre Council Almost Unanimous for Highest Quality—Favors Uniform Grade and Pattern, Approves Rubber Mats

BUYING CARPET?—buy the best.

Complete agreement is not always the rule among the members of STR's Theatre Advisory Council. In this present month's meeting, which took up the question of floor covering, substantial differences of opinion appeared in connection with a number of details—for example, there was almost no agreement at all on the matter of which floor areas to cover and which if any to leave bare.

But when we asked this question: "Do you prefer to buy expensive carpet and make it last as long as possible, or less expensive varieties with a view to more frequent replacement," the agreement was startling.

Not one of the expert maintenance chiefs wanted any part of the "less expensive varieties." One member said he would "strike a happy medium"—and found himself alone.

"Prefer buying expensive carpet."

"Best quality available is economy in the long run."

"At no time do I buy carpet for price, but for lasting quality and beauty."

"Best available."

"Expensive carpet."

"We prefer a good, substantial grade of carpet and find it is our best investment."

"The better grade of carpet."

And so on.

The sole dissenter explained his stand: "A happy medium is best in view of the fact that renovation of theatres is desirable from time to time."

"Do you prefer," we asked, "to use the same weave and grade throughout the theatre, or different weaves or grades in different locations?"

The agreement was almost as striking as in the case of high quality.

Uniformity Throughout?

"We prefer to use the same so it can be moved and matched after a certain amount of wear."

"The same grade throughout all portions of the theatre because we rotate it as re-

Chick Lewis Suggested It—SMPE Helps Exhibitor

At the May 9th Technical Conference of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, Charles E. "Chick" Lewis presented a paper in which he strongly urged the engineers to make their technical standards and knowledge more readily available to the average theatre exhibitor—whom Mr. Lewis called "the forgotten man" of this industry.

The suggestion seems to have borne fruit.

The SMPE now announces that as a service to theatre exhibitors and others, its American Motion Picture Standards have been brought out in loose-leaf form, together with a heavy leatherette binder. Twenty standards have been printed, more will be published later. They relate to both 35 and 16-mm. projection and can be purchased separately, with or without the binder. Individual standard sheets are sold at 15 cents each; the complete set of twenty plus binder costs $4.50 in the United States, $3.00 elsewhere.

The standards have been published before, scattered through various issues of the Journal of the Society, and in reprints from the Journal. They have never previously been available in compact and collected form.

placements are required. Owing to the greatest wear being at entrance areas and stairways, when new carpet is placed there the old is used for patching other areas as required, giving us maximum wear out of each yard of carpet."

"Same weave and grade throughout allows shifting carpet from heavy traffic areas to light traffic areas."

"The same grade, weave and pattern throughout the theatre."

"Use the same grade in public areas, but cheaper grade in manager's office and men's lounge rooms."

This last, however, represented a shading off toward the minority opinion.

"We sometimes use different grades and pattern in powder rooms and offices," one member noted.

Another of the minority group recommended: "A heavy de luxe grade where the traffic is heaviest and the same pattern in a lighter grade for balcony rear and for exits."

Decorative Importance

Some members consider the decorative value of carpeting so important that they prefer first to select a carpet and then to build the whole decorative scheme of the theatre around its colors and pattern. Others, although they follow the same procedure, have done so only temporarily during the recent shortage of carpets, fearing that if they planned other decoration first they might not be able to get a carpet to suit it. Others prefer to plan general decoration first regardless; still others feel that the theatre's appearance should be planned as a whole:—"Decorations, furniture, car...

(Continued on Page E-20)
When Sound Was Young

FIRST WESTERN ELECTRIC reproducing equipment. On the rack, from bottom to top: 8B amplifier, 9A amplifier (both with compartments for C batteries), 518B volume indicator panel, 514A meter panel, 545A power output panel, switching panel, D85125 horn control panel. Sound is taken from the disc through a 2A reproducer; the motor speed is governed by a 701A motor control (mystery box) cabinet. The arc feed motor is on the floor, with a long, vertical shaft running up to the feed control.

Looking backward, those earliest sound systems were a mess! They are funnier in retrospect than a 1904 automobile—yet their evolution in one way has been just opposite to that of the automobile. The latter grew more complicated as more and more gadgets were added—self-starters, electric lights, electric horns, front-wheel brakes, heaters, radio... today's car is a much more intricate thing than its early predecessor.

Sound systems grew simpler.

This is perhaps what provokes the smile on looking back and seeing that in those days we did everything the hard way.

Do you remember the battery room? There often were so many storage batteries that a separate room had to be built for...

LEFT: Rosario Bourdon, pioneer sound picture conductor who recorded the score for "Don Juan" in 1926, making a non-electrical recording for Victor Talking Machine Company, predecessor of RCA. Note how the musicians had to be crowded together; and the small trumpets on the violins which direct the sound of those instruments into the large pick-up horn.
TWENTY YEARS AFTER: the latest Western Electric design for reproducing equipment is represented in this system, marketed in the U. S. by Century Projector Co. and abroad by Westrex Corporation. The first domestic installation has just been made in the Variety Theatre, Miami Beach, Fla. (See Page E-10.) It is compact, streamlined, efficient, ultra-modern apparatus of the highest quality, embodying the latest improvements—and it will be the obsolete, laughable junk of 1960.

them adjacent to the projection room. Then there was the battery charger; and the switching panel for changing the different sets of batteries from charging to operating or vice versa. There were "A" and "F" batteries for lighting the filaments of the amplifier tubes, "H" batteries for the "horn"—loudspeaker—fields. B batteries that went noisy after a while and made the screen sound like a string of firecrackers. Many amplifiers had "C" batteries, too.

One of the earliest RCA systems had a row of generators—three generators and a driving motor on one base—to provide 1,000, 250 and 15 volts for the amplifier.

Sound-on-disc (synchronized phonograph) (Continued on Page E-22)

RIGHT: Modern RCA recording with musicians conveniently spaced, a sufficient number of microphones suitably located among them, and (in the foreground) the mixer panel through which sound from all the microphones can be controlled individually and collectively. The mixer operator, stopwatch in hand, thus has more actual control over the orchestra than the conductor, but of course follows the conductor's instruction.
Edward Claughton's latest

VARIETY

Miami Beach, Fla.

MAGNIFICENTLY APPOINTED, the new 1,100-seat Variety is equipped with a sound system of the very latest Western Electric design, similar to the one illustrated on Page E-9 and the first to be installed in a theatre in the continental United States. Used with this system are Altec-Lansing Voice of the Theatre loud speakers and the latest Century Model CC double-shutter projectors. Floors are covered with a special theatre contract carpet by the makers of Gulistan. Equipment and furnishings, including drapes, were supplied by Joe Hornstein, Inc.
WAGNER WINDOW TYPE MARQUEE FRAMES
Permit billing space of any height and length. Lamps, neon and glass removed, cleaned and replaced without removing frames. Most economically maintained frame made.

WAGNER TRANSLUCENT COLORED PLASTIC LETTERS
No others afford such a gorgeous display. 4", 10" and 17" sizes. Red, green, blue, amber and opaque black. Colors go all the way through. Cannot chip or scale. Never require painting.

WAGNER LOBBY DISPLAY UNITS
White enameled sheet steel. 24", 36" and 48" sections can be combined for any length.

WAGNER TRANSPARENCIES AND FRAMES
Full colored photographic realism for marquees and lobby displays. All sizes. Any size.

WAGNER MOUNTING STRIPS FOR PLASTIC LETTERS
White enameled sheet steel, drilled for mounting above or below any wood surface. No special wiring necessary.

LARGE THEATRES SMALL THEATRES THEATRES EVERYWHERE
Are Now Installing Attention-Commanding WAGNER Display Equipment To Pile Up Big Grosses

See your theatre supply dealer or write us today for free catalog

Wagner Sign Service, Inc.
218 S. Hoyne Avenue
CHICAGO 12, ILL.
JULY 22
Remove all tubes, examine prongs and sockets. Look for signs of arcing, poor contact.

JULY 23
Blow accumulated dust out of amplifier, rectifiers, motors, etc. Use bellows or vacuum hose.

JULY 24
If your projection ports have glass soundproofing, check cleanliness of the glass—clean as needed.

JULY 25
Is projector vibration increasing? Check carefully for the cause and remedy it promptly.

JULY 26
Test each loudspeaker unit INDIVIDUALLY for volume, quality and rattle-free operation.

JULY 27
Test volume controls. Correct or replace any that are not COMPLETELY noiseless in operation.

JULY 28
Are projection, sound optical surfaces CLEAN—mirrors free from defects of silverying?

JULY 30
Check readings of tube meters; replace tubes as necessary for quality and reliable operation.

JULY 31
Is rectifier cooling fan behaving normally? Rectifier operating at proper temperature?

AUG. 3
Is your stock of spare parts COMPLETE? Have you enough carbons—for ALL needs?

AUG. 4
Examine projector and soundhead gears; order replacements in advance if any are seriously worn.

AUG. 5
Check all motor-generators for cool bearings, commutator condition, freedom from sparking.

AUG. 7
Inspect tungsten rectifier tube filaments. Replace all tubes that show any serious filament sag.

AUG. 6
Using a watch, check the starting time of both projector motors. Have they slowed down?

AUG. 8
Watch the screen carefully during showing of titles for even slight travel ghost.

AUG. 7
Is the takeup action smooth, and correct: the belts or chains stout and not excessively worn?

AUG. 11
Check film guides, tension sheaves, idlers, sprocket plates, for wear. Order replacements now.

AUG. 2
Check all oil caps, oil reservoirs, grease caps, other lubricating points. Lubricate as needed.

AUG. 12
Examine the asbestos-covered leads to all lamp-houses. Are they still in good condition?

AUG. 10
Rotate the pre-focused exciter lamps into operating position. Are they in perfect focus?

AUG. 13
Test fire shutters of projectors for reliability; check action of port safety shutters.

AUG. 14
Listen to sound critically; any flutter or waver? Remedy cause in soundhead or projector.

AUG. 15
Examine all sprocket teeth in projector and soundhead for signs of wear and undercutting.

AUG. 17
Test volume controls. Correct or replace any that are not COMPLETELY noiseless in operation.

AUG. 18
Are projection, sound optical surfaces CLEAN—mirrors free from defects of silverying?
Carpet By The Mile

Our looms are weaving contract carpet at top speed... weaving it by the mile in stunning new colors and eye-catching designs. But even MILES of carpet isn't enough to fill the demand. So continue to be patient, please. It shouldn't be TOO LONG before you can again specify "Alexander Smith" and have your order filled without delay. Alexander Smith & Sons Carpet Company, 295 Fifth Avenue, New York 16, N. Y.

Weavers of "Crestwood"... America's No. 1 contract carpet
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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| July 22 | Check exit areas and 
| | alloys regularly for rust-
| | birth; auto or truck park-
| | ing, that may block exit. |
| July 23 | Check air intake screens 
| | for tightness; have 
| | bugs brushed off and 
| | screens washed with 
| | kerosene. |
| July 24 | Make certain condenser 
| | water of cooling system 
| | is changed weekly to 
| | prevent silt deposits. |
| July 25 | Insist on tidy mainte-
| | nance of summer uni-
| | forms. Hold staff inspec-
| | tions for neatness. |
| July 26 | Time for another ladder 
| | checkup. Replace dan-
| | gerous rungs, hinges, 
| | to avoid employee accidents. |
| July 27 | Is your sound WATCHED 
| | —projection room sig-
| | naled to raise or lower 
| | volume as needed? |
| July 28 | Gay summer trimmings 
| | of your theatre begin-
| | ning to look dingy? Ren-
| | ovate or remove them. |
| July 29 | Have you arranged for a 
| | FREQUENT check of wet 
| | and dry bulb auditorium 
| | temperatures? |
| July 30 | Check on all brass work 
| | around theatre — keep 
| | kick plates, door hard-
| | ware, brightly polished. |
| July 31 | Time to check discolora-
| | tion of screen? Pin on 
| | a piece of original mate-
| | rial; compare whiteness. |
| Aug. 1 | Do you carefully watch 
| | fire extinguisher refill 
| | dates to prevent neglect 
| | of this vital duty? |
| Aug. 2 | Are your black light dec-
| | orative surfaces and de-
| | signs allowed to lose ap-
| | peal because of dust? |
| Aug. 3 | If a thunderstorm cuts 
| | off all power will you 
| | face a panic for lack of 
| | emergency lighting? |
| Aug. 4 | If microphone or other 
| | live entertainment equip-
| | ment has not been used 
| | recently, re-check it. |
| Aug. 5 | Days beginning to short-
| | en. Have you modi-
| | fied your outdoor light-
| | ing schedule? |
| Aug. 6 | Are employees wasting air 
| | conditioning efficiency by 
| | leaving doors open too 
| | long, or windows open? |
| Aug. 7 | Do any plumbing fea-
| | tures drain a little sluggish? Don't wait till 
| | pipe is seriously clogged. |
| Aug. 8 | Inspect, oil, door stop 
| | devices and tighten fasten-
| | ing bolts; adjust or 
| | add glycerine as needed. |
| Aug. 9 | Is your popcorn machine 
| | kept sparkling, imme-
| | diate, odorless, and its 
| | meter well cared for? |
| Aug. 10 | Time to wash plastic ap-
| | paraphery, using soap and 
| | water. A thin coat of 
| | wax helps preserve it. |
| Aug. 11 | Keep alert for vermin in 
| | seats and carpets; spray 
| | daily during this season 
| | of the year. |
| Aug. 12 | If you have an art shop 
| | stress re-use of card-
| | board and wood scrim to 
| | minimize waste. |
| Aug. 13 | Is area under auditorium 
| | damp? If so, open win-
| | dows on dry days to 
| | avoid wood rot and odor. |
| Aug. 14 | Does a staff member re-
| | port all projection and 
| | sound faults that occur 
| | when you are away? |
| Aug. 15 | Does your office set an 
| | example of tidiness that 
| | will inspire good house-
| | keeping by entire staff? |
| Aug. 16 | Are cooling system 
| | motors, belts, bearings, 
| | filters maintained at 
| | peak efficiency? |
| Aug. 17 | Check air washing struc-
| | ture for leaks which may 
| | spread rust on structure, 
| | roof or gutters. |
| Aug. 18 | Keep projection room 
| | door securely UN-
| | locked during operating 
| | hours, day & evening. |
Box-office-minded managers of theatres, large and small... in every state... are changing over to Simplified High Intensity Projection. Why? Because it makes a big and most favorable difference on the screen—and on the audience too. Yet, in spite of its vastly superior advantages, High Intensity Projection costs little, if any, more.

Just look what One-Kilowatt High Intensity Projection can do for you...

- 50-100% brighter light
- A specially adapted snow-white light
- Beautiful, easier-to-see pictures

Get the full story from National Carbon Company, Inc. Write today. Also ask your supply house about the availability of High Intensity Lamps.
The First of Several Reviews Dealing with Renovating Materials

The pre-war trend toward glass as a structural and ornamental material is continuing.

Glass is easily cleaned. Any detergent can be used; its surface is not injured by cleaning compounds. Little labor is required. Glass is fireproof. It gives off no poisonous gases at fire temperatures.

Glass offers decorative effects and advantages not obtainable with any other material. Its beauty is permanent in spite of constant use. Its maintenance cost is low; it never needs painting.

Opaque colored structural glass is available in many colors. It is suitable for a theatre facade, for the bulkhead of the ticket booth, for walls in foyers and rest rooms and for partitions in the latter.

Shown here are before-and-after views of the remodeled Marbro Theatre, Chicago, glamorized with Libby-Owens-Ford Company's Tuf-flex glass doors. Completely frameless, and tempered to withstand pressure and strain, these doors are three to five times stronger than regular plate glass. They offer a clear view of the lobby, and in effect place the passerby inside. Other patrons entering do not pass "out of sight": the lobby becomes a continuation of the street, richly attractive.

The same glass can be used to good advantage for the upper half of the ticket booth. Also available from the same company is a double glass pane which combines insulation with visibility, and offers superior protection from winter cold to the persons within the ticket booth. It is especially recommended for northern cities.

Floor to ceiling mirrors of polished plate glass make lounge rooms and foyers seem larger, lighter, more spacious. Entirely mirrored walls double the apparent size of any room. They convert a small cubby-hole into a space that can have a definite meaning, function and attractiveness in the theatre's general scheme.

Mirror walls additionally eliminate the overcrowding that often results when only a small mirror is provided for public use.

Translucent glass partitions provide complete privacy combined with illumination from an outside source, and may be used to conserve light.

Modern glass furniture, built to withstand shock, resists cigarette stains and wear, and retains its "new" appearance indefinitely.
Glorifying the Lights and Shadows

Typical of the beautiful photography in current releases is this scene from the RKO Radio Picture "Without Reservations" with Claudette Colbert and John Wayne.

Film producers spend millions to give you productions which are examples of the best in photographic art. To realize their great potentials on your screen, however, you must project them with the same brilliant, snow-white high intensity light that is employed in film production. Only then can you obtain for your patrons all the highlights, deep shadows and intermediate values necessary to pictures of depth and fine definition.

Strong High Intensity Lamps deliver double the light of low intensities at a cost within reach of the most modest theatre. Sold by independent theatre supply dealers everywhere.

THE STRONG ELECTRIC CORPORATION
87 City Park Avenue
Toledo 2, Ohio

"The World's Largest Manufacturer of Projection Arc Lamps"

When the lamps are STRONG the picture is bright!
Curved Screen Reduces Distortion, Makes Front Corner Seats Usable

The use of the curved screen has been held up for four years by the war and by material shortages; its scientific development was virtually complete in 1942. In that year it was demonstrated successfully in the Pantages Theatre, Hollywood. It proved impossible, however, to put the screen into production at that time. During the years that followed research continued and some further refinements were added.

How It Performs

As demonstrated to the press this month in an unused theatre on Forty-second Street, New York, the screen gave practically perfect results. No distortion could be seen on any portion of the picture, regardless of viewing angle. The screen curvature was not visible.

A crucial scene in the test reel employed, showed a file of soldiers marching across the screen from left to right. To an observer watching from an extreme front angle the proportions of these men did not appear to change as they moved across the screen, and all appeared to be of normal proportions. Standing at far front as possible and looking directly up at the screen also resulted in an unmarred image. No matter from what point an observer looked at the picture the effect was the same as from a center-seat of the main floor.

How It Is Constructed

As commercially available today, the screen is supplied with a frame of metal lattice. It is laced to curved members of the frame. The curvature is substantial, easily visible when no picture is shown and auditorium lights are on; and it is much deeper laterally than vertically—nearly twice as pronounced. The hollow side faces the audience.

The screen is Fibreglas fabric—woven threads of glass. It is not perforated, but loosely woven, like the earliest cotton sound screens, to permit passage of sound. The light reflection from the glass screen, however, is far greater than that which was obtained from the dull, untreated cotton. At the Pantages Theatre test before the war the reflectivity of the glass screen, it is said, proved on measurement to be identical with that of the regular screen.

The glass is, naturally, altogether fireproof. It can be cleaned by vacuuming or washing. It will not discolor with age, neither does the ultra-violet of the projection light have any yellowing effect whatever on glass. Further, glass cannot absorb moisture and therefore will neither sag nor tighten with changes in humidity. The curve to which the screen is laced when first installed will be retained unaltered in any weather or climate.

The Inventors

The Retiscope screen is the development of two men, Otto Hehn and Warren Millais. Hehn stumbled on the idea by accident when he held a photograph up to a curved shaving mirror, and was surprised to find the reflection free from distortion no matter at what angle he looked into the mirror. That was back in 1921, in Prague, Czechoslovakia. Hehn brought his idea to Amer-
PROJECTION
(Continued from Page E-3)

The theatre chains represented by the Council members follow different policies with respect to authorizing overtime work for purposes of repairing equipment. In the majority, the projectionist reports the need for such work to the theatre manager, who then has the responsibility for authorizing it, or not. But this is not the invariable practice, as the discussion showed.

"If the manager has a conscientious, capable projectionist let him make that man chief and entrust him with the responsibility of such decisions. He will know more than the manager about whether the work is necessary, and how long it should take. But the chief should in every case notify the manager what he intends to do, and report again after he has done it. Individual projectionists should not be allowed to work overtime at their own discretion."

In another chain of theatres: "Approval for overtime work must be obtained from the Engineering Department, which represents the manager in such matters."

In still another: "Projectionists are expected to maintain their own equipment and check with the manager. If the problem is serious, they check with the central Maintenance and Repair Department."

In another "Overtime for repairs requires the approval of the Projection Department."

And in still another: "Approval comes from their manager, always. If the manager feels he needs additional approval, he should get it."

The majority of the chains represented at this first meeting of the Council do not consult their projectionists about the selection of sound and projection equipment. "They are not consulted owing to the standardization of equipment in all our theatres. Their suggestions, however, are always welcome." "Our projectionists are not consulted." "Our Engineering Department is solely responsible for the selection of new equipment. Projectionists are not consulted."

But there was a very strong minority sentiment on this point. "We discuss such matters with the projectionist." "The manager consults with the projectionist daily about both equipment and film condition." "Everyone should be consulted: projectionist, manager and servicing engineer. One man may be biased."

Outside Service

Except for one chain which maintains its own service department, all organizations represented make use of outside servicing facilities. One uses both such facilities and a servicing department of its own.

"We have complete, unlimited service for all theatres," one supervisor said, "and consider this most important."

"Utmost possible use of servicing facilities benefits the theatre."

Others, however, preferred limited service.

Equipment Policies

Opinion was unanimous that all equipment faults that may harm the show should be repaired as soon as discovered. Said one member: "Any other policy is just false economy."

"We definitely do not try to 'nurse along' unfavorable conditions. We want no excuse for poor projection or sound."

"Our theatres are instructed to make immediate repairs."

"Reasonable" safety won't do where projection or sound is concerned.

"Safety must be maintained."

But there was a sharp division of opinion over the replacement of existing equipment whenever a better model appeared.

"We trade in for the better equipment."

"Trade in what you have if the new product is better."

"No. Our policy is to get the utmost practicable use out of what we have, in keeping with sound business sense."

"Equipment is used as long as high quality sound and projection is obtained from it."

There was also an intermediate view. "We get years of service from our equipment and keep it as long as service is satisfactory or until costly repairs are needed. However, double shutters and treated lenses, for instance, are an exception because of the increased efficiency they provide. There is no question about a thing like that."

... PUTS BRICK AND MORTAR TO WORK

"Any way you look at it," said one well known exhibitor, "all my houses are just a lot of brick and mortar. They're dead and lifeless until I can get people in them."

"Next to entertainment the biggest draw I have is air conditioning by usAIRCO."

usAIRCO theatre division, which has specialized in theatre air conditioning for over 20 years, will be glad to help you put your theatre to work with comfort cooling engineered for your house.

United States Air Conditioning Corporation
CONO AVENUE S. E. AT 33RD MINNEAPOLIS 14, MINN.

PROFITS IN THEATRE COOLING FOR THE EXHIBITOR
CARPET ECONOMY
(Continued from Page E-7)

pet and lighting should always be considered together.

One member is planning a circuit pattern and color scheme which will be invariable in all the theatres of his organization; so there of course be no choice except to match all decorative schemes to this one carpet.

In the matter of varying carpet pattern and appearance in special locations such as lounges, opinion was obviously conditioned by the desirability of rotation from a maintenance point of view, nevertheless there was a considerable feeling in favor of variety.

"Generally," said one member, "we prefer to make a complete installation out of one pattern of carpet, with the possible exception of special areas such as the ladies' powder rooms or where we wish to create special attention. But as a general rule one pattern of carpet seems most practical. It makes your maintenance and switching simpler."

"Our experience indicates using the same pattern throughout the theatre to be most economical."

"In certain theatres we vary the pattern for different locations."

"Same pattern and color throughout except possibly in lounge rooms."

"Use same pattern throughout except in de luxe situations."

"One pattern makes for easier maintenance. However in some cases we vary pattern and color."

"That depends, as a rule we give ladies' lounges and men's lounges different patterns and colors."

One member flatly preferred variety, and one solves the lounge problem by using no carpet in those rooms but laying down rubber or asphalt tile in a harmonizing color scheme.

Velvet was the favorite weave among those who expressed any preference, with Wilton a close second. One member voiced praise for Alexander Smith and Sons. "Duration" carpet, made with 50 per cent rayon during the war because wool was scarce. "It is wearing like iron," he says; and although it was only a stopgap wartime substitute he regrets that its manufacture has been discontinued.

Rubber Matting
Most members favor use of rubber matting to protect the carpet.

"During rainy weather matting should be used to keep carpet dry at entrance doors."

"Yes, at entrance doors in some instances."

"Yes, in most foyers and on stairways."

"Situations having a short lobby and particularly in wet weather use rubber matting to protect this area."

"Yes, in some locations."

There were dissenting voices, however.

"We have several theatres with rubber matting, but under the area is cleaned every day and given fresh air every day, it will eventually draw dampness and rot the carpet."

"Not desirable as a general rule. During inclement weather at entrance door can be an exception."

"Not generally, but around fountains and stair landings in D and C houses."

"No."

The Council was fairly equally divided as to whether there is any location in the theatre where use of rubber matting is preferable to use of carpet.

"In men's outer lounges, and vestibules to rest rooms."

"In lofts or vestibules."

"Yes—particularly in lofts."

"For ante rooms and small lobby."

"In lofts. Directly behind the doorman. In the rear of the orchestra."

One member of the group that disapproved any use of rubber in preference to carpeting, qualified his dissent by noting that "rubber matting can be used in outer lofts instead of concrete, tile or terrazzo, provided it is recessed into the floor."

This, he adds, "helps to protect the carpet."

"Is there any location in which a Council member prefers to use no floor covering at all? As previously noted, there was the widest scattering of opinion on that. Not only did the members fail to agree with each other, but several individuals felt that it just depended on what the theatre was like.

"We do not govern ourselves by any fast rules," one declared, and went on to explain, "The war and the resultant scarcity of material has made many changes in our ideas. We have developed substitutes for floor covering which are noiseless, can be used on steps in the balcony, and in public rooms and cross-overs, are less expensive and can outlast the wear given carpet. Asphalt tile, for example. This is a question of one's individual taste."

At the other extreme, there was the member who said he preferred to use floor covering everywhere in the theatre except on the janitor's closets and the floor of the stage.

"We use floor covering in all areas," agreed another.

"There is no location where we would prefer to use no floor covering at all," a third nodded in.

However, a number felt that there are floors which should not be covered.

"Terrazzo floors are good in lobbies, foyers, men's lounge rooms— terrazzo carries sufficient non-slip material."

"Terrazzo, marble and tile floor need no covering."

"Asphalt tile or smooth rubber in patterns works out well in men's smoking rooms."

Other comments were:

"We do not use floor covering in lobbies and vestibules."

"We don't install carpet as a rule in front of the first row of seats, between seats and stage."

SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, July 20, 1946
"We use no covering on general auditorium floors, whether they are cement or wood, except carpet in loge sections in some situations."

**Fabric Runners**

Fabric runners had a few friends, but more opponents. Many members gave a flat "No" when asked about them. One asserted: "They do not improve the appearance of the theatre and it is doubtful if there is any saving in carpet wear."

Another said: "We only used them during the war when rubber was scarce."

"I prefer Coco or rubber matting."

There was a minority that favored fabric runners. "We use fabric runners in some lobbies and foyers," was one notation on the opposite side of the question.

"Yes, through the lobby," said another member.

Still another contributed: "We use fabric runners frequently, wherever location and surroundings require it."

**To Sum It All Up**

In general:

The Council was heavily in favor of using the best grades of carpet regardless of cost, as being the only true economy.

It was strongly in favor of using the same weave and grade throughout the theatre.

It favored using the same pattern throughout the theatre, but with a fairly strong minority sentiment on behalf of variety.

Velvet was the preferred weave, with Wilton next.

Opinion was scattered as to whether the carpet should be chosen to match the decorative scheme or the decorations planned to match the carpet.

The majority approved of rubber matting, but not of fabric runners.

On the question of whether any floor areas should be left uncovered, and if so which ones, opinion was widely scattered.

_Draw up your chair again next month and join us when America's top maintenance experts meet once more to discuss another important question of theatre maintenance._

**Prominent Firms Enroll With Tesma**

Radio Corporation of America and U. S. Air Conditioning Corporation are among the prominent firms that have now enrolled as members of the Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association, according to Roy Boomer, Secretary-Treasurer. Others who signed up recently include Adler Silhouette Letter Company, Chicago; Century Projector Corporation, New York; Griewold Machine Works, Port Jefferson, N. Y.; Kollmorgen Optical Corporation, Brooklyn; Radiant Manufacturing Corporation, Chicago; Raytone Screen Company, Brooklyn; Radiant Manufacturing Corporation, Chicago, and Wenzel Projector Company, Chicago.

Western Canada expects construction of large numbers of 400-500 seat ultra-modern theatres, equipped both for television and for 35-mm. projection, within the next few years, according to industry leaders in British Columbia. Small prairie communities which now have no form of picture entertainment are expected to be the principal beneficiaries.

NEW PLANT in Minneapolis providing 100,000 square feet of floor space for manufacture of U. S. Air Conditioning Corp.'s Kooler-aire packaged conditioning units and their components, such as blowers, fans, air washers, cooling and heating coils and humidifying de-humidifying apparatus. Design improvements have recently been made in a number of uSairco products and new equipment units will soon be announced.
WHEN SOUND WAS YOUNG
(Continued from Page E-9)

graph records) was used, alternately with the present sound track on the film; and equipment was further complicated by a switching panel to change over from one source of sound to another. Then, at the time when sound films were still scarce, and a theatre would run one day and next day revert to the old silent pictures, there was the “non-synch”—still used for exit music—so the disc-film switching panel had to have a third position for “non-synch” input.

The wiring complications involved in use of all these different power sources and different sound sources were wonderful to behold! The older WE equipment included an “A box” which served no other function than that of meeting place for all the different wires. Rows of connection terminals inside provided means for connecting the multitude of wires to each other—and if the installing engineer made a pardonable mistake in following his complex blueprint!—well, there was a further delay before the theatre had its new sound system working.

Ease (?) of Operation

Operation was a gem of a job. The projectionist had to start his film at exactly the right frame, then get the needle on the phonograph record at precisely the right point. Very funny to the audience, but not to the manager, were the times when the projectionist ran No. 4 record with No. 5 reel. But the poor man was juggling records and reels, and watching the charging of his storage batteries and reading the voltage of his B and C batteries and trying to remember which way to throw the switch of his still unfamiliar fader or substitute emergency resistor—in addition to all the duties which he still performs today. Those projectionists were heroes back in the late twenties. Heroes and sad sacks, too.

Projection rooms weren’t built for the stuff, either. A hasty step on a very-slightly-less-than-rigid floor, and the phonograph needle jumped over a couple grooves, throwing the synch out for the rest of that reel. Inventors worried out trick devices to make possible restoration of synch once lost—but they never got more than partial success.

The disc turntables were connected to the projector driving motor through flexible, rubber-collared shafts, so the vibration of the projector would not throw the needle out of synch. Every so often one of those rubber collars would split—and there was no more sound. Putting in a new one might be an hour’s job, because it had to be lined up just so or record rotation would be unsteady, producing waves and flutter. To line it up perfectly, the position of the turntable pedestal usually had to be shifted, and if the floor was less than absolutely level that meant re-leveling the turntable—and this again threw the shaft out of line. Meanwhile the frantic manager was phoning the projection room time and time again, demanding to know when the fault would be remedied. Much fun was had by all.

Sound-on-film, utilizing the sound track, also had its interesting episodes. The studio labs had a very exciting time because whenever they developed the print to the right intensity for the picture, the sound track was likely to be either over or underdeveloped—and if they developed the sound track properly the picture would be too dark or too light. One inventor proposed to solve this by using two films, one for picture and one for soundtrack, with a soundhead entirely separate from the projector but synchronized with it. This was actually tried out in a few theatres—the Criterion in New York for one. The invention was forgotten when the studios, in collaboration with Eastman-Kodak, accomplished the near impossible, got their developing problem solved.

Breakdowns

Electrical breakdowns were far commoner in the early days than now, partly because the projectionists were less familiar with the equipment; partly because of the greater complexity of the early systems, and perhaps mostly because only experience in actual operation could teach the designers where lay the weak points in their design. When the stuff did break down, moreover, it was likely to stay down for a long time. Its complexity made trouble-shooting a lengthy job, neither projectionists nor sound service inspectors were as experienced then as now, and spare parts were not always locally available.

Round about 1929 or 1930 a theatre in Seattle was closed for all of the Thanksgiving week-end because one tube burned out and there wasn’t a replacement of that type of tube in the whole state of Washington.

Some of the troubles had their funny side. When Admiral Byrd was at the South Pole and the New York Times was communicating with him by wireless, the Morse dots and dashes of the Times were heard from the screen of the Rialto Theatre in Times Square. No one knew what that buzzing was until a sound inspector who was also a radio man identified the Times’ call letters. Filters installed in the sound system remedied that, but a few weeks later another rush call came from the theatre to say they were getting broadcasting through their screen speakers. That one proved simple—a stage hand had a radio in a beakscreen dressing room, forgot himself, and left the dressing room door open!
Fibreglass Proves Worth

Official Fire Department tests showed Fibreglass fabrics utterly immune to any fire short of the blast of an oxy-acetylene steel cutter, according to a signed report from Johannesburg, Union of South Africa. J. Dixon, Chief Fire Officer, draped Fibreglass fabrics over a metal frame under which a furious fire was raging. The fabric was not even weakened. In a second test, the fabric was hung with its lower edge in continuous contact for ten minutes with a fire built of gasoline-soaked cotton waste. Again the fabric was unharmed, and did not suffer any loss of its tensile strength. In a third test a steel-cutting oxy-acetylene jet melted the glass fabric at the direct line of contact. No smoke or fumes were liberated.

Howard Marx, who for eleven years before the war was with National Theatre Supply, has switched his interest to 16-mm. projection and joined Ampro Corporation as assistant to the sales manager. He will have direct contact with dealers and with sales promotion campaigns. A Stanford graduate, Marx aided the Special Services Division of the Navy Bureau of Aeronautics during the war, and is the recipient of an official letter of commendation from the chief of the Navy's Office of Research and Invention.

Joseph M. Florio, sound projection technician for the past 12 years attached to Warner Theatres in upstate New York, has been transferred to the circuit's home office, where he will be in charge of servicing theatres in the Metropolitan zone. Florio will work under Col. Frank E. Cahill, Jr., director of sound for Warner Theatres. He succeeds Don Collins, re-signed.

L. B. Hutchison has joined the Acoustical Department of Dominion Sound Equipment, Ltd. A recognized expert in acoustical problems, Hutchison was formerly manager of Dominion Sound's Toronto district. C. C. Curran, formerly district manager at Halifax, N. S., has taken Hutchison's recent post in Toronto while J. McEwan, formerly district service supervisor, has replaced McEwan as Halifax district manager.

Arthur H. Burkhardt has been named manager of the Du Pont Photo Products plant in Parlin, N. J., and Frederick B. Sackett assistant manager. Burkhardt is a Rutgers graduate who has been with the company since 1933, working his way up from draftsman to factory manager. Sackett is a graduate of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute who joined the company in 1923, beginning with the post of supervisor.

M. A. Wilson of Halifax, N. S., has been appointed to the Board of Directors of Dominion Sound Equipments, Ltd. He replaces F. W. Johnson, retired. Mr. Wilson also is Maritime District manager of Northern Electric Co., Ltd.

Brahma Chalefman Hutchins has been elected president of Safety Research Institute, Inc., an educational and public relations organization engaged in various types of safety work. She was formerly a vice-president.

Eye-taking Design

NEARING COMPLETION at Lynwood, California, this eye-catching new Arden Theatre will be furnished with the finest equipment, including Kroehler "Push-Back" chairs. The theatre is owned and will be operated by Albert Hanson and W. J. Zimmerman. It was designed by Architect S. Charles Lee.

The Blumenfeld Drive-in Theatre at Sacramento, Calif., has installed new Century Projectors supplied by Walter G. Preddey Company of San Francisco. Cy Graves has just installed new RCA sound equipment in his Oak Park Theatre at Sacramento. Walter G. Preddey Company made the installation.

Congratulations to WARNER BROTHERS on the 20th Anniversary of the Introduction of SOUND PICTURES and heartiest wishes for continued success and achievement

NATIONAL THEATRE SUPPLY
Theatre Carpet Production Rising—
Alexander Smith Co. Nears 1941 Level

Production of Crestwood theatre carpet now compares well with the 1941 output, according to Joseph Fiola, of Alexander Smith and Sons Carpet Company. However, "the current demand for Crestwood is so great in comparison to what it was in pre-war years that it would make even record production seem insignificant."

Favorite pre-war patterns and colors are being continued in the current Crestwood line so that theatremen can obtain replacements which duplicate exactly the carpet originally installed. New, post-war, patterns also have been introduced.

Production of Crestwood was continued by Alexander Smith during the war, but only at about 25 per cent of the normal volume. Even this output was achieved only at the expense of other types of floor covering for which the need was a little less pressing. Reconversion at the Alexander Smith plant began promptly after V-J Day, however, and manufacture of theatre carpets has been expanded steadily ever since.

In a statement to Showmen's Trade Review, Mr. Fiola, who is sales manager of the company, declares: "We want to assure all showmen that we are leaving no stone unturned toward increasing theatre carpet production, but at the same time would like to make known our feeling that it will take the industry as a whole about five years to catch up completely on the terrific backlog of demand that has been built up."

Sales Facilities Enlarged

In line with increasing production, Alexander Smith has assigned seven additional salesmen and territorial managers to key cities throughout the country. Eleven warehouses have been established in important trade centers and further expansion of warehousing facilities is planned.

The new sales appointees have been assigned to Indianapolis, Cleveland, Los Angeles, Seattle and the Iowa-Nebraska territory. They include: at Indianapolis, Robert E. Kennedy and Howard C. Johnson; at Cleveland, George L. Schuler; at Los Angeles, Wallace Shaffer; at Seattle, C. Ward Haldane; and in Iowa-Nebraska, with headquarters in Cedar Falls, Iowa, Joseph R. Mitchell.

The 25,000th Strong Lamp

ABOVE: Harry F. Strong, left, presents gold-finished lamp No. 25,000 to James Beidler of the Smith & Beidler chain in exchange for Strong lamp No. 1.—Below: Harry F. Strong (fifth from left) with a few members of his production staff; and at right, weiners toasting in the factory's infra-red oven to help celebrate completion of lamp No. 25,000.
Belgian 16-mm. Projector

**REMARKABLE** streamlining justifies printing this picture of a 16-mm. sound projector made in Belgium by "Previsox" and incorporating three-claw shuttle, automatic lubrication, 750-watt projection lamp, 30 watt sound amplifier.

**Combats All Odors**

WIDELY KNOWN in theatres for freshening air and removing odors, Airkem Chlorophyll has just been used in a Willis Airline plane that carried ten Guernsey heifers from New Jersey to Bogota, South America. The treatment made the trip pleasanter for the pilot, co-pilot and cattle steward, and facilitated use of the plane for human passengers on its return trip.

Projection and sound equipment have been completely modernized at the Holly Theatre, Medford, Ore. The newly installed apparatus includes Miotograph Microphonic sound system with Altec Lansing Voice of the Theatre speakers, Miotograph projectors with Bausch and Lomb lenses, Ashcraft Suprex high intensity lamps and Robin-Imperial motor generators. Interstate Sound Equipment Company supplied the apparatus.

National Theatre Supply has been appointed exclusive distributor to the theatre field for the fire protection devices of Pyrene Manufacturing Company and its affiliate, the C-O-Two Fire Equipment Sales Company of Newark, N. J.

Harry Douglas has put new Simplex 4-Star sound equipment in his Dana Theatre, Dana, Indiana.

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**Let Them Solve Your Problem**

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**Installs Coin Changer**

Leading the field, the Orpheum, Davenport, Iowa, installed a Vendo Company coin changer next to the candy vendors. The first such installation in the country, Vendo Company reports. The coin changer was not bought but leased, the theatre paying a monthly fee for its use.

The second conference and exhibition of the Television Broadcasters Association has been scheduled for the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York, October 10-11.

Robert Hudson has installed a complete new projection and sound outfit in his Strand Theatre, at Kendallville, Ind. The new equipment, provided by National Theatre Supply, includes Simplex E-7 mechanisms, Simplex 4-Star sound equipment, Simplex lamps and a Hertner Transverter.

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Perfection

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The most modern inspection devices guard the quality and precision of LaVezzi parts. Guaranteed interchangeable. Available through Independent Theatre Equipment Dealers everywhere.

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**LA VEZZI MACHINE WORKS**

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**Good Old Days!**

By the courtesy of the Greenplane Co., Inc.

CARICATURE OF CARUSO MAKING A RECORD

Drawn by himself
Material Shortages Halt California Construction

Material shortages are delaying construction of Salvador Enea’s new Enea Theatre, Pittsburgh, Calif. Plans have been completed by Architect V. G. Raney, Alfred G. Bowman, owner of the Novata in Novata, Calif., not yet been able to announce the opening date of his new 500 seat house. John C. Sanders hopes to be able to complete his 500 seat theatre in Hughson; William Peters plans to build the Del Rio in Riverbank, California; material is holding up completion of the Salli Brothers house in Centerville.

RCA Expands 16-mm. Effort

Increasing production facilities for 16-mm. sound projection, RCA has transferred manufacture of their de luxe model from Indiana to Camden. The demand has been heavy, the company reports.

RCA will also sell a complete line of 16-mm. accessories and auxiliary equipment, and has set up a nation-wide merchandising organization of specialized 16-mm. equipment dealers.

The company’s activities in this field are confined to educational, industrial, religious, civic and roadshow organizations.

New Cleaning Agents

Four classes of cleaning chemicals which offer some striking advantages over soap have been developed by Winthrop Chemical Co. It is claimed that they do a better job of wetting the surface to be cleaned, have greater penetrating power than soap, and are better emulsifiers of fats and oils. Additionally, they are active in hard water and they do not leave behind deposits of insoluble soap.

Technically, the four groups of agents are sulfated oils, sulphated alcohols, sulfated esters and sulfonated ethers.

Flameproofing Compounds

Compounds for flameproofing fabrics, also for waterproofing and mildew proofing them, will be marketed by B. F. Goodrich Co. under the trade name of Permaproof, according to an agreement between Goodrich and Treesdale Laboratories, Inc.

New Fluorescent Lamp

A new U-shaped tube for more compact fluorescent lighting has been developed by Duro-Test Corp. of North Bergen, N. J. Because of the U shape, it is claimed, the length of the lamp can be halved for the same amount or light. The lamp fixture contains ballast, wiring and a new type socket; double-end headers are not used.

Renovation Job

George Sweet has completely renovated his Park Theatre, in Avon, N. Y., a village of 2,500 people. Chewing gum and confectionery stains were removed from the floor by sanding; the auditorium was completely re-decorated and the marquee painted. Very inexpensive air cooling was made possible by the existence of a 165-foot well that furnishes an abundant supply of cold water; this is pumped through a piping system in the theatre while fans keep the cooled air circulating. Cooling costs are thus very low, but of course there is no dehumidification. The Park Theatre is a unit of the Kallet circuit.

Bell Labs Develops Amazing New Tube

Paced on an entirely new principle of action, a remarkable amplifying tube just announced by Bell Telephone Laboratories is capable of performances previously impossible.

It delivers a power amplification of 10,000 to 1 as against the 10 to 1 of many ordinary tubes. It can handle a frequency range or bandwidth 300 megacycles broad, enough to accommodate dozens of television programs simultaneously.

So new that plans for its commercial use are still only in process of formulation, the tube will probably come to the theatre in television apparatus if at all. It is primarily suited to the high frequencies of television rather than the lower ones of sound.

Known as the “traveling wave” tube, the device is completely devoid of the conventional cathode-grid-plate structure. It has its cathode in the form of an electron gun which directs a beam of electrons along the elongated stem. In that stem there is also a spiral coil of wire. The signal to be amplified is applied to the near end of the spiral; as it travels along it picks up energy from the faster-moving beam of electrons and that is the way it is amplified. The output is taken off at the far tip of the stem.

Circuits and equipment that surround conventional tubes are not suited at all to the new device; they will have to be greatly revised—and simplified.

Lions Inaugurate Theatre

All seats were reserved by the local Lions Club at the opening of the new Lion Theatre, Roachdale, Ind., on June 26th. The club bought out the house at $1 per seat.

Equipped with 231 American Seating Company chairs, the LaDon uses Simplex projection and sound equipment throughout, including E-7 projectors, 4-Star sound system, 1 KW lamps and rectifiers. The screen is Walker Plastic Moulded.
Okay for Sound  
(A Stunner)  
WB (3101)  
20 mins.  
20th Anniversary Release  
"Okay for Sound," which is a capsule history of talking pictures, has more entertainment jam-packed into 20 minutes than many a feature. Beginning with Thomas A. Edison's early efforts to combine sight and sound, the film goes on to depict the struggles of the Warners to put over their new development and compares the early talkies with present-day product. In the process, clips are shown from the first talkie program at the Warner Theatre (carrying such stars as Mischa Elman, Giovanni Martinelli, the N. Y. Philharmonic, and John Barrymore in "Don Juan"), the first all-talkie, "Light's of New York," and Al Jolson in "The Singing Fool" and "The Jazz Singer." Jolson emerges as the star of the featurette, and it must be said that his art—"we said art—shines as brightly as ever in that sequence when he is singing Sonny Boy. After these years the song shapes up as a hit all over again. The sequence from "Light's of New York" when the gangsters decide to take somebody for a ride is now priceless humor. Play it by all means, for the history of talkies is also the history of your theatre.

Ben Hogan  
(Good)  
RKO (64,311)  
Sportscope  8 mins.

Ben Hogan, champion golfer, is the subject of this little sports review and Red Barber, champion announcer, is the narrator. The first two of them an audience is offered an entertaining, if not overwhelming, eight minutes. Hogan is shown practicing strokes and then going around the course. He uses the various clubs according to the lie of the ball and does it in such graphic fashion that all golf duffers can enjoy an easy lesson. There are also some shots that will bring gasps from the onlookers.

Donald's Double Trouble  
(Excellent)  
RKO (64,107)  
Disney Cartoon  7 mins.

Here is Donald at his very best. His girl friend is sore at him, so he hires a dummy who speaks beautiful English to set things right. The dummy makes love to Donald's girl and you can imagine how mad Donald gets. Finally he goes after them when they ride in the tunnel of love at an amusement park. When the fracas is over and the boat emerges, Donald and the dummy are entwined and his amorata is dragging along behind in the water. It is a pleasure to report that "Donald's Double Trouble" is as good as any Donald Duck cartoon ever made.

Unusual Occupations No. 5  
(Interesting)  
Para. (1,5-5)  
10 mins.

Hedda Hopper's swanky collection of hats, in all of their peculiar enormity, are featured in this reel, with Miss Hopper shamelessly bragging that she loves them. The scene changes to a power house on a mountain top whose custodian has developed an unique art medium of blending intricately carved sections of different types of wood into magnificent portraits and studies of still life. The publisher of Hobbit magazine is revealed to be the collector of collections with an entire household jam packed with all sorts of weird statuary, dolls, matchboxes, etc. Next come the pint-sized replicas of horses which are the hobby of Mrs. Framie Branson. The various types of horses seem to be ready to gallop away, so real are the replicas.

Port of New York  
(Solid)  
RKO (63,109)  
This Is America  16 mins.

The seaport that is New York comes in for a photographic survey in this new This Is America, with results that are eye-filling and interesting—especially to those who live far inland. General shots of the harbor and skyline are followed by detailed coverage of docks, ships, and the job of loading and unloading. The tie-in with railroads is pictured, and lastly the tunnels and bridges as operated by the Port of New York Authority, the non-governmental organization that builds and runs these arteries of travel. "Port of New York" will add a dash of class to any program.

The Riding Hennefords  
(Good)  
WB (2509)  
Sports Parade  10 mins.

The famous circus family are seen as they practice for the big top, with everybody in it and the members of the clan. The equestrian stuff in this Technicolor short is always interesting to watch and the costumes of the girls are fetching in their abbreviation. Foodies himself also winds up in the ring to put on his clown act.

Kitty Kornered  
(All Right)  
WB (2701)  
Looney Tunes  7 mins.

Forky Pig and the cat have a rummard here which goes so fast it is hard at times to follow the action on the screen. However, this crazy pace is going to pep up any program, so you will probably want this one. Art work and Technicolor are splendid.

Dumb Bell of the Yukon  
(Amusing)  
RKO (2334)  
Donald Duck  7 mins.

Donald Duck in the frozen North seeks a fur coat for Daisy and becomes involved with a mother bear and her cub. He captures the cub, but the mother catches Donald, and before he escapes from her terrifying embrace indulges in the usually funny escapades for which the inimitable Donald is famous. In Technicolor.

Sheep Shape  
(Wonderful)  
Para. (P5-F-4)  
Noveltoons  7 mins.

The Wolf is a wolf in every sense of the word. When he hears that Blackie the Sheep is custodian of an orphans' sum of $10,000 he schemes to get it to further his appetite for wine, women and song. Blackie disguises himself as a beautiful sight club singer and the Wolf's attempts at getting the money, and the goral, are exquisitely funny. This is one of the very best. In Technicolor.

A Tale of Two Cafes  
(Entertaining)  
Para. (FF5-4)  
Musical Parade  18 mins.

The woman owner of a successful cafe has a charming daughter. The male piano player has a singing son. When the two youngsters fall in love the woman owner decides that a piano player's son is not good enough for her daughter, so the piano player opens a cafe next door. The conflict breaks both of them financially but their efforts to outdo the other in entertainment gives both an opportunity to present for the Technicolor camera, The Red, White and Blue Drummers, The Four Vees, Francis Ford and Ray Turner and other entertainment before Bob Graham and Dorothy Parker, the son and daughter, get together. The older couple, Frank Faylen and Odette Myrtil, show signs of affection, too, at the close.

Together in the Weather  
(Good)  
Para. (US-4)  
Puppetoon  7 mins.

Punchy and Judy are representatives of stormy and sunny weather in a garden weather barometer and consequently have trouble getting together since each comes out only when the other represents is in session. Judy uses all the feminine wiles, but Punchy is just plain dumb. She overcomes his reticence, however, and before he knows it they are man and wife. A new format in the Puppetoon productions and a welcome one. In Technicolor and good for any type of program.

Dog of the Seven Seas  
(Good)  
Univ. (1349)  
Variety View  9 mins.

Sinhad, mascot of the Coast Guard, is the star of this little film which shows his life on ship and with his pals, both masculine and feminine. He wears a collar carrying two battle stars and finally is retired after a hitch of eight years with more honors than most of the enlisted men get. Appealing, and will fit into any program.

Picture Pioneer  
(All Right)  
Univ. (1372)  
Person-Oddity  9 mins.

Emil Britt of Jacksonville, Ore. is an old-time photographer whose studio is now a museum. He demonstrates the old cameras and shows the myriad of photos snapped by his father and himself. Andy Anderson of the Houston Press teaches disabled veterans how to fish and they demonstrate some wonderful maneuvering with artificial limbs. There are other items that make this a good number.

Mr. Chimp at Home  
(Fair)  
Univ. (1351)  
Variety View  9 mins.

The chimp gets into mischief when his mistress, thinking he is asleep in bed, goes out. He takes a bath, tries to catch the goldfish with his hands, smokes a cigarette, has a drink, interferes with a neighbor's grocery order—including the eggs—and becomes involved with the flour in the kitchen. The chimp is cute in a similar fashion, and if you like them you'll like this. Most people will probably go for it.
**BOX-OFFICE SLANTS**

(Continued from Page 20)

Australian nurse, discovers a new and effective treatment for infantile paralysis. She zarówno, sheds personal happiness in order to relieve the suffering of countless children. But her path is repeatedly blocked by the skepticism of organized medicine. She is finally rewarded by the establishment of a Kenny Lane orphanage in America.

**Comment:** Though the story of Sister Kenny's life is one that deserves the highest honors and recognition for the sacrifices and help she has given to countless suffering children, it has had to be told in a way that allows for the Hultman.

**Lady Luck**

(Released Wednesday, July 17)

**MOVIETONE (Vol. 28, No. 59)**—Mother Cabrini is canonized as first U. S. Saint; Malakula Gandhi attar- ments. Simba, the first baby elephant of the African Union and Communist Parties to avert Civil War in China; millions of words go down to Lake Superior; Dystarne used to blast steel through famous Okefenokee swamps; Fashion in hats: Three hats, half handsome of "Kensington Summer"; U. S. girls win Swimming finals; Sammy Sned wins British Open title at St. Andrews.

**NEWS OF THE DAY (Vol. 17, No. 286)**—Pepe canalizes Mother Cabrini; Turnout in China; Heliocopter missions; Introducing Italy's President; Arab League Conference; Belgium honors Yanks: Howard Hughes cracks up; All-American tennis champion; Aramark of No. 92—"All-Star Baseball; Howard caduceus; B-17 crashes and 23 die; Mother Cabrini canonized; Report from Palestine; Tedähl sold the show.

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**Code of the Lawless**

Universal Western With Music 59 mins.

**AUDIENCE SLANT:** (Family) Will please action fans, although hard riding and gunplay are less abundant than usual.

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** Should do well at box-office, with Kirby Grant's name, plus Pappy Knight, fairly well established.

**Cast:** Kirby Grant, Pappy Knight, Pony Adams, Barbara Sears, Hugh Prosser, Ed Howell, Burr Baldwin, Pierce Lyden. Credits: Producer-director. With its blend of adventure, Patrick Hargrave, Photograph, Mystery Gertsmar.

**Plot:** A federal agent impersonates the son of an old-time ranger to open the key to the problem of the disappearing cattle of Arizona back in 1863. The agent, with the help of one particularly courageous rancher,
uncovered the villains, who turn out to be employees of the wealthy rancher. The latter is slain before justice triumphs, Arizona is made a territory and the people are rid of the oppression.

Comment: This western is handled with a bit more finesse and intelligence than usual, but many juvenile fans and other action-lovers, upon whose patronage such fare depends, will grow restless while the well-constructed plot unfolds. Reason: there is comparatively little gunplay and fighting and other tricks considered an indispensable part of an outdoor film. Scenarist Patricia Harper deserves a hand for writing such a smooth screenplay, but it was difficult for Producer-Director Wallace Fox to extract much action from the script. Kirby Grant is fair enough as the hero. Poni Adams, playing a role of postmistress for the small community, does very well in her small stilt. Fuzzy Knight is up to snuff, too, as comedy relief. Music and general production values are above par for such offerings.

**Step By Step**

*RKO Radio* Drama 61 mins.

**AUDIENCE SLANT:** (Family) Well-knit, compact story that will have the customers on the edge of their seats.

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** Ought to meet with moderate success at ticket windows, because of world-mouth, plus names of Tierney and Jeffreys.

**Cast:** Lawrence Tierney, Anne Jeffreys, Lowell Gilmore, George Cleveland, Jason Robards, Myrna Dell, Harry Harvey, Addison Richards, Ray Walker, John Hamilton, *Credits:* Producer, Sid Rogell; Director, Phil Rosen. Screenplay, Stuart Palmer; based on original story by George Callahan. Photography, Frank Redman.

**Plot:** An ex-Marine's interest in a senator's pretty secretary involves him in the efforts of a Nazi gang to destroy a list of their post-war agents. A federal man is murdered by the Germans, but suspicion is cast upon the former marine and the girl. With the help of a salty motel-keeper, they clear themselves, help trap the Nazis and recover the list.

**Comment:** There are some implausibilities and pat situations in this thriller-diller, but all in all, the very fast pace and excellent production of the film make for a successful project. Director Phil Rosen deserves a hand for keeping the action rolling at top speed, and scenarist Stuart Palmer warrants special mention for the smooth screenplay he wrote from George Callahan's original story. Lawrence Tierney continues the sharp work he has been doing in tough guy roles, playing the ex-marine convincingly. Anne Jeffreys also shows why RKO has elevated her to stardom in the titlefirst, making a very good mate for Tierney's histronics. Producer Sid Rogell was Wise in restricting the picture to 61 minutes, which means plenty of action in an hour. Exhibitors will find a real crowd-pleaser in this one.

**Great Day**

*RKO Radio* Drama 68 mins.

**AUDIENCE SLANT:** (Family) Boring, slow-running English-made picture that will elicit many a yawn.

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** One of the weakest vehicles as far as b.o. returns are concerned to come out in a long time.


**Plot:** Mrs. Roosevelt is coming to a model village in England, and the town is all agog with preparations for the great day. It is wartime. Leaders of preparations is a lady whose husband is an inebritate, living on memories of the first war, and whose daughter is about to marry a farmer much older than she. The daughter really loves a young captain, but wants to marry the farmer for security she never had. By the time Mrs. Roosevelt arrives, the daughter has saved her father from committing suicide after he is caught stealing, and has realized she really loves the captain, for whom she will wait.

**Comment:** These are 68 minutes of the most drawn-out acting that the average movie-goer has ever had the misfortune to see. The actors are all capable enough, with the exception of Margaret Withers, playing the frustrated sister of the farmer, who overacts. However, capable actors or not, the story is apt to prove so uninteresting to American audiences that the picture is quite unlikely to prove successful. The script lacks punch, suspense or any other ingredient necessary for the success of a film in American theatres.

**Black Beauty**

20th Century-Fox Drama 74 mins.

**AUDIENCE SLANT:** (Family) Perhaps a little on the naive side for sophisticated audiences, but in general it will provide good solid entertainment on which there will be no kicks.

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** This classic horse story has a vast number of patrons already waiting, for it is the best known novel of its kind.

**Plot:** Based on a large scale, it can nevertheless take top spot.


**Plot:** Black Beauty is trained from colthood by Mona Freeman, who grows up herself in the process. The horse fractures his leg, and when Mona is sent away to school her father orders the horse shot. The stableman, however, takes the horse to a veterinarian who, when he finds out he cannot totally cure the horse, has him sold by an auctioneer. Mona and the stableman search for him, and finally find him in a barn—the property of a drayman. The barn catches fire and Mona is rescued by Richard Denning, the love interest, and by Black Beauty.

**Comment:** "Black Beauty" is the sire of all horse stories, and, since it was written during the Victorian Age, it is inclined to be rather more sentimental than usual for this hard-bitten era. A number of scenes in the audience laugh, let them; there will still be plenty of others to romance with the heroine and shed a horsey tear over Black Beauty. After all, it's good honest sentiment, and won't hurt anybody. The fire climax, although

patently staged for melodramatic effect, is effective through sheer multiplication of fire pots, and somehow you are glad that Mona, Richard Denning and Black Beauty are together at the end, for Miss Freeman is pleasant as the girl and J. M. Kerrigan does one of his reliable grown roles. There should be a good chance to clean up at the till, because "Black Beauty" is still the best known of all the horse stories and has become a classic in its kind. It is the type of film that will draw out the old-timers in droves because they nearly all read the book as children—and they will take their children and grandchildren. That's your angle.

**The Cockeyed Miracle**

*MGM* Comedy 81 mins.

**AUDIENCE SLANT:** (Adult) A delightfully amusing tale predicated on the spirit-versus-flesh theme that has plenty of smart, sparkling dialogue and laugh-provoking situations. Should score wherever the patrons enjoy the Frank Morgan and Keenan Wynn number portrayals.

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** Worth of special selling in most situations, for returns will depend largely on advance exploitation.

**Plot:** When an old ship-builder dies, he leaves his family in a financial mess because he rashly invested the family fortune in a real estate venture. The spirit of his own father is waiting to take him to his reward, but he begs to remain on earth in spirit until he can correct the mistakes he made. When his son and daughter are happily settled, and the money from the real estate is turned over to his wife, he leaves for the other world with his father's spirit.

**Comment:** Here is a farce comedy that will have average audiences, in practically any situation, in an almost constant state of laughter. It is predicated on the spirit-versus-flesh theme and as such is a delightful and enjoyable bit of entertainment. The idea of a departed spirit returning to earth to help a newly-departed son straighten out his family troubles, though not novel, is so well-conceived, with plenty of smart, sparkling dialogue and laugh-provoking situations, that it has been made into a picture that should score admirably wherever played. Performances are topsnotch, with Frank Morgan and Keenan Wynn as the two spirits, stealing the show with their excellent interpretations of the departed. Exceptionally good also is Gladys Cooper's delineation of the doting wife and mother and Richard Quine as the absent-minded lover. Director S. Sylvan Simon has skillfully guided his cast through the situations that underscore the story, and maintains audience interest throughout and Producer Irving Starr has invested the picture with fine production treatment. There is little doubt that "The Cockeyed Miracle" will attract considerable attention in the neighborhoods where the Frank Morgan or Keenan Wynn names are a draw. As for the other situations, returns will depend largely on advance exploitation.
CHECK-UP ON PRODUCT IN WORK

Unleashed by Strike's End, Hollywood Studios Step Out on the Production Front, With Virtually Every Lot Filming Something and Many Going at Top Speed

With the strike a thing of the past and unparallelled labor relations existing, Hollywood is stepping out on the production front. Virtually every studio has something before the cameras, and a number of lots are operating at top capacity. Columbia, for example, has seven features and a serial rolling, a record high for the studio for some time, and one of the best shooting setups in town. Metro has nine pictures going, as has RKO Radio; and 20th Century-Fox and Universal have eight each. Sound stages are buzzing with more activity than Hollywood has seen in many weeks. Nearly 60 pictures are currently being made, exclusive of those in preparation or editing or waiting in backlog for release.

Columbia Hits High

Columbia started a trio of pictures, plus a serial, to bring its total to seven features and a chapter-play in production—a very fine record for the Gower Street lot. "Ghost Town," Judy Canova starrer, began July 18, with Allen Jenkins and Quinn Williams in support. "My Empty Heart," Rosalind Russell-Melvyn Douglas co-starrer, went to work July 12, with Charles Vidor directing and Virginia Van Upp producing. Richard Dix started "Secret of the Whistler" on July 15, with Leslie Brooks.

"Son of the Guardsman," Sam Katzman serial being released through Columbia, rolled July 15 at Corrigan Ranch under Mel De Lisy's direction. Daun Kennedy and Bob Shatry are in the leads.

Director Al Hall has been shooting the theatre-premiere-party sequences for "Down to Earth," with Rita Hayworth, Larry Parks, Marc Platt and 231 extras. "Johnny O'Clock," Dick Powell-Evelyn Keyes starrer, is shooting. Other Columbia pictures shooting are "Dead Reckoning," with Humphrey Bogart and Lizabeth Scott, and Edward Small's "Return of Monte Cristo," with Louis Hayward and Barbara Britton.

Willard Parker has had the option in his term contract picked up for another year by the studio.

Universal Starts Several

Universal is another very busy studio these days, having just started "Archie of Triumph" and "Flame of Tripoli." "Arch," Enterprise's three-million-dollar production, is being shot at the Enterprise lot under the direction of Lewis Milestone. Ingrid Bergman and Charles Boyer co-star, with Louis Calhern. David Lewis is producing. The film will shoot for about three months. Charles Lamont is directing "Flame of Tripoli," which co-stars Yvonne DeCarlo and George Brent, with Broderick Crawford, Donna Drake and Andy Devine. Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano are co-producing the Technicolor film.

"Pirates of Monterey," another Technicolor job, returned from a week of location at Palos Verdes on battle scenes. Also locationing were "The Magnificent Doll" and "The Vigilantes' Return." Harry Sherman brought back his "Ramrod" troupe from seven weeks of location work at Zion Park, Utah, and began a bar-room interior in the Enterprise studio, under Andre de Toth's direction.

Other Universal pictures rolling are Walter Wagner's "Smash-up," Mark Hellinger's "Swell Guy" and the Duryea-Kaines-Bendix starrer, "White Tie and Tails.

UA Ends One, Starts Two

United Artists finished one picture, but began several more. Seymour Nebenzal completed his "The Chase," Charles Reisner directed.

Benedict Bogeau and Burgess Meredith started their "A Miracle Can Happen" on July 17 at the General Service lot. William Boyd and his Hopalong Cassidy troupe began shooting at Lone Pine the same day, with a last-minute switch in plans. "Dangerous Venture" was started instead of "Whispering Walls," previously announced. Switch was explained because "Dangerous Venture" has a minimum of interior sequences for which space at the studio won't be available until later in the month. Besides Boyd, cast lines up as Andy Clyde, Rand Brooks, Betty Alexander and Douglas Evans.

Other UA films going are Loew-Levin's "Bel Ami," in its third month before the lenses; Mars Films' "Dishonored Lady"; Charles Chaplin's "Monsieur Verdoux"; and Andrew Stone's "Strange Bedfellows," shooting at the Roach lot. Buddy Rogers and Ralph Cohn will start their next Comet production, "The Adventures of Don Coyote," on July 24. The company will take over Bill Boyd's Lone Pine location, and will shoot in Cinecolor. An outdoor drama, the film will be directed by Robert LeBorg.

"Kissing' Not for Darnell

George Jessel's "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now" started July 15 at 20th-Fox, but minus the services of Linda Darnell, originally set to star. Miss Darnell refused the role, which went to June Haver, who co-stars with Mark Stevens.

Starting the same day, also, was the dog picture, "Bob, Son of Battle," which rolled on location at Kanab, Utah. Louis King directs and Robert Bassler produces, with Lon McCallister and Peggy Ann Garner starred.

Reeves Eason took the second unit of "The Homestretch" to Santa Anita to shoot race sequences, while Director Bruce Humberstone handled the first unit back at the studio. Robert Earrat was added to the cast of M. W. Wurm's "Dangerous Millions," being directed by James Tinling. The company which Producer Louis (Continued on Page 36)

Independent Artists Is Formed for Production

Launching of another new motion picture producing company was announced this week by Frederick Brinson who, in association with Rosalind Russell, Dudley Nichols, Frank Vincent, and one other important personality not named, have organized Independent Artists, Inc. The company plans to make ten top-budget pictures over a five-year period, with Miss Russell to star in one picture yearly. The other five pictures will be made by top-bracket stars.

Nichols will divide his time between RKO Radio (where he produced, directed and collaborated on the screenplay of "Sister Kenny," in which Miss Russell stars) and Independent Artists. He will write several screenplays and direct at least one picture annually for the new company.

Brinson and Vincent, who were associated with each other in the agency business prior to the war, are currently negotiating for studio and releasing facilities. Brinson formerly engaged in motion picture production in England.

Stars to Continue Shows for Servicemen

Hollywood stars, with a record to date of five appearances in more than 325 recorded shows for U. S. servicemen overseas and in military hospitals, will continue their entertainment service, George Murphy, president of the Hollywood Coordinating Committee, announced last week.

Renewing with Armed Forces Radio Service a commitment that expired this month, the committee, successor to the wartime Hollywood Victory Committee, pledged itself to provide talents for the weekly "Command Performance" and for dramatic troop information programs.

Carol ('Night Train') Reed To Join Korda's Company

Carol Reed, British director-producer who has such films to his credit as "Night Train," "The Way Ahead," and "Laburnum Grove," is to join the London Films Productions organization before the first of the year, it was announced last week by Alexander Korda, president.

At present Reed is directing James Mason in "Odd Man Out" for the J. Arthur Rank organization. Upon the conclusion of this film he will make one picture in Hollywood before joining Korda at the Sound City Studios in London.

Stalling Joins Staff

Laurence Stallings has been signed by Benedikt Bogeaus and Burgess Meredith as the third member of the writing staff which will prepare the screenplay of "A Miracle Can Happen," forthcoming United Artists release. Stallings will join John O'Hara and Norman Reilly Raine. The picture is scheduled to go into production next week on the General Service lot in Hollywood.
Dozier, Goetz Talk on Int'l Production Plans

William Dozier, new vice-president of International Pictures, went into a series of conferences this week with William Goetz, president, relative to International’s announced plans for expanded production. With six important pictures scheduled to go before the cameras before the end of the year, the company will soon be in multiple production with perhaps three pictures shooting simultaneously.

First on the agenda will be decisions concerning final distribution plans for Nunnally Johnson’s “The Dark Mirror,” already completed, and “Bella Donna,” now being edited. These will be the first two of a planned ten international productions to be released next year by United World Pictures.

Also to be discussed by Goetz and Dozier, together with Milton H. Feld, producer, will be International’s next production, “Blommer Girl.” Other titles up for discussion are “The King and I,” “Ashenden,” “The Exile,” “The Story of IVy” and “Mr. Peabody and the Mermaid.”

New Camera Boom for ‘Triumph’ Still Scenes

Newly developed camera boom to shoot informal and production stills by remote control has been worked out by Enterprise chief Scotty Welbourne for “Arch of Triumph,” whose small and intricate French hotel room, bistro and staircase sets render it impossible for normal still camera set-ups.

Flexible periscopic lens attachment salvaged by Welbourne from a Siegfried line underground fort during his service as an Air Force major allows him to mirror exactly, shots caught by the camera’s lens from distances 40 feet away and to arrange set-ups during actual filming of scenes of the David Lewis production.

Boon, constructed of durallumin, has periscopeial shard 18 feet high with camera balanced by offset weight on eight pendulums. Camera can describe 360 degrees circle by means of large single ball-bearing joint, thus enabling photographer to shoot from hitherto inaccessible interior angles.

Cagney Signs Hero

Ex- Lt. Audie Murphy, who killed more of the enemy and won more citations than any man his age, height, weight or rank in World War II, has signed a contract with William Cagney Productions and will be groomed for important roles in “The Stray Lamb” and “A Lion Is in the Streets,” both to star James Cagney.

E-L Boys ‘Clementine’

Screen rights to the novel, “Clementine,” by Peggy Goodin, have been acquired by Eagle-Lion for early production. Story deals with a typical tomboy and her misadventures between the ages of 12 and 16.

Frances Manson’s First

“The Mating of Millie McGennis” (alas there, marques!) will be Frances Manson’s first assignment as a Columbia producer. Adele Commandini wrote the original script and has been signed to do the screenplay.

HOLLYWOOD

STUDIO NEWS & PROGRAM NOTES

Una Merkel Returns to Screen in ‘It’s a Joke, Son;’ Gene Kelly, Marie McDonald to Co-Star in MGM Film

Mayne MeGill, mother of Angela Lansbury, and well-known on the British stage, has been set as an important role in MGM’s “This Time For Keeps.” She will enact the role of a wealthy woman who connives with Lauritz Melchior to wreck the romance of Esther Williams and Johnnie Johnston.

Comedian Allen Jenkins joins Judy Canova and Guinn Williams in the cast of Columbia’s “Ghost Town,” in which he will appear as Judy’s partner in a carnival fortune-telling act. “Ghost Town” will be produced by Ted Richmard and directed by Del Lord.

Tommy Harmon, Michigan football star, signed a contract to play the role of a crew chief in the current Monogram musical, “Sweetheart of Sigma Chi,” in which his wife, Elise Knuz, is co-starred with Phil Regan and Phil Brito. Jack Bernhard is directing for producer Jeffrey Bernard.

Una Merkel will return to the screen for a major role in the Eagle-Lion production of “It’s a Joke, Son,” which will star Kenny Delmar. She will play the comedy role of Mrs. Claghorn, the Senator’s politically-minded wife.

Jerome Cowan has been cast for the top supporting role in “Mr. Fix,” which co-stars Pat O’Brien, Anne Jefferys and Walter Slezak.

Meade Lux Lewis, the original “Mr. Five by Five” and one of the top Boogie-Woogie piano players, reports for his featured role in Frank Capra’s “It’s a Wonderful Life,” for Liberty Films. He will enact his real life role of a honky-tonk piano player.

Veteran actor George Cleveland has been assigned an important role in 20th-Fox’s “I Wonder Who,” which has been acquired by Eagle-Lion. He will appear as the Irish uncle of June Haver in the Technicolor musical which Lloyd Bacon will direct for producer George Jessel. He joins a cast headed by June Haver, Mark Stevens, Martha Stewart and Reinald Gardner.

Louis Calhern will have the key role of Morosov in the Enterprise filming of the Erich Maria Remane best-seller, “Arch of Triumph,” which co-stars Ingrid Bergman and Charles Boyer under the direction of Lewis Milestone.

Thurston Hall has been set for a role in MGM’s “Ballerina,” with Margaret O’Brien, Danny Thomas and Cyril Cusack. Henry Koster directs, Joe Pasternak produces.

William Brandtine has been signed to direct “The Trap,” Monogram’s next Charlie Chan film starring Sidney Toler. James S. Burke produces, and shooting starts late in July.

Newcomer Johnny Soods was signed for two pictures by Eagle-Lion, and his first assignment will be a starring role in “Born to Speed,” which will go into production this month.

Wolly Brown and Leon Errol will co-star in RKO’s new comedy with music, “Heading for Hollywood,” which is being prepared for early filming. Martin Mooney will produce under the executive supervision of Sid Rogell.

Woody Day, young daughter of Clarence Day, Jr., who wrote the book, “Life With Father,” has been cast in Warners’ Technicolor film version of the play.

Willard Robertson joins the cast of Paramount’s Bob Hope-Dorothy Lamour starrer, “My Favorite Brunette.”

Gene Kelly and Marie MacDonald will co-star in MGM’s “Life is for the Loving,” which director Gregory La Cava will put out before the cameras soon for producer Pandro S. Berman.

Comedians Franklin Pangborn, Charles Arat and Leo Nira were given featured roles in Republic’s “Calendar Girl,” which Allan Dwan produces and directs with Jane Frazee in the title role.

Broderick Crawford and Andy Devine have been set by Universal to portray featured roles in the Fraser-Pagano production, “Flame of Tripoli.”

Andre Charlot, who played the memorable bishop in “Song of Bernadette,” will enact the same type of role in Darryl F. Zanuck’s production for 20th-Fox, “The Razor’s Edge,” which Edmund Goulding is directing. Academy Award winner Alfred Newman has been assigned to do the musical score.

William Elliott and Very HInba Rathon will head the cast of “Wyoming,” which Joseph Kane will produce and direct for Republic, with Maria Ouspenskaia, Bruce Cabot, George “Gabby” Hayes and Jimmy Ellison in supporting roles.

Rodgrave, Rosamund John Sign for Boulting Picture

Michael Rodgrave and Rosamund John have been signed for “Fame Is the Spur” by the young producing team, Roy and John Boulting, who release through the J. Arthur Rank Organization.

“Fame Is the Spur” will be adapted from the novel of that name by Howard Spring, with camera work scheduled to start within the next few weeks.

Add ‘Carnegie Hall’ Cast

Marsha Hunt and Felix Bressart are the latest to join the cast of “Carnegie Hall,” the Borda Morros-William Le Baron production for Federal Films. Already signed are Jascha Heifetz, Arturo Rubinstein, Lily Pons, Rise Stevens, and Benny Goodman—to say nothing of the Boston Symphony and the New York Philharmonic orchestra.
RKO Ends 'Em, Starts 'Em

RKO finished "Beat the Band" on July 16, with producer Michel Kralik bringing the musical home on schedule. The same day, however, Director Irving Reis put "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer" into action, with Cary Grant and Shirley Temple in the leads. "Trail Street," which was originally scheduled to roll July 12, was pushed back until July 19. Lawrence Tierney finished "The Devil Thumbs a Ride" on July 17, just in time to go into the western-type drama.

Loretta Young checked into the hospital July 12 to try to whip a persistent cold, which twice retarded production on "Katie for Congress." She is co-starring with Joseph Cotten and Ethel Barrymore. Frank Capra's "It's a Wonderful Life" has another week of night shooting at the studio, following its return from location at Encino. "Code of the West," James Warren western, returned from Lone Pine location on July 16, for studio interiors. William Berke is directing.

Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives" and "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty" go on and on, having been before the lenses almost three full months. Walt Disney is still working with his duo of features, "Song of the South" and "How Dear to My Heart." Nat Holt puts "Mr. Fix" into its second month of shooting.

PFR Resumes Activity

After a long period of inactivity caused by the transition from a company functioning as an integral unit of its own to a catch-a-catch-can deal for studio space, PFR is once more rolling. Robert Tausay managed to get facilities for shooting "Drifting River," which started July 12. Eddie Dean stars, with Roscoe Arbuckle directing.

Roach Names Casting Personnel

Hhift Roach announced last week that Ann Purdy has taken over Helen Moore's spot as assistant to Menace Johnstone, casting director for the company. Miss Purdy, in turn, will be assisted by Bob Jones.

Well into its second month of shooting is "Here Comes Trouble," being produced and directed by Fred Guiol.

Monogram Film Switch

After Gale Storm was announced as appearing in "Sweetheart of Sigma Chi," a change was made and Bonita Granville was set for this Monogram film. Latest switch is Elyse Knox substituting for Miss Granville. The picture is being produced by Jeffrey Bernerd. Others in the cast are Alan Hale, Jr., Paul Guilfoyle and Robert Arthur. Phil Regan and Phil Brito are starred with Miss Knox.

Manton Moreland, colored comedian in the Charlie Chan series, will arrive in Hollywood by plane from New York on July 25; the next day he leaves for "The Trap," next Chan to go, starring Sidney Toler.

Phil Karlson is looking for locations for "Black Gold," Kentucky Derby color film. The director is working his way through Utah, Arizona and northern California.


'Calendar Girl' Boosted

The big noise at Republic these days is "Calendar Girl," being produced and directed by Allan Dwan. An unprecedented budgeteer for the Yates lot, this film of New York in the early 1900s features Jane Frazee, William Marshall, Victor McLaglen, James Ellison, Gail Patrick, Benny Baker, Irene Rich and Franklin Pangborn.


Three Start at MGM

Metro started shooting on "It Happened in Brooklyn," with Frank Sinatra and a large cast. At the same time, the cameras began action on "Life's for the Living," starring Gene Kelly and Marie McDonald. Gregory LaCava is directing for producer Pandro S. Berman. Cast and crew of "This Time for Keeps" will return from Mackinac Island, Michigan on July 22, following several weeks of location work. Joe Pasternak is producing and Richard Thorpe directs. Film is in Technicolor.

A record total of eight technical advisors are helping "The Beginning or The End" emerge authentically. Four military officers and four scientific experts are aiding.

Morris Ankrum vacated his director's chair temporarily to play a hardened New Mexico frontier attorney in "Sea of Grass," in which he has been assisting director Roy Brewer. Other MGM pictures rolling are "High Barbecue," "The Secret Heart," "Ballerina" and "Summer Holiday."

WB Retains Same Setup

Warner Bros, is still shooting the same four pictures that have been before the cameras for some time. The quartet includes the Technicolor special, "Life With Father"; the Bette Davis-Paul Henried-Claude Rains starrer, "Deception"; "Cry Wolf," with Errol Flynn and Barton MacLane; and "Possessed," starring Joan Crawford, Hedda Hopper, Raymond Massey. Erich Wolfgang Korngold is pre-recording special symphonic sequences for "Deception."

Joyce Ely returned to Warners after four years army service, bringing to 30 the number of players in the Burbank studio rates as tops.

Eagle-Lion Set to Go

According to its production schedules, Eagle-Lion is ready to start its first picture, "Born to Be Bad," which it is producing for Technicolor as "It's a Joke. Son," previously announced. Johnny Sands stars in "Born," having been borrowed from Vanguard Films. "It's a Joke" will be the second to roll, having an announced kickoff date of July 29. "Bomber Speed" is supposed to start shooting July 22.

Paramount Active Again

Paramount is becoming active again, following a sustained period of quiet. "Emperor Waltz" is shooting at the studio, while a unit of "The Big Haircut" has been in Spokane, Washington, filming background and action material. Alan Ladd heads the location company, with Brian Donlevy, Tay Garnett directs. George Templeton is directing the second unit of "My Favorite Brunette," which was set to go on location in San Francisco, Carmel and Pebble Beach. Meanwhile, director Elliott Nugent and producer Danny Dare began production at the studio July 15.

Cobb Back at Columbia

Lee J. Cobb, who appeared in his first film at Columbia in 1939, will return to that studio on loan-out from 20th Century-Fox to play an important role in "Johnny O'Clock," in which Dick Powell and Evelyn Keyes are starred. Ellen Drew will play the "other woman."

Team Flynn, Crawford

Errol Flynn and Joan Crawford will co-star in Warners' "Need for Each Other," written by Columnist Louis Solob and Ernest Lehman. Jerry Wald will produce.

Beach Novel Bought

Screen rights to "The World in His Arms," first novel by Rex Beach in seven years, have been acquired by International Pictures. The story is a romantic adventure of the 1890s set in San Francisco and Sitka.

Writing Domestic Comedy

Albert Mannheimer and Fredrick Kohmnr are writing a domestic comedy, "Birds and the Bees," as an MGM vehicle for Elizabeth Taylor, Jane Powell, Margaret O'Brien and John Travolta. Joseph Pasternak will produce the film.
ASTOR PICTURES

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COLUMBIA

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**December 21, 1946**

**SHOWME'S TRADE REVIEW, July 20, 1946**

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<td>From This Day Forward</td>
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<td>Frontier Fool</td>
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<td>Frontier Fugitives</td>
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<td>Frontier Gal</td>
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<td>Frontier Gundown</td>
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<td>G</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gallant Boss</td>
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<td>Gallant Journey</td>
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<td>Gallant Parading</td>
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<td>Gay Blades</td>
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<td>Genius At Work</td>
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<td>Gentleman From Paris</td>
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<td>Gentleman Mustache</td>
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<td>Gentlemen From Arizona</td>
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<td>Ghost Goes Wild</td>
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<td>Gilda</td>
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<td>Glass Ashes</td>
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<td>Glided Hand</td>
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<td>Great Flaubert</td>
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<td>Green Years für Streets</td>
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<td>Gun Town</td>
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**H**

<table>
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<td>Home Across the Border</td>
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<td>Harvey Girls</td>
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<td>Heartbeat</td>
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<td>Her Adventurous Night</td>
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<td>Her Heart's Yearning</td>
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<td>Her Kind of Man</td>
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<td>Her Lady's Secret</td>
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<td>Here Comes Trouble, My Love</td>
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<td>High School Inn</td>
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<td>His Heart's Yearning</td>
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<td>Holiday in Mexico</td>
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<td>Holiday Inn</td>
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<td>Home Sweet Home</td>
<td>20th-Fox</td>
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<td>Homeslicity</td>
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<td>Honeymoon</td>
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<td>Hot Cargo</td>
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<td>House of the Lost</td>
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<td>How Far You Go</td>
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<td>I Cover the Waterfront</td>
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<td>If It's a Man's World</td>
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<td>I Know Where I'm Going</td>
<td>Misc.</td>
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<td>I'll Spring For You</td>
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<td>I'll Spring For You</td>
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<td>I'll Spring For You</td>
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<td>I've Always Loved You</td>
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<td>I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now</td>
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<td>Jesse James</td>
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<td>Joe Palooka, Champ</td>
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<td>John in the Clouds</td>
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<td>Johnny O'Clock</td>
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<td>Journey Together</td>
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<td>Jungle Flight</td>
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<td>Junior Prom</td>
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<td>Just Before Dawn</td>
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<td>Kiss &amp; Tell</td>
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<td>Lady in the Lake</td>
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**MONOGRAPH (Continued)**

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<td>Kate Richmond-Barbara Reed</td>
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<td>South of Naples</td>
<td>Gilbert Roland-Norman Brooks</td>
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<td>318 Spook Busters</td>
<td>Leo Gorcey-The Bowery Boys</td>
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<td>Shadows Over Chinatown</td>
<td>Sidney Tolmer-Victor Sen Yung</td>
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<td>Stone in the Gravel Pit (W.F.)</td>
<td>Key-Robert Shayne</td>
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**Westerns (Current 1944-45)**

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<td>562 Gentleman From Texas,</td>
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<td>568 Haunted Mine, The (W.F.)</td>
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<td>Jimmy Wakely-Lee White</td>
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<td>711 Lonesome Trail</td>
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<td>714 Trail to Mexico (W.F.)</td>
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**Silent Trail**

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**PARAMOUNT**

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<td>A. Ladd-V. Lake-W. Bendix</td>
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<td>5 Bride Wore Boots (C.F.)</td>
<td>B. Styanwyck-R. Cummings-D. Lynn</td>
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<td>7 Thirty Days a Stranger</td>
<td>G. Gable-V. Seville-A. Ladd</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Hold That Blonde (C.F.)</td>
<td>W. Gargan-P. Rogers-Raymond Hatton</td>
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| 13 Hot Cargo (D.F.) | Sonny Tufts-M. Ladd-Gordon 
| 14 Jilted Maiden | R. Milland-J. Wymann-P. Terry |
| 15 Love Letters (D.A.) | J. Jones-C. Aitken, Richards |
| 16 Love Letters | R. A. Lampour-A. de F. Knowles |
| 17 Miss Susie Single's (D.A.) | Sonny Tufts-V. Lake |
| 21 People Are Funny (C.M.F.) | J. Haley-H. Walker-R. Valee |
| 22 Road to Utopia (C.M.A.) | Crosby-Hope-Lamour |
| 23 Sugarfoot (D.A.) | Betty Hutton-Raymond Hatton |
| 24 They Made Me a Killer (D.A.) | Robert Lowery-Barbara Britton |
| 25 To Each His Own (D.A.) | O. De B. Haviland-John Land |
| 26 Virginian, The (T.W. F.) | T. Trenton-Barr-Lottie White |
| 27 Well Groomed Bride (C.D.F.) | J. McCrea-B. Donlevy-S. Tufts |

**COMING**

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<td>Calcutta</td>
<td>A. Ladd-G. Russell-W. Bendix</td>
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<td>Campfire</td>
<td>C. Stanley-Stanwyck-Fitzgerald</td>
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<td>Cross My Heart</td>
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<td>Danger Street</td>
<td>Jane Withers-Lowell White</td>
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<td>Easy Come, Easy Go</td>
<td>Betty Hutton-Sonny Tufts</td>
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<td>Emperor Waltz, The (T)</td>
<td>Bing Crosby-Joan Fontaine</td>
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<td>Flying</td>
<td>M. Davis-DeWitt Jennings</td>
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<td>I Cover Big Town</td>
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<td>Imperfect Lady, The</td>
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<td>It's Too Late</td>
<td>Robert Lowery-A. Savage</td>
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<td>Lindy Man</td>
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<td>Hope-Dorothy Lamour</td>
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<td>Searching Wind (D.A)</td>
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<td>Seven Were Saved</td>
<td>R. Denning-Catherine Craig</td>
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<td>Where There's Life</td>
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**PRC**

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<td>Tom Neal-Margaret Lindsay</td>
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<td>Detour (D.A)</td>
<td>Tom Neal-Anna Savage</td>
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<td>Rosemary LaPlanche-Robert Donlevy</td>
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<td>Robert &quot;Buzzy&quot; Henry-Eva March</td>
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<td>How Do You Do It (C.F)</td>
<td>Hubert Garden-Harry Von Zell</td>
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<td>Ida Lupino-DeWitt Jennings</td>
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<td>H. B. Warren-Clyde Beatty</td>
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<td>A. D. Gwynne-R. Zell</td>
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<td>Murder Is My Business (My.F.)</td>
<td>W. Gargan-P. Rogers-Raymond Hatton</td>
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<td>C. R. McLeod-A. James-Yung</td>
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<td>Romance of the West (W.F.)</td>
<td>Eddie Dean-DeWitt Jennings</td>
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<td>J. Loder-Loene Aubert</td>
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Kepublic (Continued)

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<td>508</td>
<td>A Guy Could Change (D) F</td>
<td>50.3 mins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>510</td>
<td>A Strange Impersonation (D) F</td>
<td>58.7 mins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>513</td>
<td>Captain Tugboat Annie (C) D</td>
<td>59.7 mins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>514</td>
<td>Crime of the Century (My) A</td>
<td>58.6 mins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>515</td>
<td>French Key (My) A</td>
<td>76.2 mins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>516</td>
<td>Gay Blades (C) F</td>
<td>52.6 mins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>517</td>
<td>Home on the Range (My) B</td>
<td>70.6 mins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>517</td>
<td>In Old Sacramento (W) F</td>
<td>70.5 mins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>517</td>
<td>Horse of the Golden Hoof (D) F</td>
<td>58.5 mins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>517</td>
<td>My Pal Trigger (W) F</td>
<td>69.5 mins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>518</td>
<td>Night Train to Memphis, (D) F</td>
<td>65.5 mins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>518</td>
<td>Specter of the Rose (D) A</td>
<td>68.4 mins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>519</td>
<td>Woman Who Came Back, The (D) A</td>
<td>75.4 mins.</td>
</tr>
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Title

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<td>PRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angel and the Outlaw</td>
<td>MGM</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Frontier Riders (D) F</td>
<td>PRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halfbreed</td>
<td>PRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>PRC</td>
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<td>PRC</td>
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<td>PRC</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
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Kepublic (Continued)

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<th>Prod. No.</th>
<th>Prod.</th>
<th>Run Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>515</td>
<td>Gay Blades (C) F</td>
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360 Strange Triangle (D.A.)  CURRENT 1945-46
344 Anna and the King of Siam (D.F.)  Time Rel.  Time Rel.  See
361 Bob, Son of Battle (Tech.)  Run  Mins.  Date  June
363 Centennial Summer (T & M) (F.)  128 Aug 6/8/46
365 Deadline for Murder (My A)  COMING
375 Enchanted Voyage (T)  
376 Horse Tamer (F).  
377 Hometown (T)  
379 My Darling Clementine  
382 Shocking Miss Pilgrim (T)  
387 Strange Journey  
388 Three Little Grils in Blue (T)  
389 Monster for Murder (D.A.)  

UNITED ARTISTS
390 Abe's Irish Rose  
393 Bachelor's Daughter's  
394 Bel Ami  
395 Clash of Two Titans (D.A)  
397 Chase, The  
398 Devil's Playground  
399 Dishonored Lady  
400 Duel in the Sun (T)  
401 Fang, The  
402 Fool's Gold  
403 Henry VIII (D.I.F) (T)  
404 Little Lulu  
405 Mr. Ace  
406 No Trespassing  
407 Swiftly Life of Francis Macomber  
408 Sin of Southern Blood  
409 Strange Bedfellows  
410 Strange Woman, The  
411 Street Angel  
412 This Happy Breed (T)  

UNIVERSAL
413 Beautiful Brown Eyes (CMIF)  
414 Blonde Alibi (My F.)  
415 Cat Creeps (H.A.)  
416 Daltons Ride Again (W.F)  
417 Danger Woman (D.A)  
418 Dark Horse  
419 Dressed to Kill (My A)  
420 First Gal (T)  
421 Girl on the Spot (D-M.A)  
422 Her Adventurous Night  
423 House of Dracula (H.A)  
424 House of Horrors (H.A)  
425 Kurts End Special (D)  
426 Madonna of the Seven Moons (D.A)  
427 Night in Radio City (T)  
428 Pardon My Death (My A)  
429 Pursuit to Algiers (D.I.F)  
430 Scarlet Street (D.A)  
431 Seventh Veil (D.A)  
432 The Hindenburg  
433 Smooth as Silk (My A)  
434 She Wrote the Book (D.A)  
435 Strange Confession (M.A)  
436 Spook (F.)  
437 Stranger From the West (C.I.F)  
438 Spider Woman Strikes Back (H.A)  
439 Terror By Night (My A)  
440 This Love of Ours (D.A)  

COMING
343 Arch of Triumph  
344 Black Angel  
345 Bread Man  
346 Broken Lute  
347 Burnt Man  
348 Current 1945-46  Time Rel.  Time Rel.  Run  Mins.  Date  June  
349 Delta Incident  
350 Double Indemnity  
351 Echoes of Liberty  
352 Father of the Bride  
353 Ferris Wheel  
354 Freedom for Guerys  
355 Gaslight (C.I.F)  
356 Beginnings  
357 City for Conquest  
358 I Married a Woman  
359 Theòn Romanoff  
360 The Hound of the Baskervilles  
361 The Maltese Falcon  
362 The Mummy  
363 The Wooden Horse  
364 The Whirl of Life  
365 Too Much Johnson  
366 Trilby  
367 Uptown  
368 Undercurrent  
369 Underdog, The  
370 Underwater  
371 Unseen  
372 Unwelcome Guest  
373 Un metamorphosis  
374 Uninvited Guest  
375 Unmoving  
376 Unwelcome Guest  
377 Unseen  
378 Unwelcome Guest  
379 Uninvited Guest  
380 Unmoving  
381 Unwelcome Guest  
382 Unseen  
383 Unwelcome Guest  
384 Uninvited Guest  
385 Unmoving  
386 Unwelcome Guest  
387 Unseen  
388 Unwelcome Guest  
389 Uninvited Guest  
390 Unmoving  
391 Unwelcome Guest  
392 Unseen  
393 Unwelcome Guest  
394 Uninvited Guest  
395 Unmoving  
396 Unwelcome Guest  
397 Unseen  
398 Unwelcome Guest  
399 Uninvited Guest  
400 Unmoving  

SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, July 10, 1946

Title Company

Stark Club Para.
Strange Bedfellows UA
Strange Confession Univ.
Strange Holiday Misc.
Summer Holiday Misc.
Swamp Fire Para.
Swing Lover Para.
Swing Time UA
Swing Woman RKO
Swingin' With the Swamps RKO
Suddenly It's Spring UA
Summer Holiday MGM
Sunset Satin MGM
Suspected Person RKO
Swangster, The MGM
Swanee River UA
Swifty Parle MGM
Swing, Cowley, Swing, MGM
Swing Time UA
Swiss Family Robinson, Astor

Talk About a Lady Col.
Tarantula Univ.
Taran and the Leopard Woman RKO
Tarzan of the Apes MGM
Terror By Night Univ.
Terrors on Horseback, The RKO
Texas Kid, The MGM
That's My Boy, The MGM
That's My Woman, The WB
The Shadow, The MGM
The Sixth Man, The RKO
The Time, The Place & The Girl, The WB
They Gave a Woman More MGM
This Happy Breed, The UA
This Loving of Ours, The Univ.
Thrill of Brazil, The Col.
Three in a Bachelor, The MGM
Three in the Saddle, The RKO
Three Smart Strangers, The WB
Three Wise Fools, The MGM
Thunder Town RKO
Till the Clouds Roll By MGM
Til the Clouds Roll By, The RKO
Time of Their Lives, The Univ.
Time Marches On, The MGM
To Each His Own, Para.
Tokyo Rose, The Para.
Town Gate, The Univ.
Trail to Mexico, Mono.
Train, The Univ.
Trigger Law, Mono.
Trigger Trail, Univ.
Tudor Family, The, The MGM
Tuft of Grass, A MGM
Tulsa Raiders, The RKO
Tumbleweeds, The RKO
Two Fisted Stranger, The Col.
Two Smart People, The MGM
Two Years Before the Mast, The Para.
Uncle Andy Hardy, MGM
Underdog, The RKO
Undersea, The MGM
Underoos, The Republic
Unseen, The, The Univ.
Up Goes Mahe, The MGM
Vacation from Marriage, The MGM
Vacation Suit, The RKO
Valley of the Zombies, The RKO
Vigilantes Return, The Univ.
Virginian, The Para.
Wagon Train, The MGM
Wagon Wheels, The Col.
Walls Came Tumbling Down, The Col.
Wanderer of the Wasteland, RKO
Wanda, The RKO
Wanderlust, The Weekend at the Waldorf, MGM
Wang At War, The MGM
Welcome Stranger, The Para.
Waltz of the Angels, The RKO
West of the Alamo, The MGM
Westward, The Showman, RKO
What a Woman, Col.
What Man, Capitol Havergal, MGM
What's the Lady's Name, The Para.
Whispering Skull, The UA
White Tie and Tails, Univ.

1949
1

SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW,

44

1945-46 PRODUCT
COLUMBIA
ALL-STAR COMEDIES
7404
7434
7410
7432
7403
7436
7423
7422
7426
7433
7425
7412
7401

A

17

Good

16

A Miner

Poor

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17
16'/2

Calling All Fibbers
Dance, Dunce, Dance!. .. -Funny
Get Along Little Zombie
High Blood Pressure
Fair
Hiss and Yell
Hot Water
If a Body Meets a Body

16'/2
l8'/2

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10/27/45

19

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3/16/46

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l6'/2

Glimpses

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3/ 2/46

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17
17
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6'/2

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Good

9'/2 ..

Heart
Baker)

11/17/45

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Dream

Fair

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Fair

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3/ 2/46

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2/23/46

No Can

Do

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4/13/46

(Baker) That Feel-

in

Equestrian Quiz
Fala at Hyde Park

Treasures from Trash

(5)

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Bikini— The Atom

7/ 6/46
6/ 1/46

Good
(6)

10

..21 9/46

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..11/24/45

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..12/ 1/45

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..5/ 4/46

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..11/24/45

(6)
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1/26/46
..11/24/45
4/ 6/46

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Island

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8

Excellent

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.10/27/45
3/16/46
7/13/46
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8

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Good

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2/23/46
5/ 4/46

P5-I Friendly Ghost
P5-2 Cheese Burglar
P5-3 Old MacDonald Had a

(6)

Good ....
Good

11

Farm

Very

8
7

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Very Good

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7

PANORAMICS

E5-I
E5-2
E5-3
E5-4
E5-5
E5-6

(4)

7702 Kongo Roo

6

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7701 Simple Siren

6'/2

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7703 Snap Happy Traps
7704 The Schooner the Better

6V2.

House Tricks
Service With a Guile
Klondike Casanova
Peep in the Deep
Rocket to Mars
Rodeo Romeo

9
10

Interesting

9

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2/23/46

J5-2
J5-3
J5-4
J5-5
J5-6

No.
No.
No.
No.
No.
No.

9

& Doubles)
7856 No. 6 (Wendell Niles
and Prindle)
7857 No. 7 (Victory Show)
7858 No. 8 (Looking Back)
7859 No. 9 (Judy Canova
Radio Show)
7860 No. 10 (Famous Fathers
& Sons)

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2/23/46

9'/2

9'/2

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6
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Good

7

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7'/2
10

8'/2

Good

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9'/2

Interesting

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10

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11/17/45
2/16/46
3/15/46
5/11/46

(6)

Very Funny ...
Very Good

9
9

11/ 3/45

Fair

9

2/23/46
3/16/46

Good

9

6/ 1/46

Good
Good

9
9

10/18/45
11/17/45
2/23/46

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Excellent
Interesting
Excellent

9

3/16/46
7/ 6/46

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6/

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1/46

TWO-REEL SPECIALS
18

L5-I

4/13/46

No.

I

L5-2 No. 2
L5-3 No. 3
L5-4 No. 4

Interesting

(6)

10

2/16/46

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Good

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Interesting

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3/16/46
4/13/46

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4/13/46

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6/ 1/46

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19

18

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(6)

|7

Funny

2/23/46
7/ 6/46

18

Poor

18

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18

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RAY WHITLEY WESTERN MUSICALS

(4)

|8

63504 Rhythm Wranglers

19

17

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19

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SPECIAL
671

The House

Live In

I

Excellent

SPORTSCOPES
64310 Aqua Queens
64304 Arcaro Up
64301 Athletic Items
64302 Battling Bass

8

Fair

8

Good
Good

8

63102
63101
63103
63107
63108
63104
63105
63106

8

Good

8

Good
Good
Good
Good

8

Tenderfoot Trail

Quarter Horses
Ski Master
Winning Basketball
THIS IS
T. V. A
Airline to Everywhere
Great Lakes
No Place Like Home

8

Street of Shadows
Two Million Rooms

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8

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(13)
Interesting

18

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Excellent

17

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Excellent
Illuminating ...
Fair
Interesting
....
Excellent
Excellent

16

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Interesting

CENTURY-FOX

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19

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16

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15

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6/ 1/46

7/13/46
3/ 9/46
4/18/46
5/ 4/46

(10)

8

Interesting

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6506 Bad Bill Bunion
6517 Dinky Finds a Home
Fortune Hunters
651
6502 Fox & the Duck
6520 Golden Hen
6514 It's All in the Stars
6518 Johnstown Flood

7/ 6/46

8

8

Magic of Youth
6251 Memories of Columbus
6255 Song of Sunshine
6353 Diving Dandies
6355 Golden Horse
6301 Pins and Cushions
6351 Ski Aces
6352 Time Out For Play
6354 Sea Sirens

4/13/46

8

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Cradle of Liberty
China Carries On
Louisiana Springtime
Lost Lake

10/18/45

10

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8
(6)

Interesting

....

Excellent

3/ 2/46
2/23/46

8
8

8
(20)

Funny

7
7
7

Excellent
Excellent

7

Good

7

7

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73/ 2/46

5/11/46
6/ 1/46
7/ 6/46

Gypsy
8

6506 Mighty Mouse Meets
Bad Bill Bunion
6508 Mighty Mouse in
Krakatoa
6513 My Old Kentucky Home.
6519 Peace-Time Football
6503 Swooning the Swooners
6510 Svengali's Cat
6509 Talking Magpies
6507 The Exterminator
6515 Throwing the Bull
6516 Trojan Horse
6504 Watch Dog
6512 Wicked Wolf
6505 Who's Who in the Jungle.

7

Amusing
Very Good

Problem

7
....

7

3/ 9/46
5/ 4/46

7

Amusing

7

Good

7

3/ 2/48
3/ 9/46

7

Very Good

7

7/6 /46

7

Good
Good

MARCH OF TIME
Palestine

16

1/20/46
1/ 5/46
2/16/46

1945 46

Across the Great Divide
Along the Rainbow Trail Excellent
Bountiful Alaska

in

5/11/46
2/ 9/46
3/ 9/46
5/11/46
4/ 6/46

ACTIVITIES

Here Come the Yanks.

I

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8

...20

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Mighty Mouse

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AMERICA

Report on Japan

WAR

6260
6258
6254
6259
6253
6256
6257
6252

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8

Ten Pin Titans

Panama

2/ 9/46
1/24/45
11/17/45
I

8

64311 Ben Hogan
64308 Black Ducks and Broad-

64309
64303
64307
64305
64306

10/13/45

18

(13)

Life
9

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7
...

63501 Western Welcome
63503 Ranch House Romeo
63502 Sagebrush Serenade

6501
(10)
Interesting

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22

TERRYTOONS

6

.11/17/45
1/26/46
2/ 9/46
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3/16/46

.

8

Husbands

10

5

UNUSUAL OCCUPATIONS

(3)

Chaps.
15 Chaps.

6/ 1/46
7/ 6/46

10

4

9

15

....

T5-2 Don't Be a Sucker

8

Hoofs

SERIALS

4/13/48

(6)

10

R5-4 Good Dog
R5-5 Dixie Pointers
R5-6 Rhythm on Blades
R5-7 Testing the Experts
R5-8 Riding the Hickories
R5-9 Birds Make Sport
R5-I0 Feminine Class

7
7
7

Sea Melody
Twenty Girls and a Band

SPORTS REVIEWS

10

91/2

.

5/1 1/46

2/16/46

.

(7)

7

63701 Beware of Redheads
63702 Maid Trouble
63703 Oh, Professor Behave

SPORTLIGHTS

(10)

Cue

6/ 1/46

Interesting

R5-I What a Picnic
R5-2 Paddle Your Own
R5-3 Running the Team

9'/2

SPORT REELS

2

3

10

10

11/10/45
2/16/46

Interesting

Y5-I Animal-ology

18

Funny
Funny
Amusing
Good
Good

LEON ERROL

6/ 1/46

20
20

2

Y5-2 Hillbillies
Y5-3 In the Postwar Era
Y5-4 In the Wilds
Y5-5 Lonesome Stranger
Y5-6 (Untitled)

9

1/46

(8)

Funny

SPEAKING OF ANIMALS
....

6/

Fair
Swell

Interesting

I

7854 No. 4 (Hollywood
Interesting

2/23/46

7

18

POPULAR SCIENCE
J5-I

7'/2

.11/24/45

18

Funny

MOVIETONE ADVENTURE

..

Entertaining
Limited

of

(10)

I

.

6/1/46

17

Entertaining

(6)

Very Good

POPEYE

7902 Strange Hunger
7901 The Magic Stone

SCREEN SNAPSHOTS

..

7

Two Cafes
FF'5-5 Double Rhythm
FF5-4 Tale

7'/2

(25th Anniversary
No.
Special)
7852 No. 2 (Harlow Wilcox &
H. Von Zell)
7853 No. 3 (Fashions, Rodeo,

6/ 1/46

.

.

(6)

The Derby Decade
Russian Dressing

63704 Twin

1/46

3/16/46
10/13/45
5/11/46

7

1

20th

FF5-I Little Witch
FF5-2 Naughty Nanette
FF5-3 College Queen

7

HEADLINER REVIVALS
63201
H3202
63204
63203

6/

.

7
7

Good

I

7

MUSICAL PARADES

3/ 2/46

6

PHANTASIES

2/ 9/46

.

(6)

Good

Fair

P5-4 Sheep Shape
P5-5 Spree for All

7'/2

Funny
Funny
Good

FLICKER FLASHBACKS
64201 No.
64202 No. 2
64203 No. 3
64204 No. 4
64205 No. 5
64206 No. 6
64207 No. 7

7

7

63401 Big Beef, The
63402 Mother-in-Law's Day
63403 Trouble or Nothing

6/ 1/46

.

D5-4 Chick and Double Chick

Excellent

'

7

bills

(8)

(18)

Good.

64107
64105
64102
64104
64106 Squatter's Rights

1945-46

NOVELTOONS

...

1/19/46

.

Funny

Strange Destiny
Good
Spreadin' the Jam
Fair
Musical Masterpieces ...Excellent

D5-I Man's Pest Friend
D5-2 Bargain Counter Attack.

....Amusing

7160 Hop Harrigan
"120 Jungle Raiders

6/ 1/46
1/26/46
.12/ 1/45

Very Funny

MGM MINIATURE

Knight for a Day
Canine Patrol
Donald Double Trouble
In Dutch
Old Sequoia
Pluto's Kid Brother..

.

Hunch
Excellent
K-771 Great American Mug.... Very Good
K-773 People on Paper
Excellent
K-775 Magic on a Stick
K-776 Our Old Car
Excellent
K-772 Stairway to Light
Good
M-781
M-782
M-783
M-784

5/46

.

Excellent

.

1/

.

Intetresting

Football Thrills of 1944.
Gettin' Glamor
Guest Pests
Sports Sticklers
Studio Visit

1/ 5/46

.

Funny
Funny

7

Celebrations) ..:
7855 No. 5 (Movie Stunt-men

..11/24/45

Good

LITTLE LULU

IO'/2

.

4/ 6/46

19

U5-5 Jasper's Derby

7752 Foxey Flatfoots
7751 Phoney Baloney
7753 Unsure- Runts

Flying

.

..12/ 1/45

7

6'/2

Cadet Cagers
Mermaid's Paradise
Rasslin' Romeos
Canine Champion
Timberland Athletes
Diving Aces

.

.

9

,

FOX & CROW

7803
7804
7805
7806
7807
7808
7809

.

9

20

U5-I Jasper and the Beanstalk. Good
U5-2 My Man Jasper
Fair

FLIPPY

etc.)

8

7

FILM VODVIL

7602 Cagey Bird
7601 Catnipped

1/46
12/ 1/45

(4)

Excellent

GEORGE PAL PUPPETOONS
.

7956 Dick Stabile & Orch
7951 Milt Britton & Band
7952 Randy Brooks & Orch
7957 Saxie Dowell and Orch
7953 Morale's Copacabana
Orchestra
7954 Three Sets of Twins
7955 Art Mooney & Orch

7801 Champion of the
7802 Puck Chasers

...

His Hand

PARAMOUNT

Show

7851

Interesting

Badminton
Bus Pests

S-756
S-753
S-759
S-757
S-751
S-755
S-752
S-754
S-758
S-760

ing in the Moonlight

7657 No. 7 (Leibert) Chickery
Chick
7658 No. 8 (Baker) Symphony
7659 No. 9 (Baker) Aren't
You Glad You're You.
7660 No. 10 (Leibert) Let It

..6/

10

The Mission Trail

A-701 A Gun

7654 No. 4 (Baker) Good,

7656 No.

7/ 6/46

Good

Still.

64101

A

EDGAR KENNEDY

K-774 Golden

My

.

,

PASSING PARADE

(Leibert)

Good, Good
7655 No. 5 (Leibert)

..

Where Time Stands

(10)

Good

..6/

PETE SMITH SPECIALTIES UO)

6

Cowboy Hit Tunes
7652 No. 2 (Baker) You

.

(12)

Excellent

17

.

4/ 6/46
1/46

9

7

Very Good ....

Guatemala
Land of Mayas
Looking at London
Merida and Campeche
Visiting Vera Cruz

A-702 Purity Squad

17

COMMUNITY SINGS

..4/ 6/46

8

of

1945-46

DISNEY CARTOONS
8

MGM SPECIALS

17

COLOR RHAPSODY

Belong to
7653 No. 3 (Don

Costa Rica.

on

18

7503 Picnic Panic
7502 Polar Playmates
7501 River Ribber

I

Calling

RKO RADIO
64103

TRAVELTALKS

18

1945-46

W-737 Hick Chick
W-738 Trap Happy
T-718
T-714
T-713
T-717
T-712
T-715
T-7II
T-716

5
6

(10)

W-731 Flirty Birdy
W-733 Quiet Please
W-732 Wild and Wooly
Fair
W-734 Lonesome Lenny
W-735 Springtime for Thomas.. Good
W-736 Milky Waif
Good

17

7438 Jiggers, My Wife!
7421 Mayor's Husband, The... Funny
Micro-Phonies
Mr. Noisy
Monkey Businessmen
Spook to Me
Funny
Three Loan Wolves
Three Troubledoers
Uncivil War Birds
Vine, Women and Song
(Billy Vine)
7224 When the Wife's Away... Good
7431 Where the Pest Begins
7411 You Can't Fool a Fool

No.

4/13/46
3/ 2/46

19

Beer Barrel Polecats
Blonde Stayed On, The

L5-5 No.
L5-6 No.

Chaps.

15

CARTOONS

Fair

Affair

15 Chaps.

METRO-GOLDWYN- MAYER

(20)

Bird in the Head
A Hit With a Miss
Ain't Love Cuckoo?

7402
7437
7407
7435
7407
7406
7405
7409

7651

7140 Who's Guilty?
Chick Carter, Detective

1946

July 20,

7

5/11/46
3/ 2/48

17

9/15/45

7
(13)

Informative

....


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PRODUCT GUIDES
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Vol. 45 No. 2
JULY 27, 1946

Public's Pleasure is our job, declares Jack Jackson
(See Page 25)
Get On "EASY STREET"!

Oh what an opening!
CAPITOL, N.Y.
WITHIN FEW DOLLARS OF ALL-TIME "POSTMAN" RECORD!

VAN JOHNSON-ESTHER WILLIAMS
LUCILLE BALL-KEENAN WYNN
"EASY TO WED"
MGM MUSICAL ROMANCE
IN TECHNICOLOR

POLICE DEPT.
THIS WAY TO

Oh Van! Oh Esther!
"Easy to Wed" is a sensation in Los Angeles extended-run and now Broadway acclaims M-G-M hit!

"Box-office sock...will rock audiences with laughter...real warm-weather special...don't dare to miss it..."
—Lee Mortimer, Daily Mirror

"Fine hot weather entertainment...on par with big Metro musicals..."
—Wanda Hale, Daily News

"Tall, cool and sparkling...effervescent screen entertainment..."
—Otis L. Guernsey, Jr., Herald Tribune

"One of those colossal entertainments for which M-G-M is most superbly equipped...it's for the big public...sure-fire for popularity..."
—Archer Winsten, Post

"Laughs, loud and happy...merry musical comedy treat..."
—Eileen Creelman, Sun

"Decidedly easy to enjoy..."
—Bosley Crowther, Times

"M-G-M with remarkable talent for deft handsome musical comedies has broken out with another one...you ought to have a very nice time seeing it all..."
—John Maynard, Journal-American

"The Capitol added another hit to its list when 'Easy To Wed' replaced 'Two Sisters From Boston' which followed 'Postman Always Rings Twice' and 'Ziegfeld Follies of 1946'. Four in a row is a lofty average."
—Herbert Cohn, Brooklyn Eagle

M-G-M presents VAN JOHNSON • ESTHER WILLIAMS • LUCILLE BALL • KEENAN WYNN in "EASY TO WED" • In Technicolor • Cecil Kellaway • Carlos Ramirez • Ben Blue • Ethel Smith at the Organ • Adapted by Dorothy Kingsley • From the Screenplay "Libeled Lady" by Maurine Watkins, Howard Emmett Rogers and George Oppenheimer • Directed by EDWARD BUZZELL • Produced by JACK CUMMINGS

TBOCFMGM —(The Big Ones Come From M-G-M)
Duryea! that fascinating tough-guy of "Scarlet Street" ... in his first starring role!
DURYEA has quite a way...

WITH THE LADIES AND THE BOXOFFICE

UNIVERSAL PRESENTS
DAN DURYEA JUNE VINCENT PETER LORRE

Millions thrilled to the best selling book!

Black Angel

with BRODERICK CRAWFORD

CONSTANCE DOWLING WALLACE FORD FREDDIE STEEL

Screenplay by Roy Chanslor Based on the Novel by Cornell Woolrich
Directed by ROY WILLIAM NEILL Produced by TOM MCKNIGHT and ROY WILLIAM NEILL
Figures that fascinate by reason of sheer weight of numbers are not revealing of the actual buying power of the motion picture market. Total number of theatres in operation contrasts sharply with total buyers—because of circuit operation.

Trade paper circulation can be made to bridge the gap between theatres in operation and number of buyers therefor by a simple process—solicitation of multiple subscriptions within one theatre or circuit unit; a process costly to the advertiser who thereby pays for unproductive distribution.

Showmen’s Trade Review assures advertisers productive distribution of sales messages directed to the buying power of motion picture theatres—Independent and circuit.

There’s No Inflation in Showmen’s Trade Review Quality Circulation of the Motion Picture Theatre Field
Return to Showmanship

Under the lush, but lulling, influences of the war boom in attendance, merchandising of pictures by theatremen almost reached the point where there just wasn't any of it being done.

Now from all parts of the country but notably from the distributor branch of the industry comes the cry: “We want more showmanship.” Well, we, and they, will get more showmanship if and when the majority rather than a small minority of theatremen get back into their merchandising stride, burn a little midnight oil devising new slants to old gags, and succeed in putting two and two together in a way to add up to ten.

There is no dearth of material in the showmanship box of tricks. (Our own Encyclopedia of Exploitation lists more than a thousand tried and tested show-selling ideas.) So, since the supply is not limited, the next move toward a recapture of the currently elusive bird, showmanship, is to get theatremen to make use of the material at hand and add to it a bit of their own touch to freshen up, custom-tailor it to their own situation and community, and give a tested stunt a new money-getting slant for their box-office.

There are many new showmen in our field today. And, sad to relate, there are thousands of old showmen whose chief activity recently seems to have consisted of opening up the doors of their theatres and then stepping aside to get away from the crowd of patrons charging into the house; meanwhile they found it neither important nor necessary to apply the very showmanship on which they built their reputations and their careers.

We don’t want to hurt anybody’s feelings—but these old timers who have been resting on their showmanship laurels will have to snap out of it and get back to planning campaigns far in advance, re-establish contacts with local merchants, the newspapers, radio and the civic groups and all others who make up the wide and numerous avenues of approach to patron interest and box-office prosperity.

We predict that some of the old timers will not make the grade and will, probably, be left by the roadside to watch the parade march past. No doubt there will be quite a few of the new and younger guys who may find the going tough after breaking in under boom business conditions when showmanship was neither utilized or demanded of them.

There is a thrill and a satisfaction that makes you feel as young as a peppy young buck when you work out a smart campaign, designed to reach a big slice of your potential patronage, and then see it pay off in receipts.

It is the kind of results that, in the future, may pay off in more than just your salary check each week. Smart operators are finding out (fortunately, many of them already know it) that a little extra bonus for helping achieve outstanding grosses is a swell way of saying “thank you” to their managers and a means of giving them a genuine incentive to do even better next time.

But don’t let the swing back to showmanship blind you to your other important responsibilities. You still have a theatre to operate, smoothly, safely, efficiently and economically. You still have a staff to train and direct. You are still the local theatre manager or exhibitor, the guy around whom revolves all or most of the town or community’s activity.

Taking on the return to showmanship work is simply returning to your former chief trade but it relieves you of none of your routine responsibilities.

It takes a combination of showman and business man to add up to a good theatreman. Do you measure up to the task and the title?

Bandwagon?

Supplementing notes on this page last week in connection with progress being made by the American Theatres Association, there was another important addition this week as the exhibitors of North and South Carolina voted in convention at Charlotte Monday to affiliate with ATA.

This adds to the lustre of what ATA has recently accomplished, notably in the fact that the action at Asbury Park last week represented a completely new organization formed to affiliate with ATA. Previously, units joining were in existence before the move into ATA. But over in Jersey, for the first time we think, the exhibitors of the Garden State instead of moving as a part of the New York exchange area, formed their own outfit. Thus Dave Weinstock, representing the Independent Theatre Owners, acted for the New Jersey members of his organization in enrolling them as members of ATA.

That meeting, it is also worth noting, was an outstanding example of open forum action in which the meeting was thrown wide open for discussion by any or all present, following formal preliminaries and after most convincing speeches by Si Fabian, president of ATA, and Bob Coyne, executive director.

(That meeting, also, enabled us to meet up again with some old acquaintances we’ve not seen and have missed these past few years, notably that grand old figure of Jersey exhibition, Adam Adams.)

—“CHICK” LEWIS
Distributors, Gov't Confer
As Decree Rumors Multiply

Little progress seems to have been made this week beyond the principles which distributors had already agreed to operate under with regard to the opinion of the statutory court in the anti-trust "selling decree" case.

Columbia announced that it would suspend selling offering part of its product either singly or in blocks (see p. 10) and acknowledged that it intends to operate under the General's office for one year's delay after the decree became effective before it would be required to put into effect all the decree's provisions. The Attorney General's office had not commented upon this week.

Meanwhile, sales managers of the "Big 5"—Paramount, MGM, 20th Century-Fox, Warner Bros., RKO—have met with Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the Attorney General, but reports that anything final had come out of these meetings are apparently erroneous. Wright declined to comment on reports that he had been presented with a formal sales plan from the "Big 5" and the impression is that past meeting with him have been more in the nature of feelers. He is to meet with the "Big 5" again in New York Tuesday. Meanwhile he denies that he is the source of stories that the government has laid down a formal plan to the distributors. He refused to comment on the conversations he had held with distributors in the past.

Twentieth Century-Fox's Tom Connors said that his company would sell singly but that "shorts are not included as far as we know. We don't know what the court means. We're trying to find out. We're all guessing. I don't know of anything more we can do until we get a notification from the court."

RKO is selling singly, making offers in groups of five but permitting the exhibitor to buy one or all. Paramount reportedly is following a similar policy. Warner is selling singly, which has been its policy.

Latest development though is the report from Memphis where M. A. Lightman of Malco Theatres is reportedly heading a group which would petition the court to change its order for single selling and allow the industry to return to block booking.

Gov't Plans Decree
Appeal to Seek Divorce

That the federal government has not aban-
doned its intention to procure theatre divorce-
ment and will seek to obtain it through an ap-
peal to the United States Supreme Court on
whatever decree the three judges decided in New York will issue, was made clear in this Washington week by Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the attorney general.

In the meantime he said the government was working to speed the final form of the decree in order to provide "injunctive relief." This relief, he added, would be needed even if divorce were finally obtained since it would take a long time to put a divorce plan into effect. Wright declared that the only thing definite about the appeal was that it would seek a rule for divorce and that any other subjects at the present moment were speculative.

"It is implicit," Wright said, "in every step we take that we are seeking a more competitive industry. So far as the proposed decree regulations are concerned, they will not be required if we achieve a truly competitive industry struc-
ture. If we succeed in winning a divorce judg-
dent, we don't care about the rest of things from the long point of view."

Schnitzer Appointed
UA Division Manager

Edward M. Schnitzer, veteran of 25 years experience in the distribution field, this week was named Eastern Divi-
sion Manager for United Artists, succeeding to the post vacated by the resign-
ation of Jack Goldhar.

Schnitzer, who joined United Artists five years ago, takes over his new duties on Aug. 2.

Announcement of the appointment was made Tuesday by United Ar-
tists General Sales Manager J. J. Unger, who previously had announced the resignation of Goldhar, who is returning to his home in Detroit where he will devote himself to private interests.

Unger's announced promotion of Jack Ellis, New York exchange manager for the past three years, to district manager in charge of Albany, Buffalo and New York.

B&H Buys Pathe Microfilm

Bell and Howell in Chicago Wednesday ac-
quired the Microfilm Division of Pathe Manu-
facturing Company, a Pathes Industries subsi-
dary, and will put F. L. Rogers in as service manager.

Screen Publicists Win

The Screen Publicists Guild this week won the right to bargain for the studio publicists in Hollywood this week in a National Labor Rela-
tions Board election which gave it a 144 to 122 vote over the Motion Picture Studio Publicists.

Jurisdictions May Go Back
To AFL, IA Head Hints

Possibility that the jurisdictional fights of Hollywood would be thrown back into the laps of the American Federation of Labor Execu-
tive Council was seen in Chicago Wednesday as Ronald Walsh, president of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, told the convention that William L. Hutchenson, presi-
dent of the AFL, Carpenters' unions would ask the AFL council to reconsider its directives assigning Hollywood jurisdictions.

Walsh told the delegates that Hutchenson had refused to abide by the AFL directives while the IATSE had done so even though it cost them jurisdiction over the Set Decorators and Painters.

The importance of this jurisdictional prob-
lem to labor was illustrated by the fact that the IATSE executive board report contained more than 15 instances of decisions involving such questions.

The convention cheered Eric Johnston, presi-
dent of the Motion Picture Association after he had bluntly told them that labor would either outlaw jurisdictional strikes or Congress would do it. Johnston predicted additional labor-man-
agement agreement labor legislation and told the delegates that the temper of this legislation would depend upon the temper of the nation which was apt to be unfriendly if labor persisted in certain policies such as jurisdictional strikes, work stoppage and "feather-bedding."

... the jurisdictional strike, Johnston said, "has done more to hurt the cause of labor than other single thing. It cannot be defended on any grounds at all. It is without justification. Public conscience has outlawed unfair means of competition whereby one business concern tries to put another out of business. Public conscience is no less determined to outlaw the jurisdictional strike. I want to say to labor that it will either outlaw the jurisdictional strike or Congress will outlaw it for labor."

The financial report showed that the IATSE has suffered $100,000 loss this year by carrying its members in the armed forces free of dues. The convention unanimously approved the re-
ports submitted to it and cheered Walsh.

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Screen Publicists Guild

The Screen Publicists Guild this week won the right to bargain for the studio publicists in Hollywood this week in a National Labor Relations Board election which gave it a 144 to 122 vote over the Motion Picture Studio Publicists.

SHOWMEN’S TRADE REVIEW
Title and Trade Mark Registered U. S. Patent Office Published every Friday by Showmen’s Trade Review Inc., 1551 Broadway, New York 19, N. Y. Telephone U. Ongrelle 1217; Charles E. Chute, Editor and Publisher; Tom Kennedy, Associate Editor; James R. Huddleston, Managing Editor; Harold Randall, Equipment Advertising Manager. Dawne L. Mews, Advertising Manager; Robert Malco, Managing Editor; Gordon V. Curie, 1 Elliott St., Honolulu, B. F. G. Malco, Advertising Manager; Walter London Representative, Jock MacGregor, 16 Lansdell Avenue, Los Angeles, Billy London Representative. Gordon V. Curie, 1 Elliott St., Honolulu, B. F. G. Malco, Advertising Manager; Walter London Representative. All content copyright 1946 by Showmen’s Trade Review Inc., New York office. Subscription rates: $3.00 per year in the United States and Canada; Foreign, $5.00. Single copies, ten cents.
**Academy to Honor Sound**

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences this week announced from Hollywood that it had set August 6 as a date for the ceremonies it will hold to honor the 20th Anniversary of Sound Pictures. The ceremony will be held at Warner's Hollywood Theatre with leading screen personalities attending along with outstanding industrial, scientific leaders. Academy President Jean Hersholt will preside and a special showing of "Night and Day" as well as the short "Okay for Sound" will be shown as part of the celebration program.

**Carolina Theatre Owners Attack Court Opinion**

A resolution authorizing its membership to join with other organizations to present its views to the court in the anti-trust opinion and a decision to affiliate with the American Theatre Association were the highlights of the mid-year meeting of the Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina held this week in Marion Hotel at Charleston.

Rowe reportedly had scant support when the matter was put to a vote, but the effect of his attack was seen in that decision to join the ATA was reached only after motion was phrased so the organization's affiliation with ATA did not compel its individual members to join the ATA or contribute to its financing.

The convention also passed resolutions congratulating Warner Bros. on the 20th Anniversary of sound and condemning the use of local checkers and of advertising films.

The opinion resolution, which declared that exhibitors "have not been sufficiently considered in the trial of the issue and the opinion handed down," was adopted after Virginia MPTO President William F. Crockett and R. A. Willy of Wilkin Theatres, Atlanta, spoke against the effects of the opinion.

The next convention may be held aboard a Bermuda bound ship.

**Texas ATA Claims 786 of 900 Theatres**

That the Texas chapter of the American Theatre Owners Association has won the support of that state's exhibitors is proved by the fact that ATA now has a membership of 786 out of 900 possible theatres, Henry Shreve, president of the Texas Theatre owners and ATA regional vice-president declared. Reeves said the ATA membership breaks down into 486 circuit houses and 306 independent.

**Loew Net High**

Loew's net profit for 40 weeks ending June 26, 1946, after taxes were deducted, amounted to $12,579,250 compared to $9,312,243 for the same period in 1945, it was revealed in New York this week. This means earnings of about $2.47 a share of common against $1.84 for the previous period.

**Lust Sues Over Appeal Board's Rule, Claims It Violates Anti-Trust Opinion**

Court attack on the decision of an arbitration appeals board—first such attack since arbitration became effective in the motion picture industry under the consent decree—was filed this week in New York before the federal statutory court which handed down the opinion in the anti-trust suit by Sidney Lust, Washington, D. C., exhibitor.

Lust claims the right of appeal direct to this three man court on the allegation that the arbitration appeals board in reversing an arbitration decision favorable to his Kaywood Gardens Theatre in Mt. Rainier, Md., outside of Washington, had disregarded the court's opinion in the anti-trust equity suit.

The appeals board, in reversing the arbitration which favored Lust, had reaffirmed the right of distributors to determine which runs should be allocated theatres in competitive areas.

Lust claims that the policy of one of the theatres in playing films immediately after another is violative of the court's expression on move-overs.

Originally Lust had been granted pictures 21 days after Washington downtown run, which brought him day and date with the Loew Bertheinhein Theatre Company's Village and Newton.

The board had declared there was no competition among these houses and had placed them all with the same availability. The appeal board reversed this, finding the situations competitive, that both the Village and Newton theatres paid more for film than did the Kaywood Gardens. When Lust filed his complaint the Village played 21 days after downtown Washington with the Newton playing after the Village. Distributors have refused Lust's house day and date with the Newton, though Loew's had offered the Lust house a run after the Village. Defendant companies were Loew's for MGM, Paramount, RKO, 20th Century-Fox, Warner Bros. and Louis Bertheinhein Theatre company.
Columbia Starts to Sell Part Product Singly or in Blocks

Columbia officially announced in New York Monday that it had resumed selling—which it had stopped several weeks ago—under a policy intended to conform to the statutory court opinion in the anti-trust suit by offering a part of its product either in its entirety or picture by picture. The new policy, which Vice President and General Manager A. Montague said had been tested for three weeks in the territory, applies to the current Columbia offering of four feature pictures, four action musicals, 10 westerns, three serials and the short subjects. This current offering is only part of Columbia’s anticipated 1946-47 program and does not include “Down to Earth” with Rita Hayworth, “Dead Reckoning” with Humphrey Bogart and Lizabeth Scott, “Gallant Journey,” “Johnny O’Clock,” with Dick Powell, “My Empty Heart” with Rosalind Russell and Melvyn Douglas, “The John Story” and others in production or planned.

Sales Highlights

Other highlights of the Columbia sales policy are:

While pictures may be bought in groups, each picture must be bargained for individually and the sale of no picture will be made conditional upon the purchase of any other picture or pictures by the exhibitor.

Exhibitors who buy blind will be allowed a cancellation privilege in accordance with the court opinion, the amount of cancellation to depend on the court decree when it is finally written. The Government has asked for 25 per cent cancellation and filmrow talk has hinted that possibly it would be 20 per cent.

Clearance, unless otherwise directed by the court, will remain unchanged for the time being.

All pictures will be tradecalled, an innovation for Columbia.

Attempts will be made to establish a minimum rental for “comparable” houses but Montague acknowledged that he had no idea what standards would determine a “comparable” house and indicated the court might have to clarify this.

Montague said that he had not stopped Columbia’s sales several weeks ago because he had advance information of what the court would decide but because under the former sales plan Columbia was not getting enough returns for its product.

He said the most obvious results of single selling would be increased costs which the exhibitor and the distributor might be called upon to share, and a shortage of new product.

Sales, he explained, would be slowed down because of the need to deal picture by picture which would add to time and travel expenses.

Production he said would also be slowed down, adding that he believed better pictures would result. He declared that this slow down would mean that exhibitors might be pressed for pictures and said that the matter might be solved by resuming, though Columbia has no reissue plan at present.

In order to clarify the new policy to its sales force, Columbia will hold a series of sales meetings, the first of which will be for three days starting Aug. 3 at the Drake Hotel in Chicago, Montague said.

Product Offered

The product covered by the new policy, classified as “Special Feature Attractions,” “Action Musical,” “The Durango Kid Series,” the serials and the shorts, follows:


Serials: “Son of the Guardsman,” “Jack Armstrong,” “The Vigilante.”

The 28 two-reelers, include the Stooges and others, and the 84 one-reelers include “Color Rhapsodies,” “Color Phantasies,” “Screen Snapshots,” “World of Sports,” “Film Novelties,” “Community Sings,” “Thrifts of Music.”

It’s Brotherly Interest

Philadelphia exhibitors aren’t the only ones in the business feeling the love who are disappointed over decreased theatre attendance. The City Fathers and the City Employees are two groups who feel the pinch.

This paternal and fraternal interest has a practical background. When the City Fathers raised the municipal admission tax on amusements from four to ten per cent, they also granted the City Employees salary raises which were to be met by the increased tax funds. Hence the mourning at the bar.

Auction Sales Invite Building, Buying Spree

(Continued from Page 9)

U International Shifts Staff and Promotes

In line with its announced policy of promotion from the ranks, Universal International Wednesday announced a series of appointments and changes. They are:

Robert E. Lury, eastern supervisor, headquartering in Singapore; Michael Bergher, far eastern supervisor; Louis Fochler, European general manager with headquarters in Paris; America Aboul, office executive; K. E. Jorgensen, manager, Denmark; Paul Wir, home office representative for China; A. Umurraga, manager, Peru and Bolivia; Gunnar Lao, Manager, Hongkong; Tony Guitella, southern district manager, France; Felix Strommers, home office; Milton Yeoman, branch operations, Ferdinand Riegel, promoted to head of Branch Operations, and the following transfers:

Herbert Tonsk from Australian field staff to Philippines manager; Saul Jacobs, from manager, Trinidad to India; Moe Rotman, from assistant manager, India, to manager, Singapore; Eric Hoskier, from manager Casablanca to manager, French North Africa; Horace Teclushing, from field staff, Trinidad; from New York office to assistant manager, Panama; Ferdinand Rigger, from home office to head of branch operations.
It’s a FACT that 20th Century-Fox is the Biggest Figure in HITS PLAYING... and the Biggest Figure in HITS AHEAD............
Wonderful NEW adventures of those wonderful boxoffice sweethearts!

DOROTHY MCGUIRE
ROBERT YOUNG

in

Claudia and David

with
Mary Astor • John Sutton • Gail Patrick
Rose Hobart • Harry Davenport • Florence Bates • Jerome Cowan • Else Janssen
Frank Twedell • Anthony Sydes

Directed by
WALTER LANG
Produced by
WILLIAM PERLBERG

Screen Play by Rose Franken and William Brown Meloney • Adaptation by Vera Caspary • From Stories by Rose Franken
Top marquee-names in a top-notch musical hit!

If I'm Lucky

VIVIAN BLAINE
PERRY COMO
HARRY JAMES
CARMEN MIRANDA

PHIL SILVERS
EDGAR BUCHANAN
Reed Hadley and
Harry James' Music Makers

Directed by LEWIS SEILER
Produced by BRYAN FOY

Screen Play by Snag Werris, Robert Ellis, Helen Logan and George Bricker • Music and Lyrics by Josef Myrow and Edgar De Lange • Dances Staged by Kenny Williams
1's for the money...
2's for the show...3's to get ready for records to go!

Three Little Girls in Blue
in Technicolor

JUNE HAVER
GEORGE MONTGOMERY
VIVIAN BLAINE
CELESTE HOLM
VERA-ELLEN
FRANK LATIMORE

Directed by
BRUCE HUMBERSTONE
Produced by
MACK GORDON

Screen Play by Valentine Davies • Adapted by Brown Holmes, Lynn Starling and Robert Ellis and Helen Logan • From a Play by Stephen Powys
Lyrics by Mack Gordon • Music by Joseph Myrow

"I Like Mika"
"On the Board Wall" (in Atlantic City)
"A Farmer's Life Is A Very Merry Life"
"Three Little Girls In Blue"
"Somewhere In The Night"
"You Make Me Feel So Young" • "Always A Lady"
"This Is Always" • Music by Harry Warren

Dances Staged by Seymour Felix
Ballets by Babe Pearce
The ho-ho-homicide-splitting best-seller by America's top mystery writer!

Craig Rice's

HOME SWEET HOMICIDE

with

PEGGY ANN GARNER
RANDOLPH SCOTT
LYNN BARI
DEAN STOCKWELL
CONNIE MARSHALL

and

James Gleason • Anabel Shaw
Barbara Whiting • John Shepperd

Directed by
LLOYD BACON
Produced by
LOUIS D. LIGHTON

Screen Play by F. Hugh Herbert
Based on the Novel by Craig Rice
Rousing, carousing spectacle!
Gun-loaded ... music-packed
... record-certain!

Darryl F. Zanuck
Presents
JOHN FORD'S

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE

Starring
HENRY FONDA
LINDA DARNELL
VICTOR MATURE

with
CATHY DOWNS
WALTER BRENNAN
TIM HOLT - Ward Bond
Alan Mowbray - John Ireland
Roy Roberts - Jane Darwell
Grant Withers - J. Farrell
MacDonald - Russell Simpson

Directed by
JOHN FORD
Produced by
SAMUEL G. ENGEL
All the songs...all the romance of the fabulous, terrific Twenties!

Darryl F. Zanuck
Presents

JEANNE CRAIN

with

GLENN LANGAN
LYNN BARI
ALAN YOUNG

and
Barbara Lawrence • Conrad Janis
Esther Dale • Hobart Cavanaugh
Ann Todd • Hattie McDaniel

Directed by HENRY KING
Produced by WALTER MOROSCO

Screen Play by F. Hugh Herbert • Based on Stories by Ruth McKenney and Richard Bransten
TYRONE POWER · GENE TIERNEY · JOHN PAYNE · ANNE BAXTER
CLIFTON WEBB · HERBERT MARSHALL in DARRYL F. ZANUCK’S
Production of W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM’S "THE RAZOR’S EDGE"
Directed by EDMUND GOULDING · Screen Play by LAMAR TROTTI
12-Channel Recorder Solves N. Y. Production

Speed on the part of Western Electric in building a 12-channel sound track for recording enables Federal Pictures to carry out its plan and produce ‘Carnegie Hall’ in its native New York locale. Producers Boris Morros and Wil- liam Le Baron said.

The new track will give the producers stereophonic or “binaural” sound, reported to be of the greatest fidelity yet developed, some 18 months before Hollywood and solves the only major problem Morros and Le Baron had in New York production since prior to its con- struction, the only recording tracks available in that city were the one channel type used by the newsreel companies.

“Carnegie Hall” will be filmed largely in the New York musical landmark with small set shots in the Fox Movietone studios. Both pro- ducers said that production costs would be about the same as those in Hollywood since the sav- ings gained would be offset by the costs of lodging the cast.

“There’s a lot of stuff,” declared LeBaron, “which can be shot better in New York than in Hollywood. This is the first time a picture conceived has come to New York on location, but I made some big productions here in the past. I produced some 50 or 60 pictures—all the Swanston pictures, ’Beau Geste,’ ’Little Old New York,’ ’When Knighthood was in Flower and the like here.”

“Carnegie Hall,” to cost $1,700,000, is the first Federal production. Others scheduled with their approximate shooting dates are: ’Carmen from Keno- sha,’ a satire on the Buzz opera, November; Victor Herbert’s ’Babes in Toy- land,’ April or March; a romance of Beet- hoven, ’My Immortal Beloved,’ September, 1947. All are to be budgeted at from $1,500,000 to $2,000,000. World premiere for ’Carnegie Hall’ may be held in that building with New York Philharmonic Society Chairman Marshall Field taking charge of the event as a benefit.

16-mm. May Solve Finn, Norwegian Under Seating

There is a serious underscoring problem in Norway and Finland which expansion of the 16-mm. field may help solve, Carl Wallman, KKO’s Scandinavian manager declared in New York during a recent visit.

Sets Up Group Insurance

Enterprise Productions this week put into effect a Group Life, Disability and Sick- ness Insurance policy for its employees, accord- ing to President Charles Einfield and Board Chairman David L. Loew. The first year’s cost will be entirely covered by Enterprise as of June 8, 1946. During the second year Enterprise will pay half the cost.

Settle Warner Ohio Strike

Strike of ushers, doormen, cashiers at War- ner’s Laroy, at Columbus, Ohio, and the Lyric at Portsmouth, O., was reported settled this week with an agreement to reinstate four dis- charged ushers and raising the hourly pay rate of 55 cents for ushers, 60 cents for doormen and cashiers and 65 cents an hour for custodians.

Cresent Starts Divestiture

Heirs of the late Anthony Sudekum this week advised the federal district court in Nashville that the Cresent Amusement Company had complied in part with the court order to divest itself of interests in five subsidiaries by withdrawing from the Cresent Amusement Company, the Ruffin Amusement Company and by dissolving the Kentucky Amusement Company.

In making the report, Cresent asked for a six month extension, which was granted, in disposing of its interests in the Cumberland and the Lyric amusement companies. Through this divestiture, W. H. Parrott is left as sole owner of Cherokee and W. H. Ruffin as sole owner of the Ruffin Amusement Company. Kentucky Amusement is replaced by a trust controlled by Robert H. Stoddard.

The divestiture marks another step in the vigorously contested anti-trust suit, first of its kind, filed against a theatre circuit by the Department of Justice. The case began in 1933 and was appealed to the United States Supreme Court.

Hyndman, On SMPE Birthday, Sees Sound as Great Contribution to Films

Development of synchronized sound or “talk- ing pictures” represents the greatest single con- tribution of scientists and engineers to the motion picture industry, Don S. Hyndman, president of the Society of Motion Pic- ture Engineers, said in New York Thursday as the organization which he heads celebrated its 30th anniversary.

Hyndman pointed out that the organization car- ries out a continuous pro- gram in which all projects are closely related and all based around the three prime objectives for which the Society was founded—standardization of equipment; advancement of motion picture en- gineering and allied arts and sciences; dissemination of scientific knowledge through publica- tion.

But, he added, the solution of technical problems which enabled Warner Bros. to launch sound pictures 20 years ago, was one of the greatest contributions “of all time” not only to “scientific” but to the “cultural and educational progress of the world.

Complete international standardization con- tinues to be an important phase of the Society’s work, Hyndman said, pointing to the work that had been done in the 35-mm. field. In the 16- mm. field the recommendations made by its non- theatrical equipment committee, headed by En- gineering Vice President John A. Maurer, has been accepted by the National Educational As- sociation as standard for school equipment and serves as a guide for the entire 16-mm. industry, Hyndman added.

The SMPE president pointed to the work done along safety lines, especially the standards for booth construction which he claims are now part of several states’ building codes, and he praised the work done by the Society’s Journal in the dissemination of information.

The SMPE was founded in Washington, D. C., on July 24, 1946 by a few engineers led by C. Francis Jenkins, Hyndman said. It now has more than 2,200 members and the extent of its expansion may be judged by the increase in its recent convention at which there were four—Cameras and Perforations, Motion Picture Theatre Electrical De- vises; Motion Picture Theatre Equipment; Opt- ics. Today there are 16—Cinematography; Color; Exchange Practice; Film Projection Practice; Laboratory Practice; Preservation of Films; Process Photography; Screen Bright- ness; 16-mm. and 8-mm. Motion Pictures; Sound; Standards; Studio Lighting; Television; Television Projection Practice; Test Film Qual- ity; Theatre Engineering, Construction and Operation.

Dutch House Books U. S. Films from MPEA

First of the Motion Picture Export Asso- ciation handled product to crash a Dutch screen apparently despite the Bioscop Bond monopoly was 20th Century-Fox’s “The Sullivan’s” which opened at the Excelsior Theatre in The Hague. The Excelsior, which is not a Bond member house, plans to follow this with United Artists “I Followed a Witch.”

In New York this week, MPEA General Manager Irving Maas said that several other Dutch houses were planning to book American product but declined to say how many. Maas also claimed that a refusal of the Dutch New- paper Association to carry advertising from theatres not members of the Bond had been broken and that the Dutch press was accepting ads for the Excelsior.

“To Be Or Not . . .”

Shakespeare said something about there being more in this world than is dreamt of in our philosophies but it took Boston to prove how far ahead of his times the Bard was.

Seems like what the good Bostonian can listen to and look at on weekdays is verboten on Sunday so the production of “Henry V” in the Hub City has to drop out some lines that are OK during the week, but too meaty for the Sab- bath.

Reason: On weekdays city censorship prevails, but on Sundays, state censor- ship is the law of the land—throughout the state. And the state censorship code apparently is different from the city censorship code.

Said another Shakespearean charac- ter: “What fools these mortals be.” At least here’s hoping that’s Shakespeare.
‘Passage’ Campaign on For N. Y., Midwest Dates

Following the recent world premiere in Portland, Oregon, of “Canyon Passage,” a synchronized advertising, publicity and exploitation campaign is being used on the Walter Wanger production for its New York and midwestern openings. Universal is using full-page four-color ads in metropolitan newspapers. Four such pages appeared in New York dailies, reaching an estimated 8 million readers.

Several radio tieups have been effected as well as three special events which are attracting wide attention. Because archery is given prominence in the picture, an archery tournament has been arranged at White Plains for the purpose of selecting the outstanding bow and arrow experts in New York.

A team of the star archers will be selected and christened the “Canyon Passage” team and a challenge for a duel of accuracy already has been accepted by the New York Yankees. At the Yankee Stadium on the evening of August 9 as the Yankees meet the Boston Red Sox before an anticipated audience of 70,000, the archers will use bow and arrow against the throwing arms of Joe Di Maggio, Tommy Henrich, Charley Keller and other strong arm ball players.

An unusual stunt has been arranged with license bureaucrats in many cities. On specified days, advance posters and flyers will be posted. Universal will pay the license fee for all couples desiring to be married at City Hall. A gigantic wedding cake will be presided over by a Powers model and she will supervise the cake cutting. Each couple will get one slice, but in one of the pieces will be a wedding band. The lucky couple will be gifted with free transportation to and from the selected honeymoon spot. Chicago already staged this program and resulted in tremendous newspaper breaks.

In New York, Universal has arranged to pages an exhibit with the American Airlines at 56th Street and Avenue of the Americas, where a DC-1 is on display. Universal will place alongside the plane a covered wagon, the same type used in “Canyon Passage,” to combine the advertising. A prize will be given every day with that of 100 years ago. The coach will travel along Broadway, in cooperation with the Police Athletic League.

“Present From Hollywood,” a quiz show, will feature a direct tieup with “Canyon Passage” for three consecutive shows. A special surprise gift will be given the winner.

For more than a month, New Yorkers have been reading signs and banners at strategic points, heralding the showing of “Canyon Passage” at the Criterion. The signs are on the Roseland Building, both on the 7th Avenue side and the Broadway and 11th Street side; the Mayfair Theatre Building, 47th St. and 7th Avenue and the Pan American Magazine Building, 46th St. and Avenue of the Americas.

Use for Door Panels

Manager Don Shane of the Paramount Theatre, Omaha, utilized the panels of his front doors for an eye-catching of cardboard discs with the copy: “The Green Years! Is a Wonderful Motion Picture.”

SHOWMAN SAM SAYS: Lucky is the man who refuses to worry. Think how nice that can be when booking a high percentage film day-and-date with the next town.

Locomobile Starts Gallant Journey

Having already garnered reams of newspaper publicity before the prospective journey began, John H. Bacon of Wellesley Hills, Mass., and his 1911 touring model Locomobile were scheduled to leave Boston last Wednesday on a nationwide drive to the Columbia studios in Hollywood where the antique vehicle will be used on the set of “Gallant Journey,” which co-stars Glenn Ford and Janet Blair. Columbia is sponsoring the cross-country trip.

Bacon will make the trip alone, driving his appropriately christened automobile (“Gallant Journey”) only during the day. The car, capable of a speed of 70 miles an hour, was purchased by Bacon last March, and expenditure for new parts and repairs brought the entire cost to $1,000. The high body and brass trimmings will draw attention in the cities and towns through which Bacon will pass. Wise showmen will be on the lookout for the man and the car. His itinerary calls for stops in Worcester, Springfield, Albany, Schenectady, Utica, Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo, Detroit, Toledo, South Bend, Cedar Rapids, Des Moines, Omaha, Cheyenne, Salt Lake City, Las Vegas and Los Angeles.

Three Showmen Win Annual Photos Award

First three winners in the annual MGM Photos of the Month Award were announced last week by William R. Ferguson, the company’s director of exploitation. The men were chosen on the basis of having received the largest number of citations for photographs of exploitation stunts on MGM product during the past 12 months.

Scheduled to receive gold Eversharp pen and pencil sets are Sam Gilman, Loev’s, Harrisburg, Pa.; Arthur Stansich, Wiscosin Theatre, Milwaukee; and Jack Mathale, J. J. Parker Theatres, Portland, Ore. Presentation of the gifts will be made by MGM executives in the local areas.

Int’l Sets Ad Budget of $3,500,000 for 1947

A 1947 national advertising and promotional budget of $3,500,000 for its eight to ten pictures to be released through United World was announced late last week by International Pictures and United World executives following a meeting attended by International’s William Goetz, William Dozier, John Beck, Jr. and Les Kaufman; and United World’s William J. Heneman and Monroe W. Greenthall.

Emphasis will be placed on key-city newspaper ads and trade paper advertising, featuring both direct-picture ads and institutional-type copy. Other media to be used include national and fan magazines, radio, billboards, national exploitation and promotion. Special stress will be placed on exhibitor relations for the disbursement of campaign funds.

Campaigns will range from $300,000 to $400,000 per film, with an estimated average of $350,000 for each picture. Extra institutional ads, promotion and stunts will be an important adjunct of the overall advertising-publicity picture.

Ready under way are promotional campaigns for Betty MacDonald’s non-fiction best-seller “The Egg and I” and “Bloomer Girl,” the recent Broadway musical-comedy hit. Details for national advertising campaigns on “The Dark Mirror” and “Bella Donna” were worked out over the weekend when Kaufman and Greenthall met with Paul Radin and Saul Bass of Buchanan & Company.

Blowitz Heads Publicity For Enterprise Films

Appointment of William Blowitz as director of publicity for Enterprise Productions was announced last week by Charles Emfield and David L. Loev, with whom Blowitz has been associated since the formation of the new producing company.

Blowitz, who has been with several major and independent studios in unit, planting, writing and supervisory capacities, was instrumental in organizing the Enterprise publicity department under way, in guiding its policies and in expanding it to its present size.

THEY'RE ALL THERE. Names with box-office power-Maureen O'Hara, Dick Haymes and Harry James—a title that provokes interest because of its namesake song and Technicolor photography are the topmost qualities of 20-Fox's "Do You Love Me." And Hank Harold of the RKO Palace Theatre, Cleveland, has pointed them up most effectively in the newspaper ad reproduced above.
Lively Contests Set 'Scandal' Atmosphere

Beauty contests have been a stand-by of motion picture publicists since time immemorial, and when that "extra" touch is added, such as measuring the ankles and calves of not-too-reluctant ladies as part of the scheme and then later, other important measurements are compared with the famous proportions of Carol Landis (um-h-h), there exists a publicity campaign that lets the local populace know that something important is going on.

So it was in Cincinnati when the American premiere of "A Scandal in Paris" took place at the Albee Theatre, with Ward Farrar for United Artists, Bob Cooper for producer Arnold Pressburger and Nathan Wise for RKO Theatres, conviving to lend a "slightly scandalous" touch to the new picture by setting up a daily contest in connection with a Man on the Street Radio program during which just the ankles and calves of contestants were measured. Those most closely approximating the measurements of Miss Landis won nylon hose. The more, shall we say intimate, contest took place at Cincinnati's Coney Island Swimming Pool when other young ladies vied to determine which contestant's er-er-measurements most closely approximated the more widely publicized anatomical features of Miss Landis.

This contest took place one day prior to the premiere and became the subject of plenty of newspaper space.

Anyhow, the contest gathered good newspaper and radio space and time for the trio of publicists who also set up a display with Albers Super Markets by which hand bills advised readers that $50 in cash and a number of guest tickets would be given to the writer of the best 25-word sentence on "Why I Like Lipton's Tea." This also brought a flood of response.—Cl.

Displays Critics' 'Raves'

Critical "raves" were featured on a 30x40 lobby display by Steve O'Bryan, Auburn, N. Y., as part of his campaign on the showing of MGM's "The Last Chance" at Schine's Jefferson Theatre.

'SMOKEY' HANDICAP. Alan Young, Canadian radio and motion picture star, is shown here with two jockeys prior to a "Smoky" Handicap Race at Lansdowne Park, Vancouver, B. C. Young, whose first picture is 20th-Fox's "Margie," was brought into the Handicap Race stunt through arrangements of Ivan Ackery, manager of the Vancouver Orpheum.

Thacher Uses Clever Campaign on 'Tracy'

Extra dividends for a small expenditure plus a large share of inventiveness were the results of an ace campaign staged by Manager Herb Thacher of the Hamilton Theatre, Lancaster, Pa., for RKO Radio's "Dick Tracy."

Three weeks before opening date a special lobby display was constructed and attracted much advance interest. This consisted of a miniature stage (7x9 feet), with a background consisting of skyline suggesting a large city at night. In order to heighten the effect, street lights were rigged up using flashlight bulbs. In the center foreground was the figure of Dick Tracy, made of plastic. Tracy's hat was obtained from a man's store where it was used with gift certificates. Tracy was portrayed in motion, gun in hand, with the prone "body" of a woman in the foreground. A miniature 3-sheet was posted on a building to the left offering a $5000 reward for the capture of "Splitface."

At one of the regular Saturday morning kiddie shows, prizes were offered to children bringing in the largest number of old newspapers containing the "Dick Tracy" cartoon sheets. Idea was to create word-of-mouth advertising in the children's homes and provide theatre with "Dick Tracy" strips to be used for the lobby display background. There were all excess papers going to the salvage depot.

At another Saturday morning kiddie show, a prize contest was announced for the best drawing of the cartoon slenth. This was tied up with the local papers using an ad on the cartoon page adjoining the "Dick Tracy" cartoon strip.

Two weeks in advance a three-sheet was posted to the lobby door just inside the entrance doors. A display was also made up with stores selling comic magazines, using stills and copy.

Florist Streamers Give 'Orchids' to 'Green Years'

Streamers extending "Orchids to The Green Years" were placed on the windows of 200 florists for the Chicago engagement of the MGM film at the United Artists Theatre. To the city's public library system of 60 public libraries went 40,000 bookmarks.

Jimmy Savage, publicity director of the United Artists, was assisted by Bill Green, MGM's Chicago exploiter.

Promotes Coop Ad

When Howard Hughes' "The Outlaw" played at Schine's Oconomowoc Theatre, Oconomowoc, N. Y., Manager Harold de Grav tied up with a local drug store for a cooperative five-column by 15-inch ad. Most of the space was devoted to a head of Jane Russell.

Star's Red Hair Is Basis For Kids' Sketch Contest

An old exploitation favorite was used to great advantage by Matt L. Saunders of Loew's-Poli in Bridgeport, Conn, for the engagement of "Renegades," when he conducted a children's contest with the help of the Bridgeport Sunday Post. "Renegades" is in Technicolor, so Saunders took advantage of this fact. Evelyn Keyes, the star, has red hair, so the Post printed her picture in the coloroto section, with an invitation to the children to submit to the theatre a crayon or water-color copy of the illustration. The ten best entries received pairs of guest tickets.—BRT

Pullman Cooperates

Cashing in on the theme of RKO Radio's "Without Reservations," Louis Mayer, manager of the RKO Palace in Chicago, assisted by Bill Prager, RKO field man, held a special screening for executives of the Pullman Company. As a result, the executive vice-president of the company sent a memorandum to all his employees, calling their attention to the engagement and requesting that the memo be posted on the bulletin board.

SHOWMAN SAM SAYS: "State Fair" seems to have started a back-to-the-farm movement. All the companies are putting out those rural musicals.

ELABORATE FRONT DISPLAY. Robert Marhenke, manager of the Mayfair Theatre, Baltimore, Md., is credited with having designed this elaborate front display for the recent engagement of PRC's "The Wife of Monte Cristo" at his theatre. Note vertical panel of stills at right end of the display.
PROLIFIC PROJECTIONIST BUILDS FRONT. Besides knowing how to operate his projection machines, Jack Snider of the Mark Theatre, Oshawa, Ontario, also has a flair for building outstanding theatre fronts. Utilizing cutouts from the one-, three- and six-sheets on Columbia’s “The Bandit of Sherwood Forest,” Snider erected the impressive false front shown above. The prolific projectionist works under the direction of Manager Mel Jolley.

Opéra (Melchior), Comedy (Durante) Join to Make ’2 Sisters’ Campaign

There seems to be no doubt about it: a big opera star and/or a big comedian offer a fine chance for exploitation. Witness the campaign set up by Lou Cohen of Loew’s Poli-Hartford for “Two Sisters from Boston.” This picture has in it both Lauritz Melchior, tenor star of the Metropolitan Opera, and Jimmy Durante, baritone (?) star of Broadway hotspots (remember the Plantation, kids?).

Recently Done Things

Luckily for Mr. Cohen, these two estimable gentlemen have recently done things that tie in very well with the picture. Mr. Melchior completed a new album of records for RCA Victor, while Durante has succeeded in living long enough to celebrate his 30th year in show business. These two unrelated facts just about made the Hartford “Two Sisters from Boston” campaign.

Cohen put over a triple tieup on the record thing. He had an agreement with the RCA Victor distributor for his part of New England. Durante, of course, was given a part of the album roundabout. Then RCA Victor did its part by paying for a printable ad naming all the stores.

Durante’s section of the exploitation came through a half hour of his songs played over station WTHH, a contest planted in the Hartford Times giving guest tickets to those who could give the first names of Durante’s partners in their original vaudeville act (try it yourself), and finally all the papers came through with special stories on the comedian’s 30th anniversary. For he had all recently attended the Durante party held in New Haven.

Other more usual promotions included fashion and beauty window tieups on Kathryn Grayson and June Allyson, a large distribution of special cards, and life-size lobby cut-outs put in place two weeks before opening.

Credits for Success

Extensive newspaper advertising, advance lobby displays and the distribution of “fake checks,” indicating to the bearer that the show was the last gasp in horror, were credited for the success of a midnight stage show, “Asylum of Horrors,” staged by Gerry Wollaston at the State Theatre, Harrisburg.—HA.

Novelty Heralds Used

Novelty heralds delivered house to house were used by Thor Hauschild, manager of Schine’s Arcade Theatre, Cambridge, Md., on Monogram’s “Black Market Babies.”

SHOWMAN SAM SAYS: Far as I’m concerned I’m in favor of lower prices for meat, mowing machines or what-have-you. The less they pay for that stuff, the better able they’ll be to attend my theatre.

Harry Rose Gets Space, Proves Mottoists Right

There are ways and means of accomplishing almost anything in this world, according to those fellows who write mottoes, and although we don’t believe it applies to most businesses, it is certainly true for the business of exploitation. For instance, suppose you couldn’t get the editor of the local paper to run your advance story. What would you do?

Well, Harry A. Rose of the Loew-Poli Majestic in Bridgeport, Conn., ran into this situation in connection with “Young Widow,” which stars Jane Russell, now much before the public eye in “The Outlaw,” or should we say: so much of whom is before the public eye?

At any rate, the editor said he already had a story on Miss Russell in his regular syndicated Hollywood column and could not run another. That was all right, but there naturally was no tiup in the story with the Majestic Theatre. Harry got the ways and means working and came up with a scene mat from the picture. Then he prevailed upon the editor to run the resulting cut over the syndicated story. There had to be a caption, and that is where the theatre plug came in. The impression collected by the reader was that the story had been specially written in Hollywood.

Fake Currency Exhibits to Publicize ‘Gloved Hand’

By special permission of the U. S. Treasury Department, photographs of genuine and counterfeit money will be used by Columbia in publicity and exploitation for “The Gloved Hand.”

The stills were photographed under the direct supervision of a U. S. Secret Service agent, and show Anita Louise, Robert Scott and Helen Koford, of “The Gloved Hand” cast, and Producer John Haggart and Director John Sturges, demonstrating various methods of detecting fake currency and coins.

In addition, the Secretary of the Treasury granted authority for Secret Service field directors in key cities throughout the country to set up, in the lobbies of theatres showing the Columbia film, Government exhibits of methods of detecting spurious money.

SWELL WINDOW. No hurried work went into this window for the showing of Harry A. Rose’s “Two Sisters From Boston” at Loew’s Theatre, Rochester, N. Y. It all seems to have been well thought out before having been put together. Credit Lester Pollock, manager of the theatre, for the promotion.

GILMAN’S WINDOW. Armed with pen-and-ink sketches, stills and posters, Manager Sam Gilman of Loewes’s Regent, Harrisburg, promoted this window display in the Green Store on United Artists’ “A Night in Casablanca.”—HA.
Universal proudly presents Walter Wanger's "Canyon Passage", a distinguished motion picture. From the significant pages of Ernest Haycox's best-selling novel and Saturday Evening Post serial, it brings to the screen the power, daring, and virile magnificence of one of America's most glorious eras. Guided to greatness by producer Walter Wanger, Universal feels assured that it will claim an honored place with this industry's most noteworthy entertainment contributions.
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SWELL WINDOW. No hurried work went into this window for the showing of MGM's "Two Sisters From Boston" at Loew's Theatre, Rochester, N. Y. It all seems to have been well thought out before having been put together. Credit Lester Pollock, manager of the theatre, for the promotion.

was the last gasp in horror, were credited for the success of a midnight stage show, "Asylum of Horrors," staged by Gerry Wollaston at the State Theatre, Harrisburg.—HA.

Novelty Heralds Used

Novelty heralds delivered house to house were used by Thor Hauschild, manager of Schine's Arcade Theatre, Cambridge, Md., on Monogram's "Black Market Babies."

SHOWMAN SAM SAYS: Far as I'm con-
cerned I'm in favor of lower prices for meat, mowing machines or what-have-you. The less they pay for that stuff, the better able they'll be to attend my theatre.

GILMAN'S WINDOW. Armed with pen-
and-ink sketches, stills and posters, Manager Sam Gilman of Loew's Regent, Harrisburg, promoted this window display in the Green Store on United Artists' "A Night in Casablanca."—HA.
The living, loving, fighting drama of the men and women who blazed the trail through our great Northwest!

This is the dramatic 24-sheet designed by Michael Kady, the noted magazine illustrator.
IT TAKES ALL KINDS OF EXCITEMENT TO MAKE BOX-OFFICE RECORDS—
"Canyon Passage" has it!

EXCITING CHARACTERS!

ADVENTURE!

ACTION!

ROMANCE!

ACTUALLY FILMED IN THE RUGGED BEAUTY OF OREGON...

SPLENDOR!

IN TECHNICOLOR

Sat. Eve. Post Serial and Best-Selling Book!
**Extensive Radio Time for 'Tomorrow' at Lexington**

Bob Cox, manager of the Kentucky Theatre, Lexington, concentrated his exploitation attention on the music of "One More Tomorrow" and obtained an extensive lineup of radio breaks in advance of opening. A tieup was made with station WLAP to feature the theme song on several different programs, both disc and live broadcasts. A man-on-the-street trip also resulted in numerous plugs for the film and song on a pass arrangement. Selection of "One More Tomorrow" as the station's Song of the Week brought additional air publicity.

Another radio deal with a newly opened music shop had the theme song featured on a half-hour broadcast opening night, tying in with the store's window display of RCA Victor records.

Among the principal window displays was an elaborate arrangement of bathing suits featuring Ann Sheridan, Alexis Smith and Jane Wyman at Purcell's, the city's largest store.

Another source of display and distribution of 35 cards with the following text: In Your Opinion What This Country Needs Is . . .

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**Jail Gets First Call**

Not satisfied with running a simultaneous series of world premieres in leading Missouri cities for its new musical, "Down Missouri Way," PRC Pictures now plans a pre-premiere (can that be right?) at the Missouri State Penitentiary on July 31. Gov. Phil M. Donnelly and PRC President Harry H. Thomas will be there—no, we don't mean as prisoners. They say it's the first time a picture has been premiered in a prison.

1. A good 5-cent cigar. 2. More fast horses and beautiful women. 3. Movies with more laughs and entertainment in them like "One More Tomorrow."

**Gay 90s Stunt**

With the organist and an animated slide singer dressed in costumes of the Gay 90s. Manager George Peters had an effective in-the-theatre advance stunt for MGM's "Two Sisters From Boston." The audience enjoyed it thoroughly.

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**Stoltz in Kansas City For Premiere Talks**

Arnold Stoltz, PRC advertising and publicity director, was in Kansas City this week attending pre-world premiere conferences on "Down Missouri Way," the company's new musical which opens simultaneously in all leading Missouri cities on August 1:

Stoltz is meeting with PRC sales executives Hill Sherman, Beverly Miller and Max Roth, west coast publicity director Robert Goodfried, exploitation man Lige Brien, Buchanan & Co.'s account executives Charles Amory, Fox Midwest Theatres executive Lon Cox, and M. L. Plessner, advertising manager of Fanchon & Marco Theatres.

Following completion of the Kansas City talks, Stoltz heads for St. Joseph and St. Louis to set up premiere arrangements in those cities.

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**Herald Cost Reduced**

Bob Anthony, of Schiefe's Piqua Theatre, Piqua, Ohio, sold the back page of the herald on Columbia's "Gilda" to a shoe merchant. Thus the herald's cost was considerably reduced.

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**Press Book Ads and Theater-Created Ads Compared**

An article on Motion Picture Advertising in the recent Anniversary Edition of Showmen's Trade Review brought out the fact that advertising men in the home offices of the distributor companies continually inquire why so many theatres insist in making up their own advertising copy when the campaigns provided by the distributors in press books are pretty much of a constantly good "professional" job from the standpoint of copy, illustration and layout. The article also stressed the fact that the men who made up the ads are show-wise specialists in their game who develop the most potent line of approach for the sale of a particular picture.

It also was pointed out that for a general average, perhaps the home-office advertising men are right and that it might be better, in most cases, if theatres were to use the distributor-planned advertising instead of working up their own. This did not, nor does it now mean to imply that experts in theatre advertising should not develop a theme that might do a better job of selling for their own purposes than that originally provided in the press books. Illustrations were used to indicate that such special situations had done expertly well for themselves.

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**New Comparison**

Another case in point has come forth lately in the creation of a substitute campaign for RKO Radio's "Deadline at Dawn," by Howard Jameyson and Dean Hysell of National Theatres, "for situations which offer unusual potentialities through specially exploitation-tailored campaigns. . . ." The campaign has been offered to National Theatres showmen through the medium of a special ad supplement in Action, a National Theatres publication.

It will be interesting for theatremen to compare the accompanying illustrations from both campaigns and to draw whatever conclusions their advertising experience and taste dictates.

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The two top ads are examples of home-office advertising art and copy as presented to theatres through the medium of RKO Radio's press book for "Deadline at Dawn." Those just above were made up by National Theatres.
OMAHA

Jim Castle, Paramount publicity chief from Kansas City, stopped in Omaha en route to California for a vacation.

Sophie Volkert, inspectress at Paramount, is in St. Joseph Hospital for an operation.

Barbara Gregg, Warner Brothers filling clerk, is vacationing in the South.

Mama DeLand, RKO steno, is spending her two weeks in Los Angeles.

Jennie Stokes, MGM's head inspectress, is in California on vacation.

The home of Dorothy Pratt, Columbia biller, was the site of a dinner last week.

Hugh Braly, Denver Paramount district manager, was in Omaha.

George McDonald, former RKO-Brandeis employee, is pinch-hitting at the theatre during vacation time.

Omaha Variety Club members and their friends will stage a picnic August 5 at Peony Park. Exchanges will close at 3 p.m. on that Monday.

Wynona Kennedy, Paramount comptometer operator, has returned from her Lake Okoboji vacation. Regina Healy and Irene Kosut, coworkers, spent the weekend there again.

Mildred Stiller, 20th-Fox inspectress, is out of the hospital.

Will Singer, RKO-Brandeis manager, is in Chicago for a couple of weeks.

Joy Parshus, head of the 20th-Fox inspection department, will combine a vacation with a leave of absence until September 1.

Harris Kuntzelman, Fox head shipper, is vacationing in Milwaukee and Chicago.

William Miskell, Tri-States district manager, spent a week in Sioux City. His district currently is leading in the company's Thirteenth Anniversary sales drive.

Mildred Coombs, 20th-Fox office manager, and Karl Rye of Mason City, la., were married in Mason City. The couple will live in Mason City.

Elizabeth Martin, Fox record clerk, is vacationing in Texas.

Jean Wildfang, Columbia stenographer, is spending two weeks at her home in Imperial, Neb.

Adolph Rozanek, Crete exhibitor who spends most of the year in Illinois, visited along the Row.

Jim Redmond, city manager for Tri-States at Falls City, was in town during his vacation.

WASHINGTON

The Variety Club Annual Golf Tournament and Dinner Dance will be held on August 29 at the Manor Club. Co-chairmen for the affair are Carter T. Barron and Sam Galanty. Others on the committee include George A. Crouch and Sam Wheeler, Tickets and Reservations; Herbert Sauter, Dinner; Harry Bachman and Jerry Price, Handicaps; Nathan D. Golden, Out-of-Town Guests; Arthur Jacobson, Jack Foxx and George Nathan, Reception.

MGM Vacation News: Head Cashier Anna Ridgely, Billing Clerk Ruth Pumphrey, Head Inspectress Hazel McLeman and Shipper Aaron Armentout now vacationing; Booker Victor Wallace just returned from a two-week motorizing trip to New York and Connecticut; Mae Manger returned from a vacation; Billing Clerk Audrey Pouls finished up her vacation by attending her cousin's wedding at the Hamilton Hotel; and Cashier Esther Blendman and her husband enjoyed the week-end by driving along the Skyline Drive and touring the Shenandoah Valley.

Louis Hall, manager of Warner's Home Theatre, resigned because of ill health. And Jack Smith, former assistant manager of the Kennedy Theatre, has replaced Ray Powell as assistant to John Marcon at the Metropolitan.

Mary Ellen Petrone, Columbia assistant biller, has been spending her week-ends sailing on the Potomac.

The Howard Theatre has had a benefit performance for the Children's Hospital Building Fund, with a show a sellout.

Carter T. Barron, co-chairman with Sam Galanty for the Variety Club Football Committee called a meeting on Friday, July 12 in the Cabinet Room of the Willard Hotel to set plans and procedures for the Annual Charity Game between the Washington Redskins and the Carolina Bears at the Municipal Stadium in Baltimore on September 22. Present were, in addition to the co-chairmen, Frank Boucher, Executive Coordinator for Washington and Baltimore; A. H. Lightman, Fred Kogod, Jack Flax, Max Cohen, Leon Makover, Clark Davis, Harry Coonin, Nathan Golden, Jack Fruchtman, Dr. Sylvan Danzansky, J. O'Leary, Bill Strickland, Fred Klein, Dorothy Kolinsky, Secretary. Also present were Dick O'Connell and Fred Schanberger, of the Baltimore Tent.

Ray Brooks, Columbia home office representative, was a recent Washington visitor at the local exchange.

CINCINNATI

Albert Dazel, franchise owner for Film Classics and the Screen Guild, was in Cincinnati during the week on business. He left last Saturday for his home office in Detroit.

The West Virginia Theatre Managers Association recently opened an office in Cincinnati. Rube Shor has been appointed executive manager of the association.

Admission prices in the majority of neighborhood theatres will be upped five cents starting August 4, F. W. Huss Jr. of Associated Theatres reports.

The Dixie Theatre for colored patrons reopened July 14 after being closed for two weeks for redecorating. Tony Mirrin, manager of the Dixie, just got back from New York.

George Waddell, manager of the Royal Theatre, is all set for a two-weeks' vacation, Ray Piccola, manager of the Hiland Theatre, Port Thomas, Ky., has returned from a Chicago vacation.

Sam Oshry, RKO office manager, was married June 27 to Miss Patricia Weber of Monterey, Calif.

Albert Aaron, Charleston, W. Va., and C. F. Pflister were visitors in Cincinnati during the past week.

This week's vacationists from the MGM office include Madeline Cuelco, in Washington and New York; June Beck, at Miami Beach; Margaret Weller, at Paris, Ky., and Bette Hill, at Geneva-on-the-Lake, Cleveland. Berry Greenberg, MGM, has just returned from an auto trip to California. Vincent Flynn is returning to sales duty with MGM after leaving service.

Irene Sagel, secretary to J. J. Grady, district manager of 20th-Century-Fox, recently returned from a visit in New York. While there she saw her sister off for Germany for a reunion with her husband.

The New Oxford Theatre, Oxford, Ohio, recently changed hands. The house was transferred from Mrs. Ella B. Keen, widow of the former operator, to Charles A. Williams, Oxford. The theatre has been leased for four years to the Whitington Amusement Co., owned by Nat Galley, builder and owner of the Miami-Western Theatre, Oxford, and owner of three theatres in Greater Cincinnati.

Sid Bell of the Columbus territory of United Artists is resigning because of ill health. He is a former captain in the Intelligence Corps. Mannie Trautenberg, formerly a booker and salesman for RKO, will replace him. Trautenberg served in the Navy as an Ensign.

SAN FRANCISCO

Harry Mandel, national director of advertising and publicity for RKO Theatres, is visiting in San Francisco with his family.

Tom Bridge, Paramount salesman, has been named the new sales manager for the local branch. He replaces Henry Hantranidi, who is being transferred to Portland as branch manager for Paramount.

Hal Honore, assistant general manager for the George M. Mann Theatres, is the editor for the organization's new publication, The Bamboo
Telegraph. The publication is published once a month and has eight pages of circuit news.

Robert Corbin, manager of the Golden Gate Theatre, recently celebrated his birthday. Currently on vacation are Lena Massa, contract clerk and Mrs. Mattie Rogers, inspector at Paramount exchange; Marion Hawley, bookkeeper, and Dan Beck, salesman at B. F. Sissler Company; Jean Robinson, switchboard operator at Blumenfeld Theatres; Luella Frazier, poster clerk at the Fox Exchange; Universal Cashier Helen Roberti; Phillip Cooley, Republic cashier; Beatrice Seydell, bilier, and Helen McCoy, assistant booker at Monogram. A new hobby, marquee, rest rooms, and general improvements will be made by Ben Levin for his Roosevelt Theatre. About $30,000 is expected to be spent in the program. Otto A. Deichman is in Seattle and the architect.

Mel Huling, Monogram division manager, is in Seattle and Portland on business.

James Hansen and Jack Rohr plan to open the California Theatre in Kerman, California on August 6. Frank Panero will open his Sierra Theatre in Delano on July 31.

Back from their vacations are Helen Rice, head inspector at MGM; Joe Cannon, cashier, Kay Young, bilier, at Warner Brothers and Harold Atkinson, shop mechanic at B. F. Shearer Company.

Sam Gordon, former San Francisco exhibitor, was visiting on film row. Gordon operated the American Theatre here and the Rafael Theatre in San Rafael about fifteen years ago. He owns the Fox Theatre building in Napa.

Improvements totaling $10,000 are planned for the Varsity Theatre in Davis, California. New seats are now being installed by the Walter G. Predrey Company.

CLEVELAND

Bernard Kranze and Edward Catlin took the spotlight here last week, both by reason of change and promotion. Kranze, RKO eastern central district manager since 1942, resigned to join United Artists as eastern division sales manager and assistant to vice president and sales manager William Heineman. Formal announcement of his resignation was made to district branch managers by Nat Levy, RKO sales manager, at a meeting held here last Thursday. At the same time Levy announced the appointment of Milton E. Cohen, RKO Detroit branch manager, as successor to Kranze. Cohen’s successor in Detroit was not named. Kranze has been with RKO since 1930, at which time he was New York city salesman.

Edwin Catlin has been with the local Warner exchange for more than twenty years, starting as poster clerk for the old First National exchange, and going up to assistant booker, booker, salesman, and now branch manager. His successor as city salesman, Oscar Kantor, is in charge of a testimonial dinner to be given for Catlin at the Statler Hotel on July 29.

Mrs. Betty Bluffstone has resigned from Universal to join the Columbia booking staff.

George Dehis, district manager for the A. G. Constant circuit, was welcomed home from a two-month visit in his native Greece at a dinner held last Wednesday at the Belden Hotel, Canton. Of the more than 80 guests, at least forty were film men of Cleveland, Akron and Canton, including district managers, branch managers and salesmen. Lester Zucker, Columbia branch manager was mc. Associated Circuit, one of the largest independent theatre circuits in this area, will hold its annual clambake on August 20 at the Lake Shore Country Club. Jimmy Kelafat, circuit booker, is in charge of arrangements.

William N. Skirball, head of the Skirball Brothers circuit, flew in from his west coast ranch.

Max Greenwald’s Geneva Theatre, a new 1000-seat house at Geneva-on-the-Lake, opened last week-end.

Emily Fritchle, wife of M. H. Fritchle, manager of the Oliver Theatre Supply Company, is back home from the Cleveland Clinic.

Arthur Greenblatt, Monogram sales manager, dropped in for a brief visit with local franchise owner Nate Schultz. Alex Schimel has joined the local Universal sales force, covering the river territory unrepresented since the resignation of Norman Levin. Schimel was transferred here from the Boston office.

Irv Shiffman, one time local United Artist salesman, has been added to the Republic sales personnel.

Hazel Mack of National Screen Service and her mother, inspector at United Artists, are vacationing at Yosemite National Park.

Theodore Zobell, Republic auditor, has completed his work in the local exchange and is now in Indianapolis.

PHILADELPHIA

Dave Statler, assistant contact manager of the Warner Bros. Theatres, cracked up in his automobile just as his vacation was winding up, and is in serious condition at the Frankford Hospital.

William Goldman’s new theatre at 15th and Chestnut, will probably open within the next few weeks, with the new Bob Hope picture “Monsieur Beaucaire” having its world premiere there. No name has been given the theatre, and the letters of the name to be inserted in the upright will probably be one of the final acts in the completion of the theatre.

The Fellowship House of Philadelphia was $800 richer by reason of a contribution from RKO branch manager Charles Zagrains, as part of the receipts on “The House I Live In,” non-profit short distributed by the company. The exhibitors in the area had helped considerably by looking the short practically 100 per cent, consequently placing district manager Bob Folliard’s area first nationally in the RKO sales competition.

The realignment of the sales force at RKO under branch manager Dew Sandy, finds Frank Hansenman, city salesman; Slim Ginsberg, Harrisburg; Hugo Formato, New Jersey and Delaware, and Clem Rock, Wilkes-Barre and Scranton salesman.

Hal Seidenberg, managing director of the Fox Theatre and Building, is vacationing in the Poconos and New England, after the strenuous campaign in connection with the premiere of “Centennial Summer.”

Larry Agier has replaced Ralph Pielow as assistant district manager to 20th Century-Fox’s Peppiatt.

Bernie Abramson, assistant purchasing agent for the Warner Bros. Theatres, is leaving to go to Florida. Just out of the Army, Bernie will live in the south, and open a business. His wife Anne, who works at the 20th Century-Fox exchange, will follow him down there sometime in September.

Thomas Speck, manager of the Trans-Lux Theatres, is now the father of a baby boy.

Paramount’s Eastern Division Manager, Earl S. Sweigert, is up and around, after a short session in the hospital, during which he had a general checkup, and had a strep infection in his ear cleared up.

Harry, Jack and Major Albert Warner will be cited by the Poor Richard Club on the 20th Anniversary of their bringing sound to the motion pictures screens, in Atlantic City, on August 6th.

The staff of Monogram pictures has adopted a family in Holland. The gang sends food and necessities through the Bami Brith.

NEW ORLEANS

The first meeting of all feminine workers in the film colony was held last week. Its purpose was to later organize a “Become Acquainted Club,” which would later become a friendship club for all members to present their ideas and make suggestions for the betterment of the industry’s personnel. Connie Black, secretary to W. A. Prewitt, Jr., was chosen as temporary chairman, and Dorothy Caliva of Ferrara & Quigley as temporary treasurer. Twenty girls responded, and attended this first meeting and voluntarily offered their dues of $1.00 per month. It was agreed that anyone joining after September 30, 1946, will be charged an initiation fee of $1.00, and that the first Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. be set aside for their meetings.

Mr. and Mrs. William Goodrow have left New Orleans for San Francisco to make it their permanent residence. He was associated here with his father, F. F. Goodrow of Quality Films to enter the film distribution field on the West Coast.

Charles Waterall of Frichard, Ala., was seen leaving Film Row with his car loaded with supplies and equipment which he purchased at National Theatre Supply Company. Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer holds their annual picnic on Wednesday, July 17, at Morgan’s Pool, Abita Springs, La.

Out of town exhibitors here were J. H. Nash of Cecilia Theatre, Breau Bridge, La.; Mr. (Continued on Page 18)
SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, July 27, 1946

REGIONAL NEWSREEL

(Continued from Page 17)
Solomon of Marion & Columbia theatres, Columbia, Miss.; Lloyd Wolf, Star Theatre, Tyler, town Films; and Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Howard and son, Clinton, and Jackson, La.; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Ketchum, Texarkana, Tex.-Ark.; V. L. Thibeaux, McComb Theatre, Lafayette, La.; Al Randall, Fern Theatre, Woodville, Miss.; Ernest Delahaye, Tate & Gwen Theatres, Maringouin, La.; O. J. Gaude, Magic Theatre, Port Allen, La.; Bill Terrell, Joy Theatre, Roseland, La.; Claude Darce, Opera House, Morgan City, La.

Milton Guidry and V. L. Thibeaux of Light- ning Film Delivery Service announced that they have taken over the recently formed Gulf States Delivery Service.

Jack Pope, district manager of the Joy Theatre Circuit, spent several days here at the home office.

Charles Delas, co-owner and manager of the Grand, Baby Grand and Harlem theatres of Thibodaux, La., is well on the road to recovery after receiving serious injuries a few weeks ago in an automobile accident. Mr. Delas is also mayor of Thibodaux.

Frank Franzois, newly appointed manager of the New Exchange here, is in Atlanta for a special conference with Katz Bros. and managers of their exchanges in Charlotte, Memphis, Washington, D. C., and Atlanta.

TORONTO

A physical start has been made, at last, on the erection of the Odeon Theatre in Toronto, which is to be Arthur Rank's ace house in the Dominion, following the granting of a municipal permit to General Theatres Realty Limited.

Because of his work in producing a special short subject dealing with the 60-year history of the municipality for its recent jubilee celebration, the City of Vancouver, B. C., has awarded a citation to Win Barron, director of promotion for Paramount Film Service Limited, Toronto. The award has been forwarded to Mayor R. H. Saunders of Toronto for formal presentation to Barron who is also narrator for the Canadian Paramount News.

A warrant has been issued by the Federal Justice Department, Ottawa, through the R.C.M.P., for Miss Freda Linton, ex-secretary to John Grierson, former general manager of the National Film Board, on charges of espionage in Canada in behalf of the Soviet. It is reported that she had disappeared and it is believed she had taken flight to a foreign country.

Following the presentation of the budget in the Canadian Commons by Finance Minister J. L. Ilsley, which brought no reduction in the Federal excise war tax of 20 per cent on theatre receipts, the trading price on Canadian stock exchanges for Famous Players common has declined from 22½ to 20 dollars. The stock touched a new low at 19¼ on the Montreal exchange July 19 but returned to 20 before the close of trading.

I. H. Allen has resigned as Ontario branch manager of Eagle-Lion of Canada at Toronto to take an important post with another Canadian company. It has been announced that Robert Johnson has resigned as salesman with Monogram Pictures of Canada to become branch manager at Montreal for Eagle-Lion.

Oldtimers of the Toronto film trade greeted the return of Bill Bach who had spent years in England after being an executive with Canadian Universal at Toronto during the early stages of the industry. Bach made a point to go to Oshawa to meet an old friend, James Foy, now manager of the Regent Theatre there.

 Shortly after the sale of the Kent Theatre, Lindsay, Ont., which had been in the family for practically 40 years, to 20th Century Theatres, Toronto, the death occurred at Lindsay of Miss Lillian J. Edmonds. She had been associated with her father in the operation of the Kent until her death almost 20 years ago and had since been active in its management. Surviving are six sisters and a brother.

Once an outstanding star of Canadian tennis, the wife of Frank Fisher, Toronto, Western Division general manager of Odeon Theatres of Canada, performed a brilliant comeback, after a lengthy layoff, in the Eastern Canadian Championships at the Toronto Tennis Club. Mrs. Fisher was a member of the pair to capture the ladies doubles championship and was the runner-up for the ladies singles title.

Joe Plottel, assistant general sales manager of Monogram Pictures of Canada, headed by O. R. Hanson, left Toronto July 19 for a business tour of the Canadian West with information derived from the Monogram sales convention in Chicago.

Charles S. Chaplin, Canadian district manager of United Artists, has returned to Toronto from a tour of the Eastern Maritime Provinces. Meanwhile, Toronto friends have received word that Dave Coplan, formerly in the United Artists post in Canada, has returned to England to resume duties as managing director at London after a lengthy stay in North America.

Canadian Tent No. 28 of Variety Clubs of America, under Chief Barker J. J. Fitzgibbons, held a business meeting July 24 following a dinner at the King Edward Hotel, Toronto, to initiate more members and to hear of progress in the securing of permanent club quarters.

VARIETY CLUB DINNER HONORS COL. McGRAW. Col. William McGraw of Texas was honored by the Variety Club at a dinner held last week at the Congress Hotel in Chicago. Shown here at the speaker's table are (seated, I-r) Chief Barker, Jack Rose, Col. McGraw, Irving Mack and Eddie Brunell; (standing, I-r) Henri Eilman, Dick Sachsel and Harold Stevens.

DENVER

Mickey Gross, manager of the Orpheum here for several years, and connected with RKO for 19 years, has resigned and has left on a six weeks trip around the country with his wife and future owner, who is taking an extended leave of absence from his job as Orpheum publicity director after selling his interest to the Orpheum Co. At the end of the trip Gross will announce his plans.

Fox Intermountain Theatres plan to open their new Fox, Aurora, Colo., about Sept. 1. Bernie Hynes, manager of the Denver, and his family, are spending their vacation in Estes Park, Colo.

Wm. N. Turnbull, who formerly operated at Central City, Colorado, is operating a Tuesday and Friday show at Castle Rock, Colo.

C. A. Mulock, for a number of years employed by theatres throughout Colorado, is working in the Post exchange at Camp Carson, Colorado Springs.

Alberta Pike, publicity director for the Fox Denver theatres, is in the unique position of being approached by both parties to be a candidate for regent of the University of Colorado. She already holds the Norlin medal for outstanding service to the university.

Marvin Goldfarb, who recently resigned as RKO salesman to look after his own business, has inaugurated a shuttle service for Denver shoppers. Motorists park at his parking lot, which is a few blocks from the retail shopping district, then board a station wagon and travel to the store of their choice. After shopping they return to the lot via the same station wagon. The only charge is for the parking, 15 cents an hour.

Merle Gwinn, who handles New Mexico for RKO, is moving to Albuquerque, N. M., to make his home and headquarters.

Earl Collins, district manager for Republic, was in Denver, conferring with Gene Gerbase,
Cary Grant
in
Noticias
with
Claire Trevor

Loving in Secret

...
INGRID BERNHARD HITCHCOCK'S VIGOROUS!
DUDE RAINS
Louis Calhern • Madame Konstantin

while ruin lies in wait!

DIRECTED BY Alfred Hitchcock
Written by BEN HECHT

A Radio City Music Hall Attraction
THAT'S what it means when RKO tells you that the national advertising campaign on "NOTORIOUS" covers a total magazine and newspaper supplement circulation of

97,060,072 COPIES!

including five different insertions in LIFE and LOOK...

Four different insertions in WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION

... Full pages in LADIES' HOME JOURNAL

-SATURDAY EVENING POST-McCALL'S

-COSMOPOLITAN-TIME-GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

-REDBOOK-COLLIER'S-AMERICAN

-TRUE STORY-LIBERTY-THE FAN LIST

-THE AMERICAN WEEKLY-THE WEEK

and Canadian magazines.
exchange manager. Collins is well known here, having been sales manager and exchange manager for United Artists prior to going to Los Angeles as United Artists manager.

Liu Gerbase, manager of the auditorium, Kansas City, Mo., spent his vacation in Denver visiting his brother, Gene Gerbase, Republic exchange manager.

Dick Lutz, National Theatre Supply sales man, is on his vacation, and is spending it at home getting better acquainted with his 3-months-old daughter.

R. J. Morrison, formerly 20th Century-Fox exchange manager, and Mrs. Morrison, have returned from a three-months trip east. United Artists salesman Fred Brown, is pointing out his new Packard to his friends. Brown is recuperating from a recent operation and is now calling on customers.


ALBANY

Harry Savitt of Utica and Mrs. Harriet Wolenden of Clinton were victims of potmama poisoning after attending a recent function and are under the doctor's care.

Due to material shortages, the finishing touches on the Quatem Hat theatre operated by Morris Shulman at Inlet, N. Y. will not be completed until early spring. However, Mr. Shulman is operating the theatre nightly. Hut accommodates approximately 400 people.

Harry Allen, father of exhibitor Mr. Barbara Hanly of Strand, Cape Vincent wrecked his car but escaped with minor injuries recently.

Bill Kennedy, operating Rouses Pt. and Champlain, advises that material shortages are holding up his plans for completing his theatre at Gabriël, N. Y. MGM district manager Herman L. Rips, is off to Buffalo, Floyd Fitzsimmons, MGM exploitation man came to New Haven to work on "Easy to Wed" campaigns.

United Artists Eddie Mullins and wife are in Albany for several days.

Condolences being extended to MGM biller, Rose Lasky, upon the death of her father who had been seriously ill for the past year.

RKO branch manager Max Westblom, is at the Memorial Hospital, Albany, suffering from a fractured knee suffered when he was hit by an automobile while crossing downtown Albany street.

Fox ad sales supervisor, L. T. Rogers, is in town for several days.

Morris Blum, Warner Bros. auditor, is visiting Albany office for several days.

Warner Bros. Carrie Rodgers is vacationing to Hampton Beach for several weeks. The same outfit’s hooker; Harry Aranow is at Sacandaga Park. Leo Rosen, Strand manager is taking two weeks at Luzerne, Fabian Jos. Supergin has just returned from a week at Woodmere. Long Island where he visited his daughter.

BRIDGEPORT

Word has just been received from Rio de Janeiro from Steve Tarbell, former Snalley Theatres booker, that he is proud daddy of baby boy, Stephen Edwin, born July 8th.

Neil Helmam of Helmam interests took a trip to Binghamton to look over his drive-in theatre.

Very few visitors were seen along Film Row this week. They were: George Thornton of Saugerties; Sam Rosenblatt of Watervliet; Bill Featherly of Rensselaer; Chas. Ditcher and H. Bernstein of Schenectady.

MEXICAN VISIT. On his recent visit to Mexico City, Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, was greeted on his arrival by President-elect Miguel Aleman. In the photo above Aleman (center) is flanked by Spyros and Charles Skouras.

Edward Rhia, manager of the Merritt, is on vacation.

June Stevens and Rene Harriman, usherettes, at the West End, are back from their vacations. Rene is wearing an engagement ring received just before her vacation and probably will not remain in show business much longer.

The new full-length feature, "Boomerang," based on the murder of the Rev. Herbert Dalme and the subsequent trial of Herbert Issel, in which Homer S. Cummings appeared as state's attorney will be filmed in Fairfield County, starting Sept. 9. The picture will be made by 20th Century-Fox under supervision of Producer Louis De Rocheconte, Elia Kazan will direct. Basis for the film is a magazine article, "The Perfect Case," acquired for the screen by 20th Century-Fox and written by Fulton Ourlar, former editor of Liberty magazine under the pen name of Anthony Abbott, and published in 1945.

Ella Katz, a Bridgeport girl, is this week the envy of all Van Johnson fans in this city. Recently she took a trip to Hollywood, where she was the guest of her uncle, Al Lichtman, an M-G-M vice-president. She spent an afternoon with Johnson at the studio and watched the shooting of scenes from "Easy To Wed." Hartford has ordered every theatre within its limits to install fire alarm boxes by Aug. 1.

VANCOUVER

The Sylvia Theatre in Newcastle, Alberta coal mining town, has been sold by Leo Thomas to Joseph Shibley; theatre seats 270 and will be open on a six day policy.

Sportsman is extended Mr. Maynard Joiner, wife of the Famous Player supervisor, on the (Continued on Page 20)

LONDON OBSERVATIONS

By JOCK MacGREGOR

Again I must bring up the subject of a Public Relations Officer for the Motion Picture Association of America in London. The visit of Joe Breen was a case in point. There is no point in hiding the fact that the average British film writer is of the impression that the production code is used unjustly against English product.

At the press reception, Breen was bombarded with questions why he had cut this or that in a British picture and permitted so and so in an American production. Time and again he denied the allegations, but the fact remains that newspapers have published these stories in the past and seeds of discontent have been sown. A public relations officer could have denied them at once.

All in all, it could not have been a very pleasant atmosphere for Breen who, after all, has come over here to help British producers. He handled the situation with great tact and his reply to the flat-chested sob sister who asked him if he was he who banned Lana Turner wearing sweaters was a gem which unfortunately, might not go so well in print!

Being a stickler for truth in publicity I am surprised to see the "Last Week" board at the Odeon where "Cesar and Cleopatra" is in its ninth month. When it was premiered it was announced that it would have a twelve month's run.

With the shortage of studio space a number of British companies are concentrating on exteriors and hoping to meet studios later. The enterprising Ealing unit under Michael Balcon have four in various stages of production. "Hue and Cry" and "The Overlanders" are cutting, "Nicholas Nickleby" is on the floor and "Johanna Goddess" on exteriors.


British National has "Laughing Lady" a Technicolor feature, in the cutting room and "Woman to Woman" shooting.

A little independent private concern is shortly to make a public share issue. This is Butcher's Film Service which has specialized in films for the home market for many years. The new set up will include the Nettlefield Studios, which are being expanded and also Kays Laboratories.

A strange sight outside the Gaumont after the preview of "Men of Two Worlds" was provided by two double decker London busses marked "Private." They were used to take the guests from the reception in the Savoy Hotel if the drivers did not take the wrong turn.
(Continued from Page 19)

recent loss of her father in Calgary, Alberta.

Eileen Mathers of Odeon's Art department, after a long spell in hospital, has left for a rest in the Rockies before returning to work.

Mrs. Jack Hawkins, British Columbia movie censor who has been on sick leave for the past six months, has resigned from the civil service. No successor has been appointed to date.

Eagle-Lion booker Don Wilson, has resigned and is moving to Victoria where he will be projectionist at the York Theatre.

Jack Fairley, projectionist at the Port Theatre, Port Alberni, B. C., is chairman of the Port Alberni Tye Club, and invites the boys in show biz who like fishing to go over and try their luck.

Odeon's Victoria supervisor Al Davidson, was in town to attend the funeral of his mother who passed away in Vancouver at the age of 60.

Paramount Vancouver manager Bob Murphy and Bill Kelly, Calgary manager will attend the Paramount Western Canadian convention to be held in Winnipeg July 25-26.

Dennis Watson, manager of the Oak Bay Theatre, Victoria, was moved to the Vogue, Vancouver as assistant manager, succeeding Thelma Evans resigned, Douglas Redgrove from the Plaza, Victoria takes over as manager of the Oak Bay. Both are Odeon spots.

Visitors to film row were, Harold Warren, Port Alberni; Alex Gough, Hedley; Herb Stevenson, Prince George, and Joe Wilkins of the Community Theatre, Bralorne, B. C.

Bill Jones, RKO manager is back from the New York sales meeting and has per usual brought back plenty of prize money for his sales efforts the past year.

Edward Bickle, veteran showman who controls the three Theatres in the Cumberland-Courtenay district of Vancouver Island, is in Vancouver general hospital coming along nicely from a major operation. Bickle is 76 years old and a member of the British Columbia branch of Canadian Picture Pioneers.

Sam Bannister has changed the name of his theatre from the Cadet to the Astor at Esquimalt.

Michael Yurik has purchased the Princess Theatre at Central Butte, Saskatchewan, and will operate it as a community proposition in this farming township.

Herb Stevenson has sold his interest in the theatre at Mountain Park, Alberta, to Jack Roome, but will continue to operate theatres at Prince George, Edson and Lacombe, Alberta.

Howard Fletcher, owner of the Hollyburn Theatre, West Vancouver and a member of the town council is busy on a one man campaign promoting a hospital for his district. Fletcher reports business is holding firm in spite of hot weather.

Moving Picture and Projection Machine Operators Union President Harvard O'Laughlin took issue this week with statements of some city and public safety officials to the effect that only one projectionist was in the booth of the Garrick Theatre when fire broke out.

O'Laughlin claimed that the fire was out when the fire department arrived, so that it could not know for certain what had actually happened and the official statement implied only one projectionist had been on the job and the fire had been put out by a stagethand. The facts are, he said, that two projectionists were at the job—one at the projector, while the other, the stagethand, who was in the rewind room—had dropped in for a chat, being nearest the fire extinguisher, had seized it when fire broke out.

Fred Wehrenberg and his wife recently purchased the White Way Theatre from old widow of Alex Pappas. The house is under lease to Sam Korn of the S. K. Circuit and Wehrenberg said he had bought the building primarily as an investment.

Hildred Carl was married this last week to Universal Booking Harry Hynes in the Mount Hope Protestant Church. A reception followed in the French room of the Coronado Hotel with the couple going to New Orleans for a honeymoon. Hynes, whose father is manager of Universal here, is a veteran of World War II with service in the Pacific.

Woodriver, Ill., has apparently missed the polio epidemic which authorities feared was due. City officials were considering closing down and had in fact already closed the swimming pool and playgrounds for two days. The Woodriver Theatre was not affected.

### BOSTON

Twentieth Century-Fox has a new salesman, Ralph H. PieLOW, Jr., who has been transferred here from the Philadelphia office. He will cover the New Hampshire and Vermont territory. Sieg Horowitz, who used to handle this region, will now cover Rhode Island.

Eddie Dobkin, MGM maintenance supervisor of the Boston exchange, has left for a week's visit at the New York office. He is giving his two boys, aged nine and fourteen years, the thrill of a lifetime, by taking them on their first plane trip to New York.

Walter Bangs, cashier at Universal, has been transferred to the Washington office.

Practically everyone in the film district attended the White Way Theatre charity tournament at Kernwood in Salem last Tuesday.

Monogram's sales plans will not be disclosed until their national meeting in Atlantic City the middle of September. Monogram is hopeful of a complete renovation of the local Boston exchange.

At Columbia, Ruth Walsh and Loretta Plett have just returned from a vacation at Hampton Beach. Marianne Bugen is spending her vacation in Situate, Judith Sokol is now at Moosonee, Connecticut, and Marion Dailey, Dorothy Ring, and Eleanor Murray are all at Hampton Beach.

RKO's Isabel McGrath is on her vacation at the Cape. Max Melincoff, head of the Warner Theatres in New England, spent last week covering the field in his territory.

Harry Browning had an ending July 20 for
his department in M & P Theatres at his estate on the Mystic Lakes.

The Sonoian circuit announces that the Suffolk Theatre in Holyoke is closed for repairs. The theatre is having air-conditioning installed and is being completely renovated. The Academy of Music in Northampton is also being completely redecorated and will be closed until late August.

Marilyn Mason, stenographer in the booking department, has resigned and Rhoda Slyback will take her place at Paramount.

Gertrude Jordan, cashier for UA for many years, has tendered her resignation and expects to take up household duties.

United Artists employees held their annual outing at Coonemessett, where they had a golf tournament and beauty contest, with prizes for the girls who participated in the contest.

DALLAS

Dallas film circles mourned the loss of Tom Harris, who was associated with Interstate and later with National Screen Service as a salesman in the South Texas territory. Harris, 34, was taken ill in San Antonio in mid-June and his untimely death occurred on July 4 at the Medical Arts Hospital, Dallas. He left Interstate in 1936 to join National Screen. Three years later, he bid a temporary adieu to civilian life to enter the Maritime Service Officers School, from which he was graduated as a lieutenant, Senior Grade and was assigned to tanker service. He served until December 1945 and one month later returned to National Screen. He is survived by his wife Beulah M. Harris; mother, Mrs. Ruby Harris, and brother, Lynn Harris of Interstate Circuit.

William Lansberg has arrived here to serve this territory as Paramount exploiter, after leaving the army where he was a first lieutenant.

W. S. Hurst has opened his Harlem Theatre at Denton. He is a former Columbia salesman. He also owns and operates the 250-seat Plaza Theatre there.

Robert L. Lippert of San Francisco, vice-president and general manager of Screen Guild Productions, Inc., and Francis Bateman of Los Angeles, general sales manager, have been here for conferences with John L. Franceschi, executive secretary and local franchise holder.

T. Z. Sales has opened his new Colonial Theatre at Laredo. He formerly owned and operated the Corpus Christi Avalon which he has sold to Arnulfo Gonzales.

The Rainbow Drive-In Theatre has been opened at Tyler, Texas, by Horace Douglas and Bennette DeLay, both World War II veterans. House is the first drive-in theatre in Central East Texas. The two vets also own and operate a theatre at Chandler.

Joe M. Yates, well known Texas theatre publicity man, has been named to head the new merchandise department of E. Riekes & Son in San Antonio.

Bobby O'Donnell is the new treasurer of the Astor Theatre in San Antonio.

The Hill, new suburban theatre here on West Jefferson and Duncanville Road has been opened with Gene Autry, part owner of the new theatre, on hand for the opening.

Bill Elliott, Columbia Western star, was in town for a personal appearance last fortnight.

A daughter, Vicki Michele, has been born to Francis and Lolean Barr. Barr is attached to the publicity staff of Interstate.

Jim Cherry, Interstate city manager, says the biggest turtle derby in Texas Variety Club history will go on at Fair Park, Ice Arena, September 14.

LOS ANGELES

Herman Lawrence, Erica, Pa., exhibitor, visited relatives in Chula Vista and then came over to the Row to see his old friend, Syd Lehman, IRC branch manager.

John De Paoli, who operates in Holtville, took over the Casino Theatre in Jacumba on a lease proposition. Exhibitor Service is buying and looking for the house.

Joyce Martin, switchboard operator for National Theatre Supply, returned from a vacation in her home town of Minneapolis. Laura Roberts, NTS bookkeeper, was another vacationist.

Visitors to the Row: Rotus Harvey, Westland Theatres, San Francisco; Moz Burles, former Paramount salesman, now in Portland for Monogram; Al Woods, Woods, Chino; LeRoy Pauley, Desert, Indio; and Bill Martin, Hemet, Hemet.

Lumie Wurte's Projection Equipment & Maintenance Company kept step with Cinecolor's expansion program by equipping two new projection rooms for the organization's lab.

Harry Crabill, warehouseman with Lyon Storage on the Row, is back from an extended vacation.

Cahart Theatres of Long Beach are building a $250,000 theatre at Pacific and 25th Streets in that city. Hugh Gibbs is the architect.

Rube Harris, veteran MGM salesman, who has been ailing for some time, was on the Row seeing his old pals.

The Western Amusement Company added another house to its chain with the acquisition of the Vista, Vista.

One of the latest openings around the territory is the Delano, Delano, which is being run by the Pineros.

John G. McManus, manager of Warners' Hollywood, was appointed supervisor of the company's three local first runs, the Hollywood, Downtown and Wilshire. J. R. Rodgers was named supervisor of California neighborhood and out-of-town runs. Bill Hendricks, former Downtown manager, is now exploitation chief in the division's public relations office. Allan Karl took Hendricks' place, and Leo Hirshon was named manager of the Wilshire. L. J. Haifer, zone manager, announced the changes.

National Theatres will hold its convention of district managers, starting August 5, the first conclave of this kind since the start of the war. A four-theatre first run unit has been set up as an exclusive local outlet for Universal and (Continued on Page 22).

The Kid From Astor Pictures

IN THE STREAMLINED LAUGH RIOT
THAT IS BOX-OFFICE DYNAMITE!

DANNY KAYE
GREATEST MARQUEE NAME
IN 40 MINUTES OF FUN

"The BIRTH of A STAR"
A Streamlined Feature

Grab it Today!

RELEASED THRU ASTOR PICTURES CORP.
NEW YORK

Fabian Staten Island Theatres, represented by Elias Schlinger, assistant to General Manager Louis Goldberg, were the recipients of an American Legion citation presented at the opening session of the Richmond County Legion convention last week for the circuit's cooperation with the Legion.

The Ritz Theatre near 119th Street and 3rd Avenue this week inaugurated a new policy by playing "La Lue Que Agoniza," a Hollywood-made Spanish version of "Gaslight." Other Spanish versions of American pictures will follow.

William P. Murphy, who has been sales manager of the Republic New York exchange, has now been appointed branch manager.

Fabian vacations: Jack Trachtenberg, Liberty manager, is back from two weeks at his home town, Schenectady. Bill Hambroisky is spending his leisure sailing in South Jersey. Elise Fink, Stadium manager, has returned from her vacation.

William B. Zoeller, head of the new MGM department for the handling of reprints and importations, left this week on his first tour of 18 cities in New England, the east and mid-west for a series of conferences with local branch managers.

Herb Crooker, MGM's publicity paragon, spent his vacation cruising on his own sloop. We could make some puns about that, but we'll resist the temptation.

New heights: George Kemp, manager of the Paramount at St. George, S. I., has got himself a new house. Anyone who gets a new house these days is NEWS.

There's been some switches made in the Loew's theatres in the New York area this week with Murray Lensehoff moving from the 116th Street Theatre to the Victoria to replace Larry Samsell, resigned. Wilbur Neustein, assistant at Loew's State moves up to acting manager of the 116th Street house.

One of New York landmarks and the major stronghold for Brooklyn's Yiddish stage—the Hopkinson Theatre—was leased this week to the Amber Realty Company and will switch to a policy of American and foreign films. Principals in the new management are Joseph Green who runs the Irving Palace in Manhattan and Michael Hyams, London theatre chain operator. About $50,000 will be spent to re-decorate and renovate.

Loew's International President Arthur Loew will make personal presentations to the members of the Twenty Year Club and the Ten Year Clubs in New York. The Twenty Year Club members will receive diamond studded rings and the Ten Year Club members will receive gold pins.

Home office employees, receiving the twenty-year awards are: Dave Simms, Richard J. Brenner, Sam N. Burger, Paul H. Crane, Morris Frantz, Margaret Hild, H. C. Kleinshen, Henry F. Krocke, David Lewis, Arthur M. Loew, Annette Miller, Lillian Reiss, Kate Seidman and Morton A. Spring.

Home office employees receiving the ten-year awards are: L. Ayrgrain, Sylvia Coney, Mary Wright, Alfred de Oro, Joseph de Santo, Pearl Fox, Sylvia Goldblatt, Harold Goldgraben, Charles Goldsmith, Wade Hulings, Sylvia Hyde, Rose B. Isaca, Helen Jones, Rosa Lewis, Louis Loor, Seymour R. Mayer, William Meshke, Norman Ogilvie, Joseph Seeley and M. Silverstein.

M-G-M International employees receiving the ten-year award are: Mac Barron, Charles Pati and Clarence Carpenter.

United Artist head booker Ben Levine is back from his vacation as is Assistant Office Manager Pat Marcone. Marcone came back to town that he was with his assistant Evelyn Pajula, who resigned. No one has replaced her yet. Another United Artist who is on vacation is Ruth Freeman, statistical clerk, who has hied off to Manchester. Next week: Brooklyn booker Tony Agoglia is off to Connecticut.

Irvig Baron, who used to be with Paramount is now operating a booking service for the Laff Theatre in New York and five houses in Boston.

Film row exhibitor visitors this week, despite weather (who says only the postman fears neither storm, sleet or whatever Herodotus wrote) were Harry Friedman of the Academy, Newburgh, N. Y.; Milton Smith of the Parkway, Spring Valley, N. Y.; Clinton Wisner of the Playhouse, Greenwood Lake.

Myron Star, United Artist City Booker will vacation in the Thousand Islands.

International News Service's Bob Considine who wrote "The Beginning or the End," which MGM is producing, is back from covering Olympic Crossroads.

MGM District Manager John S. Allen is in town from Washington.

MILWAUKEE

Merrill Fee, who has been manager of the Oregon Theatre in Kenosha, about 30 miles south of Milwaukee, since May, 1945, this week has been transferred to attend managers' training school in Milwaukee. John J. Brunette replaced him.

Public ownership of the Menomomie, Wis., Menomonie Theatre, which is owned by the city, seemed to be assured this week as an effort to sell the house to private parties was stymied. Maurice E. Cannam offered $12,000 for the spot, according to reports but the common council pointed out that while this covered the original cost of the house, an added $5,472 had been spent on it since it was constructed.

Screen star Donald O'Connor, attending the Centurama, this week measured the Centurama Queen, Aileen West of Fort Atkinson, as a press stunt. She is five feet ten and a half inches tall, O'Connor found by standing on a chair.

OKLAHOMA CITY

Monte Hale, Oklahoma-born motion picture actor, led the parade for the 14th annual Greer County pioneer's reunion and rodeo at Mangum July 12.

Filming of a three-reel motion picture, showing the states lakes, dams, flood control projects and soil conservation set against a recreational backdrop, will begin August 12. Co-sponsored by the state planning and resources board, Don McBride, chairman, and the Griffith circuit, the film will be completed about three weeks after the first pictures are made, and will be shown in all Oklahoma theatres.

Difficulty in obtaining steel girders has slowed construction of Shawnee's new theatre, the Hornbeck. Originally planned for completion October 1, the opening date has been reset by Owens Parker, contractor, for January 1. The theatre is being built by Adam Horneck Shawnee theatre owner in partnership with the Griffith Amusement Co.

MEMPHIS

Tom Young, branch manager of 20th Century-Fox and president of the Memphis Lions Club, attended the Lions International Convention in Philadelphia.

Charles Lester, district manager of National Screen Service at Atlanta, and Julius Fine, supervisor of the shipping department in New York, attended the Memphis Convention last week.

Mrs. Sue Eubanks, former cashier at 20th Century-Fox, has returned to the company as a booker's stenographer, replacing Mary Deal, resigned.

Irene Bryant, billing clerk at 20th Century-Fox, has been spending her vacation at Daytona Beach. Becky Holmes, booker's stenographer, has gone to Virginia Beach, Va. on her vacation.

Warren L. Moxley, circuit operator at Byhalia, Ark., has purchased two buildings at Turrell to convert into a theatre to replace the Turrell theatre.
reil, which was destroyed by fire in mid-April. Bill Kroeger of the Shammon Circuit at Pottsville, Mo., and John Mohristad, Hayti, Mo., exhibitor, were on film row in Memphis last week.

Paul Myers of McCrory was a Variety Club visitor recently.

Grace Holloway, secretary to L. W. McClain, Paramount branch manager, was married July 19, to James Simpson of Memphis.

Rachael Smith, stenographer at Paramount, has been on her vacation.

M. A. Lightman, president of Malco Theatres, although blocked in his plans for the immediate construction of a new 1500 seat house in the Memphis crosstown area, has received permission to build his 14 stores which will surround the theatre. The theatre will be set among the stores when materials shortages ease.

Rudolph Berger, southern division manager of MGM at New Orleans, and Burtis Bishop, his assistant, have visited at the Memphis exchange last week.

Don Lanthreth, Harrisburg, Ark., exhibitor has been visiting in Memphis.

INDIANAPOLIS

Charles Rich, district manager, Warner Bros., visited the local chain.

Edward Walton, assistant general sales manager, Republic Pictures, spent Friday and Saturday at the local branch.

W. E. Thomas, of the 20th-Fox office staff, St. Louis, Mo., visited his brother-in-law here, Claude McKean, Warner Bros. exchange manager.

Henrietta Erzinger, accountant at Marcus Enterprises, is vacationing with her parents in the foothills of Smoky Mountains, Tenn.


BUSINESS SURVEY.

Roy O. Disney (right), president of Walt Disney Productions, and Kay Kamen (center), Disney merchandising representative, are shown as they recently left for London on the first leg of a general business survey throughout continental Europe, Scandinavia and England. Traveling with them was R. Wallace Feignon, Disney sales supervisor for continental Europe.

exhibitors and vacationing in Florida.

John Doogh, manager of the B & K Apollo and his family are back from a trip to Wisconsin.

Henri Elman, who owns Capitol Films, is headed for a long rest in California accompanied by a lot of fancy luggage his friends along film row gave him as a farewell present.

Frank Riley has quit as assistant manager of the Tivoli. Will Bishop, Chicago, tub thumper for MGM, went east on vacation.

KANSAS CITY

Eddie Golden, veteran MGM salesman here, has been promoted to city salesman, and assistant branch manager, succeeding Al Adler who steps up from that position to branch manager.

Adler has already taken over the former duties of Frank C. Hensler, who will spend a short vacation before he moves to the district supervisors post covering St. Louis, Indianapolis and Detroit.

William "Wild Bill" Elliott and his wife, Mrs. Helen Elliott, were in town last week.

The Kansas-Missouri Theatres Association Convention is set for October 1-2.

V. D. Gelabert, formerly at the Grand in Grandview, Mo., has purchased the Oska theatre at Oakalosa and is remodeling it.

PWC representatives Bob Goodfriend, Lige Brien and Max Roth, were beating the bushes here last week in connection with the premiere of "Down Missouri Way."

CHARLOTTE

Dave Prince, southern district manager for KRO Radio, announces the following changes in the Charlotte branch: Harry Rodgers has been transferred from Atlanta to Charlotte as salesman to take the place of Roger Mitchell, who recently resigned in order to operate the Brandon Theatre in West Greenville, S. C. Jules Williamson, who has just received his discharge from the Armed Forces, will resume his duties of office manager, and Bill Andrew, who has been serving as office manager of the Charlotte branch, is being transferred to Atlanta.

The Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina held their convention in Charleston July 21-23. Many exhibitors were present, as well as the majority of local branch managers and most of the district managers for this territory. Ben Strozier of Rock Hill, S. C., president of the organization, presided at the meeting.

Gene Dyer, RKO salesman, is recovering from an operation.

Ruby Brown, secretary to RKO Branch Manager Roye Branon, has returned from a vacation spent at Myrtle Beach, S. C.


The local Warner Office entertained the bookers of the various circuits whose headquarters are located in Charlotte at a party in the Variety Club rooms last week.

Cliff Hoover has returned from service and has taken over as salesman at the local United Artists branch, according to announcement made by J. D. Hexamer, the company's Charlotte office manager.

HARTFORD

The completely redecorated Regal Theatre reopened Sunday and presented an attractive and streamlined appearance to patrons. Repainted and recarpeted throughout, the house has been streamlined with particular attention paid to lighting effects. New fixtures have been installed in all sections of the theatre, affording indirect lighting. Abrasive black and red tile has been laid in the outer lobby, and matching rubber matting in the inner lobby. The upstairs lounge has been treated to new, custom built furniture, one feature of which is a latte- tice frame supporting growing plants. The rope patent carpeting throughout is rust colored.

Manager James F. McCarthy of Warners’ Strand left over the weekend for a two weeks vacation on Cape Cod.

Fred Greenway of Loew's Poli Palace is back on the job after two weeks of traveling about the landscape visiting friends and relatives.

Also back at his desk, and looking fitter than he has since released from service, is Walter Lloyd of the Allyn, who spent his vacation in Florida.

Among visiting firemen this week was Leon Brandt of United Artists, here to pave the way for “Breakfast in Hollywood,” which opens at E. M. Loew's, Theatre, July 26.

Also briefly stopping was Al Gorson of UA here to ballyhoo “Young Widow,” tentatively booked for Loew's Poli Palace, but opening date on this Jane Russell opus has been postponed.

PORTLAND

Charles Bishop, owner of Rex Theatre in Newport, Wash., announces the purchase of the Cusick, Lone and Metalline Falls theatres from Mrs. Marie Malkson. He purchased the Rex and Apollo theatres. Mrs. Malkson, upon whose death gives him ownership of all picture houses in

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(Continued from Page 23)

COLUMBUS

Arthur Streng, president of the Columbus Federation of Musicians and AFM Midwest representative, was a hero in the fire which routed guests at the Hotel Curtis in Mt. Vernon. Streng was in his fourth floor room when the fire broke out. He went from room to room calling guests. He lost all his clothes in the fire, but escaped injury.

A blaze caused by a short circuit in a neon sign resulted in fire loss unofficially estimated at $500 at the Main Theatre. Firemen said the short circuit developed in the theatre marquee shortly after the show started. None of the patrons was forced to leave.

Dorothy Jean Grubb, cashier at Loew's Ohio for the past two and a half years, will be married August 1 to David P. Ripberger.

Damon Swain, relief manager for Neth Theatres, is on vacation. Clarence Littler, manager of Neth's Lincoln, and Mrs. Littler returned from their vacation, during which they celebrated their 17th wedding anniversary at Niagara Falls. Gertrude Zweig, secretary to Loew's western division manager, Allen Sparrow, has been on vacation.

Coleman Caldwell, doorman at the KCO Colonial, Dayton, was a local visitor last week. His brother, Walter Caldwell, is a Columbusite.

Peggy Goff of the Columbus Citizen staff has been filling in for Bud Kissel, theatre editor, who has been in New York on a business and pleasure trip.

William E. Whipple is the newest associate member of Variety Club, Tent No. 2. Henry Entrekin and his wife postcard fellow Tent No. 2 members from their vacation cruise on the Saguenay.

Ted Morris, MGM studio publicity representative, was in town this week-end with MGM exploiter J. Everett Watson.

ATLANTA

Ed Heller, manager of Kay Films Charlotte exchange, visited the home office here.

Thelma Cagle, formerly with the accounting department at Paramount, has been appointed cashier at PRC.

In a conference of Georgia Theatres Company executive were Moon Corker, North Georgia district manager; Dan Hills, Athens City manager; John Harrison, Waycross city manager; and Lamar Swift, Macon district manager.

Mrs. Stella Paulson, head of the accounting department at Republic, resigned because of ill health, being replaced by Eugenia Bixby, formerly assistant cashier.

Carlos Moore, special Florida sales representative for United Artists, visited Henry Krumm, Atlanta branch chief. Krumm had another visitor in Ching Allen, Prairie division manager, formerly head of the UA exchange here.

Jack Price, special sales representative for Paramount in Florida, was in the city.

Emery Austin, MGM, Spence Pierce, 20th-Century, J. D. Woodward, Warners; and Leonard Allen, Paramount, attended funeral services in Birmingham, Ala., for their fellow publicist, Vernon B. (Bud) Gray. Gray was formerly southern exploiter for Paramount, with headquarters here.

The three Katz brothers, Ike, Dave and Harry, visited New York to buy new product for their Kay Film Exchanges, recently established here and in Charlotte, New Orleans, Memphis and Washington, D. C.

William Green, owner of the Dixie, Crawfordsville, Ga., announces he has completed the remodeling of his house.

Colonel Charles Kessich, district MGM chief, and Fred D. Moon, Atlanta Journal amusement editor, motored to Ashville, N. C., for a cool week-end—and almost broughed. They picked the hottest weather that resort city had seen in 20 years. They were guests of Carl Bamford, Ashville circuit owner, who assembled a big party of Carolina showfolk for a party.

DES MOINES

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Comfort of Waterloo, Ia., have purchased the Garvin Theatre at Garvin from Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Anderson.

Don Knight, house manager of the Des Moines Theatre, is the father of a baby boy.

Harold Lyon, manager of the Des Moines Theatre, failed to win in the Flight to London contest during the 8th Victory Loan bond drive, although his house outsold all the others in his area. The Capital Theatre of St. Louis won, with 22,461 bonds sold, while Lyon had 31,827 but lost out because of his larger theatre. The Treasury Department, however, sent A. H. Blank, head of Tri-States, a special scroll to be presented to Lyon for his efforts in the drive.

June Douglas, former booker at Republic was married in Des Moines, with Helen Clarke, Republic cashier, attending the bride.

A. G. Stolte, Tri-States district manager, has returned from a vacation trip at the Lake of the Woods. Russ Fraser, Tri-States advertising head, is also on a vacation trip in Wisconsin.

Rebecca Skidmore has joined the Warner exchange as biller. Oscar Galanter is the new assistant booker at Columbia. Galanter, formerly with United Artists, recently returned from service.

Trudy Bridges, MGM bookers' stenographer, gave a pint of blood for Fred Armington, who is still a patient at Iowa Methodist Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Blank of Tri-States are on a vacation trip in California where they will spend several weeks at the Paramount cottage.

Shane to Do Screenplay

Maxwell Shane will do the screenplay for the Pine-Thomas Paramount film, "Adventure Island," from Robert Louis Stevenson's famous book, "Ebb Tide." The picture is slated for a mid-September start and will be filmed in color at Catalina. No cast or director has been selected as yet.

Open New Offices

California Pictures, headed by Preston Sturges, has opened new offices in the 20th Century-Fox Building at Sunset Boulevard and Western Avenue in preparation for its forthcoming production, "Vendetta," which Max Ophuls will direct for United Artists release.

Calihan Promoted

William Calihan has been promoted to the post of production manager at Monogram, succeeding Glenn Cook, who has been made production supervisor of Roy Del Ruth's current million-dollar film, "It Happened on Fifth Avenue."

Night Club Patrons

Dorothy Phillips, Wyndham Standing and Franklin Farnum, stars of silent pictures, are playing night club patrons in the Humphrey Bogart-Lizbeth Scott starrer, "Dead Reckoning," which John Cromwell is directing for Columbia.

20th Signs Sinclair

Robert Sinclair, director, has been signed to an exclusive long-term contract by 20th-Fox. He will report to that studio following completion of his assignment at Columbia.

Brooks Opposite Dix

Leslie Brooks has been assigned to play the feminine lead opposite Richard Dix in "Secret of the Whistler."
Merchants Hail Opening Of New Falls Theatre

Merchants of Black Falls, Wisconsin, were eager to welcome the New Falls Theatre when it opened its doors early this month after a period of building and remodeling.

Throughout the pages of the Banner-Journal, the local newspaper, practically every merchant card carried an attractively decorated cut with this copy: "Welcome and Congratulations to the New Falls!"

And to top it all off, the publication's center spread was devoted to a double-track layout, with the announcement of the opening surrounded by the advertisements of those companies furnishing material for the theatre's construction.

In an open letter to the public, H. J. Quaient, speaking for the management, said:

"It's indeed a thrill to open as modern a theatre as the New Falls in Black River Falls, and we do so with pardonable pride. For the past 13 years it has been our pleasure to bring you the best in motion picture entertainment. During this span of time we were privileged to play host to many thousands who sought in the motion picture the ideal relaxation and entertainment.

"If, however, the record seems outstanding or very extraordinary, it is only because we feel we have enjoyed your continued confidence in our efforts. Any measure of success has been due entirely to you—our patrons. In the realm of pictures it is at times difficult to satisfy all—but in the future, as in the past, we shall endeavor to bring to Black River Falls, varied enough programs to satisfy the majority. . . .

"To this end, therefore, we dedicate our future efforts—your continued enjoyment in modern surroundings—with the best service we can render."

Messages from employees also appeared in the advertisement—house manager, cashier, usherettes, projectionist, relief projectionist, and the popcorn and candy girl. Sample message, from cashier Helen Bichler: "I have always wanted to be a cashier at a modern picture theatre, and now I am realizing my ambition, and I am very grateful. For information on the pictures, time or star information—call me up some time at 64."

For its opening attraction, the New Falls presented the state premiere showing of Screen Guild's "God's Country."

Better Have Duplicates

Watch out for posters or photos not protected by glass and displayed in front of the theatre. If you do not have the glass protection, and the displays are exposed to inclement weather, better have duplicates on hand to replace those destroyed or blown away. Better still, install glass panels.

Prevent Accidents

Balcony steps should be amply lighted for prevention of accident and possible law suits.

The Brass Tacks of Efficient Picture Theatre Management

THE PUBLIC'S PLEASURE IS OUR JOB

By Jack Jackson

Mebbe I'm presumptuous as all get-out, but I honestly believe that I have hailed up such a store of trade practice common sense from the hundreds of showmen I confided with while twirling and turning my way through the motor-road arteries of Northwestern, Southern, Central and mid-Eastern states as seldom has been gathered in one harvest by any film man. Of course I was doing a Philo Vance in pursuit of information and was trying my level best to have the theatre fellows open up the whole shop and allow me to have a peek at the skeletons stored away in the dark recesses of their priceless "gripe" chest as well as at the "show pieces" of their professional households.

If you have a go at this job and really succeed in getting a gander at things beneath the surface of show business in our field, believe me you really need a basket to hold the harvest of fine and fancy whines, whimpers and invectives that come flying your way when you have induced an exhibitor to "start pitching."

Since this article is going to deal with the complaints registered, let me declare right at the start that I'm not taking sides in the battle—nor do I, by citing it, give the nod of agreement to the grumbling. I'm just a reporter, playing fair with my job, which is to give you the story as I got it from the exhibitors themselves—with, of course, and for obvious reasons, no mention of names or places.

All Branches Depend on Public Patronage

Now I don't think I've ever met an exhibitor who even pretended that he belonged in the "Hallowed Chor," and I can positively state that I've never heard of a distributor who was under delusions that he should be arrayed in saintly garb and be taken at face value on the strength of such makeup. But I do feel, and I know, that the current parade of charges and counter charges—one against the other—is forcing the industry as a whole into a position where some very shabby and badly-smeared raiment is being washed in public when we know that such chores should be done in the privacy of our own basements. And I am disposed to believe that in setting down what I consider to be the most justified of numerous grumps and gripes encountered—together with well-intentioned suggestions for possible corrective measures—a fire may be kindled that could entirely consume the malodorous mess and clear the way for those of higher power, greater experience and finer intellects to design a business procedure under which all branches of the motion picture industry can live and prosper harmoniously.

As I see it, all branches—production, distribution, exhibition—are totally dependent upon public patronage as a source of sustenance. Without public approval of the deportment and business tactics practiced by all branches, public patronage seems certain to decline and the profit trough, from which all must feed, levels off proportionately. Recognized authorities on successful marketing are as one in the opinion that the degree of demand for any unit of merchandise can be accurately measured by the yardstick of "Faith"—the faith that manufacturer, wholesaler and retailer are able to weld into the potential customer's mind until it becomes an integral part of their wares. Is it consistent that we, as caterers to the world's recreational needs, can depend on the veneer of glamour with which our merchandise is coated to keep the public that makes our success possible unaware of our lack of faith in each other? Can we expect anything other than a diminishing of the lines at our box-office if we allow this washer-woman balking and street-urchin squabbling to continue?

Among the major "gripes" I encountered are:

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West Coast Theatres Plan
Revives Pre-War Courtesy

During the war theatres were doing such a booming business that one very important aspect of operation was all but forgotten: courtesy and service. Not that staff members became insolent or neglectful, as often happened in restaurants—no, nothing like that. They were just so busy handling the overflowing crowds they had little time for courtesy.

Now that peacetime is here once more, theatre men cannot just sit back and wait for patrons to rush past the doorman in their eagerness to get inside. Pictures must be selected with care; patron-pulling exploitation must be utilized, and the theatre staff members must bend every effort toward being courteous and sincere.

John Klee, city manager of Fox West Coast theatres in Pomona, Calif., had been thinking about the matter. Through his mind went the question that has been asked repeatedly: "Where has the glamour of the theatre gone? Where is the color, the courtesy and the service that were so well known among the theatres?"

Called Staff Meeting

Klee decided it was time something was done. He called a meeting of the staffs of the five theatres in Pomona and explained what should be done to bring back pre-war courtesy and service.

In no time other business firms in Pomona realized that the theatres were resuming leadership in courtesy and service. They, too, wished to bring back higher standards in their business. Meanwhile, a plan originated by Klee, Arthur Jessup, William Hallett and C. M. Melkjeolm, city manager at Redlands, sent the newspapers into action. They took pictures of the theatre staffs, wrote editorials on the personal courtesies and service in every business as well as in the theatres. The reaction produced definite results among employees and in the theatre.

Klee saw to it that each employee showing the most outstanding efforts in the exercise of courtesy was rewarded both by recognition of his work as well as by a nominal cash prize. Impressed by the Pomona plans, theatres in Ontario, Calif., took steps to duplicate it. The Servicemen's plaque was ingeniously converted into a courtesy honor roll. The employees' names selected each week were placed on the honor roll which was hung in the foyer of the theatre. Honor roll members were also given an extra day off with pay.

Civic Leaders Assist

In Redlands, the management of the theatres induced the Redlands Motion Picture Council, civic leaders and others to assist in selecting the most courteous employees as well as being present during award. Publicity resulting from this recognition has made the public acquainted with the staffs and has made the staffs conscious of the moviegoers they are serving.

A trailer, addressed patrons, reads: "Would you, our theatre patrons, assist us in the selection of the employee whom you consider the most courteous by writing his or her name on a slip of paper and dropping your vote in the ballot box in the foyer of this theatre? Courtesy awards will be made to the employees enjoying the most votes on (date)."

MANAGER'S CHECK REMINDER

Lighting
- Is statutory effectively lighted?
- Proper reflecting equipment is needed to project light smoothly over entire ceiling area. Supplementary flood-lighting may sometimes be used.
- Poor quality lamps and non-uniform colored lamps cause spottness.
- With added light, patrons can see empty seats and movement of crowd, and will empty and fill seats more quickly.
- Dim lamps are caused by lamps of too high a voltage rating or operating under voltage because of excessive line losses. Use lamp of proper voltage and use heavier wire where necessary.
- Lamps too close to edge cause spottness. A baffle may help. White paint in cove reduces spottness. Matt finish should be used.
- Is picture clear and distinct?
- Intensity of lights from lobby to auditorium should be reduced gradually to allow eyes to accommodate themselves.
- Too much light on people distracts attention from screen. Provide lights on side walls rather than on audience.
- Are coves and sky surfaces free from spilled light?

Topical Slant

Louis Goldberg, general manager of Fabian Theatres in Staten Island, thought fast after the recent fire that destroyed the Staten Island ferry terminal. When the ferry slip was moved to another spot and travelers were confused as to their whereabouts, Goldberg posted directional signs reading "This Way to the St. George Theatre" along the route.

Manager Takes Advantage
Of High School Graduation

Local happenings are very much the business of the theatre manager, so that when a new mayor is elected or the oldest inhabitant celebrates 100th birthday, the school holds its graduation exercises, these things should be reflected in the activities of the local theatre. This, of course, applies to the small town more than to the city, but even in the city it sometimes helps to add color to the box-office.

There was the recent case of the Granada Theatre, Kansas City, Kans. Manager Charles Barnes effected a tipup with a local jeweler when he remembered about the high schools' graduation night. At this occasion the two big high schools got together for a farewell jam-boree.

The jeweler, seeking good will for future business when the girls and boys got engaged and married, donated a $25 gift bond to the senior in each class voted the most popular by the students themselves. In making the offer the jeweler wrote congratulatory letters to all the 611 members of the graduating classes, inviting them to attend Senior Night at the Granada, telling them of the gift bonds, and enclosing a ballot for the voting. As a result of the advance work Barnes sold 621 prepaid tickets before he ever opened the window.

Naturally, interest of the graduating class was reflected in their parents and other students, who flocked along to see the festivities. A $10 gift bond was awarded another person who was chosen from the audience to make the presentation. This was no plant. The whole thing went off with a bang. Put it in your "think file" for future reference.

Cool Colors, Fresh Flowers
Hold Summertime 'Musts'

To impart that cool atmosphere, yellow, green, blue and white should be used as much as possible for the color schemes of your lobby and front displays. Frame mats should also be changed to these colors.

Fresh flowers daily for the lobby should be promoted from a local florist, with a small attractive credit card placed with the flowers in exchange.

Silence the Standees

If crowds are permitted to wait in the inner lobby, a sign should be visible urging silence so as not to disturb those already enjoying the attraction. In theatres where conversation in the inner lobby can readily be heard in the audience, it is well to restrict waiting patrons to the outer lobby.
The Public's Pleasure Is Our Job, Declares Jackson

(Continued from Page 25)

Consistent demands of major distributors for preferred playing time. Usurious percentage requirements on attractions of questionable appeal in the communities of exhibition. (These demands invariably based on the success of the attraction in metropolitan or non-comparable situations.) High percentage demands in general.

Overloading of product (both shorts and features).

The tendencies of a few companies to make several pictures of the same general story content and demand dates in order of release.

The exhausting correspondence and argument entailed in getting adjustments on unprofitable deals.

All of the above mentioned "kicks" are from little fellows whose attendance potential is limited to small-town populations and scattered rural trade. This type of patronage is subject to hazard and fluctuation unknown to industrial or metropolitan centers. Planting time, harvesting time, weather and the lure of attractions in near-by big cities are among the many obstacles to attendance that cannot be accurately anticipated but must be considered. Any deal that promises a fair proportion of the earned revenue to the exhibitor. The picture that is a smash hit in New York and other big cities may hold but little interest for the small town trade where Lum and Abner or any program film containing record or radio stars promises better receipts than the so-called "big names" in "well known author" yarns. The little fellows have a heck of a time making ends meet on the residue of receipts remaining after the high percentage demands are satisfied on the great majority of films in the "super-special" class. And, because of contractual demands for preferred playing time, he is forced to go to single day showing on the programmers that promise him profit.

Placed at Disadvantage

The calendar definitely prescribes the amount of "top" playing time available, and plain common sense should dissuade any distributor from demanding more than an equitable share for rental of his attractions. Whenever demands in excess of fairness are made the exhibitor is being placed at a disadvantage with other distributors and such exhibitor is denied the possibility of averaging off to a fair profit on the contract as a whole.

That film prices and percentages are high—and demands still higher—must be conceded. Increased attendance, raises in admission and a swelled public purse warrant such increases in many situations. But there are all too many spots, where none of these favorable conditions exist, that are struggling under percentage and price requirements that are distressingly onerous. There is no equitable reason for blanket raises in film costs. Picture prices should be determined on local conditions rather than national indications. Rental demands of 35 and 40 percent for special attractions in spots where only normal attendance is indicated hardly strikes me as being conducive to continued harmony between distributor and exhibitor.

Among the showmen I talked with, one national distributor hatted close to 1000 per cent in the "gripe" column. The company's tactics—as reported to me—causes wonder as to whether the outfit intends to retire from the field before the boom bubble bursts. They are certainly doing a Trojan job of building an obstacle course that will be mighty tough for their sales force to negotiate when the business barometer begins to fall.

I listened to a few "beefs" about extended run policies among subsequent run spots, but the groomers admitted that the allowance in percentage reductions came close to covering the conjectures of attendance losses. There were also a couple of "peeps" about checking, but these quieted to inaudible murmurs when mention was made of the numerous successful distributor suits over false box-office reports. Distributors have plenty of reason for questioning the accuracy of accounting in many situations and checking is their only guarantee of profit participation in accordance with the contract terms. If the exhibiter is rendering a correct statement of his business and remitting accordingly, the distributors will eliminate the expense of checking.

Danger Signal Flickering

The motion picture business is, and has been for some time past, enjoying a spurge of prosperity that far exceeds our wildest hallucinations of monumental success. And the indications persist—from Balson to convention "bull-session"—that all's clear ahead. But the danger signal is flickering far down the track and caution is needed if we are to avoid running over too many of our own herd or "splitting a switch" that will send us whirling up some side-track that leads to commercial ignorance.

For many years past I have cherished the notion that most of distributor-exhibitor misunderstandings prevail in the small town field—those numerous "little" accounts that are far below the exalted visions of the Depinetos, Connors', Rodgers', Scullys', etc., whose sacred touch and royal attention is reserved for the million dollar "big deals." There is positively no common meeting ground in the organization of the distributing companies for the little chap with a $2.50 reduction complaint. No department or department head is designated to deal objectively with the many problems of the "little men" with the result that the very meagerness of their pleas for relief exists, at the most, only abstract consideration and cursory dismissal from minds attuned to upper bracket figures. These "little men" of the industry's widely scattered "poverty row" of exhibition are, as a group, the very backbone of exhibition and their combined contribution to the distributor's coffers compares, if not better—the revenue derived from the big circuits.

These "little fellers," whose multiple dollars roll daily and pile high on the balance sheets of producer and distributor alike, are entitled to a better break than has ever been given them. Distributors have short subject managers and serial managers, so why not a sales manager for accounts in towns under 10,000? Some executive with a clear and sympathetic understanding of the dollar and dime pitfalls confronting houses of normally low grosses and limited potential who would be invested with full authority to handle their complaints promptly and adjust differences fairly. Such an executive with a competent, understanding staff, would be a strong factor in creating the harmony so badly needed in the industry and eliminating the highest note of discord—the wall of the badly neglected and frequently abused "little fellers."

Utopian Pipe Dream

The motion picture industry is a three-tined fork—production, distribution and exhibition—at American table of plenty and it is unfair for any single unit to seek, expect, demand or secure more than its fair share of the profit menu. It is also unfair that any segment or satellite of the industry be neglected or prevented from receiving its full and fair share from soup to sweets. To insure such equal distribution, machinery must be created within our own structure to handle—through common understanding—All our family disputes and differences.

Let's get away from the back-alley scuffling and street corner brawls that are bringing us into public disrepute. Sincere and sustained cooperation will quickly assuage the hurts of the past and open doors to a prosperous future that no amount of venomous invective and abuse can ever batter down. We all want more business so we must have more customers. Let's go about it the right way by public confidence—public faith—in the motion picture industry as a harmonious triad created for and dedicated to the premise, "Your pleasure is our business."
**Men of Two Worlds**  
*Color*  
(Previewed in London)  

**GFD**  
Drama  
109 mins.  

**AUDIENCE SLANT:** (Adult) Strangely fascinating and beautifully produced film of the African natives' fears and superstitions.  

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** A class production enhanced by beautiful Technicolor, do best with more thoughtful audiences. A sure-fire draw for showmen catering to Negro audiences.  

**Cast:** Eric Portman, Phyllis Calvert, Cathleen Nesbitt, John Victor, Adolphe Adams, Noma Blakes, Napoleon Lors, Erica Mabumski and others.  

**Credits:** Scrutiny by Torold Dickinson, Herbert W. Victor. Music played by National Symphony Orchestra conducted by Max Mathison, Solo Pianist, Ellen Joyce.  

**Director:** Torold Dickinson. Produced by John Sutro for Two Cities in England and Tanganyika.  

**Plot:** Kisenga, an African pianist who attains fame in England, yearns for his native land and returns to find that sleeping sickness, carried by the tsetse fly, is creeping near his village. Spurred on by a witch doctor, his tribe will not accede to the British District Commissioner's request to move to newly cleared territory. Kisenga is contemptuous of the witch doctor and to reveal him to the believing natives, challenges him to cast a spell on him. He predicts that Kisenga will die before the new moon and undermines his will power by strange rite, suggestion and the incessant drums in the jungle. Slowly superstition gets the better of him, but the Commissioner and a woman doctor pull him through. The witch doctor's power has been broken and the tribe moves to the new land.  

**Comment:** This is a strangely fascinating film which has been beautifully produced in Techniclor and superbly acted. It will appeal mainly to the more thoughtful cinema-goers, and showmen playing to Negro audiences will find it a sure-fire draw. The African natives' superstitions and fears have been handled in a most restrained and sympathetic manner. The brunt of the acting duty is borne by the African cast and outstanding performances are given by Robert Adams and Orlando Martin as Kisenga and the witch doctor, respectively. There is little more than a suggestion of a love interest and this is handled by Eric Portman and Phyllis Calvert as the District Commissioner and the woman doctor. Thorold Dickinson has directed the film with great sincerity. A nightmare sequence is most brilliantly handled. Special mention must also be paid to the musical score which is most effective.  

**They Were Sisters**  

**Universal**  
Drama  
108 mins.  

**AUDIENCE SLANT:** (Adult) The long running time of the film detracts from general audience interest. The picture is well acted and produced but fails to maintain interest, although some dramatic highlights probably will elicit tears from the feminine contingent.  

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** The names of James Mason and Phyllis Calvert are the picture's principal drawing power—and Mason often quite a bit of interest through his performance in "Seventh Veil."  

**Cast:** Phyllis Calvert, James Mason, Hugh Sinclair, Anne Crawford, Peter Murray Hill, Dulcie Gray, Barry Learce, Pamela Kelso, Ann Stephens, Helen Stephens, John Gilpin and others.  

**Credits:** Produced by the J. Arthur Rank Organization. A Gainsborough Picture. Directed by Arthur Crabtree. Produced by Harold Harth. Effective producer, Maurice Oister. From the novel by Dorothy Whipple. Adaptation by Katherine Sertney Screenplay by Roland Pertwee.  

**Plot:** James Mason marries Dulcie Gray, one of the devoted sisters. The others, Phyllis Calvert and Anne Crawford, marry later. The scene shifts to the present (18 years later), with Mason established as a despot, sadistic husband and father who makes the lives of his wife and children miserable. They continue to maintain their home because of appearances and Mason's business success, and it is not until Dulcie Gray kills herself that Mason's real character is made public and the children go to live with Phyllis Calvert, with promise of a happy future.  

**Comment:** A sketchy outline above gives but a sketchy indication of the events that take place during this picture's 108 minutes there is scarcely anything of more importance. "They Were Sisters" has no plot in the conventional sense; rather it is a series of character sketches of the sisters, their husbands, lovers, children, all loosely related without any apparent motivation towards a culmination. The dialog spoken by several of the players is so difficult to understand, except for James Mason, Miss Calvert and Anne Crawford, that American audiences will be inclined to reject the picture's entertainment value, such as it is. The production values are good, the direction is apparently uncertain, but the film's main weakness is its long running time, which seems entirely unnecessary to tell the story it embalaces. The box-office chances of "They Were Sisters" depends entirely upon the selling efforts put forth on its behalf by theatremen who play it. The James Mason name should have some selling value, for he created quite a bit of interest through his performance in "Seventh Veil."  

**Legion of Decency Ratings**  
(For Week Ending July 27)  

**SUITEABLE FOR GENERAL PATRONAGE**  

| Celia and David | Red River Renegade  
|----------------|------------------|  
| Cowboy Blues | South of Monterey  
| Prairie Bad Men | Shadows on the Range  
| Sister Kenny |  

**OBJECTIONABLE IN PART**  

| They Were Sisters  

**Holiday in Mexico**  
*Color*  

**MGM**  
Musical  
127 mins.  

**AUDIENCE SLANT:** (Family) Much too long and therefore somewhat tedious, this Technicolor musical may bring criticism from discriminating moviegoers but should please average audiences, although they are not likely to enthuse over it.  

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** There's plenty to sell—names, Technicolor, music, title—and smart showmen should prepare for over-flow crowds.  


**The Desert Horseman**  

**Columbia**  
Western with Music  
59 mins.  

**AUDIENCE SLANT:** (Family) Plenty of action in this "Durango Kid," with music that the Western fans will eat up.  

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** Should do well with exhibitors who depend on action trade.  

**Cast:** Charles Starrett, Smiley Burnette, Adele Roberts, Richard Bailey, John Merton, George Morgan, Tommy Coates, Walt Shrum and his Colorado Hillbillys.  

**Credits:** Producers: Colbert Clark. Director, Ray Nazarro. Original story and screenplay by Sherman Lowe. Photography, L. W. O'Connell.  

**Plot:** Once more the "Durango Kid" fights on the side of the exploited, this time in the guise of an army officer. Pretending to be a cowboy, the army officer, who has been framed on an unjust charge of holding up a paymaster, goes after the "Desert Rat." Said rat is a lawyer, supposedly of irrepressible character, who kills a rancher. The lawyer is trapped by the "Kid," who uncovers the truth that the rat was one who framed the officer.  

**Comment:** The plot in this release gets a trip complicated at times, with the audience wondering who is who. But the main thing is plenty of action, which this film has in abundance. With guns shooting and horses pounding the trail in hot pursuit of the villains, no one is particularly interested in what's what in the story, just as long as virtue eventually triumphs. Starrett continues to give a virile, smooth performance in a role that exactly more from him than the usual western hero, because of the dual part he plays. Smiley Burnette handles his assignment in apple-pie order, lending a hand in the development of the plot as well as supplying excellent comedy relief. Walt Shrum and his hillbilly musical aggregation register with well with the type of delivery and choice of numbers hill-billy fans like. Shrum has since set up shop on his own.
BOX-OFFICE SLANTS

Maysville, while Roddy McDowall, teen-age son of the English Ambassador, has a school-boy crush on Jane Powell's 15-year-old daughter, Jane Powell who, in turn, has an adolescent crush on pianist Josef Iturbi. Pidgeon and Iturbi concoct a scheme to cure Jane of her infatuation for the musician, and it all ends happily for everyone.

Comment: Peopled by handsome Walter Pidgeon, who makes many a feminine heart flutter; Jose Iturbi, who through his frequent motion picture appearances has become the everyman; N ativel Benedict, who has made Latin-American rhythms as much a part of American life as apple pie; Roddy McDowall, no longer the youngster of "Lassie Come Home"; Ilona Massey, absent from the screen, and Jane Powell, who made her screen debut last year in a picture titled "Delightfully Dangerous" (STR, March 1, 1945, p. 20), "Holiday in Mexico" would also attract the attention of her good-looking, charmingly lovable settings in Technicolor, good music and an alluring title, to make it a top-notch screen entertainment. Somewhere along the line, however, the ingredients have failed to jell, with the result that what should be a thoroughly delightful musical comedy is delightfully thin at intervals in a cinematic framework that is much too long. Perhaps the most competent and assured member of the cast and one of the finest and handsomest figures is the American ambassador to Mexico. And while Jane Powell is a photogenic Technicolor subject and sings well, she is still in need of further dramatic training. Her singing voice, in particular, is neither unusually tuneful nor melodically appealing in any more than a dinner-suit manner. Indeed, if Miss Powell has or will ever have a future as a musical performer, it is in the hands of the other maestros and of the aged film maestro. Ilona Massey is little more than adequate in her singing and acting assignment.

Outstanding and deserving of praise are the numbers, both in their musical numbers, it becomes tedious. A little tightening up would have improved matters. Most audiences will be attracted by Pidgeon, Iturbi and Cugat—the women by Pidgeon, the music lovers and adolescents by Iturbi and Cugat—and in all likelihood they will find enough in the things these three do, musically and histionically, to leave a satisfactory, though not enthusiastic, reaction. Therefore, any possible criticisms among the rank and file will not be severe enough to hinder the film's chances at the box-office. Only from among discriminating audiences will such criticism be forthcoming, and they do not comprise the bulk of the film's patronage. There are plenty in "Holiday in Mexico," from a box-office standpoint, or smart showmen to sell—and smart showmen should prepare for overflow crowds.

Bowery Bombshell

Monogram Comedy-Drama 65 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Another Bowery Boys picture with all the antitax and horseplay gagging noted for the series, which should certainly satisfy their followers.

 BOX-OFFICE SLANTS: Should please in the usual spot.


Plot: The Boys get mixed up with a bank robbers who is not operating in town and is taking outside the bank, just as the robbers are escaping. To clear her name, and at the same time get the reward money to help a friend in need, they all get busy and settle the matter.

Comment: The type of amusement that pleases the followers of the Bowery Boys has been incorporated in this latest offering in the series. Their shenanigans this time revolve around the assigned character, and during this maneuvering they display the same antics and general horseplay they've become noted for. Dialog lends itself to many laughs, as do the screwy situations in which the Boys become involved. Leo Gorcey practically plays a dual role, for besides being the real "Gorcey" of other pictures, he also impersonates a well-dressed tough gangster. Unfortunately, this is of little interest to him, and this should be doubly entertaining. The other members of the cast—Bobby Jordan, Billy Benedict, David Gorcey, Tetsa Loring, Sheldon Leonard and James Burke—all take care of their assignments quite capably. Direction is by Phil Karlson and production by Lindsley Parsons and Jan Groppo.

The Unknown

Columbia Horror 70 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Adult) The horror addicts will love it, but those who insist upon a logical story will be disappointed. Average audiences will find it acceptable.

BOX-OFFICE SLANTS: Good as one part of a double mystery or horror bill and suitable as the lower half of any other adult double-bill.

Cast: Karen Morley, Jim Bannon, Joe Donnell, Robert Scott, Robert Wilcox, Barton Yarbrough, James Bell, Wilton Graff, Helen Freeman, J. Louis C. Meek, Ben Lyon, Helene Arnaud, Joe Donnell, and upon the original radio program, I Love a Mystery, written and directed by Robert Scott. The role of Malton Stuart was played by Blyton and Julian Harmon. Adaptation by Charles O'Neil and Dwight Ballock. Produced by Wallace MacDonald. Directed by Henry Lewis. Photography, Henry Freidich.

Plot: Helen Freeman forcibly separates her daughter, Karen Morley, and her husband, of a few months, Robert Wilcox, and years later finds the daughter mentally unbalanced. At the death of Miss Freeman, Miss Morley's daughter appears in the grown-up person of Joe Donnell, to the chagrin of the old lady's will. Her uncles appear as sinister figures, determined to prevent Miss Donnell's benefitting of the will. The usual mysterious passages, eerie burials crypts and other standard horror props add to the impending menace that clears as the film closes.

Comment: For those that like their horror unadulterated by logic, this is right down the pathway. It has all the appearances that accompany the attempt to chill the marrow, and it does succeed in doing a bit of hair-raising. The dialog is in what still is classed as "corny" and what might better be known as just tripe, but the players themselves, simply by their acting skill, bring the film to the acceptable class, aided by what appears to be skillful direction. Karen Morley, missing from the screen for several years, was not given her too much opportunity to use her experience and skill, but her talent gives life to a role that might otherwise be sadly lacking in characterization. Jeff Donnell, playing a few others, performs capably. The picture is obviously aimed at a limited audience and fulfills its purpose. It provides thrills and chills for the addicts. What more can they ask?

Cuban Pete

Universal Musical 50 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) A musical for the enjoyment of all those who like Cuban Pete, a familiar waltz number.

BOX-OFFICE SLANTS: Carries more than the average amount of entertainment found in a program offering. Good secondary with a dramatic top feature.

Cast: Dezi Arnaz, Joan Fulton, Beverly Simmons, Don Porter, Jacqueline de Witt, King Sisters, Ethel Smith, Pedro De Cordoba, Igor De Navrotski, Yvette Gris, William Guinness, and the New York Philharmonic, conducted by Will Cowan. Screenplay by Robert Prentell and M. Cortes Webster. Photography, Mary Germain. A young girl, played by Cuba Pete, is a band-leader and his troupe to New York for a radio show. When they get to New York the woman sponsor of the show, who thinks she can sing, schemes to banish the singer so she can replace her. The trick lands her in jail. The broadcast goes over big and the band-leader and the girl fall in love.

Comment: The Cuban music of Dezi Arnaz and his orchestra, plus the singing of the King Sisters and organ playing of Ethel Smith, gives this little number more than the average amount of entertainment found in a regular program offering. Songs like "Cuban Pete," a familiar waltz number, Rhumba Matumba and El Cumbanchero and a specialty dance by Igor De Navrotski and Yvette Von Kortis, are among the numbers that average audiences will enjoy. As for the music, it is not too original but what there is of it is enough to tie the song and musical numbers together, so that the film runs along smoothly for the sixty minutes of running time. Arnaz plays the Cuban drum in one sequence, but in the dance of the film he either sings or handles, quite capably, the leading masculine role. Joan Fulton, a young lady who attracted a bit of attention in a previous film, has the leading feminine role. Good portrayals are also turned in by Don Porter and Jacqueline De Witt. Jean Yarbrough's direction has spaced the musical numbers advantageously so that the picture benefits throughout, and Will Cowan has given it good production values.

Two Guys from Milwaukee

Warner Bros. Comedy 90 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) One of those Prince-taxi driver mixes and lighter than air, this film serves up a delicious dish of comedy that is just the thing for summer fare—and for any other time.

BOX-OFFICE SLANTS: There's a nice name cast here and, according to reports, most patrons like comedy if it's funny. This

(Continued on Page 31)
Charles Schlair, who directs advertising, publicity and exploitation for 20th Century-Fox, left this week for a tour which will take him to Buffalo, Boston and eastern Canada. He's also due for what press releases call a short vacation.

Warner Bros. has appointed Douglas John Granville as Chile manager effective Aug. 1. He'll headquarter in Santiago.

Walt Disney President Roy O. Disney is off to London with Merchandising Representative Kay Kamen and Continental Europe Sales Supervisor R. Wallace Feignour.

MGM's new eastern sales manager, John P. Byrne, has taken over at his desk in New York. Got quite a send off in Detroit, where he was district manager, when the Variety Club threw him a lunch.

Richard B. Phillips, ex Marine Corps major, is now southeastern representative for AMPRO and will cover Kentucky, Virginia, the Carolinas, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and Florida.

Russell E. Sivert is back at his post as Bell and Howell Western Division Manager for his Filmsound library after three years as a chief specialist in the navy.

PRC Foreign Sales Manager Sam Seideman shipped off to Europe with the first stop being London.

Loew's International ad and publicity director Dave Blum is another traveler this week, headed for Europe to coordinate ad, publicity and exploitation plans with the European market.

Vanguard started a complete reorganization of the executive staffs according to David O. Selznick and Daniel T. O'Shea. Under the set up Argyle Nelson, becomes studio general manager; Dewey Starkey, steps up to production manager, L. M. Eckert takes over as assistant studio manager in charge of non-production units and Fred Ahern becomes assistant production manager in charge of production units; James Stewart is appointed to the new post of technical supervisor, and veteran Film Editor Hal Kern has his post expanded to take over pre-production editing.

Republic's Vice President and assistant general sales manager, Edward L. Walton winds up a tour of the branches this week.

Vog Films will have Noel Meadow as representative for North and South America it was announced this week. Company handles "Resistance" and plans to have four others.

Story Productions Board Chairman Hal Horne is out on the coast for final conferences with Armand Deutsch and Stanley Kramer on "This Side of Innocence."

Lou Pelegin, Film Daily staffer, turns press agent soon when he takes over the trade contact post in Paramount formerly held by Sid Moshover.

Jack Goldhar, United Artists Eastern Sales manager, quits Aug. 2. He expects to take a vacation at his home in Detroit.

Loew's International will hand out diamond studded rings to some 75 men and women who are in its employ for 20 years.

**Tulsa Fire Marshal Stymies 2 Theatres**

Tulsa's fire marshal seemed to be on the winning end of an argument with the Burnam Theatre and the Cove Theatre in Red Fork this week as the city officials refused to approve the construction job on both houses. The marshal objected to use of timber in the roof work, though the houses had been given the go ahead signal and work was almost completed when he interfered. Owners are protesting on grounds that compliance would be costly, mean additional work and require materials which are difficult to obtain.

**It Isn't the Heat, It's...**

There's always something new in the exhibition field. Now it's the theatre that closes for a vacation.

Albany exchange men are still puzzled over the notice they received from the Watertown Liberty cancelling all booking for a five week period during which the manager stated he wished to take a rest.
BOX-OFFICE SLANTS

(Continued from Page 39)

picture qualifies on both counts, so fill it in yourself—the dotted line.


Plot: The Balkan Prince Henry in the person of Dennis Morgan arrives in New York and plays hooky for hours to note how average Americans live. First person he meets is taxi driver Jack Carson, who takes him in, not knowing who he is. Later the prince meets Jack’s girl, Joan Leslie, and the trouble starts. It is back and forth between the two until the very last moment, with Jack finally winning out, the prince losing his job as a prince, and everybody feeling very democratic.

Comment: Anybody who wants a picture that is believeable stay away from this one; but if he does, be he warned he’s missing an entertainment that will make him forget the hot weather, poor crops, the stock market and the war. For “Two Guys From Milwaukee” has plenty on the ball when it comes to comedy and is a sure bet both to entertain and rake in the shells. This is a good picture for Carson; he is in the role up to his big neck, and again brings successfully combines down-to-earth comedy with a tincture of sentiment which is very effective.

Morgan does right well by a none-too-easy part, and the girls—Joan Leslie, Janis Paige and Rosemary DeCamp—say nothing of little Pati Brady—come through with colors flying. The cast is namelessly, it is a fast comedy (which is well set by the title), and heavy national exploitation is going out of the premiere; all of which makes this film aces for the change-makers.

Notorious

RKO Mystery Drama 91 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Adult). This is good in every respect possible; which means it’s an absorbing story flecked throughout with sparkling moments of suspense and carries the always necessary element of lusty love, and is, through the good acting by Bergman, Grant and others—this is fire entertainment for all but children (is rated adult because it lacks the type of action that interests the kiddies, not because of any naughtiness).

BOX-OFFICE SLANTS: Looks a gilt-edged certainty for big money at the box-office of all classes and types of theatres, not alone on basis of name draw but because its a show that will build on the strength of word-of-mouth publicity.


Plot: Ingrid Bergman is the damsel of a man convicted of espionage in the U. S. and is selected by Cary Grant, American agant, to take an assignment in Brazil to track down a Nazi group there. Grant and his superior know that they are working against time because of recorded conversations between her father and herself. She accepts, and in Brazil complications of romantic nature as well as of danger develop. Grant and Bergman fall in love. When it develops that the assignment calls for Bergman to renew her romance with a German there, Grant wishes to see the whole thing through the end, but misses his last chance. The two lovers result in Bergman not only en-couraging Rains, the Nazi, but marrying him in order to obtain information on the Nazi ring operating there. It comes to a climax when it is learned that his wife is an American agent, but conceals this knowledge while he gives her poison which slowly is taking her life. Grant suspects something wrong, braces the risk of entering the nest of Nazis and rescues Bergman, who, meanwhile, has cleared up all details of the Nazi plot and gives them to her American government superiors.

Comment: This is Alfred Hitchcock suspense-romance-entertainment in the best manner of that master of emotional punch via the impending-disaster technique. It is some of the distracting elements of a few unfortunate scenes and speech rhythms. And romance and drama unencumbered by some what confusing technicalities of psychoanaly-sis in “Spellbound,” for example—and gets back to the brain-and-guts screen fare which marked Hitchcock’s best efforts of a past spotted with brilliant achievements. When you take this into account, you have but one conclusion; which is that “Notorious” shapes up as a really big box-office bet. It would be a strong draw on the strength of the name cast of a cast headed by Cary Grant and Ingrid Bergman and boasting Claude Rains and Louis Calhern as among its members. There is such good pace and maintenance of interest throughout this picture that it is cer-tain to register solidly with the great masses of the public and result in a tremendous buildup via the personal recommendation route. The picture is given a silken produc-tion, lots of lovely girl friends in rich interiors such as might be expected in the headquarters of a Nazi plotting nest in Brazil. This is all added attraction to the love romance—which is marked by many very incandescent kissing scenes between Grant and Bergman—and the very good sus-pense which Ben Hecht has written into his script. The scenes in which Grant obtains samples of a metal ore cleverly hidden in a bottle of wine in Rains’ well-stored wine cellar are a model of sustained suspense, and they will hold your audiences in relentless grip and with such absorption in the action that it dominates your enthusiasm as it moves forward to a thrilling, and most sat-isfactory climax. RKO Radio provides a bang-up show here and an attraction that will ring up big money figures at all theatres.

NEWSREEL SYNOPSIS

(Released Saturday, July 27)

MOVIEVENT (Vol. 28, No. 94)—Greek hero General in U. S.; Churchill at Patton’s grave; Gas gift to British; W. S. S. sends new jet plane; U. S. helps fight food famine; Philadelphia’s Kauffmann Great Speech; woman gets autograph in world of pets; Waterfall; Women’s swim meet; Boxing Slam style; Derby Derby.

NEWS OF THE DAY (Vol. 17, No. 293)—Carthage tests phantom plane; U. S. harvest record crop in world famine; Castle for Grace; Churchill at Patton’s grave; Cabinet wives can food; Yacht race; Derby Derby; Boxing in Slam.

PARAMOUNT (No. 95)—Small fry speedway: Action on the food front; Kidnaps Kaiser bus; Last Geman prisoners of war leave America; Blame it on the East.

RKO PATH (Vol. 17, No. 97)—Last German prisoner on German parade; Germany’s missing horses; Ships hit by Nazis launched; Kaiser’s two-section bus; Exclusives on George Bernard Shaw; Everything and nothing; Broadway is back.

UNIVERSAL (Vol. 15, No. 522)—Gas blast rocks Ohio; Massachusetts Airmen; Arizona; Bumper wheat crop in Colorado; Derby Derby; Yacht racing; Boxing in Slam; Horse racing.

(Released Wednesday, July 31)

MOVIEVENT (Vol. 28, No. 93)—Secretary Byme reports on Paris Peace Parade; Slam stung by mysterious death of its young King; Churchill in France; Violence in Trieste; French cycle fans get around in splendid ways; Great day; Slanting thrills.

NEWS OF THE DAY (Vol. 19, No. 285)—Reports on “peace” as Trieste riots; French ball Churchill in Bastille Day; New King takes Slam’s throne; Slanting honours; Japan in Japan ratio; Box-mania in France.

PARAMOUNT (No. 88) — Silent: Leicester bomber bombers bomb Hiroshima; RA AF, armed with Mitchell Flight bomber naval lieuten-tenant cleared of espionage; Churchill keeps a promise; King of eves Somalia; Royal mystery in Slam. Movie of the year.

REVIEW (Vol. 17, No. 96)—King’s death in Slam mystery; France marks Bastille Day; British bombers bomb U. S. and France; Germans make more of SLANTS “Pyle Roel Garden.

UNDERWATER (Vol. 28, No. 212)—Slam’s King meets death; British bombers are; Truman reviews Nip crops; Dignitaries retire; Festival of towns in France; Lumbermen; Proceeds to front; Premiere of “Canyon Passage” in Portland.

ALL-AMERICAN (Vol. 28, No. 27)—Top honors to Negro pastor; Young Texans voice Democratic Club; Sandwich Center opens on Capitol electric; Race track in; Crochet displays; first world’s fair prize; Missouri girls win National Essay Contest; Stars make music festival greetings in Chicago history.

Claudia and David

20th-Fox Drama 78 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Moviem- goers who enjoyed the first “Claudia” picture should like this one. It is an excellent follow-up and has the same swell stats. Suitable for the entire family.

BOX-OFFICE SLANTS: Worthy of special selling, especially in the situations where the first “Claudia” picture proved good box-office.


Plot: This continues the story of the marital life of the Naughtons, who live in Connecticut and who now have a three-year-old son. There are quarrels and misunderstandings, and an accident that almost costs the man his life, but all ends happily.

Comment: This is a swell follow-up to the first of these Dorothy McGuire-Robert Young marital stories, for like the first it is a good wholesome entertainment for the entire family to enjoy. Characters are real human-beings, you people feel are friends with whom you share trials and tribulations. There is a tendency to chuckle of laughter there, all put together in a homely, recognizable atmosphere. Again the screenplay is excellent, the performances outstanding and Walter Lang has given it sym- pathetic, understanding direction. There seems little doubt that those who enjoyed the first picture will also enjoy this one and look forward with a great deal of pleasure to more of this type. Surely. Both Doro- thy McGuire and Robert Young are absolutely perfect in their roles.
The musical time in Hollywood, with the tunrsmiths having the time of their live. Current, every lot in town has a picture that is either a song-and-dance epic or has singers. Sole exception is Warners, which has four straight dramas on the boards. Logical explanation for this "escapists fare" being shunted out to a war-weary generation is that moviemakers evidently want increased portions of light entertainment, with the emphasis on music. Even the westerns are getting to be almost exclusively of the dramatic variety; if a cowboy can't sing these days, he's not likely to be headlined.

UA Starts Dorseyes Film

Following the movements along musical lines, Charles R. Rogers is currently producing "The Fabulous Dorseyes," which started July 25 at the General Service studios starring Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey. William Lundigan and Janet Blair take care of the romantic department. Producer Sara Allgood and Arthur Shields support several top band names have been signed for the picture.

Buddy Rogers and Ralph Cohn started "Adventures of Don Coyote" at Lone Pine location, with Richard Martin, former RKO player, and Frances Rafferty, ex-MGM starlet, featured. In Technicolor, the film is being directed by Reginald LeBorg, and will return after eight days at Lone Pine to sites closer to town.

"A Miracle Can Happen," the Bogeaus-Mere Anglais production, is going at General Service. Henry Hull has been added to a cast that already includes Charles Martin, January Allgood, Martin Garrick and Fortunata. The picture is being shot in several sections, with Laughton being starred in the number one division, under King Vidor's direction. John Quinlan and Nana Bryant join hull in support of Laughton.

The "Hopalong Cassidy" crew making "Dangerous Venture" is shooting on a new two-block long street just completed. The film, starring William Boyd, started at Lone Pine July 18. Other UA pictures being made include "Bel Ami," Loew-Lewin's costume drama; "Disowned Lady," the Hedy Lamarr starrer for Hunt Stromberg; "Monsieur Verdoux," Charlie Chaplin's comedy; and Andrew Stone's "Strange Bedfellows," which has been experiencing title troubles with the censors. Title, for the time being, stands.

Musicale on MGM Agenda

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer has several song-and-dance films at work, emphasizing the development at hand in all studios. Frank Sinatra's "It Happened in Brooklyn," just started. With Sinatra are Kathryn Grayson, Jimmy Durante and Peter Lawford; Richard Whorf is directing and Jack Cummings producing. Another musical is "This Time for Keeps," which just returned from location at Mackinac Island, Michigan. Durante is also in this one, along with Esther Williams, Larriett Melchior and Johnnie Johnston.

After three years in the Navy, Gene Kelly was in front of the cameras July 16, when "Life's for the Living" began. His first scene was choosing his initial suit of civilian clothes! Gregory LaCava directs, with Marie "The Body" MacDonald playing opposite Kelly.

"Sea of Grass" was on location briefly, with Spencer Tracy and Robert Walker working in sequences. John Hodiak returned from his honeymoon to start work on "The Arno Affair," with George Murphy, Frances Gifford and Dean Stockwell. Metro sent a special camera unit to Oke Ridge, Tenn., to film supplementary footage for "The Beginning of the End," atom-bomb film; the unit will hit Los Alamos, N.M., various universities and other a-bomb cities.

Other MGM pictures before the lenses are "High Barbaree," "The Secret Heart," "Ballerina" and "Summer Holiday." The latter, with Mickey Rooney, Gloria DeHaven and Walter Huston, is in Technicolor.

Music in One 'U' Film

Universal, now making seven pictures, has music in one, "Smash-Up," in which Lee Bowman sings. Night club sequences featuring Bowman singing were screened last week. Others in this Walter Wanger production include Susan Hayward, Eddie Albert, Marsha Hunt and Carlton Young. Stuart Heisler is directing.

"Pirates of Monterey," the Technicolor special starring Maria Montez and Rod Cameron, has been completed, as has "Vigilante's Return," Cinecolor outdoor drama with Jon Hall and Margaret Lindsay.

Sara Haden and Chic York were added to the cast of Harry Sherman's "Ramrod," for Enterprise. Fessier and Pagano are producing their own screenplay for the costume color film, "Flame of Tripoli." Curt Bois and Michael Chekhov have been added to the cast of Enterprise's "Arch of Triumph.

Other Universal films rolling are Skirball-Manning's "Magnificent Doll," Mark Hellinger's "Swell Guy" and "White Tie and Tails.

RKO Has Goldwyn Musical

Represented in the musical line-up is RKO with the Danny Kaye film, "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty." Kaye is going into its fourth month on the picture, being made by Samuel Goldwyn who is also doing "The Best Years of Our Lives.

Once again, "Trail Street" was postponed. Last announcement from the studio had the picture scheduled to start July 26. Anne Jeffreys is set for the female lead in the outdoor spectacle.

(Continued on Page 34)
Paramount Plans Film Based on 'Ivanhoe'

"The Black Knight," based on a free adaptation of Sir Walter Scott's "Ivanhoe," will be produced by Paramount during the coming season. Robert Fellows, whose first picture for Paramount, "The Big Haircut," goes before the cameras soon, will be producer. The splendor of the era which followed the return of King Richard I from fighting the third crusade will be presented in Technicolor, and the film will be one of the most pretentious on Paramount's schedule.

The screenplay of "The Black Knight," written by Aeneas MacKenzie, preserves all of the major episodes and incidents of "Ivanhoe," as well as Scott's immortal characters including Sir Wilfred of Ivanhoe, Rebecca, the Lady Rowena, Isaac of York and Richard I.

Alexander Knox Doubles Jobs in 'Indian Summer'

Alexander Knox of Wilsonian memory has contracted to do a double job for RKO Radio in their production of "Indian Summer." Knox will not only play the leading role of a small town judge, whom he has last removed from the bench, but will also collaborate with Boris Ingster, author of the story, in preparing the screenplay. He had a leading role in "Sister Kenny," and also collaborated on the screenplay.

Ingster also is working double for "Indian Summer," since he is directing the film. Michael Kralie and Sid Rogell will be satisfied with merely taking part as producer and executive producer, respectively.

Bobby-Soxers Performing

Nearly 350 teen-agers from various Los Angeles high schools are before the cameras at RKO Radio working in a sequence for RKO Radio's "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer." They are expected to remain before the lenses for several weeks.

Katherine Scola Signed

Katherine Scola, who did the screenplays for "Col. Eiffingham's Raid" and "The Constant Nyuong," who has been signed by Enterprise Productions to work on the script of "Wild Calendar," a starring vehicle for Ginger Rogers, based on the novel by Libbie Block.

Dramatize GI Brides

"His Wedding Night," first story to deal with the experiences of GI war brides, has been acquired by Eagle-Lion, who has signed Dennis O'Keefe for the leading male lead and are negotiating to obtain Ann Todd of "The Seventh Veil" as the bride.

Term Contract for Rees

Lanny Rees, who made his screen debut in RKO Radio's "The Fascinating Nuisance," has been signed by the studio for a term contract. He is an eighteen-year-old from Spokane.

Nella Walker as Miss Tully

Grace Tully, the late President Roosevelt's secretary, will be represented on the screen by Nella Walker, Hollywood character actress, in MGM's "The Beginning or the End."

HOLLYWOOD

STUDIO NEWS & PROGRAM NOTES

Alexis Smith Opposite Morgan in WB's 'Irish Rose'; J. Edward Bromberg Gets Role in 'Arch of Triumph'

John Warburton and Bill Phillips have been assigned roles in "Life's for the Loving," MGM Gene Kelly-Joan MacDonald starrer. Gregory La Cava is directing.

Ramsay Ames has been signed for the feminine lead in Monogram's untitled Cisco Kid drama which stars Gilbert Roland with Frank Lauterni. George Lewis and William Gould have also been engaged for important roles.

Frank Orth has been signed by Eagle-Lion Films for a comedy role in "Born to Speed," which will star Johnny Souds and Terry Austin. Picture rolls soon with Edward Cahn as director.

Arthur Treacher and Carl Esmond were signed for Universal's Technicolor production "Flame of Tripoli," now under way with Yvonne De Carlo and George Brent as the stars. Charles Lamont directs for producers Michael Fielder and Ernest Pagona.

Henry Stephenson has been given an important role in 20th-Fox's Technicolor production, "The Homestretch," and joins a cast headed by Cornel Wilde, Maureen O'Hara and Helen Walker. Bruce Berumberoe directs, Robert Baxter produces.

Burgess Meredith, who is co-producing "A Miracle Can Happen," with Benedict Bogart, will also co-star in the picture along with James Stewart, Henry Fonda and Charles Laughton. "A Miracle Can Happen" is being written for the screen by John O'Hara, Norman Reilly Raine and Lawrence Stallings.

Stanley Ridges has been named for the important role of a psychiatrist in Warners' Joan Crawford-Van Heflin starrer, "Possessed." Curtis Bernhard is directing the drama for producer Jerry Wald.

Three-year-old Ann Cowland signed a movie pact with MGM to play the child of Spencer Tracy and Katharine Hepburn in "Sea of Grass." The child attracted the interest of producer Pandro Berman and director Elia Kazan when a photo made of her by her soldier-father was used as a cover on Family Circle magazine.

'Duel' Score Waxed

For the first time in history, a complete motion picture score picture has been recorded on a series of Victor Red Seal records. The music thus recorded is that written by Dmitri Tiomkin for the David O. Selmick Technicolor epic, "Duel in the Sun." Arthur Fielder and the Radio Symphony Orchestra of a hundred players, augmented by special instruments to achieve requisite film effects, recorded the "Duel" score. The attempt probably will have an opportunity to tie up with music stores on the recording.

Alexis Smith will play opposite Dennis Morgan in "My Wild Irish Rose," Warners' picturization of the life of Chauncey Olcott, which William Jacobs will produce and David Butler direct.

William Beardine, Jr., Marjorie Hoein, Evan Thomas and Michael Kastrich have been added to the cast of "Sweethart of Sigma Chi," Monogram musical co-starring Elyse Knox, Phil Regan, Phil Brito and Ross Hunter. Jack Bernhard is directing for producer Jeffrey Bernerd.

Porter Hall and Gavin Moir were added to the cast of Paramount's Cecil B. DeMille epic of early America, "Unconquered," Gary Cooper-Paulette Goddard starrer.

George Beban Jr., son of the famous silent star of "Sign of the Rose," was signed to a term deal by Universal. His first part under the new contract will be a role in Mark Helinger's "Swell Guy," which is now in production starring Ann Blyth, Sonny Tufts and Ruth Warrick.

Jane Wyman is scheduled to join Errol Flynn and Joan Crawford in the forthcoming Warner Bros.' drama, "Need For Each Other." Jerry Wald will produce.

J. Edward Bromberg, noted stage and screen star, has been signed for the role of a patron of the Hotel Verdun in "Arch of Triumph," which co-stars Ingrid Bergman and Charles Boyer. Lewis Milestone directs the David Lewis production for Enterprise Films.

George Taylor and Tom Stevenson, World War II veterans, have been cast by 20th-Fox in George Jessel's Technicolor musical, "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now," which Lloyd Bacon is directing.

Mary Hatcher, Song Star, Set as 'Variety Girl'

Mary Hatcher, 18-year-old singing star of "Old Time Radio," has been assigned the title role in Paramount's "Variety Girl," star-studded musical comedy which starts in August with George Marshall directing and Daniel Dare producing. "Variety Girl" is based on the story of the Variety Clubs of America.
SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, July 27, 1946

HOLLYWOOD

CHECK-UP ON PRODUCTION IN WORK

(Continued from Page 32)

co-starring with Randy Scott, Robert Ryan and George "Gubby" Hayes. Nat Holt is producing under supervision of Jack Gross, with Ray Enright directing.

Two units of Frank Capra's "It's a Wonderful Life" are working out the final stages of the film. One is at RKO, while the other is shooting at the RKO Pathé lot in Culver City. Also at Pathé is "Katie for Congress."

Pictures ended by the studio include: "The Devil's Thumb at Rite" and "Code of the West." Those going are Mr. Fixit," Pat O'Brien starrer; Walt Disney's "How Dear to My Heart" and "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer." Cast now lines up as Cary Grant, Myrna Loy, Shirley Temple and Rudy Vallee.

"Sigma Chi" at Monogram

Monogram's contribution to the musical parade in "Sweetheart of Sigma Chi," which is being filmed by producer Jeffrey Bernard, Marjorie Ann Hoerner, named sweetheart by the USC Sigma Chi chapter, was added to the cast and a given a contract. Buddy Fleck's band was also added. Joining in the musical aggregations of Slim Gaillard and Frankie Carle.

The studio has the strongest record of locations in its history. Irving Allan, producer-director of "High Conquest," is in Geneva, Switzerland, on his way to the Matterhorn, to film mountain climbing shots with Harry Hays Morgan, famous mountaineer. Phil Karlson, director of "Black Gold," has been looking for sites for the picture, having already screened background material at the Kentucky Derby in Louisville. "Sweetheart" has been at Balboa, shooting around the yacht harbor; and "It Happened on Fifth Avenue." Roy Del Ruth production, only recently returned from New York City.

An untitled "Cicso Kid" is going, with Gilbert Roland in the main role. Also rolling is "The Trap," Charlie Chan flicker, which started July 26. Jimmy Wakely is scheduled to star his next singing western on July 29.

Columbia's Two Musicals

Columbia, currently busier than it has ever been in the history of the studio, is rolling two musicals in its roster of seven films, and a serial before the cameras. "Ghost Town," Judy Canova starrer, moved to the studio from the Columbia ranch, with Del Lord directing. Director Al Hall finished work on "Down to Earth," Technicolor musical fantasy. Production on two more musical numbers continues with Rita Hayworth, Larry Parks and Marc Platt working. The picture has been going for over 90 days.

Sam Katzeman's serial, "Son of the Guardsman," moved over to the Dimarco Studios after shooting outdoor scenes. Nina Foch, Columbia starlet, was cast as Evelyn Keyes' younger sister in "Johnny O'Clock." Also going are Humphrey Bogart's "Dead Reckoning"; Edward Small Productions' "The Return of Monte Cristo"; "My Empty Heart" and "Secret of the Whistler." Mr. District Attorney," an independently produced venture by Sam Bischoff, starts July 29, with Robert Sinclair directing.


FRG Ends Singing Western

Robert Tansey completed "Drifting River," Eddie Dean musical western, which for the first time in the series was not filmed in color. Sigmund Neufeld is set to start production on "East Side Rascals" for release on July 29 at the Sutherland studios (formerly Morey-Sutherland). Sam Newfield will direct this tough-kid drama.

According to reliable sources, Soi Wattzel has signed a contract to construct sets for two FRG films to be produced in August. Wattzel will later erect sets on stages and execute all construction.

Roach Stops, Starts

Hal Roach has completed "Here Comes Trouble," which is now in editing. However, the veteran producer-director started the "Fabulous Job" several days later, on July 22. Bebe Daniels is producing the comedy, her first effort for Roach, and Harve Foster is directing. Cast includes Walter Abel, Margot Graham, Marie Wilson and Barbara Bates.

5G Active Again

Screen Guild doesn't stay on the inactive list very long. This newcomer to Hollywood is starting another film on July 29, Golden Gate, one of 5G's units, begins "My Dog Shep" on that date, with William B. Davis producing. The film will be location around Big Bear, with Ford Beebe directing.

Paramount's Crosby Musical

You can always count on Paramount adding its share to the output of musicals, currently stronger than ever in Hollywood, as long as Bing Crosby is around. The "Crooner" is doing "Emperor Waltz." Johnny Burke and James Van Heusen completed three tunes for the picture, which co-stars Joan Fontaine. Billy Wilder is directing and Charles Brackett producing.

Anthony Caruso and Matt McHugh have been added to the lineup of "My Favorite Brunette," Bob Hope comedy which co-stars Dorothy Lamour.

"Golden Earrings," a romantic drama laid overseas during the recent war, will start July 29, with Ray Milland, Marlene Dietrich, Myron Vee and Milka Raymuni. Mitchell Leisen is directing and Harry Tugend produces. That same date will see the start of "Unconquered," Cecil B. DeMille production, which will have Paramount more active than it has been in months.

Musical in Work at 20th

George Jessel is making a musical comedy for 20th-Century Fox, called "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now." In Technicolor, the picture is being directed by Lloyd Bacon.

Edmund Gwenn has been added to "Bob, Son of Battle," dog picture shooting in Kanab, Utah. This film is also in Technicolor. Robert Bassler, who is producing "Bob," is also handling those chores for "The Homestretch," race horse drama, and still another Technicolor job. Other 20th fillers before the camera include: "Hollywood Hotel" in Cinecolor; "The Late George Apley," "The High Window" and "Dangerous Millions," Sol M. Wurtzel Production. "The Razor's Edge," filmization of Somerset Maugham's best-seller, has been completed and is now being cut.

Ambitious Republic Musical

Republic is currently spending top dough on its most ambitious musical undertaking, "Calendar Girl." The picture is being produced and directed by Allen Daviau, to the cast include Gus Schilling and Lon Novo.

The studio has completed "Magnificent Rogue" and Roy Rogers' "Heldorado." Sunset Carson also completed his "Rio Grande Raiders." Besides these westerns, the serial, "Son of Zorro," was finished, and a sequel to "Paradise Valley," a Red Ryder, was ended.

Gene Autry went to work in "Trail of San Antonio" on July 24, with Jack English directing.

Armand Schaefer was scheduled to start production on "That's My Gal" on July 26, with George Blair directing the Trucolor feature.

"Spillers of the North" is set to roll July 17, with Donald H. Brown producing and Richard Sale directing. This will be writer Sale's initial directorial effort.

"Jolto" E-L's First

Eagle-Lion has again reversed its field, and will release "Dances With Son" for its first release. Picture, starring Kenny Delmar, will probably start in August. No definite starting date has been revealed for "Born to Speed," originally announced as the first film.

Status Quo at WB

Solo exception to the musical trend now in force, Warner Bros. have four dramas going. One, "Life With Father," is of a humorous nature, while the others are heavier types. Bette Davis, Paul Henreid and Claude Raines co-star in "Deception;" while Errol Flynn and Barbara Stanwyck handle the historicies in "Cry Wolf." Joan Crawford, Academy Award winners, gives a chance for some real emotion in "Possessed," which she is making with Van Heflin and Raymond Chandler. Curtis Bernhardt is directing.

Lee Frederick Resumes

Lee Frederick, who has received his discharge from the Navy and has resumed his RKO Radio contract, will have a featured role in "Trail Street," which features Randolph Scott.

Gladys George Signed

Gladys George, recently recovered from a long illness and more recently the bride of Kenneth Carlson, Bradly, has been signed by Samuel Goldwyn for a role in "The Best Years of Our Lives," which stars "Irene Loy, Frederic March, Dana Andrews and Teresa Wright.

Miss Chen to Do Dances

Si Len Chen, following her work as choreographer for "Anna and the King of Siam," has been signed by Universal to create a series of dances for Yvonne De Carlo in the Technicolor production, "Flame of Trilopit." 

Rogan to Sing 'Oldie'

Penthouse Serenade, published by Famous Music, has been signed by Phil Regan in Monogram's "Sweetheart of Sigma Chi," currently in production.
### ASTOR PICTURES

**Prod.**
- Beware (M)F
- Beyond Tomorrow

**Run**
- Louis Jordan-Frank Wilson
- 35

**Rel.**
- 81/2/45

**See**
- Reissue

**COLUMBIA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7039 A Close Call for Boston Blackie (M)F</td>
<td>C. Morris-R. Lane-L. Merrick</td>
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<tr>
<td>7042 Crime Doctor’s Warning (My)F</td>
<td>Dangerous Business</td>
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<tr>
<td>7043 Gentleman Misbehaves, The</td>
<td>Robert Stanton-Os Massen</td>
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<td>7044 Gilda (D)F</td>
<td>Rita Hayworth-Glenn Ford</td>
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<td>7045 Hit the Hay (M)F</td>
<td>Warner Baxter-Astelle Roberts</td>
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<td>7046 Kiss &amp; Tell (CD)F</td>
<td>Shirley Temple-Jerome Courtland</td>
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<td>7047 Life With Blondie (C)F</td>
<td>P. Singleton-A. Lake-L. Simms</td>
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<td>7048 Meet Me on Broadway (MC)F</td>
<td>Reynolds-Bradley-Falkenberg</td>
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<td>7049 My Name Is Julia Ross (D)F</td>
<td>Nina Foch-George Macready</td>
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<td>7066 One Way to Love (C)F</td>
<td>William Gargan-J. Carroll</td>
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<td>7068 Out of the Depths (Wa)F</td>
<td>Jim Bannon-Rose Hunter</td>
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<td>7070 Perilous Holiday (D)F</td>
<td>Pat O’Brien-Ruth Warrick</td>
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<td>7071 Phantom Thieves, The (My)A</td>
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<td>7078 Poor Lowery (W)F</td>
<td>Evelyn Keyes-Willard Parker</td>
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<td>7079 She Wouldn’t Say Yes (C)A</td>
<td>Donald MacBride-Rosamond John</td>
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<td>7080 Sing While You Dance</td>
<td>Allen Drew-Robert Stanton</td>
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<td>7081 Snafu</td>
<td>Richard Dix-Susan Peters</td>
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<td>7082 Talk About a Lady (DM)F</td>
<td>Jinx Falkenburg-Bob Besser</td>
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<td>7084 Tars and Spars (CM)F</td>
<td>O. Atkins-J. Blair-M. Platt</td>
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<td>7085 True Glory, The</td>
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<td>7086 Unknown, The</td>
<td>Karen Morley-Jim Bannon</td>
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<td>7087 Walls Came Thumbling Down, The (D)F</td>
<td>Joe Bowman-Marguerite Chapman</td>
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**COMING**

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<td>Casey’s Honor</td>
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<td>Down to Earth *T</td>
<td>Rita Hayworth-Larry Parks</td>
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<td>Dead Reckoning</td>
<td>Elizabeth Scott</td>
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<td>Ghost Town</td>
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<td>It’s Great to Be Young</td>
<td>L. Brooks-B. Stanton-J. Donnell</td>
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<td>Johnny O’Clock</td>
<td>Dick Powell-Evelyn Keyes</td>
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<td>Personality Kid</td>
<td>Anita Louise-Michael Duane</td>
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<td>Return of Monte Cristo</td>
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<td>Thrill of Brazil, The</td>
<td>E. Keys-Keenan Wynn-A. Miller</td>
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<td>Tobin Story *T</td>
<td>M. Parks-E. Keyes-D. Davis</td>
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**Western Curate (1945-46)**

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<td>Ken Curtis-Jeff Donnell</td>
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<td>Desert Horseman</td>
<td>Charles Starrett-Tommy Egan</td>
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<td>Galloping Thunder (W)F</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gunning for Vengeance (W)F</td>
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**Features and western series pictures are listed alphabetically under distributor, followed by title under distributor. Titles in this column (left) indicate release, those at extreme right give pictures of Westerns with names of directors, respectively.**

**Classifications**

- A: Action
- B: Biographical
- D: Comedy
- G: Drama
- H: Horror
- M: Mystery
- W: Western

**Misc.**

- A: Action
- B: Biographical
- D: Comedy
- G: Drama
- H: Horror
- M: Mystery
- W: Western

**Classifications**

- A: Action
- B: Biographical
- D: Comedy
- G: Drama
- H: Horror
- M: Mystery
- W: Western

**Note:** All dates indicate release dates.

**Key:**

- (A): Action
- (B): Biographical
- (C): Comedy
- (D): Drama
- (G): Horror
- (M): Mystery
- (W): Western

**Note:**

- All dates indicate release dates.

**Key:**

- (A): Action
- (B): Biographical
- (C): Comedy
- (D): Drama
- (G): Horror
- (M): Mystery
- (W): Western

---

**Titles Listed in the following index:***

- Action
- Biographical
- Comedy
- Drama
- Horror
- Mystery
- Western

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**Notes:**

- All dates indicate release dates.

**Key:**

- (A): Action
- (B): Biographical
- (C): Comedy
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- (M): Mystery
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---

**Features and western series pictures are listed alphabetically under distributor, followed by title under distributor. Titles in this column (left) indicate release, those at extreme right give pictures of Westerns with names of directors, respectively.**

**Classification is indicated by letters following titles indicating type of story in accordance with following key:**

- (A): Action
- (B): Biographical
- (C): Comedy
- (D): Drama
- (G): Horror
- (M): Mystery
- (W): Western
COLUMBIA (Continued)  

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COMING  

| Arneil Affair, The... | John Hodiak-Frances Gifford | 1946 |   |
| Ballroom... | Cyd Charisse-Margaret O'Brien | 1946 |   |
| Beginning Or The End... | Eddie Foy Jr.-Edgar Buchanan | 1946 |   |
| Cockeyed Miracle (C-A)... | K. Wynn-Morgan | 1946 |   |
| Courage of Laos (T-D)... | Elizabeth Taylor-Leslie Caron | 1946 |   |
| Face The Music (C)... | Esther Williams-John Carroll | 1946 |   |
| Fiesta *T*... | John Hodiak-Joseph Cotten | 1946 |   |
| Gigi... | Leslie Caron-John Gavin | 1946 |   |
| High Barbaree... | Van Johnson-Juliette Greco | 1946 |   |
| Holiday In Mexico T... | W. Pidgeon-J. Powell | 1946 |   |
| It Happened At The Inn... | Fernando Lamas-Teresa Wright | 1946 |   |
| Lady in The Lake... | Gene Kelly-Martha MacDonald | 1946 |   |
| Life's for The Loving... | James Craig-Frances Gifford | 1946 |   |
| Mighty McGurk, The... | Wallace Beery-Aline McMahon | 1946 |   |
| My Brother Who Talked to Horses... | Butch Jenkins-Peter Lawford | 1946 |   |
| No Leave, No Love... | J. Wynn-John Ireland | 1946 |   |
| Sacred and Profane... | Greer Garson-Richard Hart | 1946 |   |
| Secret Love... | Hedy Lamarr-Nelson Eddy | 1946 |   |
| Secret Heart, The... | Colleen Moore-Don Ameche | 1946 |   |
| Show-Off... | Red Skelton-Gloria Stuart | 1946 |   |
| Tenth Avenue Angel... | Victor Mature-Susan Hayward | 1946 |   |
| Till The Clouds Roll By T... | John Hodiak-Patric Knowles | 1946 |   |
| Two Smart People (CDA)... | J. Hodiak-L. Ball-L. Nolan | 1946 |   |
| Undercurrent... | K. Hearn-R. Taylor | 1946 |   |
| Yearing, The *T*... | Peck-J. Craig | 1946 |   |

MONOGRAF  

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<td>Swing of the Pendulum (CIF)...</td>
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<td>Gentleman Joe Palooka...</td>
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SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, July 7, 1946
MONOGRAM (Continued)

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<td>South of Monterey</td>
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<td>Spook Busters</td>
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<td>518</td>
<td>Shadows Over Chinatown</td>
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<td>519</td>
<td>Grinnell-Brown (CIF)</td>
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<td>520</td>
<td>Wife Wanted</td>
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Westerns (Current 1944-45)

| J. M. Brown-Raymond Hatton | 60 | 1/25/45 | b5/11/44 |
| 346 Frontier Fellow | J. M. Brown-Raymond Hatton | 54 | 11/25/44 | b5/11/44 |
| 504 Riders of the Dawn (W.F.) | Jimmy Wakely-Lee White | 57 | 11/33/43 | b10/27/44 |
| 508 Shadows on the Range | Jimmy Wakely-Lee White | 7/20/46 | | |
| 509 They Made a Wallace (W.F.) | Jimmy Wakely-Lee White | 52 | 4/27/46 | b2/27/45 |
| 511 West of the Alamo | Jimmy Wakely-Lee White | 57 | 4/20/46 | b2/27/45 |

Westerns (Coming)

| J. M. Brown-Rayton Hatton | | | |

PARAMOUNT

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<td>Blue Dahlia (My.A)</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Blue Skies &quot;T&quot;</td>
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<td>Bride Wore Boots (CIF)</td>
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<td>Brown Gargan-R. (CIF)</td>
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<td>Hold That Blonde (CIF)</td>
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<td>Reverse Butterfly (CIF)</td>
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<td>One Weekend (D.A.)</td>
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<td>Stone and Stone (A. C.)</td>
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<td>Ladd-G. Fitzgerald (CIF)</td>
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<td>People Are Funny (CIM)</td>
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<td>To Each His Own (D.A)</td>
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<td>Tokyo Rose (D.A)</td>
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<td>Virginia the Tiptoe (CIF)</td>
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<td>Well Groomed Bride (CD/F)</td>
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COMING

| J. M. Brown-Rayton Hatton | | |

PFC

| CURRENT 1945-46 | |
| Avalanche (My.A) | Bruce Cabot-Roscoe Karns | 68 | 3/20/46 | b4/17/45 |
| Club Havana (DM/F) | Dean J. Calvert-M. Lindsay | 68 | 3/20/46 | b4/17/45 |
| Devil Bat's Daughter (My.A) | Rosemary LaPlanche-J. James | 57 | 11/15/45 | b11/3/45 |
| Enchanted Forest "C" (D.F) | Edmund Lowe-Brenda Joyce | 77 | 12/24/45 | b9/21/45 |
| Gunfire-Central City (CIF) | R. Gordon-B. McCarroll | 65 | 11/15/45 | b11/3/45 |
| I Ring Doorbells (My.F) | R. Shayne-A. Gwynne-R. Karns | 77 | 2/5/46 | 12/15/45 |
| Man Who Walked Alone (CIF) | Kay Aldridge-Dave O'Brien | 74 | 3/15/46 | b2/17/45 |
| Mask of Dimit (D.A) | Erich von Stroheim-J. Barnes | 70 | 3/17/45 | b2/17/45 |
| Mystery of the Beautiful (CIF) | W. McQueen-V. Saraiva-Charlotte Pierpont | 64 | 12/15/45 | b2/17/45 |
| Queen of Burlesque (My.A) | Evelyn Ankers-C. Veitch | 77 | 7/24/45 | b7/6/45 |
| Rotwheels (D.F) | A. Dean Woman | 77 | 4/24/45 | b7/15/45 |
| Shadow of Terror (My.A) | A. Smight-W. Corby | 104 | 5/4/45 | b7/15/45 |
| Stranger of the Swamp (H.A) | R. A. Plache-B. Barrat | 59 | 1/11/46 | b1/5/45 |
| White Fang (D.F) | Richard Fraser-M. Wilson | 76 | 11/14/45 | b1/5/45 |
| Why Girls Leave Home (D.A) | Pamela Blake-S. Leonard | 70 | 10/9/45 | b8/15/45 |
| Wife of Monte Cristo (D.F) | J. Loder-L. Ambert | 78 | 10/15/45 | b3/23/46 |
**SHOWMAN'S TRADE REVIEW, July 27, 1946**

**PRC (Continued)**

<table>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Lady Luck</td>
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<td>Land of the Lone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Landrush</td>
<td>MGM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Larrenty &amp; Co.</td>
<td>CoL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last Chance</td>
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<td>Last Frontier Upkeep</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laura</td>
<td>MGM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lawless Breed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lawless Miner</td>
<td>UA</td>
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<td>Leave 'Em to Heaven</td>
<td>20th-Fox</td>
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<tr>
<td>Let a Stranger in the Door</td>
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<tr>
<td>Life's for the Living</td>
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<tr>
<td>Life With Father</td>
<td>WB</td>
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<td>Little Big Horn</td>
<td>Uni</td>
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<tr>
<td>Little Buffalo</td>
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<td>Little Joe</td>
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<td>Little Men</td>
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<td>Little Miss Big</td>
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<td>Little Mo</td>
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<td>Line</td>
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<td>Live Wires</td>
<td>Mon</td>
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<td>Muckers, The</td>
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<td>Lonesome Trail</td>
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<td>Lost in the Desert</td>
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<td>Lost Weekend</td>
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<td>Love Fest</td>
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<td>Lover Comes Back</td>
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**Westerns (Current 1944-45)**

- Ambush Trail (W.F.) | RKO
- Badman's Badlands (W.F.) | RKO
- Caravan Trail (W.F.) | PRC
- Colorado Serenade (W.F.) | RKO
- Deadlier Than a Bullet (W.F.) | RKO
- Flaming Bullets | RKO
- Frontier Fugitives | RKO
- Ghost of Hidden Valley (W.F.) | RKO
- Lightning Riders | RKO
- No Gun Man (W.F.) | RKO
- Prairie Badmen | RKO
- Prairie Raiders | RKO
- Six Gun Man (W.F.) | RKO
- Terrors on Horseback (W.F.) | RKO
- Thunder Town (W.F.) | RKO

**Westerns (Coming)**

- Outlaw of the Plains | RKO
- Overland Riders | RKO
- Man Without a Gun | RKO
- Bob Steele-Ellen Hall

**RKO-RADIO Block No.**

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**COMING**

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<tbody>
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<td>Blonde for a Day</td>
<td>Hugh Beaumont-Kathryn Adams</td>
<td>8/22/46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Down Missouri Way (M.F.)</td>
<td>Martha O'Driscoll-William Wright</td>
<td>9/1/46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drifting River</td>
<td>Martha O'Driscoll-William Wright</td>
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<td>Five Wives of Dr. Kildare (M.F.)</td>
<td>Marsha Hunt-Louis Calhern</td>
<td>5/4/46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melody Roundup <em>C</em></td>
<td>Eddie Dean-Roscoe Karns</td>
<td>6/14/46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secret of the Old Man (W.F.)</td>
<td>Mary Ware-Thelma Todd</td>
<td>6/6/46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strange Holiday (R.F.)</td>
<td>Claude Rains-Robie Stebbins</td>
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| Badman's Badlands (W.F.) | RKO
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| Flaming Bullets | RKO
| Frontier Fugitives | RKO
| Ghost of Hidden Valley (W.F.) | RKO
| Lightning Riders | RKO
| No Gun Man (W.F.) | RKO
| Prairie Badmen | RKO
| Prairie Raiders | RKO
| Six Gun Man (W.F.) | RKO
| Terrors on Horseback (W.F.) | RKO
| Thunder Town (W.F.) | RKO

**Westerns (Coming)**

- Outlaw of the Plains | RKO
- Overland Riders | RKO
- Man Without a Gun | RKO
- Bob Steele-Ellen Hall

**RKO-RADIO Block No.**

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<tr>
<td>Band of the Brazen Horse</td>
<td>Scott Atwater-Mary Forbes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bamboo Blonde (M.C.A.)</td>
<td>Frances Langford-Russell Wade</td>
<td>6/6/46</td>
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<td>Bedlam (D.A.)</td>
<td>Karl Gehl-Bernice relation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Band of the Brazen Horse</td>
<td>Scott Atwater-Mary Forbes</td>
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<td>Devil Thumbs a Ride, The</td>
<td>Herbert Marshall-Henry Wilcoxon</td>
<td>12/1/46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dick Tracy (M.F.)</td>
<td>Morgan Conway-Anne Jefferys</td>
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<td>Diana of the Desert</td>
<td>Lucille Bremer-Lydia Ellis</td>
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<td>Falcon's Alibi (My.A.)</td>
<td>Tom Conway-Rita Corday</td>
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<td>From This Day Forward (D.A.)</td>
<td>J. Fontaine-M. Stevens-A. Judge</td>
<td>2/3/46</td>
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<td>Hotel Reserve (My.A.)</td>
<td>James Mason-Lucille Mannheim</td>
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<td>Kid From Brooklyn (T.C.M.F.)</td>
<td>Crickett and Ray-Bob Hope</td>
<td>3/4/46</td>
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<td>Holiday House (M.F.)</td>
<td>Betty Grable-S. Peck</td>
<td>3/10/46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sing You Home Way (C.M.F.)</td>
<td>Jack Haley-Anne Jefferys</td>
<td>3/7/46</td>
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<td>Spanish Main (T.D.F.)</td>
<td>H. O'Neal M. O'Neal</td>
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<td>Dick Tracy Versus Cueball</td>
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<td>Falcon's Adventure</td>
<td>Tom Conway-Madge Meredith</td>
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<td>Fascinating Nuisance</td>
<td>William Z. Barringer-Josephine Hull</td>
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<td>Genius at Work</td>
<td>A. Brown-T. Brown</td>
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<td>Great Day (D.F.)</td>
<td>Eric Portman-Flora Robson</td>
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<td>Honeymoon</td>
<td>S. Temple-F. Thomas-M. Moon</td>
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<td>Have a Banana</td>
<td>Luana Patten-Bobby Driscoll</td>
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<td>It's a Wonderful Life</td>
<td>J. Stewart-D. Reed-L. Barrymore</td>
<td>11/26/46</td>
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<td>Kate Goes West (M.A.)</td>
<td>L. Young-J. Johnson</td>
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<td>Lady Luck (C.A.)</td>
<td>P. Young-H. Morgan</td>
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<td>The Locket</td>
<td>L. Day-A. Weeks</td>
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<td>Secret Life of Walter Arenovitch (M.A.)</td>
<td>C. Grant-Ingrid Bergman</td>
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<td>Nocturne</td>
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<td>Sp. Notorious</td>
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<td>Secret Life of Walter Arenovitch (M.A.)</td>
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<td>Sinbad the Sailor (T.)</td>
<td>D. Fairbanks-Jr.-M. O'Hara</td>
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<td>South of the Border</td>
<td>S. Haggard-Russell A. Jefferys</td>
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<td>Step by Step (D.F.)</td>
<td>Lawrence Tierney-Anne Jefferys</td>
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<td>Suspense Partners (M.A.)</td>
<td>H. Farnsworth-J. Gray</td>
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<td>Vacation in Reno</td>
<td>Jack Haley-Anne Jefferys</td>
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<td>Woman on the Beach</td>
<td>Bennett-R. Ryan-C. Bickford</td>
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**REPUBLIC**

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<td>Parson My Past</td>
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<td>Partners in Time</td>
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<td>Partners of the Trail</td>
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<td>Pass to Destiny</td>
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Showmen's Trade Review, July 27, 1946

REPUBLIC (Continued)

Prod.
No.
588 A Guy Could Change (D,F)... 589 A Strange Impersonation (D,F)...
591 Crime of the Century (My,A)...
595 Love's Blind Date (D,F)...
596 Lady of the Tides (D,F)...
597 Man From Montana (D,F)...
598 Matt Morgan's Great Adventure (D,F)...
599 Red River Renegades (D,F)...
600 Shadow Riders (D,F)...
601 Secret of the 70th Floor (D,F)...
602 Son of Spook Mountain (D,F)...
603 Spook City (D,F)...
604 Sunset Strip (D,F)...
606 They're Like that (D,F)...
607 Who Changed the Rules (D,F)...

RUN
Time Rel.
588 40/46 591 40/46
589 40/46 594 40/46
595 40/46 596 40/46
597 40/46 598 40/46
599 40/46 599 40/46
600 40/46 601 40/46
602 40/46 602 40/46
603 40/46 604 40/46
605 40/46 606 40/46
607 40/46

COMING

California. J. lavor-J. Ellison-W. Morgan.
In the City of Kenny. James Dunn-Mona Freeman.
Invincible Informer. Linda Sterling-W. Henry.
Last Frontier Uprising. Monte Hale-Adrian Booth.
Out California Way (M). Monte Hale-Adrian Booth.
Platypus and the King. W. Elliott-V. Halston-G. Patrick.
Roll on Texas Moon. R. Rogers-George Hayes-Dale Evans.
Sunglen Man. Sam Hennings.

Westerns (Current 1945-46)

555 Alias Billy the Kid (W,F)... 556 Blue Mountain Skies (W,F).
561 Cisco Kid (W,F). 562 Wild Bill Elliott-Valentino.
565 Drums along the Missouri. 566 Sunset Carson-Peggy Stewart.
567 Lash (W,F). 568 Sunset Carson-Peggy Stewart.
569 Law West of the River (W,F). 570 Sunset Carson-Peggy Stewart.
573 Red River Renegades (W,F). 574 Sunset Carson-Peggy Stewart.
575 Riders of the Range (W,F). 576 Sunset Carson-Peggy Stewart.
577 Robin Hood (W,F). 578 Sunset Carson-Peggy Stewart.
579 Royal Range (W,F). 580 Sunset Carson-Peggy Stewart.
581 Shriners of Red River (W,F). 582 Sunset Carson-Peggy Stewart.
583 Shadow Riders (W,F). 584 Sunset Carson-Peggy Stewart.
585 Sky of Tonto (W,F). 586 Sunset Carson-Peggy Stewart.
587 Son of Spook Mountain (W,F). 588 Sunset Carson-Peggy Stewart.
589 Sunset at Santa Fe (W,F). 589 Sunset Carson-Peggy Stewart.
590 Shadow Riders (W,F). 591 Sunset Carson-Peggy Stewart.
592 Sunset at Santa Fe (W,F). 593 Sunset Carson-Peggy Stewart.
594 Sunset at Santa Fe (W,F). 595 Sunset Carson-Peggy Stewart.
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<td>Anna and the King of Siam (D.F.)</td>
<td>June 14, 46</td>
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<td>636</td>
<td>Black Beauty (D.F.)</td>
<td>July 12, 46</td>
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<td>637</td>
<td>Bob, Son of Battle (Tech.)</td>
<td>July 19, 46</td>
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<td>639</td>
<td>Centennial Summer (M.F.)</td>
<td>Aug 2, 46</td>
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<td>640</td>
<td>Dangerous Millions</td>
<td>Aug 9, 46</td>
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<td>641</td>
<td>Deadline for Murder (My A.)</td>
<td>Aug 16, 46</td>
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<td>642</td>
<td>ESPN (M.F.)</td>
<td>Aug 23, 46</td>
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<td>643</td>
<td>High Window</td>
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<td>645</td>
<td>How I Learned to Love (D.A.)</td>
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<td>Isn't He Wonderful (D.A.)</td>
<td>Sept 20, 46</td>
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<td>647</td>
<td>United Artists (D.A.)</td>
<td>Sept 27, 46</td>
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UNIVERSAL (Continued)

YEARLING (Col.) (20th-Fox)

1102 Code of the Lawless (W.F.)
Kirby Grant-Fuzzy Knight.
39, 10/19/45.

1104 Gun Town
Kirby Grant-Fuzzy Knight.
53, 1/18/45.

1103 Trail to Vengeance
Kirby Grant-Fuzzy Knight.
54, 11/28/45.

OTHERS (Col.)

CURRENT 1945-46

WARNER BROS.

504 Born for Trouble
Van Johnson-Faye Emerson.
79, 10/6/45.

506 Big Sleep
Documentary (W.A.).
103, 4/13/45.

503 Three Sindrella Jones (C/F).
Joan Leslie-Robert Alda.
88, 3/9/46.

515 City for Ceasest
James Cagney-Anne Sheridan.
96, 4/13/46.

505 Danger Signal (D.F.)
Faye Emerson-Zachary Scott.
78, 12/15/46.

508 One Way to Town (D.F.).
Mollie Bevan-Lloyd Nolan.
1, 4/20/45.

516 My Reputation (D.F.)
Bette Davis-Stanwyck-George Brent.
94, 1/13/46.

513 Big Sleep by Night, Comedy
James Stewart-Rosalind Russell.
94, 4/13/46.

522 Of Human Bondage (D.A.)
8, 7/20/46.

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Captive Heart (D.A)
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Doctor D (D.F.)
Harry Fonda.
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53, b1/15.

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53, b1/15.

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I Love You (D.F.)
Chadwick-Mike Laven.
53, b1/13.

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59, b1/13.

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53, b1/13.

Love on the Dole (D.A)
Reynolds-Hayden-Ely.
53, b1/13.

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THE SYMBOL OF A SERVICE
THEATRE BUYERS DEPEND UPON

Showmen’s Trade Review Feature and Short Subjects Booking Guides are Published COMPLETE Every Week
REVIEWED IN THIS ISSUE
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Vol. 45 No. 3
AUGUST 3, 1946

THE SHOW BUILDER
(See Page 51)
THEY'RE GETTING "EASY MONEY"

Los Angeles, New York, Akron, Asheville, Atlanta, Baltimore, Bridgeport, Buffalo, Canton, Charleston, W. Va., Charlotte, Cincinnati, Columbia, Columbus, Duluth, Greensboro, Harrisburg, Hartford, Houston, Indianapolis, Louisville, Minneapolis, New Haven, New Orleans, Providence, Raleigh, Reading, Springfield, Washington, Waterbury, Wilmington, Worcester

You're next to clean up with M-G-M's "EASY TO WED" (Technicolor)
Interstate's Anniversary

Other film industry celebrations cannot dim the bright lustre of a fortieth anniversary that calls for congratulations and the highest esteem of the entire motion picture industry.

We refer to the Interstate Circuit's Fortieth Birthday which will be appropriately celebrated throughout the state of Texas and along with it the deep-rooted affection and respect for its chiefs, Karl Hoblitzelle and Bob O'Donnell.

These two men have built up a reputation for honesty, fair dealing and progressiveness second to none in any phase of the amusement business. From way back in 1906 when Karl Hoblitzelle opened the old Majestic Theatre in Dallas and through the forty years that followed, this circuit has risen until today it is one of the outstanding and finest in the world.

During the many years when the little independents were crying that the big circuits were putting them out of business, we can recall no instance when such a charge was levelled at this outfit. To us this is not surprising. Our own friendship and knowledge of the heads of this circuit and the great majority of the men and women who are part of it, always gave us a thrill of satisfaction that it was our privilege to know them and know them well.

"Live and let live" is a slogan often used but not too often practiced. With Hoblitzelle and O'Donnell it is almost a religion. We could fill this and several additional pages if we dared to violate confidences and tell about the little independents who were helped instead of hurt by this rare combination of two great gentlemen and two great showmen.

We sincerely hope we will be around to participate in the celebration of their fiftieth, sixtieth and seventieth anniversaries. (Or is that asking too much?)

Universal International

The news and rumor pots were still boiling as this week's issue went to press. And no wonder. A merger of two organizations is more than news.

The announcement brought forth a multitude of unanswered questions to many angles that may possibly be answered before our final deadline in which event you will find it in Bill Specht's news story elsewhere in this issue.

Although no announcement was made regarding the merged sales departments, well founded reports indicate that the sales organization will be headed by Bill Scully, present sales chief of Universal. Decision regarding the advertising department is expected this week following Matty Fox's return from London or shortly thereafter.

With such facts as are available at this moment it appears that the new Universal-International will take its place among the stronger companies of our industry. Their recent curtailments of "B" product, westerns, serials, etc., clearly indicate that they are setting their sights on top product and with Bill Goetz handling the production set-up, there can be no doubt about the quality of the product because, in our book, Bill rates second to none in the field of top-flight production executives.

There will probably be many ramifications, revamping and further announcements before the air is cleared and the full objectives known. But it is safe to say that the old "new" Universal will emerge as one of the strongest and better companies of the industry.

ATA Position

Following the decision in the New York anti-trust case, ATA called a meeting of directors at which it was voted not to take any action in connection with the ruling which called for a decree under which trade buying and selling practices would be regulated.

In our opinion, ATA was wrong in adopting such an attitude.

There are many potential dangers for the average exhibitor in any decree covering the whole system of motion picture buying and selling between exhibitors and distributors.

At the present moment it is our opinion that ATA represents more theatres than any other exhibitor organization. While it would be infinitely better if Allied and ATA combined to present a united front, we are convinced that the former, apparently, will not swallow its pride and prejudices and agree to such a working program.

Therefore, ATA, as the representative of large numbers of exhibitors should have taken an active part in whatever way possible to protect the interests of exhibitors in any final decree that is written and accepted by the Court.

We suggest that the officials and directors of ATA reconsider that previous decision and again discuss this matter from a highly practical standpoint and with a view to throwing the weight of exhibitors behind considerations which lead up to any decree that will regulate trade practices in this industry.

—"CHICK" LEWIS
Court Decision Is a Factor in 'U'-International Merger

A' Policy Ends Another Source of Low-Cost Film; Will Enter Theatre Field

Universal this week termed headed for single selling of a revised, higher-budget 37 feature program for 1946-47 as the force of the anti-trust "consent decree" opinion obviously led to a reshuffling of the Universal, International and J. Arthur Rank set ups which:

Merged the Universal production units with International Pictures Corp. to form the Universal International Production Company with Leo Spitz as chairman and William Goetz as president. The new company, which is entirely owned by Universal Pictures Company, Inc., will take over the production of the product which Universal Pictures will distribute. All B product and Westerns had already been ordered stopped.

Dropped United World Pictures Company, Inc., which had been 50 per cent Rank owned and 50 per cent Universal. International owned, before it even distributed a picture and moved President Matthew Fox over to Universal Pictures Company as an Executive Vice President.

Provided that Rank product in the United States and Latin America would be distributed by Universal, with a special Rank sales manager having full control over the sales policy and the sales staff in the handling of this product. A Rank advertising and publicity department will also be created to handle this product.

Provided that Universal International product in England, Scotland and Ireland, will be distributed by Rank's General Pictures Company, Inc., with Universal evidently retiring altogether from the United Kingdom distributing field. Universal International product in other countries would continue to be distributed by Universal International distributing corporation while Rank product in other countries would continue to be distributed by Rank outfits. (These arrangements do not affect either the American or the British Eagle-Lion commitments.)

Committed Universal to a policy of acquiring theatres in key sections of the United States.

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B Pictures Don't Warrant Costs Australian Says

Australians, like Americans, are shopping for their pictures these days, and it takes top product to hold up the box office, hence B pictures are unwarranted, Universal Australian General Manager Dan Casey declare in New York this week.

Casey, here with Perth Branch Manager Ray Groves, winner of the Seidelman drive, found no difference in American and Australian tastes. Universal's new policy of no B pictures is going to require special handling of product, he said and may even involve change of house policies.

"Every picture is going to be made with the purpose of a holdover policy," he declared, acknowledging that such a policy in Australia, if carried out, would cause a reshuffling of the playing time.

"The neighborhood houses which make three changes a week probably have to change to two a week or even to one a week as a result of long runs in the first run situation," he said.

B pictures, he declared, "do not warrant the cost of production. We realize in order to get the investment back we must make quality product. When the big picture is there, the people will go. They're shopping for pictures there just like the United States."

Warners' 1st Post War Meet Opens Monday

First Warner Bros. post war international sales meet opens Monday in Atlantic City for a three day run which is expected to bring together approximately 100 members of the domestic and foreign sales staffs for a series of general and division conferences.

The sessions, which are being tied in with the 20th Anniversary of Talking Pictures, will be held in the Hotel Ambassador. Among those expected to attend are:

--Vice-President and General Sales Manager Ben Kalmenson; Vice-President in charge of Advertising and Publicity Mort Blumenstock; Vice-President Samuel Schneider; Vice-President Harry M. Kalmine who is also president of General Manager of Warner Theatres: United States Pictures President Joseph Bernhard; Short Subject Sales Manager Norman H. Moray.

--Western Division Manager Roy Haines; Eastern Division Manager Jules Lapidus; Southern Division Manager Norman Ayers; Warner International President Max Miller and Warner International Vice-President Wolfe Cohen.

SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW August 3, 1946
OWMR To Ask MPTOA Help on Gov't Films

With the arrival of Arch A. Mercey, motion picture chief of the Office of War Mobilization and Rehabilitation in St. Louis Friday to confer with Fred Werhrenberg, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America on the possibility of MPTOA members exhibiting government films in their theatres, the last of the big three exhibitor organizations will have been contacted by the OWMR in its capacity as a clearing house for government agency films.

OWMR has already dealt with ATA and this week procured an Allied pledge of cooperation with that organization appointing Lee Newberry of Manasquan, N. J.; Sidney E. Samuelson of Philadelphia, and Nathan Yamin of Boston to act as interviewing committee. This trio will review scripts and preview completed product and will recommend improved films for the individual exhibitor, under an Allied Board ruling, is free to accept or reject such recommendations.

In St. Louis MPTOA President Werhrenberg said his organization had always cooperated with the federal government in exhibition films which contained "information of interest and value to the people."

Civil Liberties Union Reports Censorship Low

Motion picture censorship by state boards was at a new low this year, according to the report of the American Civil Liberties Union. The two pictures listed as having the most censorship trouble are "Scarlet Street," which beat Atlanta censor board, and "The Outlaw."

Al Selig Buried

Funeral services for Al Selig, 61, 20th Century-Fox trade paper publicist, who died last Sunday, were held Tuesday from the Riverside Chapel at New York with burial in the New Mt. Carmel Cemetery, Brooklyn. Selig had served with the War Man Power Commission and had held posts with Columbia, Tiffany and United Artists. He is survived by his widow, Ruth; a daughter, Mrs. Marjorie Field, a granddaughter, Barbara Field, and two sisters, Frances and Dora Selig.

Fox Holds Decree Meeting

A regional meeting to discuss sales in accord with the federal three judge statutory court opinion in the anti-trust suit was held by 20th Century-Fox on July 31 and Aug. 1 at the Astor Hotel in New York. General Sales Manager Tom Connors presided. Attendance consisted of the personnel from the Albany, New Haven, Buffalo, and Boston exchanges.

Warner Profits Rise

Warner Bros. net profits after deduction of $14,000,000 for federal income taxes and a contingency fund of $1,100,000 amounted to $14,749,000 for the nine months ending June 1, it was revealed in New York this week. This compares with the $12,470,000 net for the nine months ending May 26, 1945, and is equivalent to $3.98 a share of common.

See Little Product Shortage In Wake of Anti-Trust Rule

Easy does it.

That seems to be the attitude of the nation's exhibitors over the "consent decree" anti-trust opinion this week as they waited and watched for indications of what the eventual decree might mean.

While rumors continued to run wild on the subject of what the decree would contain, individual exhibitors for the most part were calm and frank in their attitude that they did know what the answer would be.

For the most part exhibitors envisioned no product shortage as the result of the court opinion there.

Reports were current that shorts might have to be sold singly also.

Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the Attorney General, met with lawyers representing the Big 5—Paramount, RKO, 20th Century-Fox, Loew's for MGM, Warner Bros. —in New York Tuesday presumably to see if some common ground might be found for the government and the defendants to meet on such subjects as "auction selling" and arbitration.

Neither side would comment on the outcome of the meeting held behind closed doors in the Radio City offices of the American Arbitration Association. Wright said that no accord had been reached despite the afternoon devoted to discussion and that he would probably meet again with the "Big 5" attorneys. The latter had nothing to say.

While the New York discussions were going on, exhibitor organizations continued to line up against any of the opinion's features which might increase film rentals.

Paul Williams, general counsel of the Southern California Theatre Owners Association was reported on his way to Washington, D. C., in an effort to forestall "auction selling" by conferring with the Department of Justice.

Williams had been ordered by his organization to take action against this phase. This week he appeared before an American Theatres organization meeting in San Francisco to urge that the ATA change its "hands off" policy on the opinion because of the importance it bore the industry.

In Los Angeles exhibitor reaction to date has been to sit, wait and see. Privately some exhibitors seem to believe that the Department of Justice knows what it wants and will not make any deals to drop "auction selling" and some of them doubt whether the court would listen to such a suggestion were it made.

One exchange manager said:

"Circuits, which control this district, will operate as before in their buying. Competition is at a minimum in many situations." Others believe that the future will see virtually the same situation with the man who has buying power able to dictate. There is a pronounced feeling in film circles that buying monopolies are far from beaten.

San Francisco reports some product shortage but does not consider the situation unusual. Rotos Harvey, president of the Independent Theatre Owners of Northern California stated:

"There has always been a shortage of product but unless the companies begin selling their film under the new decree orders, this situation will become worse."

However, Dan McLean of the Embassy Theatre denies any product shortage and foresees no future trouble while Jack Blumenfeld of Blumenfeld Theatres declared, speaking of possible product shortage:

"We expect to continue operating in the same manner as before, and do not see the closing of any of our theatres."

Ohio deliveries are proceeding normally with most exhibitors indicating that they have a substantial backlog of pictures.

In New York exhibitors are waiting for facts upon which to base their judgments. There is some uncertainty on what "auction selling" will do, but no hysteria.

(Continued on Page 6)

Seek ‘Least Possible Burden’—Myers

By MANNING CLAGETT

In a biting analysis of the statutory court opinion in the anti-trust "consent decree" case, Allied General Counsel Abram Myers this week appealed to exhibitors from Washington to cooperate in working out a solution that in the meantime will "bear on the exhibitors as lightly as possible."

"The trade, or certain segments of it," Myers said, "appears to be entering upon the silly season. We read that certain groups are adopting resolutions of protest addressed to the Court, that others propose a nation-wide poll to find out if the exhibitors favor either auction-selling or divestiture, while others advance the idea that the entire proceedings should be dropped so that the trade can revert to the status quo ante lawsuit."

The Allied Chief dismissed as "naive" the notion that the Court can be persuaded to change its views by "resolutions or plebeicides." "The distributors," Myers continued, "are not wasting time on futile gestures but are busy working out solutions to their own advantage.

"Why not take the opinion and the published version of the Government’s proposals and figure out ways and means for carrying out the substance of the Court’s plan with the least possible burden to the exhibitors and then submit your ideas to the Department of Justice and to the distributors—the parties to the record—where they will do the most good?"

Myers said that Allied’s Executive Committee, "while committed to divestiture and opposed to auction selling" is willing to consider alternatives. In his analysis of the opinion, Myers leveled his blasts at the auction features, terming the remedy "like treating a cancer with headache pills."

"The greatest evil of the industry today," Myers commented, "is the artificially-created film shortage. Putting films on the auction block..." (Continued on Page 6)
See No Product Shortages
As Result of Court Rule

(Continued from Page 5)

From Milwaukee, Astor Film Head Charles Koehler, the only exchange manager who would permit himself to be quoted said:

...so far as I know, it has had no effect on the film sales or distribution in this area. I had occasion to talk about this decision to several film buyers and executives, but found that none had been affected by it.

A small circuit operator who buys months ahead of demand said his was sold up to the end of the year. This seemed to be a usual condition and there did not seem to be any indication at the moment of product shortage.

The midwest reflects this opinion generally.

In New Orleans exhibitors reported that they did not know what the result would be. They preferred to wait and see before commenting. So far there has been no film shortage.

In Boston one independent said there was a film shortage and that the output of film was down to a minimum. He anticipated that independent exhibitors would get more pictures as a result but that it would take time before this was evident.

Contradicting this opinion was the spokesman of one of the largest chains in the Hub City who said:

"There has been no shortage of pictures and we do not anticipate any. Of course today (July 29) is the first day we have booked pictures on the single system, having always worked on the block system.

"The new system of booking is better for the exhibitor because he will have better bargaining power. This new system will have far reaching effects...on the producer as well as the exhibitor. Here in Boston it will take at least two weeks before any change will be noted and probably six months before the full effect of the change will be felt by the New England exhibitors."

Bids Exhibitors Study
Trust Suit Court Rule

(Continued from Page 5)

will not induce the defendants to increase the number of their releases or to open their retained first-run theatres to the products of new producers and new distributors who might wish to enter into competition with them.

"The Court's major fallacy is in assuming a product shortage to be the normal state of the business—that exhibitors must always compete with one another for the available pictures."

"Under the decision, no theatre-operating defendant will be able to tie-up playing time (except with respect to its own pictures in its own wholly-owned theatres) by means of block-booking, formula deals, master contacts and franchises. To that extent the way has been cleared for new companies to enter the lucrative first-run market."

"But so long as the defendants together control a vast majority of the metropolitan first-run theatres, they will be able by extended playing time and other devices to blend their pictures white and at the same time to perpetuate the existing shortage; and new producers and distributors with no assurance of fair access to the all-important first run revenue, will have no incentive to enter the field."

U. S. After Single Cooperations

Decision of the Bureau of Internal Revenue to disallow capital gains by corporations formed by film stars and producers for single pictures and to attempt to collect income tax as earned income, may have an effect of production of individual pictures by corporations formed just for the purpose of making that single picture, it was indicated in Hollywood this week. The Government contends that many of these corporations were created for the purpose of paying lower income taxes.

Hoblitzelle Will Celebrate 40 Years Of
Influence in Show Business Next Month

Almost 40 years ago a quiet speaking, energetic young man who was all of 27 was busy writing a letter to his board of directors.

"It was not a letter designed to spread optimism. It was truthful and full of the hard sense the young man was to display in after years and it told of a 'company struggling and fighting for its existence in a new field, and handicapped almost from the beginning by a lack of sufficient funds.'"

The Company described was the Interstate Amusement Company and the writer was Karl Hoblitzelle who in August will celebrate 40 years of influence in show business.

Interstate was born of an idea which Hoblitzelle got when he visited the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis in 1904. Noting the success vaudeville was enjoying and certain of the possibilities Texas offered for amusement, he returned home and with the help of some capital contributed by his brother George, founded Interstate.

The company had its usual difficulties but Hoblitzelle kept at it. He saw the success that Loew's was enjoying in the east with a combined vaude and film policy, gave it some thought and in 1920 began experimenting by playing strong product. Convinced that figures proved a combined policy was sound in 1922 he switched his theatres to it and until the advent of sound, Hoblitzelle houses played vaudeville and pictures.

In 1930 he sold his interests to RKO after 24 years of uninterrupted showbusiness. But he didn't stay out long. Three years later large, unwieldy chains operations battered by the depression collapsed and both Paramount-Publix and RKO went into bankruptcy.

In answer to an appeal Hoblitzelle came back into the business and undertook to keep houses open in 30 cities in Texas.

He repossessed the virtually abandoned theatres which RKO had leased. Paramount asked his help and in association with R. J. O'Donnell, a Paramount-Publix Division Manager, he set out to surround the almost insurmountable task of beating a depression and getting money into box offices at a time when there was little money and bank holidays were looming as certain as doom.

The prompt action of this duo of showmen not only kept the theatres running but kept hundreds of employees getting their weekly pay when otherwise they might have been forced to seek relief.

Later, with the consent of the trustees of Paramount and RKO, Interstate Circuit, Inc., was formed to take over the Paramount and RKO operations in Texas.

By 1935 Hoblitzelle and O'Donnell had pulled the houses out of the red into the black figures on the ledgers and Hoblitzelle was more solidly in show business than ever as president of both Interstate Circuit, Inc., and Texas Consolidated Theatres, Inc.

Court Decision Factor
In U-Int'l Merger

(Continued from Page 4)

balance, they can no longer do that and will have to sell individually... Having two separate sales organizations covering the same territory and selling the same territory, was necessary under the old system with Universal selling in volume. We had to have a separate organization then to sell United World individually."

Fox did not comment but the shorts and newsreel program was believed to be unchanged.)

Fox said that the new Universal product would be high calibre pictures and declared that the company was committed to acquiring theatres in key cities by building, leasing or buying.

"We'd like to start with 30 but we don't want to find that we made bad deals just to get a theatre," he explained. He did not anticipate any federal court objection to this theatre program because, he said, "it would mean greater competition which is what the court seeks."

Fox acknowledged that there had been stock swapping in the reshuffle but said he did not believe that it would take either refinancing or added stock to swing either the production or the theatre deals. He also indicated that Universal might handle more than the scheduled 12 Rank productions, saying that he thought "Odd Man Out," "Black Narcissus," "Great Expectations," "The Upturned Glass," would be part of the American distribution of Rank product.
**Warns Unions To Enforce 16-mm. Jurisdiction**

Local unions of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees were instructed to maintain their jurisdiction over 16-mm. film showings by that organization in convention at Chicago last week.

The convention considered some 70 resolutions, voted to purge the IATSE of "con- 

This is the third of such suits to be filed in Ohio.

**Charge Fraud in Ohio**

Seven separate suits charging fraud on percentage picture returns and asking the court to determine actual and punitive damages as well as grant an injunction against alteration of records, was filed in the federal district court for the northern district of Ohio in Cleveland this week against the Scoville, Essick and Reif circuit by Paramount, RKO, 20th-Century-Fox, United Artists, Warner Bros., Loew's for MGM, and Universal. The defendants named were James E. Scoville, Percival E. Essick and Howard Reif, individually, their partnership and associated corporations.

The charges a conspiracy to defraud the suing distributors by submitting false written reports on grosses. All theaters involved are in Ohio and among those named are: the State in Galion, the Highland and Liberty in Akron, the Estella and Madison in Cleveland, the Willoby in Willoughby, the Berea in Berea, the Beach Cliff In Rocky River, the Parma in Parma.

**MPTOA Launches Exhibitor Poll on Court Opinion**

With an appeal for cooperation from both its members and non-members, the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America this week had launched its poll in an effort to determine exhibitor reaction on four phases of the federal statute's anti-trust opinion. The questions cover "auction selling"; arbitra- 

**Preferred Dividend**

Universal's directors this week declared a quarterly dividend, payable Sept. 3, of $1.062 a share on its 4 1/4 per cent cumulative preferred stock.

**Greeks Ease Film Rules**

A new Greek picture decree was announced this week in Washington, with no limit set on the number of films Hollywood can ship into the country on a consignment basis. The limit of 60 royalty basis films for all foreign producers has been raised to 80, and special provisions are made to insure currency remittance.
NATIONAL NEWSREEL

PRC Promises 14 Features Before Nov. 1

PRC this week announced that it would release 14 features in the current period ending the first of November, with a schedule which would include three of the 1946-47 productions and three Buster Crabbe action films.

The schedule is:


Benjamin Elected To Pathe Industries Board

Election of Robert S. Benjamin, member of the New York law firm of Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin and Krim, officer and general counsel to several motion picture corporations, to the board of directors of Pathe Industries, was announced this week by Board Chairman Robert W. Purcell.

Benjamin, a former major in the Army of the United States during World War II, replaces K. A. Browne, resigned. His election to the Pathe parent company board widens the sphere of his motion picture activities which already embraces official connections in five companies. Benjamin is president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, Inc., the parent company of the Rank interests which serves as a coordinator among the subsidiaries. He is vice president and general counsel of United World Pictures Company, Inc., as well as general counsel for Pathe Industries, PRC Pictures, Inc., and Eagle-Lion Films.

In addition he serves as a director for the J. Arthur Rank Organization, United World Pictures Company, Inc.; PRC Pictures, Inc., and Eagle-Lion Films.

Benjamin left for England to confer with the Rank interests there and is expected to return to the United States during August.

Tax Collections Up

June, 1946, admission tax collections were $32,855,313.53, an increase of $4,698,339.34 over the same month in 1945 when the total was $28,157,974.19, the report of the Internal Revenue Department shows. The current year ending June 30 was also ahead of the same period in 1945 with a total of $415,267,866.77 taxes collected, a jump of $57,801,751.49 over the 1945 total of $357,466,115.28.

John H. Harris Elected Head of Ice-Capades Company

John H. Harris, Big Boss of the Variety Clubs of America and prominently identified with the film industry as a member of the Harris family of Pittsburgh, which rates as a pioneer in motion picture theatre showmanship, has been elected president of Ice-Capades, Inc., producers of the Ice-Capades shows and operators of arenas in which they are presented. The officers elected with Harris includes Walter Brown, Boston Gardens, vice-president and treasurer, and Louis A. R. Pieri, secretary.

The organization will present the new edition of "Ice-Capades" (the seventh) in Pittsburgh, Sept. 5.

OPA Predicts Rise In Equipment Cost

The OPA this week in Washington predicted sharp price increases in many motion picture and theatre equipment items. The agency suspended from price control the following: booth equipment, electrical equipment, including arc lamps and flood lighting equipment; theatre control boards; heating and winter air conditioning; theatre seats; valves and pipe fittings and insulating materials.

I. E. Lopert of Lopert Films announces he has seven foreign films for United States distribution during the coming season—five in French, one in Spanish and one in Italian.

Samuel Goldwyn Productions President James A. Mulvey, and Walt Disney, President Roy Disney, attended the RKO Central European Convention on July 30-31 in Geneva, which was presided over by RKO's Swiss Manager Armand Paliwoda.

United Artist Far East Division Manager Al Lowe, who has been vacationing in New York is off to a 10 week tour of the UA offices in Central and South America accompanied by his wife and Bud Ornstein of the home office foreign staff.

Moe Kerman, president of Favorite Films Corp., will be in Hollywood during the first week of August where he plans to establish exchanges in Los Angeles, Portland and Seattle.

RKO Theatres National Director of Advertising and Publicity, Harry Mandel, is back from a West Coast visit with his family.

John H. Harris Elected Head of Ice-Capades Company: John H. Harris, Big Boss of the Variety Clubs of America and prominently identified with the film industry as a member of the Harris family of Pittsburgh, which rates as a pioneer in motion picture theatre showmanship, has been elected president of Ice-Capades, Inc., producers of the Ice-Capades shows and operators of arenas in which they are presented. The officers elected with Harris includes Walter Brown, Boston Gardens, vice-president and treasurer, and Louis A. R. Pieri, secretary.

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Rothafel’s Boy-Girl Revue Scores Beyond Expectations

What was specifically intended and staged as a special activity for National Boys and Girls Week (April 27-May 4) by Showman Bob Rothafel of the 1500-seat Fox West Coast Criterion Theatre, Santa Monica, Calif., would be equally as good as a straight box-office activity, as a Back-to-School (September) idea or a National Parenthood Week (October) idea.

That’s why showmen should lend attentive eyes to the details of Rothafel’s campaign in connection with a stage show for boys and girls by boys and girls.

Last February, after carefully canvassing talent schools in the Santa Monica Bay area, Rothafel contacted the Toland School of Dancing, the best and largest, and outlined his plan which the school readily accepted, and, in return for publicity, agreed to produce its roster of pupils a variety revue, international in theme, at no cost to the theatre.

Worked for Weeks

Both the theatre and school staffs worked for weeks planning the acts. An usherette with radio announcing experience was selected as Mistress of Ceremonies, while another volunteered as stage manager. A 15-act, one-hour stage show was set. During the Easter holidays the cast of 127 performers, varying in ages from four to 16, rehearsed from 7 a.m. to matinee opening time. For three additional weeks, rehearsals were held at the Toland School.

For scenery, the theatre’s stage materials were utilized. Props were dreamed up. Costumes were furnished by each individual. A local dress shop furnished the costume for the Mistress of Ceremonies; a beauty salon created a coiffure; a photographer cooperated and a local florist furnished flowers and corollas.

The only cost to the theatre was the campaign, house salaries and operating expenses for the actual show. The Toland School printed attractive programs for distribution in the theatre and sold tickets in advance, many of them to parents and relatives.

Trailer in 8 Theatres

Rothafel, preparing his campaign weeks in advance, put it into action two and one-half weeks prior to playdate. A 30-foot trailer was exhibited in five of the eight bay area theatres for two weeks, and 7000 heralds were distributed among the theatres. Furthermore, three displays featuring photo art were set up in the Criterion lobby and foyer, and the Toland Studio set up photo displays in 11 merchants’ windows.

The theatre and school each placed the same amount of advertising in seven local papers. The theatre promoted 252 inches of drama art and 81 inches of news in the publications despite their defined policies against “publicity.” All took into account the fact that 1) the item with National Boys and Girls Week, and 2) the appearance of local boys and girls on stage.

Schools and civic organizations published endorsements and released advertising bulletins.

Because an estimated 500 people had an “interest” in the show, word-of-mouth advertising was created, and this sold tickets.

Results were beyond all expectations. Held on a Saturday morning at ten and supplemented by six color cartoons and a Three Stooges comedy, the show played to an audience which was half adult and paid adult prices. The gross set a record, nearly doubled any previous “high,” and the advance ticket sales exceeded the total gross of the best previous kiddie shows. Concession sales zoomed, audience reaction was 100 per cent. the theatre made many new friends, and the Toland School received a tremendous enrollment for spring classes.

Rothafel was so pleased with the success of the show that he plans to make it an annual event. Future shows, however, will be staged for one day (two or three performances) in lieu of a second feature to reserved seating at advanced prices.

Nearly every community has a dancing school, which should make it easy for showmen to stage a revue based on the Rothafel plan. But it takes work and cooperation—plenty of it—if the show is to be a success. And what showman minds work when the results justify the special effort?

Still Time to Stage a Bathing Beauty Contest

There are still several weeks of warm weather ahead, so if you haven’t yet held a Bathing Beauty Contest, you have yet time to start the ball rolling. But don’t wait too long, for it takes time to set such a contest, to put it on and to finally award the grand prize to the finalist.

In Cumberland, Md., Manager Fred Perry of Schine’s Liberty Theatre hasn’t let any grass grow under his feet. His contest has been set and probably by this time is well under way or even completed. In any event, merchants are promoting it and are offering valuable prizes.

Contest runs for a period of eight weeks, and one night each week a contest is held and winners selected, each receiving one of the prizes given by the merchants. On the eighth week the final is held, with the grand prize to be chosen and given the title of Miss Liberty of Cumberland.

Perry heralded the contest with a full-page newspaper cooperative ad. To help get entries for each week’s contest, he has tied in with the Cumberland Swimming Pool.

This outline of Perry’s activities should help other theatremen get started.
Good Business

(EDITOR’S NOTE: The following poem by Edgar A. Guest has appeared in Fox West Coast’s house organ and The Da-Ear-En Family, employe publication of National Service Sales, Inc. Of the several hundred verses, this one is so well suited to current conditions; indeed, it portrays so suitable to successful theatre operation that the wise theatre manager is constantly bellying it, . . . .

If I possessed a shop or store, 
I’d drive the grouch off my floor! 
I’d keep a boy or clerks, 
With mental toolshalse at his work. 
Nor let a man who draws my pay 
Drive customers out of mine store. 
I’d treat the man who takes my time 
And spend a nickel or a dime 
With courtesy, and make him feel 
That I was pleased to close the deal. 
Because tomorrow who can tell? 
For he may want stuff I have to sell, 
And in that case, then glad he’ll be 
To spend his dollars all with me. 
The reason people pass one door 
To patronize another store, 
Is not because the basic place 
Has better silk, or gloves, or lace, 
Or quarters, but it lies 
In pleasant words and smiling eyes; 
The only difference, I believe, 
Is in the treatment folks receive.

Theatre’s Garden Show Outstanding Civic Event

Presented during the summer season each year, the Berkeley Garden and Harvest Festival held in the spacious foyer and mezzanine of the United Artists Theatre, Berkeley, Cali., has become an outstanding annual civic event to which the city’s residents look forward. Directed by Kenneth Workman, Fox West Coast city manager, and the co-sponsors are the Berkeley Daily Gazette, the Berkeley Chamber of Commerce and the Berkeley War Council.

Realizing that color is the essence of an outstanding garden show, Workman this year appealed to the leading commercial florists and nurserymen in the area who quickly reserved all available space, including that for an exhibit from one of the world’s outstanding orchid growers whose display ran into thousands of dollars and proved to be a highlight of the show. Drawing of floor plans, securing of constant nearness of space, writing and changing of radio announcements and scripts were carefully worked out months in advance. Garden clubs had their exhibits in on deadline, and a judging committee was carefully selected.

A half-hour radio broadcast originated from the foyer of the United Artists on the opening night of the Festival. Those paying tribute over the air included the mayor, vice-mayor, city manager and the Berkeley council members. Spot announcements over radio networks brought the event and the United Artists to the attention of thousands of people throughout northern California.

The Festival was an outstanding success and served as a business stimulator and goodwill builder for the theatre.

Look at Your Screen!

High intensity projectors and new and improved sound equipment are not the only things necessary to put your best mechanical foot forward in presenting motion pictures. If the picture itself is not bright as it should be, inspect the screen for dirt. It collects dust and dirt, and its cleaning should be made part of the regular maintenance routine.

Citizens Fete Jones On 32nd Anniversary

When 60 leading merchants join in sponsoring a full page of congratulatory advertising on a motion picture exhibitor’s 32nd Anniversary in business, and when the same newspaper makes the Anniversary occasion the subject of a front-page, three-column head, “Jake Jones Spreads Happiness As Part of 32-Year Business,” then the exhibitor has arrived in the hearts of his friends.

Not that Jake Jones hadn’t arrived long before his 32nd Anniversary took place in Shawnee, Oklahoma recently, because the pioneer theatreman located in Shawnee way back in 1903, when he fed the populace sweets as the operator of a well known candy store. But when Jake found that the comparatively newer returns of the business were not worth the long hours and painstaking work required for the high quality product he was putting out, he looked around for another business and theatres proved the answer.

Mr. Jones chuckled when he tells how he happened to move to Shawnee, stating that he really moved away from a fire department. He had served as a volunteer fireman in Waco, Texas, and had aided in extinguishing 104 fires in one year, when Mr. Jones stated flatly that he had to “cut it out.” The only way he could do it was to move away from Waco, so he came to Oklahoma. Shawnee suited him “just fine,” so he located there and remained. He operates the Ritz and his son and daughter run the Jake Theatre.

The friendly attitude of the citizens of Shawnee toward Mr. Jones might be caused, in part, by the theatreman’s attitude toward Shawnee.

“It’s still the best town in the whole United States,” he says, “Good schools, good churches and good people here. That’s what makes a town.”

And that point of view makes a good citizen, and a community leader.

Need New Valances?

During the hot weather many theatres hang institutional “Cool” valances under the regular marquee attraction signs—and promptly forget all about them. Remember that they are exposed to rain, the blazing sun and to strong winds. Have them inspected regularly, cleaned repaired or replaced to present a constantly fresh, inviting appearance.

Shopping Carts Stunt

Something new in theatre promotions the giving away of 25 all-metal shopping carts with matching advertising on in Cleveland—but fast! Credited to Jack Gertz, the stunt began last week at the Broadvue, and over 40 other theatres in the area lined up. Carts are sponsored by one or more neighborhood merchants who, in addition to paying for them, pay also for window cards and ticketetter card propped in the trailer, lobby display and circulars; cost to the theatre is nothing. The Kroger Geoge in (for library). If an attraction comes along and advertising accessories are not yet available, a blowup of the star is taken out of the morgue, title and cast is handlettered on a card, or a cutout made from a press book cover, and a display is completed in jig time. Of course, there’s no law against using such blowups in connection with regular advertising displays, for they do enhance the general appearance of the lobby or front.

The star blowups should fit the sizes of the lobby frames. Thus if you have two 40x60 and two 30x40 frames, it would be wise to have two 40x60s and two 30x40s of each star. Of course, where more than one star is to be billed, more faces can be used for a single attraction.

Where it is impossible to maintain a library of photographic blowups, regular 8x10 star stills should be utilized, for these can be made an integral part of an attractive lobby display.

Barbecue at Theatre Opening

Showmanship is not dead in Arizona if Wade Loudermilk has anything to do with it. The colorful owner and manager of the Roxy Theatre in Buckeye sent out engraved invitations to many of his film friends to the opening of his new house on July 23. Wrote Loudermilk:

“With the help of many hands, a few prayers (latter to counteract some of the cursing), I believe we will open the Roxy, Buckeye, Tuesday evening, July 23, 1946, 7 p.m. Now Mama and I would like to extend our invitation with an after-show snack around the barbecue pit in the rear of our home, starting about 9:30 p.m. Plenty of fresh (roast-raised) barbecue (Loudermilk style) sandwiches with all the trimmings is yours for the coming. Would appreciate you stopping us a postal card or passing the world along as to whether or not you can make the date, so we may count numbers and order supplies accordingly, but regardless, you will be welcome.”

He should be simply named “Wade” to this very unusual, warmhearted invitation. Needless to say, the place was jammed and the barbecue really lived up to the advance notice Wade gave it!
WE'RE mighty grateful for all the tributes that are being heaped on Warners these Anniversary days. But there are others within the industry who have earned the right to consider it their Anniversary, too.

To the exhibitors, large and small,
Writers and "talking pictures" we very much. It was through their far-sightedness, their support and their showmanship that progress was possible in those struggling "See and Hear" years. We acknowledge their important contribution with gratitude most sincere; and we look forward to the continued progress that must result from this ever-growing bond between us.

And now, fully realizing the meaning of this occasion to every exhibitor on the globe, we here present our Celebration attractions.
The Celebration goes on and goes on

NIGHT AND DAY AND DAY

IN ANNIVERSARY TECHNICOLOR

AND the Celebration goes on and goes on and

THIS WEEK IN 250 NIGHT AND DAY-AND-DATE PREMIERES! NEVER SUCH TRANS-CONTINENTAL FESTIVITIES! NEVER SUCH INDUSTRY-WIDE PARTICIPATION!
Hats off to all of them—they made "Night and Day" possible!

by grant-alexis smith in "night and day" with monty woolley-ginny simms-jane wyman-eve arden-carlos ramirez-don dell woods and mary martin

play by charles hoffman led townsend william bowers directed by michael curtiz music by arthur schwartz adaptation by jack hoffman based on the career of cole porter orchestral arrangements by ray heidtcrf

these are the shows that say "happy warner anniversary" every day!
BETTE DAVIS
IN
A STOLEN LIFE
GLEN FORD AND DAME CLARK
WALTER BRENNER, CHARLIE ROGERS
DIRECTIONS BY CURT CURTIS

HUMPHREY BOGART • LAUREN BACALL
IN
THE BIG SLEEP
MARSH VICKERS • DOUG Wylie
H. L. BLOOM

BETTE DAVIS AND HENREID
IN
DECEPTION
HARRY DAVIS • HENREY BLAKE

ERROL FLYNN • ELEANOR PARKER
IN
NEVER SAY GOODBES
LESLIE WATSON • LAUREN BACALL

DENNIS MORGAN • ANDREAS ALDA
IN
TWO GUYS FROM MILWAUKEE
LOUISE PAGE • LUCILE WATSON

PAUL, ALEXIS PARKER AND HENREID • SMITH
W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM
JAMES CANTON • JIM PAGE

IDA LUPINO • ALDA ANDREA KING • BRENDA BROWN
IN
OF HUMAN BONDAGE
DAVID BOWIE • HENRY BLAKE

JOHN GARFIELD • FITZGERALD
IN
NOBODY LIVES FOREVER
W. SARAH EMERSON • S. Z. SAHL

ELEANOR PARKER • HENREID • SMITH
W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM
JAMES CANTON • JIM PAGE

BETTE DAVIS
IN
THE MAN I LOVE
LOUISE PAGE • LUCILE WATSON

AND NOW AS ALWAYS
A SOUND PROGRAM NEEDS

— FEATURETTES
— CLASSIC COMEDIES
— TECHNICOLOOR SPECIALS
— JOKER CAROON CARTOONS
— ADVENTURE SPECIALS
— MELODING SUPERB BANDS
— HUMOR TRIVIA
— TECHNICOLOOR SPECIALS
— JOKER CAROON CARTOONS
— ADVENTURE SPECIALS
— MELODING SUPERB BANDS
— HUMOR TRIVIA

BOTH EARLY NEXT YEAR!

LIFE WITH FATHER

NOW APPROACHING ITS 8th SUCCESSIVE YEAR ON BROADWAY! IN TECHNICOLOR!

VOICE OF THE TURTLE

STILL THE BIGGEST THING IN ROMANCE AND COMEDY ON THE BROADWAY BOARDS!

SOUND BUSINESS POLICY:
"WARNERS HAVE AN ENVIAEABLE RECORD FOR COMBINING GOOD CITIZENSHIP WITH GOOD PICTURE MAKING"

THE NEW YORK TIMES
Talking pictures marched toward their 20th birthday this week bringing to a climax a campaign of celebration and tribute which bids fair to reach a record peak for prolonged and sustained interest as well as for the wide range of its activities.

It was on Aug. 6, just a score of years ago that sound sounded off in the Warner Theatre on Broadway with what is now the historic showing of John Barrymore in “Don Juan.” This week as another Aug. 6 approaches, sound is sounding off again, this time internationally as the celebration which started in the United States during mid-April is carried across the ocean to England.

In the United States the celebration ranges from New York’s Columbus to Carthay Circle in Los Angeles, spreading across 48 states and getting official sanction in hundreds of communities through official proclamations by governors, mayors and other public officials.

The country (as one of the participants in the celebration has remarked) seems to have taken to the celebration like a hookey-playing kid to a circus parade.

Daily newspapers including many which have rigid rules about space to be devoted to motion pictures, apparently throw away the rule book and devoted pages to feature material on the history and development of the talkies. Some of this work was original research conducted by reporters interested in the subject.

Weeklies, ranging from the country weekly to the slick paper magazines, carried stories and pictures. Sunday supplements, and trade papers dug back into the past—a scant twenty years but all cluttered with formidable improvements and chances—to produce features on what had happened before the screen began to talk and things which have happened since. Fan magazines ran picture layouts and editorials.

The radio, which has leaned heavily on talking pictures for its dramas and actors, sounded a fanfare for sound. More than 25 coast-to-coast network programs were based on this twentieth century achievement of science and art. More than 100 other network broadcasts saluted the birth of sound. Over 80 non-network stations climbed on the sound tracks with their tributes.

Governors of 31 states and mayors of over 200 cities issued formal proclamations either designating the period of Aug. 4-10 as Twentieth Anniversary of Talking Pictures Week or Aug. 6 as Sound Anniversary Day.

Civic Associations, technical associations, professional societies (such as the Society of Motion Picture Engineers), exhibitor units, the Broadway (Cont. on Page 26)

UCH as the tribute is deserved, and eagerly as we join the industry generally in paying our best respects to the Brothers Warner and the members of their company on the occasion of a celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the advent of sound motion pictures, we also feel very strongly that this celebration is something in which all companies and individuals within the industry share most importantly. This is so because we cannot help but marvel at the tremendous public interest that is building up in the celebration as a result of the excellent showmanship job that has been and is being done on behalf of the anniversary observance next week.

At this time, thoughtful men within the industry are greatly concerned over the need for a return to the vigorous, progressive and alert show-selling by the industry as a whole and the theatres in particular. Well, in this nation-wide campaign for the Anniversary of Talking Pictures, there is a prime example of the kind of showmanship that directs attention to the motion pictures and which cannot produce other than directly beneficial results at box-offices of the theatres throughout the land. Indeed, this is the kind of a public relations job this industry needs. For while the Warner company is in the spotlight, the overall effect is one of tribute to the industry and added interest in motion pictures.

So, again, our congratulations and best respects to the Warners, and more power to them for their many contributions to the advancement of motion pictures—including this current all-star job of showmanship directing the world’s attention to the industry.

"CHICK" LEWIS
Hats off to all of them - they made "Night and Day" possible!

Cary Grant - Alexis Smith - "Night and Day"

With Monty Woolley, Ginny Simms, Jane Wyman, DuBose Heyward, and Mary Martin

Screen Play by Charles Reicher and Francis Swenn, Directed by Michael Curtiz

Produced by Arthur Schwartz

Orchestrations by Ray Heindorf

Directed by David Butler

Produced by Alex Gottlieb

And these are the shows that say "Happy Warner Anniversary" every day!
other public officials.

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"CHICK" LEWIS

—or Aug. 6 as Sound Anniversary Day.

Civic Associations, technical associations, professional societies (such as the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, exhibitor units, the Broadway (Cont. on Page 26)
Sound Arrived in the Nick of Time—and the Industry's Showmen Made the Most of It

'Revolution' Brought New Vitality to Theatre Exploitation

By TOM KENNEDY

Somebody (G. B. Shaw perhaps) said that "every jest is an earnest in the womb of time." Well, looking behind some things, which now seem so funny, to the time when theatremen struggled with the problems presented by the conversion of the screen to sight plus sound, that clever crack might be turned about to read: "and every earnest becomes a jest...."

It's no little amusing nowadays to recall how then, when the industry was struggling to predict that the sound films unveiled in New York August 6, 1926, were a mere novelty that had too many strikes against them to win permanent success. And it is good for a real laugh now to talk about how much would not have been if showmanship ingenuity theatremen put into the big job—as they saw it—of educating moviegoers to refrain from loud talk in lobbies and auditoriums so that the other patrons might hear the music and dialogue issuing from the screen.

The job of teaching moviegoers (long accustomed to silent action and story-telling from the screen) to observe quiet was one of many problems with which theatremen struggled in 1927 and 1928. These "silence" campaigns were but one of many items of theatre management and show-selling to reflect changes that were wrought in the exhibition field by the sound pictures.

Problems produced for exhibitors by an invention which the Warner Brothers took the pioneering initiative to apply to the popular theatre, ranged far more widely through the whole field, from the actual theatre plant right on through to exploitation, than is generally realized today. Take this required "silence" angle, for example.

Long before there were any "talkies" showmen had sold the "comfort" idea via cooling and air conditioning systems which changed theatre-going from a winter season to a year-round amusement. Now many of these cooling and air conditioning systems were found to be noisy (no more noisy than previously, but prior to "sound" the whim of fans and other equipment was not objectionable). So those who recall details of what went on when the theatre field switched over to sound remember very well how manufacturers of ventilation equipment found it necessary to provide a new factor—silence—in apparatus for theatres. Also, they had to do a lot of selling to convince theatre owners that the equipment would not interfere with the sight-and-sound presentations. Even the prosenium equipment (for opening and closing of draw curtains) had to undergo this refining treatment in the workshop in order to make it more "silent" and also provide remote control operation for the "whole show from the booth" technique which was the natural outgrowth of sound pictures.

That there were many changes in the showmanship practiced by theatremen in exploitation of their attractions was natural. Some of this, as previously noted, was applied to educating the public as to how the fullest enjoyment could be obtained from sound pictures.

Many of the keenest observers on showmanship matters during the time that the Warners introduced their "novelty" were convinced that the man who applied the sound invention to the popular form of screen entertainment did also a most ingenious job of showmanship in selling their new pictures to the public. It was generally accepted by some of the shrewdest observers, for example, that the Warners deliberately allowed the public to "discover" talkies by the brief, casually-spoken line of Al Jolson's as he sat at the piano to sing to his mother in "The Jazz Singer" (which was a "talkie" only in so far as it contained those few words of his informal dialogue). The smartness of allowing others to "find" an apparently overlooked potentially was widely commented on when, later, the talking pictures started the upward boom at box-offices and the final conversion to "sound" took place in the industry.

Action That Brought Results

The energy with which the exhibition field went to work to sell talkies, once they were proved at the box-office, probably will remain as one of the most striking examples of enterprise in the history of the industry. It is true, that the Warners took a "watchful waiting" attitude toward the sound pictures in 1926, 1927 and early 1928. But once it was proved that the public would "accept" this revolutionary development in an established art and amusement the showmen of America gave a demonstration of progressive energy which has few equals in the whole field of merchandising.

It was a very costly revolution for the theatres—it meant not only added equipment and projection booth, but, as showmen stressed, for the greatest perfection in presentation, the air conditioning and cooling equipment problem and the acoustical correction were necessary (and what a lot of unadulterated bunk there was howled up and down the corridors of the industry about "acoustics") by fly-by-night manufacturers of all kinds of junk! To confusion over "acoustics" did not fool the exhibitors for very long, however.

Showmen Stuck to Their Job

All of the troubles and worries and harassments caused by merchandising discussion and the patent suits did not take the America showman's mind off the job he had in selling a potential theatregoer on the merit of "talkies" as against the "silents," which vast sections of the public had learned to love and to which great numbers proposed to remain loyal in the face of this upset gadget called "sound." The theatremen, being practical psychologists, knew very well that some natural instinct made even the most devoted "silent" patrons wary of this widely-discussed "novelty" did not, by any means, comprise a habitual theatre-going public. They were, no doubt, enough to provide a bread-and-butter audience for the average theatre. It was up to the showmen to sell the talkies and sell "hard." As usual, a very simple line—or slogan—crystallized the whole selling formula which proved most effective. This was the two-word selling line which was worked out by the Warner advertising department in a clever device to visualize the words "see—hear." It was supplied in mat form and was posted widely throughout the theatre field. Thus the showmen cooed, insinuated, coaxed and reiterated to the public the idea that now one could hear as well as see the movie stars. And so the process went on to convert the public, as well as the theatre, to sound.

Educators or Salesmen?

It is not unlikely that some of the elaborate "silence" campaigns already dwelt upon quite amply, were shrewdly conceived as a means of selling the public on sound and talkies even more than they were designed in such spectacular detail to condition the public to observe "silence" rules. One campaign we know of had such purpose behind it. This was the campaign by H. M. Addison, managing director of the Great Lakes Theatre, Buffalo, Addison—as the man behind the first theatre in Buffalo to install sound, and the third theatre in the U. S. to put in Vitaphone equipment—carried his "silence"
SHOWMEN WHO WERE AMONG THOSE PRESENT AT THE BIRTH OF TALKIES

L. C. GRIFFITH

Theatremen who photos appear above are prominently in the spotlight of the “anniversary of talking pictures” celebration next week. L. C. Griffith is president of Griffith Theatres, Oklahoma City. He was among the early Southwest theatre owners to bring sound pictures to the public. Ralph Talbot, head of Talbot Theatres, Tulsa, was the first exhibitor to show Warner Vitaphone pictures in the state of Oklahoma. He had sound equipment operating in Tulsa in the early part of 1927. George Mann, of Redwood-Midland Circuit, California, presented Vitaphone pictures in Eureka, California, in the early part of 1927. John N. Griffin, general manager of Coleman’s Theatres, Miami, Oklahoma, well remembers the first Vitaphone installation at the Glory B Theatre, says that patrons, filing out after the first show, exclaimed: “Glory Be, is right!”

RAphaL TALBOT

campaign from his theatre lobby to the display advertisements used in Buffalo’s newspapers.

We reproduce one of those advertisements. Another item was a card which one of the ushers distributed to patrons entering the theatre (said usher having been earnestly urged to act in a manner that was supposed to be “easy” on the feelings of patrons who might be talking rather loud in the lobby). Furthermore, Malson had an usher trained to walk through the lobby carrying a card bearing the admonition “Silence” when large groups of people entered and any talked loudly. A great deal of all this seemingly earnest “educational campaign” was in reality a calculated effort to dramatize the talking picture show. It was a “stunt,” an exploitation idea which drove home the fact that there were “Talkies” and Buffalo people could see them at the Great Lakes Theatre.

Resourceful Showmanship

It would be to labor the point were the attempt to show that sound and talkie pictures of themselves generated new showmanship angles. Actually, showmanship far outranked the introduction of the first movie; since the circus, the carnival, the grand opera and the so-called legitimate theatre all were just as eager to exploit the benefits of basically the same elements of showmanship which later were to be applied to sell the public on silent and later talkie pictures. However, the resourcefulness of the majority of motion picture showmen was such by the time talkies made their entrance on the scene that there was quick realization of whatever new “angles” came with the sound device. Thus, not long after the talkies emerged, the theatremen were using theme songs and loud speakers—if of a form of exploitation which today accounts for tremendous interest in new pictures. This form of exploitation, which reached a sensational high for “The Harvey Girls” this season as a result of the radio “plugging” of Atcheson, Topoka and Santa Fe,” had its real start in 1928, most spectacularly with the bit-tune character of Al Jolson’s “Rainbow Round My Shoulder” and “Sonny Boy” songs for “The Singing Fool.”

Today the radio is a publicity and advertising medium for showmen which is taken for granted. Radio was in its swaddling clothes when sound burst on the movie horizon, and with stations grasping at every bit of acceptable sound to broadcast, dialogue and musical scores of films were more than acceptable and served as the earliest experiments upon which the present tieup between movies and radio has developed.

The trailer with sound and dialogue in it today is a mere commonplace. But Herman Robinson, who was one of the pioneers in the showing of sound pictures before the talking days, has observed that many of the theatre managers of those days did not believe in selling talkie pictures “until their business was one of many complexities due to the talkie development.”

Another thing that may not be readily remembered today is the really serious thought showmen had to give to the angle of “honesty” in advertising and exploitation as “sound” and “talkies” distinctions grew out of difficulties in getting equipment to present the synchronized pictures.

Homesty in Advertising

In the hurly-burly that built up in the early days of sound, many theatres got into exploitation—since they had to get on a waiting list for equipment—installed large phonographs on which recordings were used to give “sound” accompaniments to films.

Then the advertising of “sound” and “talkie” and the terms “Vitaphone” and “Movietone” came into play. The public became confused and there were indications that some resentment might arise against theatres generally. Consequently, many theatremen became alarmed, and there were steps taken to urge upon all exhibitors the need for making their advertising clear on the point as to whether a certain show was “talkie” (synchronized sound of both music and dialogue and effects) or merely “sound” accompaniments.

Meanwhile production was having its difficulties, and many pictures were being made without dialogue. These latter were given a patina of up-to-dateness (or perhaps their producers were merely making a concession to a “novelty”) by having musical scores and sound effects dubbed in synchronization.

What came out of all this was that a good many of the theatres adopted the rule to use in advertising the line “A Talking Picture” or “A Sound Picture” to make clear whether the attraction was a play with dialogue or a play with an accompaniment of music.

Only the theatremen who went through the upheavals which resulted in the revolution of 1929 know the many headaches which were presented by the shortage of equipment; the problems of “interchangeability” (some pictures us-

(Continued on Page 14)
A lot has been said and written about the skepticism and opposition that my brothers and I had to contend with when we made up our minds to bring out sound and talking pictures. It is all very true. But what I'd like to say on this occasion is not about the men who didn't believe with us and in us. I want to say something about those who did believe.

Those men who backed us up with their faith in those early days of sound were real showmen, and as showmen they realized that we had something of tremendous value.

More than that, however, was the confidence these men had in us—in my brothers, Sam, Jack and Albert, and myself. And I don't think I've ever understood the sacrifices that some of them made when the talking picture industry was in a lot of trouble. But they didn't mean anything unless we can get other people to believe in our dreams and help us to make them come true.

It is absolutely true. And I think it will be more. In almost every great undertaking, is a small minority with a big faith that makes the achievement possible. It was a handful of men with a mountain of faith that made talking picture a reality.

So it is to those pioneer exhibitors, and the inventors, the engineers and all other pioneers who helped us along during our early struggles with sound, as well as the talkie pioneers, that we of Warner Brothers are most deeply grateful today.

They are the ones that Jack, Albert and I want to salute on this Twentieth Anniversary of Talking Pictures.

Street stars to find Sam, if he were still with us, would feel the same way about it.

By Harry M. Warner, President, Warner Bros. Pictures, Inc.

Sound and Showmanship

(Continued from Page 13)

Sound disc recording, others sound-on-film); the acoustical faults which developed when sound was presented in theatres built for silent pictures; the rising costs of operation; the technical difficulties that were not completely ironed out until servicing organizations came into existence to check and service the complicated sound and projection equipment; the film buying and booking problems, etc.

The consensus of several theatremen who did go through the experience is that all this history which is coming forth in connection with the "Twentieth Anniversary of Talking Pictures" can serve a purpose beyond the dramatization it will receive as a valuable means of directing new interest to theatres during the anniversary celebration. And that purpose, these showmen declare, is a reminder that the theatre field can save money by providing against a future of changes. They refer to television and the wisdom of providing in plans for new theatres adequate space for additional apparatus that may be necessary.

Admissions Up, Then Down

Another angle which was volunteered by several of these theatre men is the advisability of checking possibilities of a price rise at this time. This factor was suggested by a condition that was widely discussed in the trade after sound pictures became established. For then it became apparent that had all theatres raised their prices a little, all might have gone on realizing a better return on their investments. Many showmen who did raise prices, found patrons quite willing to accept the increase, but, unfortunately, many of these had to recede to former scales because their competition did not lift admissions slightly as part of their conversion to a sound picture policy.

Among all theatre men who were in business at the time when the Warners came along with their sound pictures there is the lasting knowledge that the "talkies" were a life-saver for the industry. The movie theatres had gone over the crest from the "golden age" of the great silent pictures. Movie theatres were losing their grip and in the face of a growing apathy, the big outburts were in the market bidding for and paying "names" tremendous salaries to appear in stage shows. Elaborate stage equipment was being installed in many theatres, and the trend seemed destined to widen and the costly shows become a necessity for the more modest theatre operations if their owners wanted to stay in business.

Stopped Dangerous Trend

At this critical stage in a dangerous trend developing in the picture theatre field, the sound pictures (once the tide turned and they won acceptance by the public as "talkie" pictures) were a "shot in the arm," veteran theaterman declare.

These showmen point out that what happened then again affirmed the fact that in all progressive moves "great gains are made at the cost of great hazards," as was said "way back in 1926 of the pioneering efforts of A., H. M., J. L., and the late Sam Warner."
We Salute You

THE WARNER BROTHERS

HARRY • JACK • ALBERT

on the

20th Anniversary

of

Talking Pictures

Your courageous pioneering, your initiative and foresight, and your wholehearted sponsorship of Americanism on the screen helped earn our industry the greatness it has achieved.

* * *

NATIONAL THEATRES

Charles P. Skouras, President

FOX MIDWEST THEATRES
Elmer C. Rhoden, President

EVERGREEN STATE THEATRES
Frank L. Newman, President

FOX WEST COAST THEATRES
Charles P. Skouras, President

FOX MICHIGAN THEATRES
David M. Ideal, President

FOX INTERMOUNTAIN THEATRES
F. R. Robertson, President

FOX WISCONSIN THEATRES
Howard J. Strengfeld, President
to

WARNER BROS.

Greetings

on the occasion of the celebration of the Twentieth Anniversary of Talking Pictures

J. E. BRULATOUR
(Inc.)

Sole Distributor
EASTMAN MOTION PICTURE FILM

Eastman Film ★ Brulatour Service
Fort Lee ★ Chicago ★ Hollywood
Congratulations

WARNER BROS.

ON THE

TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY
OF TALKING PICTURES
Here's the unseen star they HEARD!

The smashing success of that night just 20 years ago—the world premiere of Warner Brothers' "Don Juan"—could not have been achieved without this loudspeaker and its adjuncts in the Western Electric Sound System. For the first time it was possible to fill a theatre with quality sound, accurately synchronized with a motion picture.

The loudspeaker—the vacuum tube amplifiers which provided the necessary volume—the microphones which picked up the sound for recording—the electrically driven recorder—the synchronizing system that tied together sound and scene—were five basic contributions to the new art. All five were made by Western Electric.

Many years of research in the field of sound-transmission went into the development of these elements and of the recording and reproducing equipment built around them.

Since 1926, Western Electric has made many more contributions—such as Noiseless Recording, Wide Range Sound and, more recently, the basic development of Stereophonic Sound. Microphones, amplifiers, recorders and loudspeakers, have been steadily improved.

Producers, too, have studied and advanced the techniques for using the equipment.

Continuing research by Bell Telephone Laboratories, by the Electrical Research Products Division of Western Electric and by the sound technicians of the nation's studios, assures still finer sound in the pictures of tomorrow!
Congratulations!

UNITED STATES PICTURES
INC.

JOSEPH BERNHARD, President

MILTON SPERLING, Vice-President
in Charge of Production
Cal Coolidge First to be Heard in Los Angeles via Talking Pictures

Silent Cal Coolidge, known for his taciturnity, was nevertheless the first person to give out with sound in the Los Angeles area, according to Edwin Schallert, veteran drama critic of the Los Angeles Times, who has been around for some time. Coolidge eulogized his epoch-shattering words in 1923. Schallert recalled, in a newsreel shown at a downtown L. A. theatre. The agency used was DeForest Phonofilm, and the tradition-busting exhibitor was Roy Miller, original owner of the California Theatre, now given over to the showing of Mexican films.

But the initial performance of sound was really consummated on October 27, 1926, at Sid Grauman's Egyptian Theatre, when “Don Juan” was shown to a marveling audience, including celebrities of the day. Grauman had been showing the film in silent version, starting in August of that year, and suddenly, in his usual showmanlike way, he merrily announced a second premiere of “Don Juan.”

“Grand Premiere of the greatest wonder developed the beginning of pictures,” the ad read. “Vitaphone,” it went on, “Bringing to your very eyes and ears the living, breathing musical personalities of such stars as Marion Talley, Giovanni Martinnelli, Anna Case and Mischa Elman.”

And what a premiere it was! Grauman had stars like Rene Adoree, Vilma Banky and Lew Cody there. Among others, such 1926 bright lights as Viola Dana, Harrison Ford, Ralph Graves and Jack Hoxie were present. The list had to be alphabetized, it was so lengthy.

Schallert, the eminent critic, said that “The Jazz Singer” came in 1927, and really turned the tide, and that “Lights of New York” was introduced in July, 1928, the first all-talking picture. But it was “Don Juan” that really pioneered the field, and started the ball rolling for sound films. Schallert also credits Fox Movietone News with doing early work in helping to popularize the new phenomenon.

Schallert, in his column the next day, October 28, 1926, said: “A new form of entertainment has achieved its debut. Its advent has been proven to be as far-reaching and undoubtedly as momentous as anything that has ever transpired in the history of the theatre.”

Sid Grauman, who built the famous Grauman's Chinese Theatre in Hollywood, was quick to capitalize on the new development. After the historic premiere, he exclaimed in his ad next morning: “Amazing, Astounding, Bewildering, Revolutionary... Never before such praise as that heaped by last night's illustrious audience on the WONDER OF WONDERS, VITAPHONE.” Grauman still operates the Egyptian and Chinese, which were sold to United Artists in '26, and are now run by Fox West Coast.

State's Horn Towers Overcame Stage Difficulty

The State Theatre, Minneapolis, Minn. was among the first to install sound equipment and use Vitaphone products at the advent of sound pictures. Harold Kaplan, now associated with Harold Field in the ownership of the St. Louis Park Theatre, Minneapolis, managed the State Theatre in Minneapolis in 1926. Kaplan was but 19 years old at the time, the youngest “A” house manager in the United States.

Kaplan recalls that it was necessary to rewire the entire theatre, including the projection booth, to install the equipment. The State Theatre was presenting stage shows at the time and the management ran into difficulties setting up the horns. They finally overcame the tribulation by building two tall towers on casters in order that the horns could be moved on and off the stage. Double sound amplifiers were installed in the booth to offset the possibility of break-downs. It took workmen 8 weeks to make the installation.

After the first Vitaphone program, labor trouble caused theatre personnel other than operators to try their hand at the projectors. And they had plenty of trouble before being able to synchronize sound and film in Don Juan.

Minneapolis audiences, generally speaking, took sound pictures rather calmly, although there was some amazement.

Al Jolson in the “Jazz Singer,” established a house record, grossing over $27,000. This top gross still stands as the record holder and probably will for some time to come, in Mr. Kaplan’s opinion.
ON-THE-SPOT OBSERVERS OF PUBLIC'S REACTION TO FIRST TALKIES

CHARLES L. FISK
SHANNON KATZENBACK
RALPH D. GOLDBERG
ART SCHWARTZ

Among the showmen who recall the excitement as well as the difficulties in presenting sound pictures in the dawning days of the talkies, are: Charles L. Fisk, manager of the Fisk Theatre, Butler, Missouri. He had particular reason to be especially interested in “The Jazz Singer” because he was a fellow-minstrel in the old Lew Dockstader days with Al Jolson. Shannon Katzenback, now city manager of Fourth Avenue Amusement Co., Terre Haute, was manager of the Grand Theatre in that Indiana city when Vitaphone made its debut there on April 26, 1927. Ralph D. Goldberg, head of R. D. Goldberg Enterprises, Omaha, boasts the distinction of being the first Nebraska exhibitor to install sound equipment. Art Schwartz was working at the Hamilton Theatre, Chicago, when talkies came along; says a high percentage of patrons then came to the show expecting the sound apparatus to get out of sync or break down—and often their expectations were realized. He is now manager of Paramount’s Beach Theatre, Miami Beach, Florida.

The new sound equipment was far from perfect, and the prospective purchaser scratched his head in perplexity when faced with this strange machinery. What to buy? There was this sound-on-records which seemed to have the practical know-how of getting out enough equipment to go at least part way around—and too, it could be hooked on to the old projection machine without too much fiddling around. But what about the sound-on-film equipment he was hearing about, but didn’t see much of? And wouldn’t it require a complete new set of projection machines at God knows what price?

Thus the fun began. The poor projectionists! Where, formerly, a screen was only something to throw a picture on, now it was wired up in some mysterious way so that projectionists had to listen as well as look for “show” quality. They were now doing two jobs instead of one—and the second, of getting the right records on the turntable and seeing that the record and film were properly synchronized, almost broke their backs, literally and figuratively.

‘One Moment Please’

Of course lots of things went wrong. The sound itself—speakers and power unit—seemed to be unsure at times and became silent at unexpected moments. There was the case of a middle-western theatre where the sound went out shortly after the day’s first performance began. The projectionist, the manager, the owner, and an electrician struggled frantically to get it going again, but to no avail. The audience dispersed. They worked on—and on through the night. The next morning just before they all collapsed she started up, finally. But the house had to close down for a few days shortly afterward to have a new outfit installed.

Then the volume from the screen posed another problem. It was hard to control, partly because it often varied on different records and partly because of the equipment itself.

All this sort of thing rattled the nerves of the theatre staffs, but it was as nothing compared with the troubles connected with synchronization. This was the prime headache of the early “100 Per Cent All-Talking picture.” What was well enough one way would have to be done differently the next day. There was no one who could be sure anything was fine, but nobody—including the audience—ever knew what moment the apparatus might go haywire. There was a nice element of chance in this that added spice to any program. When, for instance, John Gilbert was saying beautiful love words to Lillian Gish the sound might suddenly fail and the photogenic Gilbert would keep on mouthing the words, with Lillian obviously understanding everything he said. This never failed to tickle the audience and drive managers crazy. They didn’t like to have their patrons laugh at a serious scene.

Seemed Like Eavesdropping

Incidentally, an aesthetic matter that could not be directly blamed on sound arose when love scenes held the screen. Film fans were used to seeing torrid love made on the screen, but it embarrassed them to HEAR it. Consequently they tittered. It took a long time before they adjusted themselves to spoken love. This psychological gremlin may be said to have ruined Gilbert’s career and producers got in the habit of reducing such scenes to the most commonplace kind of dialogue because of their fear over audience reaction. Dialogue often went like this: Boy: Saw Johnny Jones downtown today and he said he was buying some new cows for the fair this year. What do you think of that? Girl: That’s wonderful.

Boy: So are you—what about us getting married?

Girl: O.K. Bill.

(They kiss lightly, then cut.)

But the synchronization trouble—that was marvelous for a laugh. There would be a scene, for instance, between the hero and heroine and all of a sudden the record needle would skip a track so that the hero would be talking in a woman’s voice or else giving out with the sound of an auto motor starting up or any other ludicrous combination. The audiences never failed to scream at these happenings and, in fact, a lot of people went to the new talkies actually hoping for the fun of seeing it go wrong than for the picture itself.

This became so sure-fire that the always alert (Continued on Page 21)
FOR duplicates which compare favorably with the original, a natural choice is Eastman Fine Grain Panchromatic Duplicating Negative Film, Type 1203, used as a companion to Eastman Fine Grain Duplicating Positive Film, Type 1365.

The low speed, extremely fine grain, and high resolving power of these two films give them important places in the family of Eastman Films, favorites of the industry for more than fifty years.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY, ROCHESTER 4, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., DISTRIBUTORS

FORT LEE CHICAGO HOLLYWOOD
Ireton Finds Evidence of Sound-With-Film in 1907

In his search for historical data for the observance in the Dominion of Canada of the 20th Anniversary of Talking Pictures, Glenn Ireton, promotion manager of Warner Bros. Canadian office in Toronto, has unearthed considerable interesting information, including the fact that there was a more-or-less experimental presentation of sound-with-film dating back to 1907, when a vaudeville team made use of a make shift arrangement in conjunction with their act at She's Theatre, Toronto. Ireton has found that the first Canadian all-sound program with permanent equipment took place at Famous Players' Palace Theatre, Montreal, September 1st, 1928. The first bill comprised “The Street Angel,” as the feature and three shorts, “Corpus Christi,” “The Treasurer’s Report” and “The Hat,” along with Movietone News. The latter showed three prominent personages, the then Prince of Wales, David Lloyd George and none other than Mussoiini in an early balcony speech. The manager of the Palace at the time was George T. Rotsky, who is now general manager of Consolidated Theatres Limited, Montreal.

The second complete sound installation, used for an all-sound program, was at the Famous Players’ Tivoli Theatre in downtown Toronto, Oct. 5, 1928, and the manager was Tom Daley who is now manager of the Toronto Imperial, Canada’s largest theatre. Practically simultaneously, the first complete sound bill was presented at the Famous Players’ Capitol in Vancouver, B. C., then managed by the late Lloyd M. Death, Winnipeg saw and heard its first sound program Oct. 29, 1928, at the Metropolitan, also a Famous Players house, managed by the late Walter Davis. The second theatre in Toronto for permanent sound was the Famous Players’ Uptown, Nov. 3 in that year. Jack Arthur, now district manager at the Toronto headoffice, then managed the Uptown. Sound started at the Capitol in Calgary Nov. 5.

Saw Writing—Switched From Organist to Manager

Unlike most musicians who merely cried that the sound and talking pictures would put them out of work, here is the case of an enterprising young man who adapted himself to the new step in the march of entertainment progress.

Eddie Mansfield, City Manager for Commonwealth Theatres in Kansas City, was organist at the Newman Theatre when the first Warner Bros. sound production opened at the Globe Theatre in that city. Despite the beliefs of most musicians at that time that sound was a fad and would never replace orchestras and organists, Eddie saw the handwriting on the wall and started training for the exhibition end of the business.

Talk Brought Problems, Laughs Too, to Industry

(Continued from Page 21)

Mack Sennett decided to burlesque the talkie. He did it to perfection in a comedy where he also burlesqued the penchant of western heroes to wind their arms around their horses’ neck and speak endearing words to the animals. In this film Harry Gribbon had a scene where he made love to his horse, that sway-backed white mare they used in so many pictures. It was very funny, but the real kick came when Sennett worked it so the scene apparently became unsynchronized. When this happened Gribbon was saying beautiful endearing words in a sepulchral-like voice. Suddenly he began neighing and the next moment the horse was doing the talking. Nothing funnier has ever been made.

Yes, there was comedy and tragedy for the theatreman in the advent of the talkie and the fact that he came through it all is one more bit of evidence to prove that persistence, courage, and showmanship—like virtue in the Hays production code—will always triumph in the end.

Blue Mouse First

The first theatre in Portland to go on a “sound” policy was the Blue Mouse some 20 years ago. At that time the Blue Mouse was under the personal management of John Hamrick and the original feature was Al Jolson in “The Jazz Singer.”

Congratulations

SIDNEY GREENSTREET
IN THE BEGINNING THERE WAS LIGHT...

WITH LIGHT WE MAKE PICTURES!

- Warner Brothers, pioneers in sound, were first to recognize the possibilities of sound in motion pictures as we know them today...

- Under their leadership, sound was given constant improvement, quality and prestige, and that superiority which lifted motion pictures from the realm of catchpenny entertainment to a great, vital and educational force for the good of the entire world...

- The climax of that pioneering is recorded for all time and all mankind in the motion pictures of the Atomic bomb tests...

- The Twentieth Anniversary of Talking Pictures is truly a historic event... our wholehearted congratulations.

SKOURAS THEATRES CORPORATION
**Jack Jackson Recalls Some of the Hey-hey (and headaches) Attending The Birth of Sound in the Theatre**

Looking down Memory’s Well into 20 years of water that has gone over the cinema dam since the advent of sound is, at one and the same time, both a confusing and enjoyable experience. At first the reflections are all fuzzy and wriggly like they are when you try to see yourself in a pool of rippling water. Then they gradually straighten out and begin to take recognized shapes and fall into the sequence of their happening. I had a little trouble locating 1926 and getting the mirrored reflections in chronological order—had to go into 1927 to get full coverage—but this is the story of sound pictures as recorded in my Memory Well.

**Sees ‘Blessed Event,’ Then Contracts for Equipment**

I am back in San Antonio, Texas, at the Aztec Theatre (one of the most unique and colorfully historical theatres in America). Our opposition was every other theatre in town so our product cupboard was in a class with Mother Hubbard’s and we were using the first musical stage show ever imported from New York to attract the kind of patronage the beauty of the house and its construction cost warranted. The combination of a New York stage show and program pictures was doing pretty well when Paramount announced the opening of the new Texas Theatre with traveling Publicx stage units accompanying first line picture attractions as a regular policy. We did have exclusive exhibition of Warner Bros. pictures but that company was no great shakes in the production field in those days. We were coupling pictures like Monte Blue and Myrna Loy in “Across the Pacific,” William Sidney in “His People,” Marie Prevost in “Getting Gertie’s Garter” and others of similar ilk with the stage show to garner business sufficient to keep those red smears off the weekly statement. The threat of stage show opposition coupled with top line product was something to contend with and the late Bill Epstein—part owner and managing director of the house—and the writer welcomed Claude Ezell (then sales manager of Warner Bros.) and a Warner home office representative, with open arms when they arrived to advise us of the intention of the company to add sound to pictures via the disc route.

Bill hied himself to New York to attend the historic “blessed event” of Vitaphone at the Warner Theatre and before returning had contracted for the complicated equipment necessary to present similar shows at the Aztec. As I recall it we had one heck of a time—and expensive too—getting the apparatus installed and working properly. We had to fill the old orchestra pit with immense horns—and that meant the end of stage shows—and for days workmen were crawling along catwalks stringing wires to guarantee that the sound would come from behind and beneath the screen in unison with the lip movements of the performers.

**‘Stupefied’ Best Describes Audience Reaction**

Our opening picture was “Don Juan” with Hadley conducting the New York Philharmonic Orchestra, an operatic subject starring Chaliapin and a silent newsreel as companion subjects. Stupefaction is the word that best describes the reaction of the audience when the pictured musicians responded with an ear-rendering crescendo to the sweep of their leader’s baton. We were well into the feature before the effect wore off enough to allow for comprehension of the fact that a knock on the door, clink of swords in the duel scene and other instances possessed the promised dual appeal to eye and ear alike. Needless to say the Aztec became the mecca of the curious and we successfully competed with Paramount’s stage units.

There was considerable conjecture as to the ultimate field and limitations of the new “sound” pictures. Aside from the operatic singing shorts, whose popular value was soon enhanced by a reel of Al Jolson singing “April Showers” and others of his hit songs, there was no talking in these early Vitaphone subjects. I doubt if even the Warner Bros. themselves had awakened to the fact that a mechanism capable of reproducing musical renditions was also capable of similar success with dramatic and conversational dialogue. Even after Bryan Foy’s “all-talking” “Lights of New York” and Al Jolson in “The Jazz Singer”—a sensational money maker that established new run and revenue records everywhere—the “talking” and “sound” picture was viewed by the vast majority as afad that would soon expend itself. But the silent film had been on a tokeogram for some time past and there were many who felt that the movies themselves were headed for the oblivion cellar. All agreed that some sort of a hypodermic was imperative. The new “talk” and “sound” pictures brought into being a new industry satellite, the non-sync vender. For a while it looked as though every chap who could beg or buy a few phonograph turntables was going into the non-sync business. The contraption, being far less expensive and less complicated than Vitaphone, attracted droves of exhibitors anxious to cash in on the “fad” with the greatest haste and lowest cost.

The essential of equipping a theatre (Continued on next page)

**Talking Pictures Original American Art—Martin**

In a statement soliciting Warners’ Twentieth Anniversary of Talking Pictures, R. E. Martin, head of Martin Theatres, operating houses in Georgia, Alabama and Florida, with headquarters in Columbus, Ga., says in part:

“In joining Warner Bros. to celebrate the Sound Anniversary, I do so with mixed feelings of pride, gratitude and wonder; with pride to be a member of the great motion picture industry; with gratitude for all the producers who have made it possible for us exhibitors to bring entertainment to the great masses of our people, and with wonder at the tremendous strides that have been made in the last 20 years in perfecting pictures with sound.

“The talking picture has firmly established itself as an original American Art, and one in which Americans are unexcelled. In my 34 years in the industry, I have seen the developments that have brought motion pictures from the crude nickelodeons to the great entertainment art that it is today. Its growth is unparalleled by any other industry in history, and if we who make up the industry act with wisdom it will continue to grow and prosper.”
Jackson Recalls the Hey-hey and Headaches at Sound Pictures’ Birth

(Continued from preceding page)

with non-sync consisted of partitioning off a room adjacent to or in communication with the projection booth; a table or cabinet holding two phonograph turntables operated by a small motor with a switch that released one table as it engaged the other; a supply of popular and classical records (usually supplied by the non-sync vendor) together with a “cue sheet” on a weekly rental basis and an alert and agile employeepreferably ambidextrous—who possessed a basic knowledge of the “three R’s” as an operator.

It was a heyday for some of the musicians who had been thrown out of work by the advent of Vitaphone. These joined

Recalls Anxious Moments Preceding N. Y. Premiere

Home office projectionist Max Feinberg, with the Warner organization for more than 30 years, gets a reminiscent kick out of discussing events that led up to the opening of “Don Juan” at the Warner Theatre August 6, 1926. A few of the items that stick in Feinberg’s mind include the suggestion he made to his bosses that they install four projection machines with two of the same reels and records to run simultaneously so that if any trouble occurred on one outfit the other could be thrown into immediate operation.

Feinberg also recalls that upon going to lunch with the late Sam L. Warner following the “Don Juan” premiere, someone suggested that the restaurant piano player do a special tune and that Mr. Warner gave him a one dollar tip, after fondly kissing it goodbye. It was Mr. Warner’s last buck!

Just before the “Jazz Singer” premiere in New York, Herman Starr, Al Jolson and Feinberg spent all day in the theatre trying to get the film to run right, but the last reel was out of synchronization and experiment after experiment failed to correct the trouble.

Feinberg says that Al Jolson literally pulled his hair out by the roots and swore he’d never make another talking picture—not for a million dollars! The trouble was eventually corrected however, and the ebullient Al calmed down.

Late in 1926 Feinberg started a coast-to-coast tour supervising proper running of sound pictures in all types of theatres and eventually closed his tour in London where the “Jazz Singer” opened at the Picadilly in 1928 before a wildly enthusiastic audience.

up with non-sync vendors and made up cue sheets for each film attraction that showed what record to play and for how long as accompaniment to the changing scenes of the film. On the playing arm of the turntables was attached or painted a rule divided in inch fractions and the cue sheet read something like this: “Record No. 1 from 0 to 1 1/2; Record No. 2 from 1 1/4 to 3 1/4, etc., etc., on through to the final fadeout and entire assembly of records.

Those Non-Synch Cue Sheets

My initiation with non-sync was before the cue sheet and rented record stage. First National’s “Little Time” starring Colleen Moore was a natural and we wore out several records of the song hit during its extended run. Among many other discoveries we found that two corrugated spikes scratched together at the point of contact between record and needle produced a fair imitation of an airplane crash. It was discoveries like this that resulted in the “effect” records that were used later in the non-sync era.

Vitaphone itself was not without its headaches and hazards. Whenever the film happened to break or a patch was needed it was necessary for the operator to measure the exact footage and splice in a similar amount of blank film in order to keep the sound and action in synchronization. I had no experience with second run houses but complaints were numerous about the long stretches of blank screen with sound effects providing the audience the only inkling as to what was supposed to be happening on the screen.

Had To Be Handled With Care

Constant attention of two operators was needed to make sure that the reproducing needles didn’t get stuck in some one channel of the record with the result that the same sound kept being repeated regardless of the screen action. Record breakage—particularly with the large Vitaphone records that could not be replaced in other than exchange centers—was also considerable a problem.

Then along came Fox with “sound on film,” thus bringing about much argument as to the relative values of “disc vs. record” and—but those reflections are pretty fuzzy and wriggly again—can it be that I’m getting dizzy from gazing too long and too intensly into my Memory Well?

Sound Celebration Brings Salute to Film Industry

(Continued from Page 11)

Association, the National Film Music Council, Parent’s Institute, the Rainbow House radio programs) joined what had developed into a rush of celebration.

One lone exhibitor, Harry Oppenstrin of the Globe Theatre in Kansas City, probably made history of some sort as having the first exhibitor ever to present a congratulatory scroll to a film company.

Warner Bros. first all talking pictures, “The Lights of New York” was accepted as part of the Library of Congress archives and a piece of early sound equipment is now part of the Smithsonian Institution collection. Both were presented by Harry Warner.

Letters of congratulation began to pile up by the thousands as Admiral Chester W. Nimitz; General A. A. Vandergrift, General Carl Spaatz, and hosts of other international figures sent their congratulations.

On Capitol Hill, in the halls of Congress at Washington, D. C., Senator Francis J. Myers (Rep., Penn.) arose and termed the talking picture “a scientific achievement whose positive results are only beginning to be assayed.”

The Senator praised the Warner Bros., for their pioneering and added:

“I earnestly recommend that these pioneers in the production of sound motion pictures and the anniversary itself be commended by the Congress of the United States.”

On Aug. 6, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences whose award of Oscars for jobs well done in the industry, is holding a celebration in Hollywood where a presentation will be made to the Warner Bros.

In Canada, the “official” Anniversary picture, “Night and Day” is receiving premieres in three provincial capitals and the Imperial Order of Daughters of the Empire and Children of the Empire, have written a letter of felicitation to the Warner Bros.
Congratulations to Warner Bros. on the 20th Anniversary of Talking Pictures!
Sound Big Factor In Rise in Educational Value of Films

By BILL SPECHT

It's as simple as two and two makes four. Maybe more so, because many of us can recall school days when the mathematical result of two plus two was not reached with “utter simplicity.”

Today in many a school such figures are not just dead black symbols on a page to give a student the headaches.

This is because the life that the motion picture plus the voice that sound has brought to the screen is making mathematics more understandable to average intellects.

This applies not only to the student in the facts and figures division. Those who found that the long sentences some history books favored made a thing of sackcloth and ashes of many a record that actually is brisk, loud and heroic, no longer need groan over history exams, if they have seen a phase of their history projects on the screen.

Visual education, enforced by sound, has become a definite aid to teaching, and is spreading its way across the nation.

In no place where talking pictures have been tried as an educational crutch have they failed to make good.

In Los Angeles the board of education is using 16-mm. sound film extensively for every subject that it can cover. The greatest use is in vocational education, history, geography, citizenship, but strongly enough not so much in science and very little in art. Health and thrift are beginning to use Kodachrome.

Mrs. Margaret DiVizia, acting head of the audio-visual aid section says that tests prove the child learns 37 per cent more from films than by other means.

San Francisco schools are increasing the use of sound pictures in their curricula. Dr. Bernice Baxter, administrative assistant of the Oakland public school, and Thad Stevens, supervisor of the visual education department, have developed a library of 500 sound and silent 16-mm. films of educational material. Five hundred of these reels are with sound and they cover the whole library of subjects ranging from art to social studies and recreation.

The University of California Medical School in San Francisco is using what sound pictures are available on medical, dentistry, pharmacy and nursing subjects. Dean Francis Smyth believes that the school will find a wider use for the equipment which was purchased less than a year ago.

The importance with which this form of teaching is regarded may be judged by the fact that the California legislature recently passed an act providing that after July 1, 1947 all teachers will have to take a course in audio-visual education in order to graduate from the California Teachers Training College.

Moving across the country to Iowa, the Des Moines school board has a library of 70 films devoted to general subjects and available upon request by teachers. Davenport’s school board also has its library and many of the smaller communities are forming cooperative libraries.

All Honor and Credit to the WARNER BROTHERS

for their inauguration of Sound Pictures twenty years ago and their continued contributions to this world’s greatest medium of entertainment.

Ralph Talbot Theatres
Tulsa
To the Pioneering Warner Brothers for their magnificent contribution to the growth and to the development of talking pictures during the past 20 years.

Congratulations from Famous Players Canadian Corporation Limited

Congratulations to the Pioneers of Sound

from the

Pioneers of Better Theatre
Operation in the Southwest

Griffith Theatres, Oklahoma City
Sound Aids Educational Film

(Continued from Page 28)

to loan films from school to school. The state university also has libraries of films.

In about 100 Milwaukee schools, there are many projectors which can be used for educational purposes. The films are obtained through several sources at the rate of 25 at one time. A novel feature of the program there is that entertainment films are shown during dinner hours at the schools.

The Board of Education in 113 of Ohio's cities, scattered throughout each of the state's 88 counties, are employing films in classroom instruction, according to B. A. Aughinbaugh, supervisor of the slide and film exchange of the State Department of Education. He estimates that three-fourths of the 1,250,000 students of Ohio's public, private and parochial schools see their lessons illustrated by movies.

The Department of Education ships and receives more than 800 reels every day, a business that exceeds the 10 commercial film exchanges in Cleveland and Cincinnati which serve the 900 theatres in the state. Ohio has the largest educational film and slide library in the world and every foot of film and every slide is available without rental cost to Ohio's schools.

Aughinbaugh believes the only subject that can be taught better by the usual textbook method is English. All other subjects can be taught more easily and the material retained more fully with films.

"Arithmetic is a prime example of speeding up teaching by films," says Aughinbaugh. "We simply make figures move around like Disney cartoon characters. Instead of being told that two and two make four, children can see that two and two make four."

The Ohio film library, largest in the world, contains 2,500 titles. The films cover the entire range of school subjects, from biology through chemistry, physics, geography, history and zoology, to name a few.

St. Louis is a veteran in the subject of using films to help teaching. The Board of Education there has made full use of the motion pictures, distributing about 300 films daily, and many of the schools are equipped with projectors and screens, but lack of proper auditoriums to view the films seems to be the chief complaint.

An official source, requesting not to be named, says:

"The public likes the method. As many subjects as possible have been tried, but so far we find that films have been the most helpful in science and social studies. The reason for this may be that the films on these subjects are the best."

East St. Louis, separate from the city of St. Louis has also been using film aids as is also true in southern Illinois communities.

In Pennsylvania the part of visual education becomes more important each year, according to representatives of the Department of Public Education at the State Capitol in Harrisburg.

The educators say sound is an invaluable aid gradually replacing the "see and say" system of yesterday. Science, chemistry and affiliated topics, as well as history are all taught by films. Pennsylvania so far apparently has the novel idea of trying to speed progress in language studies by having classes listen to foreign language films.

Several clergymen, it was said, have approached the state board of education, asking that films also be used which might illustrate Bible study.

In New York a wide library of films is available to the city's 800 schools. A worker in the board of general education declared that the film would not supplant the teacher but proved a valuable adjunct to competent teaching.

Schools throughout Massachusetts sent in 1,904 bookings last year, official figures show. Though sound films have been used extensively in social study courses (geography) and in history classes, the trend now is to use them in science classes.

Clement R. Norton of the Boston School Board says that the educational films are used all over Boston and Massachusetts in elementary and secondary schools and have proved to be invaluable in arousing interest and enthusiasm in technical subjects and otherwise monotonous courses. Massachusetts colleges are also increasing the use of sound films in almost every subject and field of education.

The Army which has made wise use of films in teaching, according to Col. W. W. Jervey, chief of the Army Pictorial Services, who says that "those officers responsible for the training program are in agreement that the use of training films contributed materially to the successful prosecution of the war."

"One of the principal reasons for this is the fact that the use of motion pictures standardizes instruction. That is to say, that if an instructor attempts to convey the radar principle to a class of 40 men without the use of visual aids, he will, in most cases, be developing 40 different ideas. The use of the film, however, insures that each man is getting the same type of instructions."

Congratulations To
The Warner Brothers

M & P THEATRES

M. J. MULLIN

SAMUEL PINANSKI
2 Guys Draw 300,000
To 'Milwaukee' Premiere

Over 370,000 people—quite a crowd—turned out in Milwaukee last week (July 25) to get a glimpse of two hometown boys who made good and to witness the Milwaukee premiere of their latest picture, “Two Guys from Milwaukee” at the Warner Theatre. The successful boys are Dennis Morgan and Jack Carson.

Surrounded by 25 Coast Guard Reserve vessels, the stars entered the harbor on their yacht which made the last lap of the journey from Hollywood. But the Coast Guard Reserve vessels weren’t all that surrounded the yacht. Acting also as escorts were four 80-foot Coast Guard cutters, one 188-foot Navy training ship and an umbrella of 25 Navy planes.

Highlight of the premiere day’s activities was a parade at noon, and that’s where that crowd of 300,000 comes in, not to mention the 100,000 who saw the boys’ yacht enter the harbor. Taking part in the parade were the Admiral, 160 sailors, the Navy Band, the Mayor and other dignitaries. Floats were also in evidence, including an elaborate display on the 20th Anniversary of Talking Pictures.

Activities for the balance of the day began with a luncheon, followed by a cocktail party and reception in the Schroeder Hotel, then a banquet in the same hotelistry attended by the Governor, Mayor, Admiral and 500 prominent personalities.

That night Morgan and Carson made per-

(Continued on Page 36)

Oriental Dinner Plugs 'Siem' in New Haven

Newspapermen are still talking about the dinner party staged by Ralph Sittl, 20th Century-Fox exploiter, at the Hotel Taft, New Haven, to publicize the New England premiere of “Anna and the King of Siam.”

Instead of silverware, chopsticks were provided for the diners, and tastefully dressed Chinese girls were on hand to instruct guests in their use. Those unable to master the intricacies of oriental cutlery were later provided with knives and forks.

At the outset of the meal there were no napkins. When this oversight was noted and commented upon, waitresses arrived and threw them at the diners, just as was done in the picture.

Following a magic act and cigars, there was a private screening of the feature, which was the current attraction at Loew’s Poli. Of course the local newspapers devoted ample space to the dinner.—DRT.

‘You’ll Be Nuts About . . .’

With the cooperation of The Peanut Store, Manager Harry A. Rose of the Loew-Poli Majestic Theatre, Bridgeport, Conn., planted a tie-in window on United Artists’ “Young Widow.” Copy on the tie-in card: “You’ll Be Nuts About Jane Russell in Young Widow’ now at Loew’s-Poli Majestic.”

‘Missouri Way’ Opens in 30 Missouri-Kansas Key Cities

With the St. Louis Theatre in St. Louis and the Tower in Kansas City as the hub of principal activities a series of statewide premieres of PRC’s “Down Missouri Way” got under way Thursday in 30 key situations throughout Missouri and Kansas. Screen personalities on hand for the opening at the St. Louis and Kansas City theatres included Eddie Dean, Renee Godfrey, Roscoe Ates and The Sunshine Boys, stars of the picture, as well as Helen Morgan, star of “Avalanche.” Also present were many state and local dignitaries, including Missouri’s Governor Phil M. Donnelly, Harry H. Thomas, president of PRC, made the trip from New York for the event.

Thousands of Missourians turned out in the two principal Missouri cities to greet the stars and to participate in the gala and festive premiere activities. When Dean and the other Hollywood personalities arrived at the airport, they were met by the first newspaper-owned radio-telephone car, property of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, ever used for such an occasion.

Interviews were transmitted direct from the car at the airport to the city desk of the newspaper, so that by the time he stars arrived at their hotel, one hour later, they were handed copies of the newspaper containing the interview with themselves. The newspaper also took photographs of the stars readying their interviews for use the following day.

Crowds lined the streets of the principal premiere cities as the stars waved to them in parades from arrival points to destinations. Both cinema and theatre houses played up Shirley, the Male,” who has an important role in “Down Missouri Way.”

In all leading cities of Missouri and Kansas where simultaneous premieres took place, novelty corn-cob pipes and a special “Shirley, the Male” toy were distributed. “Greetings from Down Missouri Way” cards were also made available by the Missouri Pacific Railroad to all passengers on Missouri Pacific cars and in all waiting rooms and terminals. The arrangement between PRC and the railroad also called for window displays, outdoor billposting and newspaper advertising throughout Missouri, a schedule that will be extended nationally following the premieres.

Fourteen radio stations are completely blanketing the area with 500 transcribed selling messages, constituting the largest and most complete radio coverage ever set up for any PRC film. The stations are KFRU, Columbia; KWOI, Jefferson City; WBMM, Joplin; KMOX, KSD, KXOK and KWK, St. Louis; KCMO, KMBG and KGM, Kansas City; KGBX, KXTO and KTTs, Springfield.

Plans for the Missouri-Kansas simultaneous premieres started weeks ago under the direction of Arnold Stoltz, PRC’s national director of advertising, publicity and exploitation. Together with Lige Brien of the company’s exploitation department, and Robert Goodfried, studio director of publicity, Stoltz spent considerable time in the Missouri territory setting tieups and completing arrangements.

Before the St. Louis Theatre in St. Louis and the Tower in Kansas City, other theatres participating in the premieres included (Missouri) Fox, Joplin; Electric, Springfield; Orpheum, St. Joseph; State, Jefferson City; Ritz, Chillicothe; Uptown, Columbia; Main Street, Warrensburg; Plaza, Trenton; Sosa, Moberly; Uptown, Sedalia; Plaza, Independence; Tarkio, Tarkio; Missouri, Maryville; (Kansas) Tackett, Coffeyville; Colosia, Pittsburg; Orpheum, Tongan, Topeka; Midland, Hutchinson; Orpheum, Leavenworth; State, Manhattan; Colonial, Junction.

(Continued on Page 36)

Washington, Atlantic City
Agog Over Jane Russell

Jane Russell star of Howard Hughes’ ‘The Outlaw,’ enroute to Atlantic City last week, stopped off in Washington for a sight-seeing blitz that had whistles and wolf calls echoing from Capitol Hill to Walter Reed Hospital.

She visited the Botanical Gardens the House and Senate; met senators and had lunch with two of them; went on to Walter Reed Hospital where she aided festivities celebrating the 171st anniversary of the Army Medical Service.

Atlantic City gave Miss Russell an official welcome upon her arrival from Washington, with the day proclaimed “Pin-Up Girl Day” by Mayor Joseph Alman to “honor all American women who performed such a fine morale service during the war with their pictures and letters to servicemen.” The star, whose pictures were the most requested of any Hollywood star during the war, accepted an award from Mayor Alman on behalf of the women of the country. She is currently making personal appearances at the Steel Pier in connection with the Howard Hughes film.
800,000 Philadelphians See ‘Centennial Summer’ Parade Preceding World Premiere

Many prominent Philadelphians worked personally with the Mayor’s Citizens’ Committee, including Judge Vincent A. Carroll, past National Commander of the National Legion; Arthur C. Kaufmann, executive head of Gimbel Brothers; James M. Carmine, vice-president of the Philco Corporation; Dr. Thomas S. Gates, Chairman of the Board of the University of Pennsylvania; Peter Abrams, Chairman of the Retail Section of the Chamber of Commerce and Board of Trade, and Roger W. Clipp, President of the Poor Richard Club. Each of these heads important sub-committees of the Mayor’s Committee which worked directly with the 20th-Fox exploitation staff and made the occasion a complete success.

Police estimated that more than 600,000 persons turned out for the parade of Hollywood stars on the final day of the three-day celebration, with another 200,000 watching the event from windows of buildings along the line of march. The window watchers showered confetti and streamers on the paraders, lending an additional gala touch to the occasion. At the Fox Theatre where the premiere was held more than 50,000 wildly enthusiastic Philadelphians milled in the streets to watch the stars arrive. The city was gaily decorated for the premiere. Light poles in the business section carried shields flanked by American flags welcoming the “Centennial Summer” world premiere. High in the air and at ground level, too, wherever Philadelphians looked they saw “Centennial Summer.” A baby blimp floated in the sky above the Fox Theatre with a banner heralding the picture and on Market Street two huge ban-

One of the more than 300 window displays set up in Philadelphia’s most prominent department stores by the 20th Century-Fox exploitation staff in cooperation with the Mayor’s Citizens’ Committee. This show dresses typical of 1776, 1876 and 1946.

This is one of several windows set up by Wana- maker’s store in Philadelphia and is unique in that it shows no merchandise whatever. It is devoted entirely to the historical aspects of the film and includes several relics from the production in addition to the large blow-up of the stars.

Part of the crowd of 50,000 persons that milled around the entrance of the Fox Theatre in Philadelphia to see the stars from Hollywood. More than 600,000 saw the parade in the streets and an additional 200,000 viewed it from office building windows.

These are the boys that handled the premiere. Seated, left to right, Rodney Bush, Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising, publicity and exploitation; Mike Weiss, Sid Blumenstock and Earl Wingart. Standing, Joe Ehrlich, Ed Sullivan and Irving Kahn.
There is scarcely an observance during this month that will directly benefit your theatre. But you can be consoled with the fact that with the Labor Day weekend, the summer wanderlust of most of your patrons will come to an end. They'll be returning from their vacations, children will be starting to school again. Your ace-in-the-hole—no doubt people will be home again and going to the movies again—is that many outstanding productions are certain to be available during this month. As soon as possible after Labor Day, start your campaign for your Fall Festival of Hits, Parade of Hits, or whatever you want to call it. Place a large display in the lobby announcing the attractions, run a special trailer and special newspaper ads. Be so enthusiastic about the pictures coming to your theatre that the enthusiasm will be communicated directly to your patrons.

Money Dates for September

Sept. 2—Labor Day. This long weekend, marking for most people their last summer vacation holidays, will send a greater part of your population on automobile trips to vacation resorts. Of course, if the weather is inclement—but not too inclement—then that will be to your advantage. In any event, don't fall down on the job. Book strong attractions, and be sure that the atmosphere of your theatre is as inviting as possible.

Sept. 2—V-J Day, Formal Surrender of Japan, 1945. If there is an observance of this event in your community, it might be well to offer whatever cooperation you can. Patriotic ceremonies might be held either in front of your theatre or on the stage.

Sept. 5—First Continental Congress opened in Philadelphia, 1774.

Sept. 6—Lafayette Day (Lafayette born, 1757).

Sept. 7—Boulidor Dam in Operation, 1936.

Sept. 8—Globe Circumnavigated in 1522.

Sept. 9—California joined union, 1850.

Sept. 9—Schools Open in Most Communities. A Back-to-School Mystery might be held on this day. Distribute book jackets with imprinted institutional copy to students.

Sept. 10—Elias Howe Patented Sewing Machine, 1846.

Sept. 12—149th Birthday of New York State.

Sept. 12—Defender's Day in Maryland.

Sept. 13—Star Spangled Banner Written in 1814. This day might be observed with the playing of the National Anthem at each performance.

Sept. 15-21—National Dog Week. On one day during this week why not hold a Pet Parade, with youngsters entering their dogs for prizes promted from merchants. Don't let the cansies in the theatre, however, else they'll have a howling good time and make a nervous wreck of you. If you want to hold a special matinee for the kiddies, have them first take their Fidoes home.

Sept. 17—Constitution Day (Constitution Adopted 1787).

Sept. 23—Autumn begins. That's what the calendar says, but it will probably be a nice warm summer day.

Sept. 25—Bill of Rights, Enacted 1789.

Sept. 25—First Transatlantic Air Express Service by Clipper to Lisbon, Started 1911.

Sept. 26-27—Rosh Hashanah, Jewish New Year.

Sept. 27—American Indian Day.

Sept. 29—Gold Star Mother's Day. Pay tribute to Gold Star Mothers in your community by inviting them to be your guests on this day. Perhaps you could promote roses or carnations from a florist to give to each one. Have a photographer on hand to photograph the Mothers in front of your theatre. The resultant newspaper publicity should build goodwill for your theatre.

Sept. 29-Oct. 6—Religious Education Week. If you can help in any way in the program your local churches are likely to outline for this week, then by all means offer your cooperation.

3-Way 'Scandal' Date Gets Heavy News Lineage

The simultaneous engagement of United Artists "A Scandal in Paris" at the Capitol, Town and Lincoln theatres (Wometco Circuit) in Miami, drew heavy advance linage in Miami newspapers in addition to an excellent radio campaign prior to the three-way opening.

The Miami Herald, Evening Sun, Morning Star and News used art and stories on Carole Landis, George Sanders and Signe Hasso, stars of the film. Heralds were distributed by all three theatres, $500 by the Lincoln, $250 by the Town with a silhouette figure of Carole Landis, and $500 by the Capitol. In all, Wometco distributed 30,000 heralds advertising a special "leg contest."

The event was conducted at the Capitol where a platform was set up in the lobby, with nylon being awarded contestants whose measurements most closely approximated those of Carole Landis. Paul Brunn, Miami columnist and commentator for Station WKAT, devoted air time to the promotion as did Eve Tellegen, woman commentator of Station WGDG.

Tieups consisted of jewelry store displays throughout Miami and numerous merchant windows on fashions. A particularly effective ad taken by the Red Cross Department Store featured the Lee Swim Suit with stills of Carole Landis.

Stranger Marks Year of 8-Newspaper Promotion

Counter and window displays, a lobby and reader board display in a local hotel, taxicab cards, a drug store cooperative ad and several plugs on a 15-minute radio quiz program were highlights of the campaign on Paramount's "The Blue Dahlia" by Manager Michael Stranger of Loew's State Theatre, White Plains, N. Y.

With this campaign, Stranger marked the first year of promoting free space in Westchester county newspapers. Twelve free stories and 49 pieces of art on "The Blue Dahlia" appeared in eight publications. Not a bad promotional return.
ROY ROGERS • TRIGGER
King of the Cowboys    Smartest Horse in the Movies

Newspaper headliners in every important city in the United States.

These terrific publicity breaks on Rogers' location trip for "Home In Oklahoma" are typical of hundreds that prove Rogers is one of America's outstanding singing western personalities!

MY PAL TRIGGER
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
Republic sets the pace in western entertainment!

Box office headliners every place they show!

No. 1 in every western poll...
Only western name in fame's big ten... huge successes in every kind of theatre everywhere... sure to smash all previous records with latest and greatest!

Featuring George "Gabby" Hayes, Dale Evans, Jack Holt, Bob Nolan and The Sons of the Pioneers

Directed by Frank McDonald • Screenplay by Jack Townley and John K. Butler • Original Story by Paul Gangelin
800,000 See 'Centennial Summer' Parade at Philadelphia Premiere

(Continued from Page 32)
ners were suspended over the street calling attention to the event. More than 300 store windows carried special "Centennial" displays. These included Oppenheim Collins, which devoted all ten of its windows to "Centennial Summer"; Benvit Teller, with nine windows; the Philadelphia Gas Works, with 40 windows; Gimbel's and Wanamaker's, with 10 windows each; and the following stores devoted all of their windows to "Centennial" displays: Baily, Banks and Biddle; Blum's, Hardwick and Magee, Strawbridge and Clothier, Lit Bros., Williams, Brown and Earle, Dewees, Allen's and J. Caldwell.

Neighborhoods Aid

Neighborhood stores also joined in the spirit of the occasion and competed for prizes offered for the most attractive window display.

The world premiere festivities started on Monday, before the Wednesday premiere when the 20th Century-Fox stars Jeanne Crain, Phil Silvers, Margot Wood, Kurt Kreuger, Jo-Carroll Dennison and David Street, who came on from Hollywood, visited Independence Hall and Betsy Ross House. Carole Landis and Producer Director Otto Preminger joined the party from New York and the troupe gave special shows for the patients at the Naval Hospital and the Army General Hospital in Valley Forge. Following the parade the stars were guests of honor at a luncheon given by the Mayor's Citizens Committee at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel. General Chairman Greenfield acted as toastmaster and Mayor Samuel welcomed the visitors. Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of distribution, responded for 20th Century-Fox and Phil Silvers then took over the Hollywood part of the program, introducing the players to the Philadelphia audience.

Motorcycle police escorted the stars wherever they went in Philadelphia and for the parade the entire Philadelphia police force was on duty to patrol the line of march while a cordon of 25 motorcycle police, sirens sounding, accompanied the stars' motorcade through the downtown section of the city.

Newspaper and radio coverage of the event was nationwide. Wire photos and news stories were carried by all important syndicated newspapers and trade papers throughout the country and nationwide broadcasts were carried out of Philadelphia and New York. The local newspapers—Bulletin, Record, Inquirer and News—devoted unprecedented space to the premiere festivities, carrying front-page stories, pictures, drama page articles and even editorials.

On-The-Spot Radio

A group of radio commentators traveled to Philadelphia to do on-the-spot broadcasts of the events attendant to the premiere. The air coverage was extensive, setting records for the amount of time and distribution given to such an occasion. Among the radio commentators who were in Philadelphia from New York, and did their on-the-scene broadcasts were Gail Drake, Paula Stone, Cliff Edwards, Dorothy Day, Uncle Don, Johnny Grant, Dolores Craig, Nancy Craig and Jimmy Blair.

A complete broadcasting studio was set up by 20th Century-Fox in the Ritz-Carlton hotel and it was a beehive of activity from three o'clock on the day of the premiere until 6 o'clock at night. Live broadcasts as well as recorded broadcasts were made, with the visiting 20th Century-Fox stars taking part in all of them. At night the premiere live broadcasts were made from the street in front of the Fox Theatre and back stage.

Radio shows carried out of Philadelphia on the premiere day followed: General Drake, WJZ and ABC network; Allen Prescott, WJZ; Paul Stone, WNEW; Cliff Edwards, ABC network; Dorothy Day, WINS; Nancy Craig, WJZ; Uncle Don, WOR; Johnny Grant, WINS; Dolores Craig, WHOM. Recorded broadcasts also were made by Paula Stone, Nancy Craig and Cliff Edwards for use on the day following the premiere.

Local radio stations WIP, WFIL, WDAS and WCAU covered all of the events of premiere day.

Network Broadcasts

Preceding this radio coverage at the time of the premiere, special "Centennial Summer" broadcasts were carried over national networks starting as far back as June 30 and daily up until the date of the premiere, July 10. These shows included "Stairway to the Stars," WJZ and 177 ABC stations; Jimmy Blair, WJZ and ABC network; Truth or Consequences, WFAF and 134 NBC stations; Cliff Edwards, ABC network; Premiere Family Hour, WABC and 125 stations; James Meloton on Texaco Hour, WABC and 148 CBS stations; Fred Waring Show, WFAE and 142 NBC stations; Chesterfield Supper Club, WEAF network on July 8 and 10 afternoon, and later on July 10 over WABC network.

On the day following the world premiere in Philadelphia the entourage of stars and exploitation men moved to Washington, D. C. for a "Hollywood Premiere" at the Capitol Theatre. Other such premiers were held in Pittsburgh and Detroit before the stars returned to the 20th Century-Fox studio in Hollywood. Outside of "Wisan" no other picture of the company ever has been given such an advance exploitation campaign as "Centennial Summer," according to 20th-Fox executives.

2 Guys Draw 300,000 to 'Milwaukee' Premiere

(Continued from Page 31)

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2 Guys Draw 300,000 to 'Milwaukee' Premiere

(Continued from Page 31)

sonal appearances in front of the Warner Theatre—the stars were interviewed there really some thousands, about 18 of them—who were unable to get inside to see the stars and their newest picture. Plenty of light was thrown on the proceedings, furnished by eight 300-watt and 12 2000-watt spotlights. Nearby was a 75,000-watt generator mounted on a truck to furnish current for the lights.

The day's events concluded with a party given by the Uhlten family at the famous Schlitz Brown Bottle. Next morning Morgan and Carson took part in a golf match at a local country club. They were able to be in Milwaukee only two days, but their picture will remain at the Warner for some time.

'Class' Campaign Hails 'Specter Rose' Opening

The newspaper campaign for the initial west coast engagement of Republic's "Specter of the Rose" at the Carthay Circle Theatre in Los Angeles recently featured a special "class" treatment of the picture, to which the Carthay Circle has become renowned. Ads pointed out the fact that both Life and Look had acclaimed the picture.

Bruce Powler of Fox West Coast Theatres, who handled the film's campaign, scheduled ads in the Times, Examiner, Herald, News and Citizen.

Newspaper publicity was primed by special interviews with Ivan Kryov by David Hanna in the Daily News and Lowell Rollings in the Citizen-News. Edwin Schallert in the Los Angeles Sunday Times hailed Viola Essen as one of the bright new starlets of Hollywood. Hedda Hopper's syndicated column carried plugs.

The Pacific Red List, which runs with a dazzling display of fresh-cut roses to herald the Carthay Circle opening.

An extensive radio campaign also drew attention to the picture. Election radio appearances were made by Michael Dubinsky, Ivan Kryov, Viola Essen and composer George Antheil. In their absence, Ben Hecht and Judith Anderson were profiled in radio shows. Programs cooperated with the Carthay Circle Day, Hollywood at Vine, Bride and Groom, Erskine Johnson and many others.

Every dancing and ballet school in greater Los Angeles was advised of the opening of the picture by special letter.

'Missouri Way' Opens in Missouri and Kansas

(Continued from Page 31)

City; Kansas, Parsons; Booth, Independence; Varsity, Lawrence; Nile, Winfield; Howard, Arkansas City; Wichita, Wichita; and the Strand in Salina and McPherson.

Pre-world premiere of the film was held on Saturday (July 27) at Missouri State Penitentiary before an audience of 2900 inmates. News photographers from the prison were provided for the occasion. Inmates were transported to the institution in special private cars for the occasion.

As part of the penitentiary screening, the inmates' orchestra, broadcasting over station KMON, Jefferson City, played a special arrangement of the eight new songs featured in the film.

Following the broadcast and penitentiary showing of the film, the party of guests had a lunch of prison fare with the inmates and then made a conducted tour of the penitentiary.

A short reception was later held at the private railroad car for Arnold Gould, Durwood-Dubinsky Theatres city manager, and Missouri theatre exhibitors. For the reception, a party returned to St. Louis.

The showing marked the first time that any feature motion picture-premiere has been held for inmates at any prison. The affair was arranged by Governor's Executive Secretary Thomas of PRC, and Col. J. E. Whitecock, head of the Missouri State Penal Board.

SHOWMAN SAYS: If I didn't know the war was over before, I do now, what with all these premiers from one end of the country to the other.
attended this affair and presented him with a combination radio-phonograph together with a substantial check.

Walters' tradesmen in the downtown Pittsburgh first-run theatres were increased from five to ten corners over the week end. This is the second advance in admission prices locally since the first of the year.

M. A. Silver, zone manager for Warner Brothers theatres in the Pittsburgh territory, will attend the company's annual convention in Atlantic City on August 5-6-7.

The local Variety Club, Tent No. 1, held its annual golf tournament at the Highland Country Club on Friday, July 26, which had an overflow attendance. The dinner which followed many beautiful prizes were awarded the winning contestants.

The new Fairmont Theatre, Fairmont, W. Va., operated by Warner Bros. Circuit, opened on Thursday, July 25, with a celebration, attended by many members of the theatrical and motion picture distribution fields. This new house replaces the one which was completely destroyed by fire a little more than a year ago. Warner's also operate the Virginia Theatre in this town.

A mammoth stage and screen benefit show, sponsored by the local Variety Club, will be held at the Stanley Theatre on Sunday midnight, August 4, the proceeds of which will be used to build a swimming pool for Camp O'Connell, a summer camp for underprivileged children of the city, of which the local club is co-sponsor.

Local theatre and film circles were saddened last week to learn of the death of the veteran theatre manager, William "Popp" Peacock, for more than 30 years associated with the Harris Amusement Company here, who died in the Presbyterian Hospital following a long illness. He started with the Harris organization as a stage doorman, advancing to theatre manager after several years, and prior to his last illness was relief manager for the chain. He is survived by three children, two daughters and one son.

Joshua Goldberg, Raybouit Theatres, women's swimming club, Mary Sharan, Cunama Theatre, circuit, balloon blowing contest; Mr. and Mrs. Norman Bender, Ben Knobel Theatres, married couples swimming race; Charles Boasberg, KKO Exchange and Al Shukat, Steiner Enterprises, most comfortably dressed.

Exhibitor John Rossi of the Paramount and Strand theatres at Schrock Lake was a Film Row visitor. Others from the exhibition field who made New York during the dog days of its worst year were the theatre man of the Monroe, N. Y., Colonel; C. W. Warner of the Greenwood Lake, N. Y., Playhouse; Monty Kutinsky of the Mt. Vernon, N. Y., Biltmore, and Bill Disbary of the DISbury Theatre, Walden, N. Y.

It's still vacation time with Estelle Sichelman of 20th Century-Fox splitting her vacation into two week takes, and Bessie Allen of the same office off to Rockaway Beach. Office Manager Joe Burke is back from his sun tanning trip.

RepUBLIC manager Robert Fannon is up state on an inspection trip; Milton Kolber, cashier at the same stand, left Republic Friday. He has not announced his future plans.

Vacationists from the United Artists office include Mary Bolinick who is down to Bolton Landing; Assistant Shipper, Norman Lotarte who went up to his native Canada for a cooling off, Joyce Langan, filing clerk, who went to Washington to see what the Capitol looked like, and Irene Greenberg, assistant Jersey booker, who with Doris Gropper, assistant Brooklyn booker, are vacationing together in the Thousand Islands.

Bernie Simons, secretary to the United Artists office manager, is taking her vacation as a counselor at a girl scouts' Camp in Peekskill, N. Y., Bernie Gertzkius and Arlene Deutsch, both of United Artists, who have been away for two weeks but don't believe in being idle. The former teaches swimming after working hours, the latter ballet dancing.

In one of the biggest day-and-date bookings ever accorded a single company's product by New York theatres, a Warner Bros. feature, or short, will be playing daily in 22 Broadway first-runs during Sound Anniversary Week, August 4-10. This is exclusive of 42nd Street houses and others in the neighborhood sections where Warner's Twentieth Anniversary of Talking Pictures also will be observed with bookings of the company's product.


Allied of New Jersey will hold its annual midsummer outing at the West End Casino, West End, N., Aug. 8 with festivities starting at 10 a.m. All members of the industry are invited to attend. The schedule will include a directors meeting, luncheon, a gin rummy tournament, swimming and diving event, a cocktail party and dinner and dancing at 7:15 p.m.

Fred L. Lynch, publicity and advertising director of Radio City Music Hall, left last week with his family on vacation in New Westminister, British Columbia, his home town.

An agreement calling for a salary increase of 15 per cent for some 650 home office white collar workers of the Warner Bros. home office was announced jointly by Warners and the Motion Picture Home Office Employees Union, Local H-62, IATSE (an AFL affiliate) this week. The increase is retroactive to June 1, 1946 and provides for a reduced working week of 37½ hours, and severance pay up to six weeks. The agreement was worked out despite the fact that the present agreement had until Feb. 10, 1947 to run.

Funeral services for Tudor Cameron Brown, 65 year old doorman at Fanchon and Marco's Fox Theatre and former member of the vaudeville team of Cameron and Flanagan, were held last week with interment in St. Peter's Cemetery. Brown died of a stomach ailment.

Another veteran of the industry, and one of its most colorful, Harry Koplar, 63, was buried last week. He started his career in a tent show and several years later purchased the Montgomery Theatre, which had been erected as a unit of the O. T. Crawford chain. Later, with associates, he took over several other Crawford houses, and was a partner of Fred Wehrenberg for a time. Later he expanded into other circuits.

Funeral services were also held last week for Mrs. Amanda LaPlante, mother of Columbia Salesman Arthur LaPlante. She would have been 88 in September.

Barney Rosenthal, manager for Monogram, and his sales staff returned from Chicago all peppe up after the convention.

United Artist has not yet appointed a St. Louis manager to succeed Harris Dudson who has taken over the northwest territory.

Ray Parker, formerly of the Navy and a veteran F & M manager, has succeeded George Rixman as manager of the St. Louis.

Carson Rodgers, general manager of the I. W. Rodgers Theatre circuit of Cairo, Ill., has returned to Barnes Hospital, St. Louis to get some treatment for tuberculosis.

Mac Sorrel has been promoted to private secretary to 20th Century-Fox Branch Manager.

NEW YORK

White collar employees of the New York film exchanges are still negotiating for a contract to cover their services.

Frank Moscat is the first theatremen in this city to establish a policy of playing American films with a Spanish sound track for the Spanish speaking trade in the Bronx. His Rex Theatre is accepted for first run of such product by Loew's. First film to go under this schedule was "Gaslight."

The independent Theatre Owners of America went to the country to go to town in a big way with their annual outing this year. The affair was held at Harry Brandt's Pontcharter home with 300 guests from exchange, distribution and exhibiting fields attend an afternoon of sports, including a tug of war with License Commission fields as opponents;

Winners of the sports events were: Artie Somers, Crest Theatre, 50 yd. dash; Ben Ginsberg, Beacon Theatre, horse shoe pitching; Morton Sunshine, ITOA, Irving Kurland, Palace Theatre; Louis Wolf, Brandt office; Milton Shenk, Center Theatre, relay race; Bobby Lane, Lane Theatres, men's swimming race; Mrs. J.
B. B. Reingold, Jean Jamel has joined the staff there to take the place Mae formerly held. Incidentally Reingold and Jules Levenshul, part owner of the Down Town Lyric, are looking forward to a fishing trip to Florida.

Several managers are out in the territory this week among whom are Paramount's Maurice Schweitzer, Screen Guild Productions' Andy Dietz, PRC's Bill Sherman and Columbia's C. D. Hill.

The mother of Miss C. Klages of 29th Century-Fox passed away last week.

Mrs. C. T. Dasbinberne, of formerly Agnes Kempe of the Red Bud Theatre, Red Bud, Ill., passed away at St. Johns Hospital, St. Louis on July 13 after a six months' illness. She entered show business as a secretary at the St. Louis Orpheum Theatre in its vaudeville days and was also at the Grand, She married C. T. Dasbinberne in 1930 and together they entered the motion picture field, starting with a small circuit of towns in south Illinois. In 1939 they built the Red Bud Theatre in Red Bud and made that city their home. She was one of the outstanding war workers of the community and had piled up a record of selling over half a million dollars in war bonds to that community.

**KANSAS CITY**

The Glenn W. Dickinson circuit, home offices here, has purchased through Tex Theatres, Inc. the Burnetx in Burnett and the Lantex in Llano, Texas. Tommy Hutcheson is operating his new Star at Miller, Mo., having acquired the theatre from R. E. Mayfield.

Mrs. Arthur H. Cole, 57, wife of the Paramount office manager here, one of the truly old-timers in the business, is dead.

C. H. Paden has opened a new drive-in theatre on Highway 50 near Jefferson City. He is the former owner of a camera store there.

R. Lewis Barton, owner of a string of houses in Oklahoma, has purchased the Gem theatre in Tulsa and named Mrs. L. H. Thomas to be manager. He has two in Stroud, one in Midwest City, in Oklahoma City, in Prior and in Capitol Hill, suburb of Oklahoma City.

**ATLANTA**

Funeral services were held here July 27 for Marlin Roberts, 64, retired theatre man, who died in a local hospital. He formerly operated a circuit of Negro show houses.

Members of Tent 21, Variety Club, following a buffet luncheon, visited Dr. Felton Williams' summer camp for underprivileged girls 10 miles from the city, which is maintained by the club. The camp which now houses 50 girls, is being enlarged and will be operated on a year-around basis. A professional football game sponsored by the club, between the Miami Sea-hawks and Brooklyn Dodgers, will benefit the camp in September.

The United Artists exchange gang enjoyed their annual frolic and barbecue in North Fulton Park.

He and Harry Katz, heads of Kay Film Exchanges, visited their new branch in Washington, D. C.

S. N. Manning, Atlanta, is building a picture theatre at Alpharetta, Ga., which he expects to open about October 1.

Harry Diamond, in military service three years, has returned to the Sack Amusement Company.

Stella DeFoor and Christine Banks have returned from the Union B-40 meeting in Chicago. Miss Comic Livesy, of the Paramount exchange, and Walter Bugg will be married August 8.

Visitors on Film Row included Mr. and Mrs. Fred Weis and son Albert, of the Weis circuit, Savannah; Frank Merritt, Acme Amusement Company, Birmingham, Ala.; Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Aycock, Portal Theatre, Portal, Ga.; J. R. Long, Dixie Theatre, East Gadsden, Ala.

**NEW ORLEANS**

Nicholas Lamantia, 69-year old father of RKO exchange Manager James R. Lamantia and of Nicholas J. Lamantia, who owns the Ritz Theatre at Hammond, La., died in his home last week. Interment was in Metairie Cemetery. Besides his sons, Lamantia is survived by his widow, two daughters and a brother.

Columbia Manager Duke Duval's pint sized secretary Beryl Mayer, who is something to (Continued on Page 40)
dream about, will leave the eligible list on Aug. 3 when she marries Jim Gray at the Mater Dolorosa Church.

The atmosphere of the Columbia branch is full of romance this week with Booker Marion Tedesco keeping the mail clerk busy at Ft. Sam Houston with all the letters she is writing for her fiancé, Dr. Sal DeGrado, Lt. (j.g.) in the Navy Dental Corps.

C. B. Hardy, who used to manage the Rayne, La., Theatre has been promoted to district manager for Joy Theatres in southwestern Louisiana with headquarters in Welsh.

Ray Prescott, formerly with the Delta Theatre Supply Company, is back from a long vacation in Baton Rouge, Shreveport and Pensacola.

Norma Smith, formerly with Film Classics of the Southeast has shifted to Kay Film Exchange, as assistant to Manager Frank Francois. Mr. and Mrs. Tony Denbarker of the Peacock Theatre are taking a week off and vacationing in their summer home at Bayou Lacombe.

Film Row visitors: B. V. Sheffield of Strand, Poplarville, La.; Joe Barcelona, Regina Theatre, Baton Rouge, La.; Roy Plefffer, Istrouma, Avenue, and Tivoli Theatres, Baton Rouge, La.; Milton Guidry from Erath, La., who runs the theatres in Abbeville, Lafayette, Erath and Cecilia, La.

B. V. Sheffield recently installed new projection equipment in his Strand Theatre, Poplarville, Miss., which he purchased at the National Theatre Supply Company.

Marian Alford, formerly with Associated Theatres is now with Joy Theatres, Inc. Alma Sherman, bookkeeper for Joy Theatres, Inc., is on vacation at Biloxi, Miss. Joyce Fassio of Joy Theatres just returned from a week's vacation.

H. G. "Slim" Brewer of Clarksdale, Miss., announced that he sold his Savoy Theatre in that city recently to Harlem Amusement Co., Memphis, Tenn. Dave Lebowitz is its booker.

DENVER

Alberta Pike, publicity director for the Fox Denver Theatres, has been nominated by the Democrats for the post of regent of the University of Denver. She will have no opposition in the primaries.

Gibralter Enterprises Theatres will give their annual cocktail party and dinner at the Onyx room, Brown Palace hotel, Aug. 9.

Douglas Dick of "The Searching Wind" cast was in Denver for the opening of the film at the Denham, where he made several personal appearances.

Hugh Braly, district manager for Paramount, is leaving on a trip to visit all exchanges in the

EXECUTIVES CONFERENCE William Dozier (left) and William Goetz confer on forthcoming International Pictures product after Dozier reports to the company as vice-president.

eastern division. Braly, who is co-capitan in the "34th and Greatest Year" drive of Paramount, will visit the spots in the interests of the drive. His district is at present on top spot in the 13 week period for feature bookings, and Denver is in top spot among exchanges.

Joe Nercesan, Screen Guild franchise owner, was in Denver from his Salt Lake City headquarters.

Meyer Monsky, Universal exchange manager, is on a selling trip to Nebraska.

Jerry Banta, business agent for the film employees union, Metro booker, attended the national convention in Chicago as delegate.

Jack Plynn, MGM western district sales manager, arrived in Denver, and went fishing with Henry Friedel, district manager.

Mike Parchiv is opening up Lake City, Colo., to films with his 100-seat Alpine.

The Hart Theatre Decorating and Display are giving the Alpine, Denver, accoutrement treatment, and are doing over the lobbies and foyers of the Avalon, Pueblo, Colo., along with some work on the inside of the auditorium on the latter.

Duke Hickey, field representative for MPA, is spending two weeks in Denver making a survey for the Johnston office.

Vacations at 20th Century-Fox exchange include Howard Booker, booker, who is just returning; Carl Larson, booker, just going on his, and Hazel Morgan, cashier, who goes to Los Angeles for her time off.

Vacations from the division offices of Fox Intermountain Theatres include Harry Green, film statistician; Marjorie Gade, biller; Leland Smith, art department; Joe Pastorski, auditor; Jeanne Knutsen, compiometer operator; Mariame Smith, film buying dept.; Leon Corning, popcorn chief; Dorothy Sloan, service dept.; Roy Nelson, bookkeeper; Joe Hanly, traveling auditor; Davieth Hanlanet, secretary; Arthur Scharton, film dispatcher; Jack McLaren, service; Glenn Little, warehouseman, and Tiltie Patch, Martie Sipes, Mary Pink, Thelma Gayer, Sylvia Herbertson and Esther Oswald from the candy warehouse.

Fox Intermountain Purchasing department held their annual picnic at Genesee Peak.

Girls at the Paramount exchange gave a luncheon for Mrs. Ann Kelly Lampson, married recently, and Leta Downing, cashier, who was married Sunday at Edgewater Christian church to Walter John Rogalla.

G. Knox Haddow, Paramount home office representative, spent two days in Denver on his way to Salt Lake City.

On his last trip to Denver Kenneth Powell, Wray, Colo., theatre owner, flew a plane back to his agency there.

The annual picnic and golf tournament of the Rocky Mountain Screen Club will be held at the Park Hill Country Club August 14. Robt. Hill, Columbia manager, is general chairman, who says arrangements are being made for the largest turnout ever.


OKLAHOMA CITY

Film deals here are in somewhat of a "mess" as a result of the recent decree which has been delaying sales and causing almost weekly changes in sales policies.

Independent exhibitors are complaining of "deals" and terms being offered them and a great many are just refusing to buy and trying to hold out the season until things stabilize. There is no question of the film shortage throughout the southwest; it's been had all along and the result has been a golden harvest for re-issues and Film Classics type of material as well as for films which ordinarily would be shunted to the back dates.

There has also been date juggling which hasn't made the independents happy.

"The film companies don't know where they are at," one independent sums up the situation. "The result is some of the dizziest propositions I have ever had offered me and the prices are out of this world. I'm having plenty of trouble getting anything worth showing but I'll manage to hang on until things get straightened out."

The circuits are in much the same boat but their "hurt" is in getting films what with cancellations, shortages of prints on those that do come through, and general "what do we do next?" troubles.

PORTLAND

Mark Cory, 62, RKO manager in Portland, Oregon, died suddenly last Wednesday of a heart attack. He had been in the district for 16 years, and had been in Portland since his 17th birthday.

"Canyon Passage" now in its second big week at Parker's Broadway in Portland, is also open in with a big fanfare at Medford Craterian Theatre, a few miles from Jacksonville, where the feature was filmed.

Reorganization of management of Ted Gamble theatre chain, put Joe Elias manager at Van Fort Theatre, M. Anderson in charge of the Rio and Cascadian theatres at Hood River, Ore., and Ron Gamble as general manager of Coos Bay theatres, including Egyptian, Liberty and Noble. Bill Gamble and Roy Gamble are assigned to the Portland, Bagdad. Mrs. Ted Gamble will revive the personal business at all houses.

Alexander "Sandy" Judge, 60, oldest and best known projectionist of Spokane, died of a heart attack.

Franklin County (Wash.) is being filmed by Paramount in picture starring Brian Donlevy and Alan Ladd in "The Big Haircut."

Keith Beckwith, long identified with motion picture business here, has resigned from Columbia and will devote full time to his theatre chain, which consists of North Bend, Spokane, the new

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Kriz, to open at Moses Lake, the new Motor-Imm Theatre at Millwood and the Rialto Theatre at Hillyard, Wash.

Mark E. Cory, 64, pioneer figure in the motion picture industry and Portland branch manager for RKO Radio Pictures, died at his home from a heart attack. He had been a resident of Portland since 1938. He was a native of Melvern, Kansas. Cory went to San Francisco shortly after the great fire, opening the first motion picture theatres in that city, the Cory and Fairyland. He is survived by his wife and son, Lien St. Mark E. Cory, Jr. He was active in Red Cross work and received many commendations.

Richard Schmidt, western regional manager of U. S. Army motion picture service is being transferred to Atlanta, Georgia, where he will serve in a similar capacity in that Division. Torsen Reider, booker for the Western division is being transferred to San Francisco, and George Dorough, is coming to Seattle as manager.

Albert Fink, general manager in Oregon for Evergreen State Theatres, who has been confined in Providence Hospital, Seattle, for the past eight weeks has recovered and will spend the next few weeks at Seaside, Ore.

SAN FRANCISCO

"Henry V" is expected to open the new Stage Door Theatre on a road show basis. Irving C. Ackerman, owner, announced that if current contract negotiations are completed, the picture will be shown early in September on a two-a-day basis, $2.40 top and reserved seats.

MGM manager Jerry Mayer, is hospitalized here following an abdominal operation. The Stanford Lane Hospital reports "satisfactory" convalescence to L. C. Mayer, MGM studio head, and Howard Strickling, studio publicity chief, were in town to see Mayer. He is expected to return to Los Angeles in three weeks.

Vacation bound are Jerry Slutzky, booker, and Frank Murphy, manager, at Universal and George Leech, manager of the Royal Theatre here. Planning their vacations are Gordon Diehl, manager of the New Mission Theatre and Lawrence Brennan, manager of the Tower Theatre and his wife Evelyn, switchboard operator at the Nassar Brothers Theatres main office.

New employees on the row are Peter Chiam, booker at Columbia; Gene Newman, inspector at Twentieth Century Fox, and Dorothy Einhoff, booker, at United Artists. Miss Einhoff replaced Cleo Bush.

David Lake, Metro general sales manager in Australia, passed through town enroute to conferences in New York. Lake was accompanied by his wife. He plans to visit the studio in Culver City and then to Sydney late in September.

Theatre office manager Min Levy, is recovering rapidly from a recent operation.

The entire Warner Brothers exchange gave a farewell party to Gloria Ferrera, availability clerk, in the company’s club rooms. Miss Ferrera has left the exchange to wed Frederick Watson.

District and division managers for Fox West Coast will attend the National Theatres conference in Los Angeles on August 5 to 8. From the Northern California area are Richard Spier, division manager; George Milner, chief booker, and District Managers Herman Kers-ken, Harry Seipel, W. C. Ricord, Jr. and Fred Glass.

Flying in from Los Angeles are Joseph Blumenfeld, general manager of Blumenfeld Theatres and Robert L. Lippert, owner of the Lippert Theatres. Jack Blumenfeld was in Los Angeles on a weekend trip.

The New Mission Theatre has installed eight new stainless steel lobby advertising frames and the Tower Theatre just added another rectifier to the booth equipment. Both theatres are part of the Nassar Brothers circuit.

At Dunn, manager, and Bill Ulrich, projectionist, at the Blumenfeld’s Orpheum Theatre are on vacation.

Wallace Cowen, manager of the State Theatre in Woodland, was visiting the George M. Mann Theatres circuit offices.

Delegates to the local Shrines convention included Votts Kafina, owner of the Broadway Theatre in Malin, Oregon; Jack Robl, partner in the California Theatre, Kerman, California; H. Stubbins, Monogram franchise owner from Los Angeles, and Cam Mottino, former owner of the Roxie Theatre, Reno, Nevada.

H. Neal East, Paramount branch manager, Del Goodman, division manager, and Tom Bridge, sales manager, expect to attend the opening of the Panerco Brothers’ Sierra Theatre in Dalenro, California.

The California State Legislature passed a resolution praising Howard Hughes for his "outstanding contributions to aviation and the science of aeronautics during and since the war."

Attending the IATSE convention in Chicago are William McCarthy, stage manager at the Golden Gate, and George Ward, the union’s local business agent.

OMAHA

F. A. Van Husen, Western Theatre Supply Company head, and Mrs. Van Husen are visiting relatives in Rome, Ind., following a business trip.

Hazel Jensen, RKO biller, is vacationing at her home.

Lucille Bentz, MGM assistant contract clerk will wed Welden Hahn, of Omaha, Sept. 1. She will continue to work.

Joyce Rodda, MGM assistant cashier, is spending her vacation in the hometown of Storm Lake, Ia.

Julian King, Film Classics representative from Des Moines, was in town.

Dr. John C. White, son of Carl White, Quality Theatre Supply owner, is now stationed at a veteran’s hospital outside Little Rock, Ark. Mrs.

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Carl White is spending a few days there.

I. L. Fleming, sales engineer for the DeVry Projection Company, was an Omaha visitor from Chicago.

Omaha exchanges are currently "split wide open" in good natured fun over their forthcoming softball game at the Variety Club picnic at Peony Park. H. B. Johnson will captain a team from Universal, RKO, Columbia and Twentieth Century-Fox offices. Jess McBride will lead the rest of the team against them in answer to a challenge.

Cliff Sherron, who formerly had the theatre at Sutherland, Ia., is back in the territory looking for a new spot to locate. He spent a year in Texas.

Mona Hansen, booker's secretary at Universal, is vacationing in Los Angeles.

Clifford Donnell, stage hands business manager, and Howard Jackson, operators business agent, were Omaha representatives attending the national IATSE convention in Chicago.

Burt Miller, former Wakefield exhibitor, has purchased the Oriental Theatre at Beaver City from J. J. Metzger.

Walter Hoffman, 20th-Fox exploiter, spent a couple of days here. Also visiting the city were Ralph Ayer, Cooper Theatres district manager, and Ted Butterfield, Lincoln city manager.

Joseph Warnock, Battle Creek (Ia.) exhibitor, has returned from a fishing trip in Canada's lake country.

Henry Sagun, exhibitor at Dennison, Ia., spends most of his summer at his cabin in Minnesota near the Canadian border.

INDIANAPOLIS

Clarence E. McConnaughhey, manager of the Dream Theatre here, in a letter to the Juvenile Aid Center, suggested that unaccompanied youths, not be admitted to motion picture theatre's after 8 p.m. in order to facilitate enforcement of the city curfew ordinance. The Juvenile Aid Center will relay the suggestion to the officers of the Association Theatre Owners of Indiana.

Gene Ezel, inspector at Republic exchange, and George Renner have announced their wedding for Sept. 20.

Republic Auditor Ted Zokbel, is at the local branch making a checkup. E. L. Walton, assistant general sales manager, Republic Pictures, and A. E. Schiller, in charge of branch operations visited the local office during the week.

The National Theatre, Louisville, Ky., is undergoing a general renovating, and some new booth equipment is being installed. The work will be accomplished without interrupting activities in the house.

Visitors on Film Row during the week included C. C. Wallace, Dagget, Kenneth Law, Argo; C. A. Marshall, Darlington; E. E. Smith, Francesville; D. D. Lee, Cayuga; Robert L. Hudson, Richmond; Ike T. Solters, Covington; J. N. Wycoff, Terre Haute; and Joe Schilling, Coryellville.

Joseph Bammerscheim, National Theatre Supply Co., is spending his vacation at home.

James Keefe, 20th-Fox exploiter was at the local exchange during the week on business.

Kenneth Dotterer, 20th-Fox sales organization, will take over zone four, Kentucky territory. He will assume his duties July 29.

Lee Weinberg, circuit manager, Columbia Pictures, and local branch manager, visited the local branch during the week.

Bernard Maxwell, Columbia exploiter is in the city preparing the campaign on "Renegades," Columbia's latest Technicolor picture.

Monroeville, Ind.—Charles E. McNarny sold his Monroe Theatre at Monroeville to George D. Fellers. Allen Bradley sold his Pec Theatre, Louisville, to C. K. Wilson and L. H. Davis of the Crimson Novelty Theatre, Ottawa, long dark has been reopened by William Warren. The new Franklin Theatre, 500-seat capacity, was opened by C. R. Phillips July 26 at Greensburg.

Dr. Sidney J. Hatfield, 66 years old, local physician and owner and operator of the Dream Theatre in Brightwood, was killed when his automobile was wrecked in a collision at Willits, Calif.

HARRISBURG

Among the suggestions to be presented to the 1946 State Legislature by the State Government Commission will be that the sale of tickets to any theatre or place of amusement in excess of the established admission fee be declared a criminal offense, irrespective of who makes the increased charge. The Commission, appointed by the 1945 Legislature, to look into various penal laws with a view toward expunging certain technicalities, is planning to report urging that racketeering in any form, and scalping of the public be stopped. Senator Paul M. Crider, Republican, Franklin County, is chairman of the investigating group.

On vacation from the State are Gerry Wollaston, manager, who with his family, is on a two-week fishing trip in Wisconsin, and several ushers, expected to return this week.

Attending the National convention in Chicago, Ill., are Ike Davis and Lawrence Katz, representing local stagehands and projectionists' unions, and Sam Rubia, business manager.

Ed Goch, publicity manager for Fabian circuits, was one of the spectators at the Fabian Golf Tournament, and annual event held in Paterson, N. J.

Mrs. Amanda Dean, Colonial, left for a holiday. Jack O'Rear, manager, has returned after spending two weeks at his summer home along the Susquehanna River. A guest of Mr. and Mrs. O'Rear was Miss Genevieve Funk, Colonial secretary.

Saturday morning broadcasts of "The Cavalier of York," are emanating from the State stage, and aired over WHGB, with the cooperation of Gerry Wollaston, State manager. Henry I. Marshall, who presided for similar shows two years ago at the Rio, again is master of ceremonies. Last Saturday he plugged "Night and Day," to open soon at the State, by using only Cole Porter tunes in the hour show.

Visitors in town were, Lou Golding, Fabian circuit general manager; Herman Newisky, Fabian maintenance man, of Norfolk, and Ed Gallner, MGM publicity man.

Returned from vacation, Paddy Ryan has taken up his work at the State. He spent several weeks in Connecticut. Now at the State is Dave Bilson, who succeeds Mrs. Gloria Oyster Shuman as cashier.

Governor Edward Martin gave his personal endorsement to "Cradle of Liberty," the short which describes Pennsylvania, following a pri-

OLD ACQUAINTANCE IN NEW ROLE. Frank Hensler, recently promoted to District Manager succeeding Jack Byrne (who also was promoted) visited exchange territories in his district to greet old friends among the theatre men. Two of the visits are pictured above—at top, a gathering in Kansas City with Hensler (center) flanked by Lon Cox, Fox-Midwest; Clarence E. Schultz, Commonwealth Circuit; L. C. Griffith, Griffith Circuit; Elmer C. Rhode, Fox-Midwest. In lower photo, a group shot made during Hensler's visit in Indianapolis—those present: J. J. Maloney, Ted Morris, Foster B. Gauker, all of MGM, and Boyd Sparrow, Loew's Theatres, Indianapolis, and Hensler.


**Showmen's Trade Review, August 3, 1946**

**Regional Newsreel**

Variate screening which the Governor Martin and State aides saw. Gerry Wallaston, State, arranged the preview as well as the regular two week run at the State.

Sam Gilman, manager of Loew's Regent, was honored as one of three theatre men in the entire country to win the first annual Photo-of-the-Month prize for exploitation. Mayor Howard E. Milliken presented Gilman with a pen and pencil set. He is one of three exhibitors throughout the nation. His exploitations were "Between Two Women," "Weekend at the Waldorf," "National Velvet," and "The Harvey Girls."

Gilman, after spending his second week of vacation in Atlantic City, will go to Baltimore, Md., where he will relieve Billy Saxton, Loew's manager there for a three-week period.

**Des Moines**

City officials at Clinton are planning on closing all public gathering places, including motion picture houses, as a result of increasing number of polio cases. The county centennial celebration was postponed with the reporting of the ninth case. Already officials have closed the swimming pools, boy and girl scout camps and all playgrounds.

The Iowa Supreme Court ruled that the Tri-State Theatre of Des Moines must pay a $15,000 judgment to Rachel Wood of Cedar Rapids who claimed she suffered injuries when she fell in the lobby of a theatre in that city. A jury awarded the judgment, but the trial judge ruled in favor of the circuit and accepted a motion for a directed verdict. The state high court held that the judge was in error and reversed him.

Marvin Graybeal who has been at the Roosevelt

**New Theatres**

Beaumont, Tex.—Jefferson Amusement Company announces that it will build a $100,000 theatre here to be known as The People's House. It will be on the site of the old People's, which was destroyed by fire last year.—D.A.L.

Columbus, Tex.—Mrs. and Mrs. T. W. Motera have announced that they will open a new 650-seater, the Oaks shortly.—D.A.L.

Dallas—The new Hill Theatre opened last week.

Ft. Worth, Tex.—Grand Theatre Company, which operates the Grand and Liberty theatres is constructing a new Negro house to be opened about Sept. 1.—D.A.L.

Burns, Ore.—Combs and Racine, theatre operating firm, has made application for a building permit to construct a $20,000 theatre here.—P.B.T.

Columbus, O.—J. Real Neth has announced that the eighth theatre in his local circuit will be the Colonial, to be constructed on Columbus' West Side at the corner of West Broad Street and Burgess Avenue. The site is part of the old Fisher estate. Title to the landmark was transferred to Neth by the Seeco-Vacuum Oil Co. for a consideration of $27,800, a report by County Auditor Dunn showed.—C.O.L.

Sacramento, Cal.— Walter G. Preddy is seeking a permit to erect a $100,000 theatre on Marysville Road.

Michigan City, Ind.— The Duneland Corporation will build a $250,000 stadium type house to seat 1500 here. It will be part of a theatre and store building.

East Chicago, Ind.—Alex Manta's Inland Amusement Company will build a 1300-seater here as part of a store and theatre plant at a cost of $250,000.

Whiting, Ind.—Whiting Amusement Company plans a 1200-seater here as part of a $150,000 project.

LaPorte, Ind.—A $300,000 theatre and store building is planned for this city by Perry Properties, Inc., with the theatre to seat 1400.

Sault St. Marie, Mich.—Joe DePaul has plans for a 1000-seater to cost $150,000.

Escanaba, Mich.—A $175,000 store building with a 1200-seat theatre will be constructed by Delfi Theatres.

Manistique, Mich.—The LeDuc interests are to build an $85,000 combined theatre and store project, with theatre to seat 700.

**Chicago**

Material shortage is holding up the Manta and Rose building projects.

Ludwig Sussman, Allied director and owner of the Adelphi Theatre is back on the job after a tussle with illness.

Van Nomikos, another Allied executive (his vice-president) and owner of the Van Nomikos circuit, says that no matter what the score is, his circuit will not make more than one audience collection in the coming year.

Lou Abramson, secretary to Jack Kirsch is back from Clayston, Mo. Kirsch himself is due back this week.

Encyclopedia Britannica Films is opening a preview center at 20 North Wacker Drive, Chicago, where educators may preview films.

Phil Kron hopes that his Drive In Theatre will get open in August. He will have room for 850 cars and has just placed an order for DeVry projectors.

**Albany**

At a general meeting of Upstate Theatres held Monday, the following appointments were made: Capt. Leonard Rosenthal, recently released from active military service, has been retained as attorney and general counsel. Capt. Rosenthal will supervise buying of pictures for Upstate. Mrs. Mary Flynn has been appointed office manager and booker.

J. Bullwinkel, newly appointed Columbia branch manager is touring western part of the state, getting acquainted with the exhibitors.

Harold Strassman, owner of State Theatre, Glen's Falls, visited Film Row and advised that he would open the Ft. Edward Theatre, Ft. Edward next week on a three nights a week policy.

Condolences are being extended to MGM Book Dorothy Finkelstein upon the death of her father, Sam Levitz, well-known Almanian who died Thursday, July 29th, after a lingering illness.

Mr. B. Lake, Australian-New Zealand general manager for Loew's, Inc., visited the Albany office. Eighteen years ago he was with Famous Players in Albany.

The Colonial Theatre, Albany which recently was damaged by fire, is being renovated and will reopen on Sept. 15th, with Upstage Theatres booking and buying.

**Memphis**

Considerable new building is being planned on Memphis Film Row as soon as materials become available. Warner Bros. have purchased land and are planning the erection of a new Exchange Building. Ed Williamson, branch manager, reports, "Just when the Real Estate (Continued on Page 44)

"Voice of Theatre Speakers"

**Joe Hornstein has it!**
SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, August 3, 1946

REG I O N A L  N E W S R E E L

(Continued from Page 43)

Department in New York will get started on the job I can't say," Mr. Williamson added, "but the plans definitely are on the drawing boards." Also planning for expansion is the Universal Exchange headed by James Prichard. Additional product, increased business and lack of space in the present exchange building, is expected to bring either an addition or a new building.

Memphis Film Row was surprised last week when inquiries suddenly began arriving from New York asking if it were true that M. A. Lightman, president of Malco Theatres, had died suddenly. Most surprised of all was Mr. Lightman, who at the time was taking a two week vacation at his home here.

Both "The Green Years" at Loece's Palace and "Without Reservations" at Loece's State clicked sufficiently hard here for holdovers. There had been some wondering about "The Green Years" among show people because of the Scotch dialect and the habit of Memphians of nearly boycotting any dialect picture, with the exception of Boyer's.

MILWAUKEE

At Waupaca, Wis., the Ashe Theatre has been incorporated by Irving & Ruth Ashe, to "operate a motion picture theatre," according to the incorporation papers filed with the secretary of state. 100 shares of stock at $60 per share have been authorized.

A building permit has been taken out by Norbert W. Wolke, Elm Grove, Wis., for a new theatre building. It will be a one story structure, with a concrete foundation, 42x122.

The architects are Fodder, Schlober Berners, Safford & Jahn of Green Bay, Wis.

Gallagher Film Service, of Green Bay and Milwaukee, is taking moving pictures in Chicago, Milwaukee, Pittsburgh, St. Paul, Green Bay, Wis., and Marinette, Wis., for the Ansol Chemical Company, manufacturers of chemicals for controlling flies of many different natures.

Up to the middle of July, $35,000 was the total collected for construction of the new theatre at Manawa, Wis., according to reports from H. W. Rucker, purchasing agent for the project. Work was commenced at that time, some materials for construction of the show house having been delivered with more to follow. W. E. Billman is chairman of the committee having the

raising of funds in charge, and he reports contributions for the project still coming in.

At La Crosse, Wis., in the western part of the state, a new firm has been organized to take over four theatres in the city, transfer of the show houses having been made by the former owners, the La Crosse Theatres Company. The new owners are known as the La Crosse Amuse- ment Company. Edwin Schwabale is president and general manager of the new firm, having held these positions with the former owners.

Ben Marcus, of Milwaukee, is secretary. The deal involves the transfer of the Wisconsin, Rivoli, Riviera and the Strand theatres. In announcing the transfer, president Schwabale said: "We expect to continue to operate on the same basis as in the past, and will endeavor to furnish the same high class of pictures." The new company took over on July 1st.

Los Angeles

Red Williams supervised the installation of 475 seats in Wade Londermill's Roxy Theatre, Buckeye, Arizona, for Kroehler Pushback Seats. Wade opened July 23rd.

Film Class's Bob Abisone reports that "The Westerner" is rolling up grosses comparable to the greatest in the history of Fox Intermountain's Denver, Esquire and Web theatres, in Denver.

Universal's employees are really vacationing, spending some of that first prize dough they won in the recently completed national sales drive. Beverly Beckley, booker, was in Catalina, as was Bennie Sachev, also a date-taker. Bookkeeper Marilyn Hilldreh, a newcomer to the Row, took off long enough to marry Ed Burch in Congregational Church on July 27. Ed Cooke, office manager, took a rest by driving around the country-side, and Esther Lopez, booker's steno, returned from a vacation at Huntington Beach. Dorothy Joslin, steno, and Ruth Moore, district booker, headed for Big Bear for their two weeks off. Mary Prisie, inspector, returned from her vacation.

Mrs. Belle Stockwell, owner of the Film Row Stationery is celebrating the 17th year of operation of the store on the same site.

Los Gollats, cashier at Republic, went to Yosemite for her vacation. All the female contingent of the office recently made a "Republic" night of it, by going, seven strong, to Chinatown for dinner and a show.

Meet to Further U. J. A. Film industry chieftains met in New York this week with Nelson A. Rockefeller and Edward M. M. Warburg to urge all-out support of the non-sectarian Community Committee of New York on behalf of the United Jewish Appeal. In the photo above, made at the meeting, are: Gus Eysell, Radio City Music Hall; Spyros P. Skouras, 20th Century-Fox; Mr. Rockefeller, Mr. Warburg and Barney Balaban, Paramount.

Charlotte

On Monday, July 20 at 1 P.M. all the Film Exchanges in the city, together with all offices connected in any way with motion pictures, closed officially and all of the employees started on the fifteen minute trip to the Catawhba River, where, at the Red Fox Club, they were guests of the Variety Club at a big picnic. A beauty contest was held, games, including the Variety Club's favorite, Gin Rummy, were played. Contests were arranged for the children of the film people who were able to go. Co. Dillon of Republic was in charge of preparations, and the following committees made preparations: Entertainment: Bill Parker and Charlie Crandall; Prices: Harry Haas and Byron Adams; Refreshments and Janitor Service: Scott Lett; Food Boxes: A. B. Craver and Jack London; Beauty Contest: Al Burks and Jack Austin; Card Games: Marsh Pumberdner and George Roscio; Moving Picture Committee: Sam Hinson and Bill White; Softball: Barney Slaughter and Blake Gryder; Horse show: Carl Patterson and Dean House; Children's Games: Mrs. George Ebersole and Mrs. Scott Lett.

R. H. Hanes has been transferred from Atlanta by the United Artists Corporation to serve as salesman in this territory.

S. S. Stevenson, owner of the Stevenson Theatre Corporation in Henderson, N. C. was married on July 13 to Mrs. Kay Brake, also of Henderson.

Dallas

Belita, star of Monogram's "Suspense" has been scheduled for a personal appearance here at the Turtle Derby, September 15. Donating their services as usual for the Derby will be the members of Dorothy Franey's Ice Time Revue.

Mary Alice Brown, publicity director for the Interstate Players, is back at her old chores for the circuit here.

The Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce dedicated the August edition of its publication to Interstate on the occasion of the circuit's 40th anniversary.

J. T. Upton has been named branch manager for PRC at Oklahoma City after two years for Dallas MGM offices. He replaces H. E. McKenna and Ed Walker, who left PRC to go into business for themselves.

At Okemah, Okla., the office and confectionary of the Crystal theatre have been redecorated. In the near future the Crystal and Jewel theatres will have a new marquee and improved lobby.

Rebuilding of the Forgan Theatre at Forgan, Okla., destroyed by fire July 13, has been started and the theatre will be re-opened with a month.

Bill Headstream, manager of the Melba Theatre at Batesville,Ark., has announced that the name of the new Commonwealth theatre there will be The Cozy and that it will be open about August 15.

Nancy Jane Gates, Denton, Texas' starlet was back from Hollywood last week to dedicate the street name after her in the vet village at North Texas State college there.

Al Picken, who used to be a special representative of Charles E. Darden Co. in this area, has joined PRC as a salesman to cover northern Texas and rural houses in Fort Worth.

E. C. Elder, Mono office manager has been
The image contains text that appears to be a set of articles and news stories. Here is a representation of the text as if you were reading it naturally:

**TORONTO**

Annual meeting of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario has been issued for Oct. 22, at the King Edward Hotel. The program calls for the business session in the morning and luncheon in the afternoon. Morris Stein, Eastern Division manager of Famous Players Canadian Corp., is the president and Arch H. Jolley is secretary.

Famous Players has planned to revive the Toronto head office outing. It will be held Aug. 16, at the Circle M. Ranch, Kleinburg, Ont. Plans are also going ahead for the annual business conference of Famous Players with its many theatre partners during the week of Sept. 8 at Jasper Park in the heart of the Canadian Rockies.

J. J. Fitzgibbons, Jr., has severed his connection with London, England, Ltd., Toronto, a subsidiary of Famous Players Canadian Corp., of which his father, J. J. Fitzgibbons, is president. The new manager of Theatre Confections will be James Stevenson, late secretary-treasurer of W. Craig McAlpine, Winnipeg, for more than three years and previously with Famous Players headoffice in Toronto.

Young Fitzgibbons, who returned last fall after lengthy service with the U.S. Army in the Pacific Theatre, has been vice-president and manager of Canadian Automatic Confections Limited, Toronto. The latter was established a decade ago for the servicing of its candy machines in theatres and elsewhere. It is an independent concern.

Manager W. K. Trudell of the Capitol Theatre, London, Ont., played a hero role while holding daily at Port Stanley, Lake Erie summer resort, when he saved a young girl from drowning in deep water. Fully clothed, Trudell, who has been a Famous Players manager for many years, dived from the pier to effect the rescue.

Formation of Overseas Cinematograph Theatre Association Limited is in the making. It is having no affect on the actual management and operation of Odeon Theatres of Canada Limited which is under the presidency of Hon. J. Earl Lawson, K.C., to date.

Famous Players Canadian Corp. has started work on the second of its super-deluxe neighbourhood theatres in Toronto while Odeon Theatres of Canada proceeds with the construction of its ultra-modern first-run cinema in downtown Toronto. At the same time an Odeon affiliate has made good progress with the Snowden Theatre in the North End of Toronto. Accordingly, honors are relatively even thus far in the local construction race.

After making a start on the University Theatre, not far from Toronto's great college, Famous Players has broken ground on Eglinton Avenue in North West Toronto for its Nortown Theatre which is to have 962 seats. The location of Nortown is near Odeon's Colony Theatre, but it will also be new opposition for two other Famous Players theatres, the Eglinton and Avenue, in the other direction. The district, however, is become heavily populated through the expansion of the city.

**CINCINNATI**

William Hastings, associated with RKO in Cincinnati for more than 15 years and manager of the Grand Theatre for the past 6 years, said farewell to his many friends and associates in this city Sunday at a party given in his honor at the Variety Club. Hastings has been transferred to the RKO Orpheum Theatre in Denver, Colo. Earlier in the day, he was the guest of honor for a farewell dinner given by the RKO managers.

Jane Ryan Booth, daughter of MGM manager Edwin M. Booth, and Mrs. Booth, will be married August 3 to Richard E. Monsey, New Castle, Pa., at St. Mary's Church. The wedding breakfast and reception will be held at the Hyde Park Country Club. The bride-to-be, attended Pine Manor Junior College, Wellesley, Mass., for two years in voice, and later studied at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. Mr. Monsey is a pro-golfer and a former B-29 pilot. He holds a commercial pilot's license.

J. J. Oulahan, branch manager of Paramount, and his family were thrilled to hear the voice of "Young Joseph" C. Oulahan, son of J. J., calling from San Francisco last week. He had just arrived in the country from a year on Guam.

The fellow-workers of Florence Wilder, picture report girl at Paramount, extend their sympathy to Florence whose grandmother passed away in Pineville, Ky., last week.

MGM has two radio girls in the inspection department: Conney Mayer and Marian Mains. Mid-summer vacationers during the past two weeks include Clara Zenz, in Indiana, Miss Virginia Kenney, in swimming pools about Cincinnati, and Michael Robert.

Out-of-town visitors on Film Row last week included Minnie Marcos, Indianapolis, and C. A. Metro, Portsmoutb, Ohio.

J. J. Grady, 20th Century-Fox district manager with Mrs. Grady, L. J. Bogie, branch manager, and his wife, attended the annual picnic given by Phil Chakeres, a theatre circuit operator, July 25 at the Chakeres home in Springield, Ohio. This is the first time the picnic has been held since the war.

**MEYER FINE OF ASSOCIATED CIRCUIT IS ON A FISHING TRIP IN CANADA**

Bernard Kranz, United World eastern division sales manager is in New York temporarily to handle his duties with the company.

The RKO district branch office will continue to be in Cleveland. Milton E. Cohen, just promoted from Detroit branch manager to coast central district manager, will move his family here as soon as he finds some place to move into.

Joel Kragman, representative of Samuel Goldwyn, spent several days in the RKO exchange.

Of interest to members of the film colony was the announcement during the past week of the engagement of Stanley (Bud) Barach and Miss Shirley Waters of this city. Bud is the only son of Nat Barach, local National Screen Service branch manager and Mrs. Barach. He served more than two years as a member of the Coast Guard and is now attending Fenn College, specializing in business administration. The bride-to-be is a student at the Cleveland School of Art.

Holbrook Bissell, who recently resigned as Columbus branch manager in Albany to head his own company, Advertisers' Distributing Co., dropped off for a quick visit.

George Bressler, Paramount office manager announces the appointment of Robert E. Hall, formerly of Ernst and Ernst, as cashier. Bill Brooks, Paramount booker and his family were vacationing in Cleveland last week.

J. Maxwell Joice, Paramount district publicity director and Mrs. Joice left Friday by automobile for a first hand look at Mexico. They plan to be away about three weeks. Lt. Stanley Krenitz, son of Joe Krenitz of PRC is stationed in Tokyo where he is having good use of his study of the Japanese language. His wife leaves sometime in August to join him for his two years overseas service.

Max Young is pretty sure that he will be able to open his new 850-seat Maumee Theatre, Maumee, on Labor Day. The seats are all in and the blower fans are now being installed.

Ray Wallace, Alliance circuit owner, his wife and son are vacationing at Atlantic City. Marvin Hasler, general manager of the Capitol Theatre, Toledo, was among the week's visitors, Nat Wolf, Warner zone manager, Dick Wright, assistant zone manager and Marvin Samuelson of the booking department attended the Phil Chakeres summer party in Springfield last Thursday. Tony Stryer, head of the theatre booking department, planned to go but was prevented by an accident to his wife who broke a leg in a fall.

Luthi Sign and Display Co. of the Film Bldg made all of the displays for the big Cleveland Sequi Centennial celebration.

Jennings Theatre, owned by John Urbansky, is in the hands of contractor Henry Hellriegel for renovating, including new walls, drapes and modernizing the lobby and foyer.

Holland of the PRC playdate department was here on a visit to branch manager Edwin R. Bergman. John Urbansky, Sr., president of Visual Communications, Inc., Bernard W. Payne, Jr., secretary and Harry Urbansky, treasurer will attend the NAVED convention in Chicago. Also attending will be Mrs. Payne and Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Leiton of Academy Film Service, Inc.

Gulistan Wilton Theatre Carpet
**JOE HORNSTEIN HAS IT!**
Night Train to Memphis

Republic
Comedy-Melodrama 67 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) There are melodrama, comedy, romance, and hillbilly songs in this Acuff number, but it is almost too corny for even Sen. Claghorn's constituents.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Where Roy Acuff has a following the picture will do all right, but except for him and the hillbilly stuff, there is little to sell.


Plot: Acuff's brother, Allan Lane, returns from the penitentiary, having been framed—as he thinks—by the railroad. He meets the R.R.'s president, Joseph Crehan, and his daughter, Adele Mara. The two fall in love, and through a misunderstanding she thinks Allan has saved her from drowning, while it actually was Roy. Pop buys up the townspeople's land so that he can put through a short cut by diverting the flow of the river. But this would ruin the local lake. After several phone-plants Pop decides to give back the properties and put in bridges. Everybody is once more happy, including Allan and Adele.

Comment: They make no bones about this picture being corny, but it does seem as if they rather overdo it this time; they even read a letter out loud, evidently for fear audiences can't read for themselves. However, Acuff is an ingratiating guy and he does well with the singing—all of it being on the hillbilly side. The Night Train to Memphis theme song has a good swing and serves its purpose very well, and Acuff's own revival song, That Glory Bound Train, is effective, with the church congregation joining in and clapping hands. The players are adequate, with Roy Barcroft doing yeoman work as the menace. The picture is not for large cities, for such audiences could not take it straight. Where Acuff has a following, it will pass muster.

The Gentleman Misbehaves

Columbia
Comedy 74 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Although this follows the usual story about getting the backing for a Broadway show, there have been enough comedy touches included, plus good performances and direction, to make it an entertaining vehicle for the average individual.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Better-than-average program offering.


Plot: This is the story of a Broadway producer and his continued efforts to put on a new show, even though his leading lady-girl friend walked out on him. He is broke and owes practically everyone in town. By chance he meets a French refugee who has $5,000, and it is through her financial aid that he finally fulfills his ambition.

Comment: Good performances and capable direction make this picture a better-than-average program offering. If it were not for these two facts, it would have little entertainment, for the plot as outlined above, is so familiar that one knows exactly what to expect shortly after the picture gets started. Leading role is handled by Robert Stanton, who does very well with the actor-producer assignment and Osa Massen, Hilly Brooke and Dusty Anderson are all effective as the three different women in his life, Sheldon Leonard, Frank Sully, Chester Clute, and Jimmy Lloyd are others who impress in minor roles. George Sherman, by his direction, keeps the picture moving so that the interest is held throughout that of the time-worn plot. He manages to bring in enough amusing moments, so that the old routines are covered by the amusingly fresh incidents, and Alexis Thurn-Taxis gets credit for a production that will provide entertainment for the average audience.

Legion of Decency Rating

For Week Ending August 3

FOR GENERAL PATRONAGE

Home Sweet Homicide    Shadow Over Chinatown
Sing While You Dance     Slightly Scandalous
Trail to Mexico

SUITABLE FOR ADULTS ONLY

Below the Deadline        The Black Angel

Slightly Scandalous

Universal
Comedy-with-Music 63 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Light musical that should please the entire family, especially the children who will find fun in the dual role mixup.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Good supporting feature.


Plot: A fast-talking salesman and his twin brother become involved in a mixup of hearts and finances with two girls when they attempt to peddle a television show to the father of one of the girls. After many mishaps and misunderstandings, everything turns out well.

Comment: A good music film, this plot has many familiar musicals that will fit nicely as a supporting feature wherever the customers like light entertainment. They will find in it, for their enjoyment, the singing of Paula Drew, a newcomer to the screen. While not as picturesque and pleasingly and plays one of the leading roles; the South American singing and rhumba dancing of Isabelita; several specialty dancers; the music of The Gusla Jara Trio, and for those who like dog musicals the chorus dog is done by Jack Marshall. Story is about twin brothers, and Fred Brady does very well in the dual role. Opposite him in the more important feminine lead is Sheila Ryan, while Isabelita and Paula Drew makes the other lady in his life.

Six numbers have been well-interspersed in the proceedings under the capable direction of Will Jason. Production was handled by Marshall Grant.

A Boy, a Girl and a Dog

Film Classics
Drama 72 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) A family picture, if there ever was one, with clean, wholesome appeal.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Little to exploit in this film, but if properly and sagaciously handled, might bring in some dough.


Plot: Two small children are brought together by a dog, in their efforts to keep the pup from being discovered in the apartment house in which they live. With the help of an understanding soldier, the pup is saved from discovery and soon grows into "adulthood." It is war time. The soldier gets the kids to donate the canine to Dogs Defense, and trains it. The dog and soldier perform heroically in battle and return home to the two children.

Comment: There's one thing that must be said about this film before anything else is opined; it is certainly one of the most wholesome pictures ever to come out of Holly-
wood. There are plenty of faults, to be sure, but producer W. R. Frank deserves credit for having the courage to make such a film. Produced some two years ago, it is dated, with war sequences likely to come as a surprise. Some of the most exciting performances are well above par, with Lionel Stander doing one of his best jobs as the understanding soldier from Brooklyn. Wise exhibitors will get parent-teacher groups, educators, and organized church groups behind this picture, and give it special treatment; otherwise, its box-office fate is doubtful. Play it as a refreshing relief to the sophisticated, sexy stuff coming out of Hollywood.

The El Paso Kid

Republic Western 90 Mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Only a fair-to-middling western that will get by—almost all the way.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Republic has a good name for westerns, and Sunset Carson is gradually building, so average business can be expected.


Plot: Sunset Carson is hooked up with a gang of outlaws who are threatening the existence of a frontier community, dependent upon gold shipments. Inadvertently, he becomes a deputy sheriff, and goes against his former comrades, helping to bring them to justice. When he does this good work, Carson and his comic sidekick are pardoned by the Governor, and can start life anew.

Comment: Sunset Carson has the appearance of a cowboy star, but he must certainly lack the voice (speaking) and drive necessary for such a niche. He is improving as he makes more films, but now he is greatly lacking in the finesse that the average western celluloid hero possesses. This effort is fair, suffering mostly from such clichés as the shooting of business that even the kids are hip to it. Casting petite Marion Harmon opposite the very big Carson was another error, making too great a physical disparity. Best acting in the piece is done by Robert Filmer, who is good as the villainous gang. While scenarist Norman Sheldon deserves credit for trying a new twist in making Carson a badman at the start instead of a lily-white hero, the average fan will be difficult to please. Another plus will not be thoroughly reconciled to Carson's character. Western fans like their heroes to be on the side of justice from the word "go."

Genius at Work

RKO Radio Comedy 61 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Heavily contrived comedy that asks little audience intelligence. The youngsters should like it.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Obviously intended for double-bill programs.


Plot: Walter Brown and Alan Carney conduct a radio crime-detection program, aided by writer Anne Jeffreys. They obtain inside information on current crimes from Lionel Atwill, ostensibly a dilettante in criminology but really The Cobra, leader in the current crime wave. The duo become involved in the Cobra's machinations but eventually prove his guilt, in spite of their obvious stupidity.

Comment: In spite of its obvious weaknesses, "Genius at Work" probably will garner its share of hysterical laughs through the less-discriminating audiences, such as naive kids, from the ledge of a skyscraper, a chamber of horrors embracing every known method of torture, sliding panels, etc., that should delight the less-discriminating audiences. Those with average intelligence, however, will find little in the film to please them. Will fit in with almost any double-bill program as the lower, very lower half.

The Black Angel

Universal Drama 80 Mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Adult) Good, meaty entertainment for sophisticated, adult audiences. The theme is intense and rather on the sordid side, but there is nothing offensive.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: The title is good and Dan Duryea is on the ascendency. By following the advertising and exploitation themes set up by Universal, this can be made to do average or better than average business.


Plot: Deserted by her worldly and black-mailing wife, Dan Duryea, a one-time vaudeville headliner, attempts a reunion, but is barred from her apartment. Meanwhile, John Phillips, her date for the evening, goes to her apartment to retrieve money left there before they are to satisfy his wife, June Vincent. He finds the blackmailer, Constance Dowling, murdered, and in his departure, is noticed by a maid, who reports the matter to the police. Arrested, Phillips is tried and sentenced to death. June, before she is hanged, uses the aid of Duryea to help save him. After following clues which lead them through precarious adventures, Duryea, who by this time is in love with June, asks her to marry him. Her refusal makes him go to pieces, and gradually in his alcoholic haze the events of the murder evening become clear in his mind: he sees himself murdering his ex-wife. His better instincts come to the rescue, and he informs the police in time to save Phillips' life.

Comment: This is very well produced effectively directed and exceptionally well acted. The casting job seems to have been most carefully done, with the player fitting into the scheme of the story. Dan Duryea's performance is tops, as is that of June Vincent. And effective performances are delivered by Broderick Crawford as a clever and understanding police captain, June Vincent as a nightclub proprietor and, surprisingly, by Freddie Steele, ex-prize fighter, as a bouncer in the club where Duryea and Vincent team up as entertainers to search for evidence that will clear her husband of murder. The denouement, where Duryea goes on a protracted drunk after being told that Miss Vincent will not marry him, is carried out for a time in a series of montage effects, with the camera attempting to depict the vague wanderings of Duryea's drunken mind. It succeeds in building suspense to an almost heart-break- ing degree, with audience relief almost overwhelming when everything turns out as it should. The film is in the "very good" class, and if handled correctly by showmen, should do at least average business and in some cases much better than average.

Blonde for a Day

PRC Comedy 67 mins

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Should prove interesting and entertaining to most audiences. Crime fans will find it much better than the average detective story film.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: The Michael Shayne stories are proveing to be more and more popular. This is as good, if not better than, the average mystery supporting feature for any double bill program and might stand alone wherever the Shayne series have taken hold.


Plot: Reporter Paul Bryant starts an expose of a gambling ring. When ordered to tone it down by managing editor Frank Ferguson, he sends for detective Mike Shayne (Hugh Beaumont) to clear up the gambling ring and save his job. When Mike arrives, Shayne does his stuff with the aid of his secretary-sweetheart Kathryn Adams, and clears up the ring, but not without a few anxious moments.

Comment: This is a well written, competently directed and well acted addition to the Michael Shayne series in which Hugh Beaumont's characterization of the fictional detective proceeds along now familiar lines, but with a satisfying new slant, to the entertainment of the fans of the series. While there is nothing outstanding in the film, it is good, satisfying entertainment that should please average audiences. Good for any double-bill program and might top the bill where the series has caught on.

Alcoholics Anonymous Subject of Wallis Film

A dramatic feature dealing with problems of an estimated 3,000,000 American alcoholics and the work of Alcoholics Anonymous, an organization with a reported 70,000 active members, is beginning production in Hollywood this month. The film's producer, Hal Wallis, will release the project, titled "The Story of Alcoholics Anonymous," to theaters in the spring of 1947.

Wallis has assigned Robert Smith to write the initial draft of the script. Smith was in New York this week confering with William G. Wilson, founder of Alcoholics Anonymous, and Bobbie Burge, secretary of the Alcoholics Anonymous Foundation. In official sessions he covered the work of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Following a visit to various recitings of A.A. groups in the New York area, Smith and Wil- lls left Thursday (Aug. 1) for a cross-country tour around the country to visit other groups and survey their hospitalization and other activities.
Illness Hampers Production Schedules at 4 Studios; MGM, Republic, Columbia, Monogram Now Most Active of All Lots; Three 20th-Fox Films on Location

That ole debil, sickness, has been playing havoc in the Hollywood studios, invading a half-dozen lots to take a roll of top stars and others. Ingrid Bergman, after insisting on doing scenes in the rain without a double, came down with a bad cold. She is back at work now. Veronica Lake, co-star of Enterprise's "Ramrod," is seriously bedded by pneumonia. Billy Wilder, director of Paramount's "Emperor Waltz," was forced to abandon his post to overcome illness. And so it has been going. A host of near-miraculous technical effects can be generated by the studios, but nobody has invented a preventive or gadget for absence created by illness.

Enterprise Hit Twice

Enterprise, making two films for Universal release, was hit twice by illness. Veronica Lake took to bed with pneumonia, necessitating shooting around her for "Ramrod." Ingrid Bergman is back at work on "Arch of Triumph," after being out for a time because of a bad cold. Universal started another Kirby Grant-Fuzzy Knight western on July 26, "Gunmen's Code," with Wallace Fox producing and directing. Jane Adams plays the female interest. The Technicolor special, "Flame of Tripoli," has added Arthur Treacher, Albert Dekker and Philip Van Zandt to the cast.

Other "U" films rolling are Walter Wanger's "Smashup," "Skibb-Manning's "Magnificent Doll," and Mark Hellinger's "Swell Guy." E. P. Gomersall, Universal sales manager for Enterprise product, returned to New York after completing work with either Emil Ford and David Loew. Discussions were held on Enterprise's first release, which will either be "Ramrod" or "Arch of Triumph."

Loretta Young Recovers

Loretta Young is still another star whose domain was invaded by sickness. RKO's "Katie for Congress" finally resumed work after a delay occasioned by Miss Young being hospitalized. She is back at work now.

"They Wouldn't Believe Me" is scheduled to roll on August 5, with Susan Hayward and Robert Young co-starred. Starting date is partly contingent upon Miss Hayward finishing her part in Universal's "Smashup." Jack J. Gross is executive producer, with Joan Harrison producing.

The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer," shot schoolroom interiors at the studio all week, with Cary Grant and Shirley Temple. Others in the cast are Myrna Loy and Rudy Vallee. Sidney Sheldon did the original screenplay.

"Mr. Fix," Pat O'Brien starrer, has been completed. Others still going are Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives" and "Secret Life of Walter Mitty." Frank Capra's initial effort for Liberty Films, "It's A Wonderful Life"; "Trail Street" and Walt Disney's "How Dear to My Heart." Martin Mooney is scheduled to start "Prison Story" August 5, with Sid Rogell as executive producer. Also set to begin at the same time is "Dick Tracy versus the Claw," with Morgan Conway. Construction is proceeding on two one-story office buildings on the RKO lot.

Priscilla Lane Alis at UA

United Artists' contribution to the sick list is Priscilla Lane, who only recently returned to the screen for Andrew Stone after four years of absence. "Strange Bedfellows," in which Miss Lane co-stars with Eddie Bracken, has been halted at the Hal Roach studios because of the star's eardrum infection. She has been confined to the hospital. After almost three months of shooting, producer David Loew completed "Bel Ami" for his Loew-Lewin unit. Shooting ended at RKO Pathe studios, with Albert Lewis directing. UA starts another, however, August 7, when Preston Sturges' "Vendetta," goes into action.

Other UA pictures going are Mars Films' "Dishonored Lady"; Charlie Chaplin's "Monsieur Verdoux," which is about half-way completed; Bogart-Merdith's "A Miracle Can Happen"; the latest Hopalong Cassidy, "Dangerous Venture" and Charles R. Rogers' "The Fabulous Dorseys," to which the great blind pianist, Art Tatum, has just been added. Chaplin's venture is being cloaked in secrecy, with press representatives being barred from the set.

Wilder Ill at Paramount

Director Billy Wilder was forced to absent himself from "The Emperor Waltz" for several days because of a minor operation. Doane Harrison, editorial supervisor, took over in Wilder's absence, directing scenes with Bing Crosby and Joan Fontaine. "Golden Earrings" was supposedly to start July 26, but has now been pushed back to August 5. "Unconquered," Cecil B. DeMille production, was also set for a July 29 start, but this is highly indefinite. Other Paramount film working is "My Favorite Brunette."

Neufeld's Film for PRC

Sig Neufeld has postponed start of "East Side Rascals" from July 29 to the first week in August. Also, trouble with the title has developed, necessitating a change. New tag has not been announced. When Neufeld shoots, it will be at Sutherland studios.

Monogram Busy Those Days

Monogram is going at a good clip. Jimmy Wakely, western singing star, starts "Song of the (Continued on Page 30)"
HOLLYWOOD

STUDIO NEWS & PROGRAM NOTES

Gregory Ratoff Signs New 20th-Fox Long-Term Pact:
Sterling Holloway to Appear in 3 Gene Autry Films

Don De Forre and Gale Storm have been signed for the romantic leads in "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," first film to be produced and directed for Monogram by Roy Del Ruth, and join Victor Moore and Ann Harding in the cast of principals.

Lewis Allen will direct the Hal Wallis Technicolor outdoor epic "Desert Town," which is to co-star Lisbeth Scott, John Hodiak and Burt Lancaster.

Dan Tobin, well-known Broadway stage actor, gets an important role in RKO's "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer." He plays Cary Grant's lawyer in the Dore Schary production, coping with Rudy Vallee in legal repartee before a judge portrayed by Myrna Loy.

Sterling Holloway signed a contract with Republic to appear in the next three Autry pictures. He will next be featured in "Trail to San Antonio," with Peggy Stewart as Gene Autry's leading lady. Armand Schaefer will produce and Jack English direct.

Richard Greene has been cast by 20th-Fox in the role of Lord Ainsley, in the picturization of Kathleen Winsor's best-seller, "Forever Amber," which stars Linda Darnell and Cornel Wilde.

Thomas Gomez was set by Mark Hellinger for a top feature role in "Swell Guy," now in production with Robert Siodmak directing for Universal release. Sonny Tufts and Ann Blyth are co-starring.

Yvonne De Carlo and George Brent are co-starred.

David O. Selznick announced the signing of Ann Todd, English actress, to play the young wife of Gregory Peck in Alfred Hitchcock's forthcoming all-star production, "The Paradine Case."

Director Lewis Seiler has been signed to a new contract with Warners and his first assignment under the new deal will be "Thunder Valley," which Owen Crump will produce.

Van as a Hillbilly

Van Johnson has been assigned the role of a "barfoot Oskar hillbilly" in MGM's screen adaptation of the MacKinlay Kantor story, "The Romance of Rosy Ridge," which will be produced by Jack Cummings and directed by Roy Rowland.

Preparing 'Quick Sand'

"Quick Sand," a melodrama with a college background by Roland Brown and Frank Fonton, is being prepared by Allen Rivkin for September production at Columbia.

Brent in Mystery Lead

George Brent has been named by Columbia for the leading role in "The Corpse Came C.O.D.", which Sam Bischoff will produce from a story by Jimmy Starr.

Selznick Signs Model

Evelyn McBride, New York model, has been signed to a long-term acting contract by David O. Selznick.

Cowan in 'Mr. Fix'

Jerome Cowan has been assigned a top supporting role in RKO's 'Mr. Fix,' which co-stars Pat O'Brien, Anne Jeffreys and Walter Slezak.

Producer Jules Levey signed Arthur Lubin to direct "New Orleans," the dramatic story of the growth of jazz, which United Artists will release.

French-born American actress Tanis Chandler has been set for the feminine lead in "The Trap," Monogram's Charlie Chan film starring Sidney Toler, with Minerva Urecal, Ian Bryant and Anne Nagel in the cast. Howard Breithron is directing for producer James S. Burkett.

Trevor Bardette, Broadway actor, was signed by writer-producers Michael Feistler and Ernest Pagano, for a featured role in Universal's Technicolor production, "Flame of Tripoli," now shooting with Charles Lamont directing. Yvonne De Carlo and George Brent are co-starred.

STUDY BIBLIOGRAPHY

'Summer to Start Again' In September with Darnell

With the selection of Linda Darnell for the screen role of Amber, 20th-Century-Fox's "Forever Amber" is scheduled to go back into production sometime during September, with William Perlberg as producer and Otto Preminger directing. Cornell Wilde will retain the co-starring role of Bruce Barton.

Production on the film was halted last spring when Peggy Cummins was removed from the leading role of Amber and John M. Stahl was relieved of his directorial assignment.

Signs Miss Barrymore

Ethel Barrymore has signed a long-term, exclusive service contract with Vanguard Films, it was announced late last week by David O. Selznick. Her first picture under the new contract will be Alfred Hitchcock's "The Paradine Case," which has an all-star cast including Gregory Peck, Ann Todd and Sir Cedric Hardwicke.

Stewart on 'Wayfarers'

Paramount has assigned Paul Stewart to direct 'The Wayfarers,' which Harry Tugend will produce with Edward G. Robinson and John Lund in starring roles. Abraham Polonsky is writing the screen adaptation from Dan Wickenden's best-selling novel, named as the best fiction work of 1945 by the New York Times.

Graff Gets Role

Wilton Graff has been signed for the leading male supporting role in Columbia's "My Empty Heart," Rosalind Russell-Melvyn Douglas star-rer which Charles Vidor directs, with Virginia Van Upp producing.

Crawford Signs WB Pact

Joan Crawford, currently making "Possessed" with Van Heflin as co-star, has been signed to a seven-year contract by Warner Bros. First picture under the new pact will be "Need for Each Other," in which her co-stars will be Errol Flynn and Jane Wyman.

Robison in New Post

David Robison formerly assistant to Manny Wolfe, RKO story editor, has been signed by Joseph Bernhard and Milton Sperling as assistant to Michael Uris, story editor for United States Pictures, producing for release through Warner Bros.

Screen-Tests Beauty

Vickie Watts, beauty queen of the Newark, Calif., annual July 4th Pageant, was screen-tested by Robert E. Tansey, PRC producer-director, when she visited Tansey's "Drifter River" company while it was on location in Newhall.

Morris Assigned

First assignment for Wayne Morris following his return to the Warner studio from military service will be one of the starring roles in "Deep Valley," with Ida Lupino and Dane Clark.
the Sierras” on August 1 at Kernville, in the Sierras. This will be the most distant jaunt ever made by the cowboy crooner for shooting. Wesley Tuttle, Capitol Records western singer, will work with Wayne. Tuttle will also be in “Ranger Over the Rockies,” which will follow “Sierra” immediately. Both films will be shot on the same location.

“The Trap” started July 30, with Sidney Toler, Victor Sea Yung, Tanis Chandler and Manton Moreland. Howard Breitherton directs. “Sweetheart of Sigma Chi” has been completed, following studio shooting after locationing at Balboa. Bill Beaudine directed a second unit, while Jack Bernhard handled the first. The UCLA rowing crew was used for race sequences.

Still without a title, the latest “Cisco Kid” is finished. Gilbert Roland starred, with Rain- say Ames as female lead.

Producer Roy Del Ruth hopes to get his “It Happened on Fifth Avenue” started on August 21. It will be the first Monogram picture ever made at the Goldwyn lot, if present plans go through. Cast so far includes Don DeFore, on loan from Hal Wallis; Gale Storm, Ann Harding, Victor Moore and Cathy Carter.

** MGM Shoots Nine Films**

Metro is currently busier than it has been in quite a spell, with nine films shooting on the lot. The studio finished “The Beginning of the End,” atombomb film, which is being rushed to release to take advantage of current headlines. Also completed is “The Secret Hit,” Claudette Colbert-Walter Pidgeon-June Allyson starer. Those going include: “Sacred and Profane,” "High Barbaree,” "Ballatera,” "Sea of Grass," “The Arno Affair,” "Life’s for the Loving," "Summer Holiday," “It Happened in Brooklyn” and "This Time for Keeps." Eve Arden started her work on "Arno," on loanout from Warners. Just added to that film is Ruby Dandridge. Negro comedienne and singer.

** WB Finish 'Cry Wolf'**

Wanda Ventham finished “Cry Wolf,” with Errol Flynn and Barbara Stanwyck. This leaves the studio with only three films going, a comparatively small number. The trio is the Technicolor adaptation of the stage success "Life with Father," "Deception," Bette Davis-Paul Henried-Claude Rains starers; and Joan Crawford’s "Possessed."

Alexis Smith has been signed to a new long-term contract.

** 20th-Fox Location Trips**

Director Bruce Henstellrook took his “The Homestretch” company to Bush Gardens in Pasadena last week to shoot scenes depicting the Ascot track in England. “13 Rue Madeleine” is scheduled to move to Washington, D. C., following locations at Boston and Quebec. "The High Window" has been retitled "The Brink of Disaster." Henstellrook said dubbing is the core around which the story revolves: this is Nancy Guild’s second film for 20th-Fox.

Sol Wurtzel wrapped up his "Dangerous Mil-
Shorts Shopping

Smith Series of Problems of Domestic Life Seen Bringing Peace to American Home

When one stops to think of it, there’s little under the sun that hasn’t been used as a topic for a short subject. But if one thinks hard enough, there is indeed a topic that has not been touched, and the man who has done this tackle is none other than Pete Smith of MGM Specialty fame.

Pete, it seems, plans a new series dealing with the problems of domestic life, including marriage, children, home, life, etc. His first subject along these lines will be “I Love My Husband, But—,” which has been scripted by Joseph Ansen and David Barclay. Particularly irritating (to wives) feckles and phobias of husbands will be thoroughly explored, with Dave O’Brien directing the proceedings.

If the series is a success, and it surely will be, since everything the magical Smith genius touches changes to box-office gold, we can see the genial producer becoming a sort of “Dorothy Dix” or “Beatrice Fairfax” to thousands of love-lorn and trouble-beset people who are likely to write to him seeking solutions to their problems.

But then, on the serious side, it’s quite probable that if a sufficiently large number of people see the subjects and make an effort to correct their own domestic faults, the divorce courts of America will extend a grateful hand to Smith and his aids for their successful efforts in bringing peace and tranquility to the American home.

* * *

The all-cartoon shows that have been taking the nation by storm are apparently still taking the nation via the same route. Reports continue to come in from enthusiastic exhibitors who, having booked several cartoons, perhaps some other shorts, and sold tickets in advance, accompany their reports with photos showing crowds standing in line from the box-office down the street. If there are still skeptics of the box-office value of short subjects when well advertised, we’d like to be able to take them on personally conducted tours of the theatres that have successfully staged these special shows.

To our desk has come a photograph, story and caption devoted to an all-Terrytoon cartoon show staged at the Merrick Theatre, Jamaica, N. Y. The unusual aspect of this presentation was that the Gertz department store there, with a boy and girl club membership of 2,500, rented the theatre for the occasion and admitted its club members free. In other communities where stores

(Continued on Page 52)

All-Cartoon Program as Regular Bill Brings Out 2 Adults to Every Child

During the last two years all-cartoon programs for children at special Saturday morning matinees have been increasing at a great rate and their success has been almost universal. And now comes the big surprise of them all—an all-cartoon show as a regular four-day attraction that cleaned up at the box-office.

Yes sir, this seemingly impossible thing happened right in Hutchinson, Kan., at the Midland Theatre. It seems, according to National Theatre officials, that Jay Wooten, city manager for Hutchinson, had long been a rover for shorts, especially cartoons, and had once tried an all-cartoon program to no avail. He decided that costs were getting too high for the amount of money coming in so he pulled his old idea of an all-cartoon show out of his capacious hat.

Would Adults Attend?

The underlying idea was not to have such a show for children only, but to run it as a regular part of a week’s program. The question was: would the adults attend? The division manager, being on the road, knew nothing of this plan, but he said afterward he would not have approved. The question stood: would they attend? Well, Wooten’s men at the Midland went right ahead and put on the program. They did have time for elaborate cut-outs and all that extra promotion, but they did put on a good newspaper campaign, with ads that featured all the stars of cartoons. They displayed it a “Cartoon Roundup,” and there’s no doubt that it was. The show was timed for 2½ hours, which is plenty of cartoons for anybody.

Max Davis, manager of the Midland, told afterward that at 9 a.m. opening day people began calling up to learn when the show was to start, and that at opening time “there was a line of people clear down to the next corner waiting to get in.” There were school children aplenty at school, and there’s no more surprising thing about it was that for every child there came two adults.

Davis said that by 3 p.m. they started looking everywhere for extra usherettes and that by 8 they had to stop selling tickets because they couldn’t squeeze another person into the theatre. The same phenomenon was repeated each day of the engagement. So, you see, it is possible that the old days, when you could get a clean-up on some flat buy, may be repeated now by taking advantage of the lower rentals of the shorts. That, at least, is what the Midland did.

Showman May Exploits March of Time Issues

Whenever a March of Time subject plays the Rosetta Theatre, Miami, Fla., Manager Edward May sees it that the 20th Century-Fox release is given the maximum in showmanship. No “also-on-the-programs” for Showman May.

A special trailer is used one week in advance of playdate. From a week to ten days in advance a special 40x60 and an easel art display with 22x28 are displayed in the lobby. These are moved to the front of the theatre during the playdate.

For store window items, one sheets and 11x14s are used in a week in advance. The 11x14s are mounted on 16x22 cards with special lettering. On “Wanted—More Homes,” for example, the windows of a Real Estate Agency, a home appliance store, a barber shop and a supply store were promoted.

The 40x60 on this same subject also received maximum attention because of the provocative selling copy: “For the inside story of housing projects, APARTMENTS AND HOUSES FOR RENT AND FOR SALE, see the latest March of Time, ‘Wanted—More Homes,’ etc.” Of course, those capitalized words, greatly enlarged over the other copy, were what had eyes popping and mouths gaping.

Continues Cartoon Shows During Summer Months

Manager Ed May, Rosetta Theatre, Miami, continues to stage his two-hour cartoon shows on Saturday mornings, in spite of the fact that many of his contemporaries have discontinued them for the summer months. May states that SRO continues to be the order each Saturday. He publicizes the cartoon shows with novel heralds, the latest showing a photo of a crying youngster with copy begging to be taken to the Saturday show. Tickets are sold in advance at a straight 25c admission charge.

Britain’s Royal Family in New Color Traveltalk

Technicolor motion pictures of the King and Queen of England with Princess Elizabeth are included in James A. FitzPatrick’s new MGM Traveltalk, “Over the Seas to Belfast.”

The subject is the first overseas Traveltalk filmed since the start of the war.
Alcoholics Anonymous in Norfolk Tieup With MOT

How an enterprising showman can ferret out the angles that permit widespread exploitation on a short subject has been illustrated lately by Manager George Dannansoll of the Fabian-operated Wilmer & Vincent Granby, Norfolk, when he searched out a local group of the nationally known Alcoholics Anonymous, made a tieup with them on March of Time’s “Problem Drinkers,” and used the tieup as a lever in prying open the traditionally tight news columns of the Norfolk newspapers.

Movie stories of any nature heretofore have had a tight lid clamped down on them in Norfolk newspapers, but the editors of every sheet in town opened up their columns for news about the human interest contained in the short subject and the interest shown in it by Alcoholics Anonymous, the clergy and officials of the Lions, Rotary and other local organizations, all of whom were invited to a special screening of the subject. Newspaper reporters and photographers also were invited to be present, and all covered the event.

In the tieup of the “toughy” subject and the anonymity with which the Alcoholics Anonymous organization cloaks its activities, Dannansoll was able to obtain stories in the news columns of the Norfolk Ledger Dispatch, the Virginia Pilot, the Portsmouth Star and in weekly papers.

A special setpiece in the lobby also called attention to the short subject.

Shanghai Youth Parades For ‘Hitler Lives’

Nothing like the demonstration staged in Shanghai, China ever was seen before in the ancient city to equal a Sunday parade sponsored by international youth groups to call attention to the Warner Bros. short, “Hitler Lives,” at the Grand Theatre in that city. Led by a band, participants included Chinese, French, Russian and Jewish youths carrying banners and distributing pamphlets, while the walls of buildings were posted with Chinese and English placards on the short subject, shown in conjunction with the feature, “God Is My Co-Pilot.”

The China Press, widest circulated English daily, carried a three-day running story on “Hitler Lives?”, and a score of shops in the International area set up window displays in connection with the short.

Shorts Reviews

Teamwork (Timely Reminder)
Mayer-Burston 15 mins.

With “white supremacy” an issue in the recent Georgia gubernatorial primary, and with minor racial flareups here and there, this War Department film which Mayer-Burston acquired for distribution is a timely reminder of the teamwork between Negroes and white men that won the war. Beginning with the Nazis’ determination to “divide and conquer,” the subject shows through scenes in England, North Africa, Italy, France and Germany how Negroes and whites worked together toward the Nazi slogan; how the famous “Redball Highway,” the Negro unit, delivered material under fire from the docks of Cherbourg to the waiting armies at the front; how Negro infantrymen and a tank, air, signal and engineer corps units participated in every important European battle. Too many of us are too quick to forget, which is a major reason why this subject should be shown in every theatre. It was produced by the U.S. Army Signal Corps for showing to the armed forces, but permission was granted to Mayer-Burston for its public release, which has been set for August. The original story was written by Carlton Moss, formerly of the Signal Corps, who made “The Negro Soldier” earlier in the war.

Double Rhythm

Para. (FFS-5) Musical Parade 20 mins.

When his wife, Helen Boyce, objects to their twin daughters appearing in a show at their night club, Lee Dixon covertly rehearses the twins and Jimmy Higson’s Teen-Agers Orchestra, then presents the aggregation after holding mother at home until the show goes on. Of course, mother removes her objections when she sees how strongly the talent clicks. There’s little originality in the plot, but the musical numbers, the dancing and lavish production
No Tonsorial Tieups?  

**Walters' Bugs Bunny cartoon, "Hare Tonics," was well represented on the marquee, in the lobby and in special telephone plugs on incoming calls in the campaign staged by E. E. Borne of the Yale Theatre, Houston, Texas.**

The present threat of Germany on its borders. According to the film, the French people are entering the new year with enthusiasm. "France is up and coming" is the cheerful final note of this subject. An educative short much needed by American theatregoers.

**Robert Mars**

**Para. (E5-5) Popeye** 6 mins.

Popeye and Olive Oyl visit an exhibition of a rocket ship and, fooling with the levers, make it take off into the wild blue yonder. Popeye Oyl gets dumped out but Popeye lands in Mars where he meets Bluto who is about to launch an attack on Earth. Popeye and his spinach come to the inevitable rescue with the usual laughable results.

The Lonesome Stranger (Excellent)

**Para. (Y5-5) Speaking of Animals 10 mins.**

Jerry Fairbanks has had a good time for years producing his Speaking of Animals series and seems to come up with new ones that are constantly funny. This one is par for the course with plenty of laughs interspersed among the antics of the monkeys which this time play leading roles in a short that has a corny, but beautifully applicable script. Good for any program.

**Birds Make Sport**

**Para. (R5-9) Sportlight 9 mins.**

Introducing the learned commentary of ornithologist and sports expert John Kieran, otherwise known as a Shakespearean scholar on "Information Please," this newest in the Sportlight series shows various birds in their natural habitats, and their peculiar habits. Kieran's commentary is fresh, informative and interesting.

**Popular Science No. 5**

**Para. (J5-5) 10 mins.**

The kitchen's arduous duties in the future will be a pleasure for housewives, according to the illustrations of the marvelous kitchen in this latest of the Popular Science series. Automatic dish washers and dryers; electric garbage disposal unit; motorized scouring brush; king size pantry, water faucet on a flexible hose, etc., all give promise of lightening the little woman's tasks. Electronic power heating is shown in the next scene and followed by an illuminating series of explanatory scenes of the new F80 Shooting Star plane which travels in excess of 700 miles per hour.

**Hollywood Daffy**

**WB (2702) Merrie Melodies 7 mins.**

Daffy Duck is as crazy as ever in this one, in which he tries to crash Hollywood at any cost. Impersonating such folk as Bette Davis, Johnny Weissmuller and even the Academy Award Oscar he finally gets through the gates, but not for long as the studio cops throw him out with great gusto. Entertaining in itself, the comedy holds added interest because of Daffy's zany masquerading of one star after another. The drawing and animation have to be unusual-ly good for such a series of scenes and the Warner technicians come through perfectly, Highly recommended.

**Call to Duty**

**The Highest Tradition**

(Specials)

**Astor Pictures 18 mins. each**

These two screeners are special productions by William D. Alexander, showing the part played by the colored race during the war. "Call to Duty" deals with the Army branch, "The Highest Tradition" covers the Navy activities. Men are shown in the Engineer, Ordnance, Combat units, and Air Force in both cases, with many of the shots very effective photographically. Walter Huston and Fredric March do the narrations. The films are obviously intended for the colored trade and should receive a good deal of pride in such audiences.

**Lucky Millinder**

(Good)

**Astor Pictures 10 mins.**

The busy William D. Alexander has produced an entertaining musical short here that can be used for any audience, although it was made under Negro auspices. Lucky Millinder is a band leader who dispenses a highly rhythmic brand of swing, and the participants are generally pleasing. Millinder's gyrations in and out of his band are an entertainment in themselves.

**Chick and Double Chuck**

**Para. (D5-4) Little Lulu 6 mins.**

The efforts of Little Lulu and her watchdog to prevent a sly cat from stealing some sun-to-be-hatched chicks are amusingly displayed in this Technicolor cartoon. Youngsters will enjoy it, and so will most adults.
**TITLE INDEX**

Listed in the following index are titles of features (exclusive of western series releases) with name of the distributor following the title. For complete listing, see the appended publication of Advance Data, a publication of the Motion Picture Herald. Asterisks following titles indicate color photography, either black-and-white, or in Technicolor. *T:* Technicolor; *C:* Color; *M:* Magnacolor; *U:* Universal. Tracolor. Audience Classification is indicated by letters following titles: A—Adult; F—Family. Letters and combinations thereof are used to indicate type of story in accordance with filing key.

### A

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THE SYMBOL OF A SERVICE
THEATRE BUYERS DEPEND UPON

Showmen’s Trade Review Feature and Short Subjects Booking Guides are Published COMPLETE Every Week
REVIEWED IN THIS ISSUE

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PRODUCT GUIDES
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Vol. 45  No. 4
AUGUST 10, 1946

JACK JACKSON TO SUPERVISORS:
LET MANAGERS USE OWN MINDS
(See Page 12)

Kermit Stengel  (See Page 9)
M-G-M's "THE GREEN YEARS"
M-G-M's "EASY TO WED" TECHNICOLOR
M-G-M's "THREE WISE FOOLS"
M-G-M's "HOLIDAY IN MEXICO" TECHNICOLOR
"ACTION!"

VARIETY, FILM DAILY, BOXOFFICE, M. P. DAILY—ALL THE EXPERTS—USE THAT BOXOFFICE WORD TO DESCRIBE IT!

When they kiss... all heaven breaks loose!...

"DEADLINE FOR MURDER" with PAUL KELLY • KENT TAYLOR • SHEILA RYAN JEROME COWAN and Renee Carson • Marian Martin • Joan Blair • Leslie Vincent Edward Marr • Matt McHugh • Jody Gilbert • Emory Parnell • Directed by JAMES TINLING Original Story and Screenplay by Irving Cummings, Jr. • A SOL M. WURTZEL Production
LEGAL LIGHTS, the lawyer chaps of the distributor companies, hold the center of the stage these days. Neither a studio genius or a go-getting sales chieftain can hope to vie for importance with the men who know their Blackstone and case histories, now that the film industry is taxed up in the intricate wrappings created by the decision of the Court in the New York anti-trust trial. There's going to be a decree under which the industry is to operate, with the sanction of the Court—that's plain: the Court orders it. But what will the decree say specifically as to this, that or the other detail involved in accomplishing the picture-by-picture, theatre-by-theatre sales system called for by the decision? This latter, largely, must be determined by the lawyers. So, it's lawyers to whom the industry must look today for the answers to tomorrow's way of doing business.

On the surface, things are not very exciting as this period of decision reaches its climax. But we may well be witness now to a period of gestation during which this industry produces an entirely new era (the atomic age?) and way of doing business. Some very critical decisions are in the making, and they may carry within themselves the seeds of great harvests of future prosperity or devastating problems for the industry.

* * *

SHOWMANSHIP and more of it by theatres of all types and styles of operation is what the distributors and the producers are calling for. To the growing chorus urging more vigorous selling of picture shows by the theatres presenting the attractions now has been added the voice of Hollywood biggies. This week Darryl Zanuck told a group of National Theatres' executives that the honeymoon is over and the movies must sell their wares to the public or show a decline in attendance as other forms of amusement come into the lists of competition for the dollars Americans have to spend on recreation.

There is no lack of good showmanship sense and ability on the part of the leading theatremen of the land, there is only the worry that too many theatremen, lulled into a sense of over-confidence during the war, may not realize soon enough the need for working to hold on to the high-level attendance which they have enjoyed these past few years. Production costs have mounted and the producers can see no prospect of reducing them other than through a lowered quality of entertainment values. Consequently, the average theatreman needs those big audiences he played to during the war for good profits in order to realize just a fair profit in the future. Because it's a cinch from the tone of producer conversation that the exhibitor is going to pay more for his films, not less.

There is lots of evidence that progressive theatre outfits are entirely aware of the job they have ahead of them in maintaining the popular favor for picture shows. One of several examples is the excellent public relations campaign now being conducted by Interstate Circuit for the fortieth anniversary of that organization. The swell plan under which Interstate is selling its theatres to parents as safe, wholesome places of entertainment for children is described in detail elsewhere in this issue—and it is recommended reading for every theatreman.

* * *

SMART decisions were made when the directors of the Crescent Amusement Co., moved up Kermit C. Stengel to the post of executive vice-president of that organization. Film men all across the country know "Casey" Stengel as one of the fine gentlemen and able theatre circuit executives of this industry.

The Crescent organization has had the advantage of unbuilding and direction by one of the most outstanding businessmen and characters of his time—the late Tony Sudekum. When "Mr. Tony" died, an industry shocked by his sudden and untimely death could well be pardoned for harboring a very general feeling that it was going to be difficult if not impossible to bring to the Crescent company the kind of leadership it required now that the man who created it had passed on. This latter extreme view of the situation overlooked the fact that the business genius of "Mr. Tony" included an ability to surround himself with able men and develop them as leaders. Certainly, Stengel has shown exceptional ability to conduct large-scale theatre operations in a most efficient manner, and we congratulate his company for advancing him to his new position as we offer "Casey" our best wishes for the very successful job we know he is going to do.

—"CHICK" LEWIS
**National Newsreel**

**No Change in ATA Opinion Policy**

That the American Theatre Association will not change its stand on non-intervention in the opinion handed down by the three-judge federal court in New York in the industry anti-trust suit, was indicated clearly this week by a reliable source.

ATA will stick to the "hands off" which its directors ordered adopted on June 18, the source told Showmen's Trade Review, even in face of rising protest from some ATA members and protests from others sympathetic to the ATA.

The protests against the policy claim that while ATA is prohibited by its constitution from taking action on trade practices involving safety and distribution problems, the situation brought about by the opinion indicates that the auction selling and single sales under the prospective decree will be a terrific blow which threatens the entire industry and far transcends any questions of selling and distribution.

ATA is reported to take the stand that the organization is tied by its constitution in the matter and that there will be little or no opportunity for the non-defendants to intervene in the case.

A suggestion, viewed in some quarters as a palliative to exhibitors who wanted direct action on the proposed decree, was advanced this week by ATA Board Chairman Ted R. Gamble. Gamble would ask the ATA to call upon the National Association of Manufacturers, the United States Chamber of Commerce, and the American Bankers Association, as well as other trade associations, to work together to prevent "policing" of industry through the Department of Justice. Gamble believes that if such a "policing" system is set up as is to be contemplated to enforce the forthcoming decree, it will soon spread to other industries and there will develop a system of industry regulation similar to that in public utilities, notably the broadcasting business.

**Showmen Meet Polio Threat With Voluntary Child Ban**

Infantile paralysis cases continued to mount this week as shown in some of the afflicted sections tried to meet the threat with either voluntarily banning children from theatres or requesting parents to keep them at home.

Latest spread, where the disease might reach epidemic proportions, was in Chicago where the total nearled the hundred mark. Discussing this, Dr. Herman N. Bundesen, chief of the Board of Health said:

"If the number of cases continues to mount for the next four or five days, it will be an epidemic. If the rate holds steady or declines, we're safe."

In Centralia, Ill., the State District Officer of Flora reported at least six cases in Centralia and Marion county.

On the main the spread of the disease seems to be along the Mississippi Valley up into Minnesota, the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis reported. The Foundation said that cases had been noted in Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Kansas, and in Missouri and Colorado. It apparently had not reached epidemic proportions in any of these excepting Minnesota where the Foundation said the cases in 1946 at this time of the year had jumped from the 1945 figure of 2439 to 4176—an increase of 71 per cent.

Unofficial reports from Minneapolis placed the cases in that city as over 500, with North Central Allied members, the Minnesota Amuse-

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**MPTOA Will Work With OWMR on Gov't Films**

Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America President Fred Wehrenberg this week announced that his association would work with the Office of War Mobilization and Rehabilitation in approving or disapproving federal films seeking theatre playing time but emphasized the fact that the MPTOA would act only as a recommending body and said: "The final decision is up to the individual theatre owners."

In line with the MPTOA policy, reached here last week after Wehrenberg had conferred with OWMR Motion Picture Division Chief Arch Mercey, Wehrenberg appointed General Counsel Herman Levy, Director Lewin Fizer and Treasurer J. J. O'Leary to act as a reviewing committee.

**Northwest ITO Meets Aug. 13 in Portland**

Discussion of the New York court anti-trust decision and what action the committee which is to call upon the Department of Justice in connection with it is to take will highlight the semi-annual meeting of the Independent Theatre Owners of Washington, Northern Idaho and Alaska when they meet at the Davenport Hotel in Portland on Aug. 13. Attendance of 20 is expected with President J. C. Lukan of Seattle, presiding.

**Say Single Sale Will Doom Booking Combines**

Home office executives of the distributor companies might be at sea regarding the future under single-picture sales as prescribed by the New York anti-trust Court ruling, but New York's film salesmen regard the proposed picture-by-picture, theatre-by-theatre system as a lethal blow to film buying combines—as well as a form of selling which could cause other radical changes in the entire world of film distribution.

Those who discussed the subject with a reporter for STR, unanimously declared that the single-picture form of selling will slow down picture availabilities tremendously (perhaps even more than when single pictures are now sold by sales departments and subsequent run exhibitors watch key-run results of the pictures in each territory. All agreed that film salesmen will have more work to do.

Practically all the salesmen in the New York area feel that single sales will greatly diminish the usefulness of, if not entirely eliminate, the film buying and booking outfits.

The view here was based on the supposition that the buying combine could offer little inducement in the direction of buying power when a film had to be sold to the highest bidder of a "comparable" theatre in any territory. They envision the situation where a buyer might sit down and speak for a group of theatres to be passed but acknowledged that the buyer could save the small exhibitor considerable time and trouble if he were in a position to negotiate each deal separately. What this would do to his overhead though, was another question in a situation which is as full of question marks as a Yale football game is of pennants.

The salesman further foresaw confusion if salesmen had to handle their own business. They point out this would not only split the shorts series among the highest bidders but that a short and a feature could not be negotiated together if there were any suspicion of conditioning.

The man who sell felt that feature pictures would be sold in the long run after they had had an opportunity to show their drawing power in key centers. They say that it will be impossible to make a deal and then write the terms in after the picture begins to show that it can do at the box-office. They point out too that it will be unlawful to make any contract adjustments on a picture which failed to live up to expectations inasmuch as this would violate the principle of selling to the highest bidder by lowering the bid price after the selling had been done.

**Showmen’s Trade Review**

Memphis Sees No Change As Yet Due To Opinion

Memphis motion picture exhibitors are of the opinion that the recent anti-trust decision in New York has to date had no effect on the film supply in the Memphis area.

Most of the smaller circuit and independent operators however are frightened over what the result may eventually mean and expect competitive bidding for films to keep them in a constant state of uncertainty over their bookings.

Ed Cullins, independent Memphis operator, said the "situation has changed noise to speak of, because the situation in Memphis has been tough for several years because it is harder to get repeats for the independent houses in this area than it is in the North. They just don't seem to be so willing to turn them loose down here for some reason."

B. Haberfield of the Flexer-Haberfeld Circuit declared, "There has been a shortage of film here for four years, especially for the subsequent run houses. I would not be surprised if the decree makes it worse, and I expect we'll be up in the air all of the time."

Note No Shortage In Cincinnati Territory

Exhibitors in the Cincinnati area this week did not seem to be alarmed over a possibility of product shortage due to delayed sales brought about under the anti-trust opinion of the New York federal statutory court.

Rube Shor, representative of the West Virginia Theatre managers, summed the attitude usual to most exhibitors when he said:

"It's too early yet to know what effect the decree will have. There is no shortage yet. Most theatres are booked up a month ahead. We all expect something will break by that time. If the issue is not decided within a month, a shortage will be felt and exhibitors will be forced to repeat old pictures."

McCraw Plans Tour Of Variety Tents

William McCraw, executive director of the Variety Clubs of America, will make personal appearances at three important tent meetings during September. National Barker R. J. O'Donnell announced this week.

McCraw's first visit will be to the Indianapolis tent on Sept. 15, where he will help fire the opening gun in that tent's calendar of fund raising events for humanitarian purposes. His second visit will be to Minneapolis on Sept. 23 and the third will be to Atlanta on Sept. 28 when that tent inaugurates the drive of its Charity Football Game.

National Votes To Hold Box-Office Line

Determination to hold the box-office price line instead of raising admissions to meet increased overhead was expressed by the National Theatres convention of house managers in Hollywood this week.

The managers were also in favor of retaining reduced prices for servicemen and special admission rates for children.

MPTOA Extends Suggestions

The Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America this week added two more planks to what had been a six plank platform expressing the views that organization thought should be embodied in the decree to be issued under the federal statutory court's ruling in the anti-trust case.

The new planks are:

Right by every exhibitor in a competitive area to inspect the highest bid, if auction bidding is employed.

That the time of cancellation be extended to ten days after the picture has been available to an exhibitor for booking instead of the proposed ten days after trade showing.

The other planks cover an appeal to cover all phases of the decree without seeking divorcement alone; opposition to "auction selling"; prohibiting overbuying and making it a subject of arbitration; guarantee of "some run" to every exhibitor; arbitrators who are familiar with the film industry; consideration of other factors besides highest bid--such as exhibitor's reputation for fair dealing, etc.

Arbitrators Hit Jack Pot As Decisions Roll Down

Buffalo's Motion Picture Arbitrator this week ordered 20th Century-Fox, RKO, Loew's, Vitagraph and Paramount to reduce the 10-day clearance of the Buffalo Theatres' Roosevelt over the Rivoli to a maximum of one day and also granted the Broadway and Roxy theatres, intervenors in the case, equal availability with the Rivoli.

The arbitrator's decision was in two parts. The first was based on clearance and arose out of the Rivoli's complaint that it lost its prior right and was penalized with clearance when the circuit acquired the Roosevelt. The second, based on Section 10 (Refusal to license) was directed against 20th Century-Fox and Vitagraph, ordering those companies in effect to license their pictures in the future for the Roosevelt on a single-house contract and not in accordance with any circuit deals. RKO was exempted from this clause due to lack of proof, and both Paramount and Loew's were exempted because they owned stock in Buffalo theatres.

In New York the American Arbitration Association announced that L. L. Watson and T. F. Kesseler of the Palace at Roanessa, La., had entered a complaint against the present clearance system which gives all Shreveport houses, over 40 miles away, priority over their theatres. The complainants assert that due to this system they actually have to wait four to six months for a picture. Distributors cited were 20th Century-Fox, MGM, Warner Bros., RKO, Paramount, with the Strand, Majestic and Glenwood theatres as possible intervenors. In Dallas, B. R. McClendon of the Casa Linda withdrew a clearance complaint against Paramount and Loew's.

Langer Promises Divorce Law

A promise that he would introduce a bill outlawing block booking and establishing divorcement was made in Washington last week by Sen. William Langer (Rep., N.D.) just before Congress adjourned.

Langer said he would introduce this bill at the next session of Congress. Meanwhile, in a last minute move toward film legislation, the North Dakota senator carried out his previously announced plan and introduced a broadly-worded resolution calling for a ceiling on film rentals. (Langer had previously denied he planned such a resolution.)

The resolution, which was introduced with little hope of passage just before Congress adjourned, called for an amendment to the Emergency Price Control Act which would have empowered the OPA Administrator to place a ceiling on film rentals if they got out of hand. It was referred to the Senate Committee on Banking and Currency.
Schedule Sales Policy Study
At UA Meet Opening Monday

First post war sales meeting of United Artists—to be held for four days in New York at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel—will get under way officially Monday morning when President Edward C. Rafferty delivers his address of welcome following roll call by General Manager J. J. Unger.

The meeting will be divided into several daily sessions, each programmed to discuss a phase of current selling problems and product, with the highlight of the Monday meeting probably being a discussion of the 1946-47 product schedule for the afternoon. This session will be conducted by Sears, Unger and Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., advertising and publicity director. It will cover product and contemplated product of the following:


On Tuesday, the session will be devoted largely to discussing the company’s advertising and publicity plans, as well as its future sales policy, with Contract Manager Paul N. Lazarus, Sr., lecturing on the latter subject.

Wednesday’s sessions will be joined by representatives of the producers who release through United Artists and will feature a luncheon.

Thursday’s sessions will be devoted largely to division meetings conducted by Division Managers Edward M. Schmitzer and Maury Orr.

Home office officials who will attend the conferences are Rafferty, Sears, Eastern and Canadian Division Manager Edward M. Schmitzer, Western Division Manager Maury Orr, Paul N. Lazarus, Sr., contract manager; Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., advertising and publicity director; Tom Waller, publicity manager; Howard Siemer, advertising manager.

The meet ends Thursday afternoon.

Heineman Heads Rank Sales Under Universal

William J. Heineman, vice-president and general sales manager of the absorbed United World Pictures, this week stepped into the post of special general sales manager for the J. Arthur Rank product which will be released through Universal and of sales supervisor for Rank’s “Cesar and Cleopatra,” which is released through United Artists.

This switch of Heineman, veteran distribution head, into what amounts to a personal Rank representative was also accompanied by the announcement that he had been appointed a director in the J. Arthur Rank organization, the coordinating body for the various Rank interests within the United States.

Under the new set up for sales of Rank product devised by Universal Vice-President and General Sales Manager William Scully, Heineman is to set up a special sales staff which will work exclusively on the sale of Universal released Rank pictures. This staff will have supervision of key city sales and is responsible to Heineman directly.

In addition, Heineman will take over supervision of the recently created Prestige Pictures.

NAVED Convention Kills Merger Plan

Prospects of a merger between the National Association of Visual Education Dealers and the Allied Non-Theatrical Film Association seemed doomed this week as the NA Ved convention, meeting in Chicago Wednesday, voted down plans for a merger with any other narrow gauge film organization.

The convention elected E. A. Consing, Toledo, president; Tom Brandon, New York, and Olson Anderson, Bay City, Mich., vice-presidents, and Hazel Calhoun, Atlanta, secretary-treasurer.

Johnston to Address Allied

Motion Picture Association President Eric Johnston has accepted an invitation to speak at the banquet to be held on Sept. 18 in connection with the 13th annual national Allied Convention in Boston, General Chairman Leonard Goldberg announced Wednesday.

 Warners’ Set Seven for ‘46; Policy To Be Flexible, Convention Is Told

Seven features were set to round out the 1946 program of Warner Bros. offerings by Vice-President and General Sales Manager Ben Kalmenson this week as the Warner organization held its first post war sales convention in Atlantic City.

The conference, which opened Tuesday, closed Thursday with a series of division and district manager meetings.

On Wednesday Kalmenson, who emphasized the increased importance of the sales staff as a result of the decree which is expected from the decision handed down by the three judge federal statutory court in New York, listed the features to wind up the current season as follows:


The Warner sales head said that the field sales forces was now twice as important as before as result of the court opinion. Branch managers, in the future, he added, as well as salesmen, would have to act on their own initiative and judgment more than they had ever done in the past.

Warners was fortunate, Kalmenson continued, in that its single sales policy of the past had permitted a sort of “dress rehearsal” in the methods which selling in the future might require.

The occasion reportedly marked the first time all three Warner Bros. were present at a sales convention.

Col. Jack M. Warner, executive producer, in his address to the delegates said:

“We are not announcing any specific number of pictures for release or production,” adding that the company wished to maintain a “flexible schedule” and pointing to the fact it now had 20 major features either in the can or before the camera, with an additional 40 stories in preparation and a pool of 60 more from which to select future productions.

He told the salesmen that production costs had jumped 150 per cent over pre-war days and that the only solution was to “match increased costs with increased quality which will bring greater income.”

President Harry M. Warner declared that the career of talking pictures had only begun and the next phase would be to use the screen as a force to spread enlightenment and to combat evil influences.

Bell and Howell Meet

Bell and Howell Thursday opened a two day meeting in Chicago attended by 200 dealers and presided over by W. A. Moon and W. F. Kruse.
National Newsreel

Atlanta Trust Suit Is Settled Out of Court

A long-pending suit charging violation of the Sherman Anti-trust Act, brought by Mion & Murray, Atlanta theatre circuit operators, against the original plaintiffs, was dismissed August 3 by Federal Judge E. Marvin Underwood after attorneys for both sides announced an adjustment had been reached.

Defendants in the case were several local film exchanges and the Georgia Theatre Company and its affiliates.

W.T. Murray, partner of the Mion & Murray circuit, said an agreement was reached when the Community Theatres Company and the East Point Amusement Company purchased leases to operate the three theatres upon which the litigation centered. The theatres were the East Point, Little 5 Points and Decatur, neighborhood houses.

Under terms of the settlement, the East Point Amusement Company will operate the East Point Theatre and the Community firm will operate the Decatur and Little 5 Points. Oscar Olkonse is president of the East Point Amusement Company and W.K. Jenkins is president of the Community organization.

No sums were disclosed in the announcement of the settlement original suit, filed nearly five years ago, claimed approximately $500,000 damages. Defendants under the Sherman Act are entitled to collect triple the amount of damage claimed.

The new operators assumed management of the East Point, Little 5 Points and Decatur as soon as the dismissal was signed.

The settlement narrows the Mion & Murray circuit to the Rialto, a first-run downtown house, and the Hilton, deluxe neighborhood theatre.

AMPP Sets Up Group For Int'l Affairs

Formation of a three-man committee to set up machinery within the motion picture industry to handle international relations involved in film production was announced this week by Board Chairman Byron Price of the Association of Motion Picture Producers, unit of the Motion Picture Association of America.

The committee, consisting of 20th Century-Fox's Col. Jason Joy as chairman, Paramount's Luigi Lasaschi and MGM's Robert Vogel, was formed following dissolution of the Motion Picture Society for the Americas, a war-born voluntary industry organization. Its first recommendation is the creation of foreign committee consisting of a member for each of the 10 member studios who is versed in international affairs to swap experience, discuss problems, advise on selection of technical directors and work with Joseph I. Brown's moral committee.

Allied Unit to Help Berger in Ascap Fight

North Central Allied this week determined to back the Berger Amusement Company in its defense against an Ascap suit charging playing of copyright music without a license. The Allied unit has employed two attorneys, Samuel Halperin and L.B. Schwartz, to assist in the defense of the amusement company. The case may come to trial during the September session of the federal court.

Happy Holidays

Canada's Ontario province was back on its pre-war holiday schedule this week, with the Dominion restoring all war abandoned holidays and a full week's vacation being taken by all building trades workers causing a tie-up of all construction. The week's vacation, which started Aug. 5, was ordered by the糒 Newsreels Exchange and was made in accordance with the Ontario government statute which requires a minimum of one week's vacation for construction workers between May and September. The decision by the Builders Exchange to make it a general layoff stopping all construction within the province came as a surprise.

The provincial government, when it restored the regular holiday schedule, set Oct. 14 as Thanksgiving Day. Labor returned the only holiday which was retained throughout the war.

Underwater A-Bomb Blast Highlight of Newsreels

With a terrific cataclysmic blast upheaving thousands of tons of water and steam miles high as radioactive waves engulf 75 warships in Bikini Lagoon, Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Forces and news-reel cameramen have photographed some of the most sensational scenes ever recorded in connection with the recent underwater atom bomb test. These scenes appear in all five newsreels this week.

Prior to the explosion itself, the cameramen captured preliminary movements of the service personnel and scientists as they prepared for the blast, including views of the mysterious electronic apparatus in the control room of the "Trigger Ship" anchored nearly five miles away from the blast area. An interesting highlight of the preliminary scenes shows scientist Dr. Holladay of Cornell starting the apparatus in motion which detonated the bomb by remote control.

Two of the newsreels—Paramount and Universal—also show shocking and horrifying scenes of the week's events, by the Japanese immediately after the historic atom blasting of that city. The damage wrought, the inhabitants killed, injured and scared present a grim sight. The Paramount newsreel shows these scenes with views of the Paris conference, and then poses the question, "Can man control atomic power?"

While people who still found the earth intact after the bombing might be lulled into near-complacency regarding the effects of the atom bomb, the spectacular scenes photographed at Bikini Lagoon are so realistically impressive that one must adjust his reasoning to the conclusion that we are indeed in the most powerful and devastating weapon yet unleashed by man.

Plan 'Automatic' Houses For Latin America

Ed Bevens, vice-president of Natco projectors, a 16-mm. projector, declared this week that he had started negotiations for the first of a 3000 house circuit of "automatic" theatres outside of the United States, had started a plan for a complete automatic theatre which would not require a projectionist.

Stengel Elected Head of Crescent Amusement Co.

(See Cover)

Election of Kermit C. Stengel, former Minnesotan who came south and became the theatrical business from the field of investment banking, as executive vice-president of the Crescent Amusement Company was announced this week in Nashville, Tenn., by that organization's board of directors.

Stengel, who was born in Minneapolis, came to Nashville in 1926 where he joined Caldwell and Company, an investment banking firm, as assistant trust officer. The possibilities of the theatre film intrigued him and some nine years later he joined the late Anthony Sudlekan and became associated with the Crescent Amusement Company.

Crescent was at the time expanding its holdings through organization of subsidiaries. Stengel helped organize Rockwood Amusements, Inc., and in 1936 joined that corporation. Since that time he has held various posts in either that organization or in Crescent.

As executive chief of Crescent, Stengel is now faced with carrying out the rest of the divestiture ordered by the federal court which had decreed Crescent has to withdraw from certain of its subsidiaries. The company has already withdrawn from the Cherokee Amusement Company, the Rutkin Amusement Company and has dissolved the Kentucky Amusement Company. It has obtained a six months extension to dispose of interests in the Cumberland and Kentucky amusement companies.

Stengel has headed the Tennessee Theatre Owners Association during the past five years and has served since 1941 as a vice-president of the Southeastern Theatre Owners Association. He is married to Sara E. Sudlekan, daughter of the late Tony Sudlekan and is a charter member of the Atlanta Variety Club.

Rapid French Recovery To Help U. S. Films

France's remarkable strides toward recovery are making it an excellent market for American products, especially films, visitors returning from that country declared in New York this week.

France, it was pointed out, one of the most important European film purchasers of American product, second only to Britain. In addition American films, playing that nation had the additional advantage that bookings in Paris had a prestige value for sales in other French localities and in European nations such as Spain and Italy.

Roy Chartier, Variety Film Reporter, Dead

Funeral services for Roy Chartier, 45-year old Kansas born trade press reporter who had served Variety in its editorial department for 12 years, were held yesterday afternoon from the Riverside Memorial Chapel in New York.

Chartier, considered an authority on film business, died after a prolonged illness which kept him from his work. He had been a newspaperman for approximately 25 years, beginning with The Billboard, where he served as a film editor at the time he left to join Variety.

He is survived by his widow, Carol; his mother, three sisters, four brothers and a step-daughter. Originally he came from Clay Center, Kansas.
PICTURE PEOPLE

PRC Director of Advertising and Publicity Arnold Stolz is back in New York again after going down Missouri way to supervise the simultaneous world premieres of PRC's "Down Missouri Way," which incidentally was a bang up job.

J. E. Perkins, formerly Paramount's far east division manager, which covers a spot of territory including Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, will move into the post of manager for Great Britain, succeeding David E. Rose, who last week resigned to enter the independent production end. Perkins has a long record with Paramount, including a tour of duty in Manila during the war where the Japs captured and interned him. Rose plans three pictures a year, two of which may be made in Britain.

Bart Sheridan, former Los Angeles Times staffer and Life west coast managing editor, will join Vanguard Films and Selznick Enterprises as national magazine and picture editor on Aug. 19. He will work under national advertising and publicity director Paul McNamara on "Duel in the Sun," "Little Women" and "The Paradine Case."

Arthur B. Krim, member of the law firm of Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin and Krim and a member of the Board of Directors of National Screen Service, has a new job added to his list. He's now president of Eagle-Lion Films, Pathe Industries subsidiary.

Krim will continue to fulfill all his old posts. During the war he was a lieutenant colonel in the Signal Corps, on special assignment.

RKO's Director of Advertising and Publicity, S. Barret McCormick, is out in Hollywood looking at the 1946-47 schedule before he starts the expanded RKO advertising campaign.

To Build Houses On Lease Buy Plan

Formation of a construction and financing corporation which will primarily build small theatres for lease over a 20 year period to established independent exhibitors was announced in New York this week by McKeel Theatre Company, headed by W. E. McKeel, former Ross Federal executive.

The houses, designed by Michael De Angelis and seating between 495 and 700, would be available for purchase by the leasing exhibitor at the end of any one year and prior to the expiration of his leasing period. McKeel said his corporation would also acquire houses for exhibitors and renovate properties but that its principal function would be to build small houses in localities where an independent wanted to expand and where the situation would permit another theatre. By mass construction and buying, McKeel claims the job can be done cheaper than it could be done by the exhibitor. The initial program embraces 20 houses, largely in the New York area with plans for later expansion.

Expand Aud. Research To Meet 'Auction' Sales

Expansion of Audience Research's Hollywood offices in anticipation of the extended work which "auction selling" of films will require in the research field was announced by Executive Vice-President Albert E. Sindlinger. Sindlinger said that Jack C. Sayers, head of the present Hollywood office had been promoted to Vice-President to take charge of the expanded activities. Assisting Sayers will be Beverly Jones and Robert Forbes.

Waits on Tide

That time and tide wait for no man is a much repeated and accepted fact. But what tide, high tide, can do to the box-office of Atlantic resort theatres is something to wonder at.

Recently a distributor was checking to see why a good town had suddenly gone sour. Then suddenly it became good again. The exhibitor, queried, replied:

"It's the tide. When it's low tide the resorters don't go swimming. So they come to the show."

Incidentally, Atlantic City, after its dinmotes, brownouts and curfews is gradually swinging back into an all night town again. The Apollo has resumed midnight shows, with Manager Harvey Anderson stating they're going over, and both piers are running pictures past midnight and continuing their programs later with dancing.
Follow the golden arrows!
All she was... was all he wanted!
INGRID BERGMAN

TCHCOCK'S RAINS

A Radio City Music Hall Attraction

directed by ALFRED HITCHCOCK

written by BEN HECHT
SIXTY SEVEN MILLION
SIXTY THOUSAND AND SEVENTY TWO

any way you say it... it's TOPS!...

RKO's tremendous national campaign on "NOTORIOUS" in magazines and newspaper supplements totaling 97,060,072 CIRCULATION. Five different insertions in LIFE and LOOK. Four different insertions in WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION. Full pages in LADIES HOME JOURNAL - SATURDAY EVENING POST - McCALL'S - COSMOPOLITAN - TIME - GOOD HOUSEKEEPING - REDBOOK - COLLIER'S - AMERICAN - TRUE STORY - LIBERTY - THE FAN LIST - THE AMERICAN WEEKLY - THIS WEEK and Canadian Magazines.
**Prairie Rustlers**

**PRO**

Western 54 mins.

**AUDIENCE SLANT:** (Family) Tailormade for western fans, with action and hard riding all the way through.

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** Should do well where Buster Crabbe and Al St. John are well established as a top action team.

*Cast:* Buster Crabbe, Al St. John, Evelyn Finley, Karl Hackett, Sanford Jophy, Bud Osborne, Kermit Maynard. *Credits:* Producer, Sam Newfield; Director, Sam Newfield; Screenplay, Fred Myron. *Photography,* Jack Greenhalgh.

*Plot:* Billy the Kid is a good egg, but his cousin, who looks just like him, is a bad hombre heading a gang of rustlers who are making a go of it in the northern section. Throughout, Billy and his no-good cousin are at odds, with Billy emerging victorious by turning the tables on his relative when the cousin tries to impersonate Billy and make away with a large supply of cattle. Billy makes his cousin change clothes and the villain is shot by his own man, who thinks it is Billy.

*Comment:* This one will please the action audience and the kids who will literally eat it up. From the very start to the last round of its 54 jam-packed minutes, there are enough fights, hard riding and sudden twists to satiate the most avid western fan. Producer Sig Newfield, picture-wise in such films, really knows how to extract the most from a small budget. Buster Crabbe does yeoman work as both Billy and his worthless cousin; Crabbe screens like a million, with a physique that has no equal among the western protagonists. Al St. John will extract many real ballyhughs from the kids. Exhibitors won't go wrong with this latest Crabbe. Only weak point is some fuzzy photography, but this is not too noticeable.

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**GI War Brides**

Republic 69 mins.

**AUDIENCE SLANT:** (Family) Should provide a few laughs for most audiences. Not for the more sophisticated, however.

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** Good supporting feature for double-bill programs.


*Plot:* Among the hundreds of British War brides about to embark for America to meet their GI husbands is Carol Savage, whose enthusiasm for her American husband has paled. She believes the marriage to have been a mistake. When Anna Lee tries to sway away on the board, Carol gives her credentials to the newcomer who is anxious to get to America to meet the man she expects to marry. But a rugged reporter, Robert Armstrong, suspects the substitution and upon arrival Miss Lee throws herself into the arms of James Ellison, her supposed husband, to clear herself. Ellison goes along temporarily and the whole thing clears up when Miss Lee and Ellison fall in love.

*Comment:* While the story is topical and well done, the picture turns out to be just another ice program feature. There are several moments of high comedy, such as the time the only war room aboard, who had equipped a Wac, disembarks with his arms full of twins he had been asked to hold, only to be confronted by his adoring Wac bride; and when an army officer reads instructions to the war brides just as they are about to arrive. The instructions even include what facial expression to use, what to say to the awaiting husbands, etc. The picture has the asset of good production values and adequate direction. Miss Lee looks beautiful and performs well and Ellison also does a convincing job. Some of the supporting players, however, are not quite so good. On the whole, the film will provide 69 minutes of light entertainment for the not too discriminating. It is suitable as a supporting feature on any double bill program.

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**Legion of Decency Ratings**

For Week Ending Aug. 9

**SUITEABLE FOR GENERAL PATRONAGE**

Heading West  Personality Kid

**SUITEABLE FOR ADULTS ONLY**

Blonde for a Day  Bowery Bombshell  Notorious  Strange Holiday

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**Rendezvous with Annie**

Republic 89 mins.

**AUDIENCE SLANT:** (Adult) An excellent light comedy that should prove to be thoroughly entertaining for all types of audiences.


*Plot:* Eddie Albert, stationed in London with the Air Transport Command, gets an opportunity to fly home with pilots Philip Reed and James Millican, but they return to London. He visits his wife, Annie (Faye Marlowe), and returns safely to his post in London. Upon discharge from the service he returns home to find his wife in the hospital, having given birth to their first child. Everyone thinks people know he has been away from home for two and a half years so don't believe he is the father of her wife's son. Eddie has six days to prove he is the rightful father and thus establish his son's right to inherit a fortune from a relative. Many complications set in before the truth is established.

*Comment:* Republic evidently has gone all out to give "Rendezvous With Annie" the excellent production values it deserves and Associate Producer-Director Allan Dwan has taken full advantage of a fat opportunity to turn out an excellent comedy. The Mary Loos, Richard Sale magazine story on which their screenplay was based, follows along lines of a true life story that took place in California during the war. That story, too, worked out satisfactorily. Eddie Albert, Fay Marlowe and all the cast, including Alfred Lunt, have a rollicking time in this picture, transmitting their fun to audiences. The picture is exceptionally well done in casting, acting, production and direction from a good story. Who could ask for anything more? Proper exploitation could make this return better than average grosses. It needs a supporting feature, however.
The Brass Tacks of Efficient
Picture Theatre Management

A WORD TO THE WISE SUPERVISOR

By Jack Jackson

Not so long since, I made comment to the effect that during my recent gadabouting among theatremen along a 5000-mile circuit I had found the small independent showmen to be setting the pace in devising and pursuing new avenues of customer contact. I hasten to correct any impression that might be construed as being disparaging of experienced managerial talent of the larger circuits. There always has been a good supply of thoroughly efficient and competent managers who, figuratively speaking, have worn months of chaffing at the bit and tugging at the reins placed upon them by restrictive supervision. The average theatre manager is a likable, alert, enterprising and ambitious fellow who approaches his job with virile enthusiasm and evidences an unusual degree of mental agility and ability in solving its myriad problems. This highly desirable type of super-employee is at racted to the theatre as inexorably as are hammers to ship bottoms, but in all too many instances overly-ambitious supervisory tactics quickly dampen the fires of enthusiasm, blunt the spear of ambition and retard the mental machinery of potential innovators.

The executive charged with supervision of theatre personnel should be a mentor, not a master. His duties are to sharpen and temper the natural ability and acumen of those under his jurisdiction; to avoid commands where requests will suffice; to sidestep arbitrary decisions even at the cost of hours spent explaining the ABCs of the “whys and why nots” behind rejections of ideas submitted. Should the diligence of the supervisor become damaging to the enthusiasm or ambition of those being supervised the purpose of the job is being defeated and the perpetrator becomes an obstacle to the future of the industry.

Needs Chance to Use Own Head

No manager worth his salt wants to have his every decision made for him by a district, city or divisional manager. No manager worthy of the title wants to be babied or handed supervisory crutches to assist him over the day-to-day bumps he must, of necessity, encounter in conducting the normal business of the theatre. Yet I have met no end of mighty fine managerial material that is being converted into mechanical robots because some overly-cautious supervisor insists on trying to direct details of everything.

In the vast majority of cases the home office mentor is not aware of the harm he does when he peremptorily dismisses the suggestion that an ambitious employe has spent days or weeks in perfecting. A few moments spent explaining budget restrictions, the unsuitability of the activity or other defect in the suggestion will pay off in getting more and better ideas in days to come. Inconsiderate rebuffs or—as I have seen done time and time again—outright laughing at well-intended proposals is a sure way of discouraging the kind of planning and thinking this business needs at all times. The seasoned employe can “take it” but the newcomer by comparison is supersensitive and needs encouragement. It’s swell for a supervisor to endeavor to inculcate his charges with every atom of knowledge he possesses but when he attempts to make every manager a loud speaker for his own ideas and discourages the new kind of thinking, the exploring of new fields in operation, advertising, exploitation, house conduct, customer attentions, etc., etc., he’s not doing his job or the business as a whole any good. I know that these newcomers ask a lot of questions and seem difficult to train but training them is the supervisor’s job and fulfilling it means the discarding of pet formulae. The past is behind us and we face a new and different future that will have to be learned step by step and the Johnny-Come-Latelys may be able to contribute materially to the store of building blocks from which we will have to fashion our models for tomorrow’s success.

The preamble has been lengthy but I considered it necessary to properly set the stage for some specific comment on theatres, theatremen and theatre methods. I encountered in big and little towns alike where the home office usurped the robes of Solomon via the media of an occasional visit from a circuit riding executive who always had an important date in the next town for which he was already a couple of hours late. Edgar Guest, who converts domestic commonplace into touching and memorable poetry, numbers among his most famous efforts a few lines about it taking a lot of living in a place before it can feel like home. Commercially speaking that phrase is doubly true of the theatre. No booker, auditor, home office exec or city, district or division manager knows one title as much about any of the theatres under his supervision as the manager who lives with the house—provided he is a GOOD manager.

On this premise I contend that the manager should be taken into the confidence of ALL home office department heads and his opinions given “A” priority in the buying and booking of attractions, the setting up of accompanying short subjects, the running time of programs, the type and size of newspaper ads as well as the copy the ads carry. Changes in front display, the conduct, placement and time schedule of service personnel, etc., should be entirely in his hands—with guidance ONLY (not orders) from his superiors. Most of the managers I have met are eager for responsibility and evidence the ability to do a mighty swell job if they are made to feel that confidence is placed in them. Of course, guidance is necessary to make their acts conform to company policy, budget requirements, etc., but the executive should phrase his criticisms and present his suggestions in a diplomatic manner that will imply full confidence in the

(Continued on Page 16)

Some Gam$S

Because a patron allegedly had his foot protruding into the main aisle of the Grand-Carlin at Evansville, Ind., Mrs. Lilian Smith claims she stumbled and fell. Because she fell, Mrs. Smith claims she broke her leg and she is suing the management for $15,000 damages. Because Mrs. Smith broke her leg Mr. Smith is filing a suit for $5,000. Why? For the loss of services, he explains.

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What Should Children See?  
Interstate Advises Parents

South'tern Circuit Begins New Service Based on Parents Magazine Ratings

What is the function of a theatre? Is it a means of making a living for a man or group of men, or is it something bigger than that? Does it carry a responsibility to the owner so that he does feel, or should feel, a conscience-directed urge for using his medium to give service to his community? These questions may plague some theatremen, but not the Southwest's Interstate Circuit, which, in connection with its 40th Anniversary, comes out with one of the most revolutionary directives to individual theatre managers in the history of motion picture exhibition.

Belongs to Community

Interstate, through its president, Karl Hoblitzelle, and its general manager, R. J. (Bob) O'Donnell, has said in effect to managers: "We are convinced that, although a theatre may owe its owners a living, it does not really belong to them; it belongs to the community. That being the case, it is up to the theatre to give all the service possible to the community."

But such a policy involves unsellability, and if you may not believe Interstate has acted unsellably, let us examine the directive signed by O'Donnell.

The Children Problem

This directive concerns children and the pictures they should see and should not see—always a sore point with exhibitors, few of whom have evidenced much love for the various boards formed to advise parents on this matter. Most owners have avoided such advisors as if they were screaming demons with pitchforks, but Interstate has seen fit to reverse the usual order and to parents cooperate with them, but actually supplement them.

Among the ads being used for Interstate's 40th Anniversary, running throughout August, is one that begins "Mother Knows Best." Meaning that it is up to the parents to guide their children to the proper pictures. Who ever heard of an exhibitor advising his patrons to look sharp before allowing their children to come to the theatre? Then the ad goes on to offer the Interstate theatre patrons a new service: if mother is in doubt whether the picture of that day is suitable for junior or sissie, all she has to do is phone the theatre and the pleasant voice at the other end will tell her yes or no.

The Plan Has Method

What's that you say—it doesn't mean a thing? Just a minute; O'Donnell doesn't do things that way. This plan has a backbone. In his directive the Interstate executive tells his managers that the circuit is trying to convey the idea that an Interstate theatre is a safe place for their children, but that sometimes a picture is played designed for adults.

Therefore, in order to put over the thought of the theatre being safe for the kids it is necessary to advise mothers which pictures are suitable.

As it stands, the scheme is good, and the manager needs something more than his own judgment to pick the entertainment. So O'Donnell has made his plan authentic by judging the product on the film ratings of Parents Magazine. He has subscribed to the publication for each city manager, who in turn will have the ratings for the month copied and sent to each theatre manager.

According to the directive, each manager will then post the ratings in a conspicuous spot so that when a parent phones for the information the theatre can immediately give it. The fact that the information will be based, not on the opinion of the theatre manager, but on that of Parents Magazine is recommended as a means of lending the idea an authenticity to give confidence to the parents themselves and to make them feel the theatre is really playing ball with them.

The managers are then informed about the key to the Parents Magazine ratings, which is as follows:

A—Adult
Y—Young People (12-16 years)
C—Children (8-12 years)

Added to the main classifications are secondary ratings giving added information. Pegged by numbers, eleven digits in the case of films such as: excellent, good of type, questionable in spots, mature for many, or unsuitable. Thus, the magazine gives "Inside Job" a rating of A-Y4-C1. This means the picture is primarily for adults, good of its type, but unsuitable for children. "Courage of Lassie," on the other hand, has a rating of A-Yt-C1, meaning good for all classes.

Can Furnish Whole List

Along with the directive, O'Donnell also sent a list of Parents Magazine ratings as far back as April, comprising some 96 pictures. This will serve as a backbone for inquiries on past films or for a list of suitable pictures.

The directive makes it clear that in answering a phone call emphasis must be laid on the source of the information given. Thus O'Donnell suggests the answer be handled along this line: "Parents Magazine, which reviews and classifies motion pictures each month, and which we consider a very able authority, classifies the picture about which you ask as suitable for children (or adults—or adult and young people, as the case may be)." Incidentally, there is no tiety whatever with the magazine, although that publication will undoubtedly benefit through such publicity; the idea is purely one of service. O'Donnell sums up the attitude of the circuit in the last paragraph of his directive to the managers: "We have given this matter a lot of thought and we believe it to be thoroughly constructive and in keeping with our slogan: DEDICATED TO COMMUNITY SERVICE."

Guggle Guggle in Denver

The Denver Theatre of Fox Intermountain Theatres is going to put in an elaborate soda fountain, the first in that part of the country, if not anywhere in the country. The installation will be deluxe, the cost running to $4,000. If successful Fox Intermountain will expand the idea to its other houses. One thing about it the patrons will have to guggle through their straws in the lobby—not in the auditorium.

Leave Too Fast, You Risk Robbery

Safe crackers used an angle which theatre men would be wise to make note of in an attempt to get at the safe of the Regent, in Sudbury, Ont., last week. One man hid in the theatre until all employees had left, then opened the doors for his conspirators. Fortunately, their use of welding torches to get at the safe attracted attention from the street, resulting in their capture after a chase through the darkened house.

The temptation to remain in the theatre in connection with such robberies is greater because of the desire of employees to turn out the lights and get home as quickly as possible. Also, the layout of most theatres makes it possible for the thief to dodge ushers checking up to see if the house is clear. In this instance, a solitary policeman showed he was smarter than the thieves when he was noticed by a lookout, who left to inform the others of the presence of the police. After the attempted blows had been disarmed, the lone cop then ran circles around the building making noise and carrying on an imaginary conversation at each entrance to give the impression the place was surrounded. The ruse worked, and when reinforcements arrived the men had to be ferreted out of various hiding places and chased through the house until they were finally caught.—MTL.
A smashing story of violent love...
pre-sold by tremendous publicity everywhere!
Specter of the Rose

with JUDITH ANDERSON • MICHAEL CHEKHOV
IVAN KIROV • VIOLA ESSEN • LIONEL STANDER

Produced, Written and Directed by
BEN HECHT

who gave you such great screenplays as "SPELLBOUND," "WUTHERING HEIGHTS," "NOTHING SACRED," "SCARFACE," "VIVA VILLA" and other never-to-be-forgotten motion picture entertainments

Co-Producer-Director and Director of Photography LEE GARMES
Musical Score—GEORGE ANTHEIL • Choreography—TAMARA GEVA

ARTHAY CIRCLE, Los Angeles!
DOs and DON'Ts for Ushers

Outlined by Loew Publication

Fundamental advice to ushers, doormen and other house staff members is contained in a carefully-thought-out treatise appearing in the current issue of LO1, published each month by Loew’s, Inc., for members of the Loew family all over the world. Headed “Service to Patrons Builds Goodwill,” the article is such a well-rounded discussion of a problem so vital to the success of theatre operation that all exhibitors and their house staffs would do well to utilize it as a manual: one of the capr.Brass of the service they offer their patrons.

LO1 directs the article to the service staff of all of its theatres and opines that, of course, the ushers don’t intend to be ushers all of their lives. Taken into consideration is the fact that not all ushers plan to make Theatre Management their careers, either. It also points out, however, that regardless of plans for the future the training given by the usher will get out of meeting the public face to face will be an invaluable asset. Getting down to facts, LO1 states, “To learn how the other man thinks and acts, one must have occasion to come into direct contact with him. Some of your early impressions may be discouraging; many are just plain cussed. Don’t let this throw you. Soon you’ll learn how to handle the fellow with a grooosh. Ask any theatre manager or business man who has come up the hard way.”

‘Business of Personalities’

LO1 continues with this shriveling observation: “Ours is a business of personalities. We sell them from our screens. We also must sell them from the floors of our theatres. In dealing with personality one must know the meaning of the word and there’s no better place to learn it than in a motion picture theatre.”

As you look through the screen, the entire operation of a theatre revolves around SERVICE....

In preceding a list of DOs and DON’Ts for ushers, LO1 continues with this advice, “Theatre operation is an interesting subject and you should learn all you can about it. Study the physical layout of your theatre. Learn the duties of the various members of the theatre staff. Be able to answer questions as to prices, days of program changes, times of showings, the handling of lost articles, what to do in an emergency, and, above all, the value of tact and diplomacy in the handling of people.”

LO1 outlines a list of DOs and DON’Ts which it advises ushers to memorize. They follow:

DO:

1. Be especially courteous to ladies, children, elderly people, and cripples.
2. Make requests, do not give orders. “Will you step this way, please?” instead of “Follow me!”
3. In using your flashlight, keep it behind you and directed toward the floor so that it will not disturb patrons already seated in your path.
4. Pick up bits of paper and ticket stubs that may litter your path.
5. Stand erect with hands at sides.
6. When addressing a patron, look directly at him or her.
7. Say, “Will you kindly step back out of the aisle, please?” not “You gotta get out the aisle!”
8. Before you go in search of lost articles to the check room or manager’s office.
9. Ask patrons whose names may be searching for articles left in their recently vacated seats.
10. When a child cries, politely request the mother to take the little one to the rest room.
11. Keep your shoes polished, your uniform neat and pressed, your hair well-groomed, your hands, nails and face clean.

DON’T:

1. Speak in a low tone when conversing with patrons or those of the managerial staff.
2. Be on time. If you’re late, you may keep one of your fellow workers behind his time.
3. When returning the organization, always refer to him by name or capacity.
4. Ask your opinion of an attraction, reply, “Everyone seems to enjoy the show, I think you’d like it.”
5. Turn over any valuables you may find to the manager or his assistant. If a patron wishes to tender a reward, it’s up to you to decide if you will accept it. In most cases, such rewards are politely refused with the explanation that it is a part of Loew Service to return lost articles to their rightful owners.

If you cannot seat a party together, try at your first opportunity to do so.

If you observe a male patron changing his seat more than once, point him in the direction of his original seat.

If any individual or group creates a disturbance, immediately notify the manager or his assistant.

Should you detect that the sound from the screen is too loud or too low, call this to the attention of one of your superiors.

Keep an eye on the exit doors to be sure they are closed and that no one on the inside is admitting friends through the exit doors.

Patrol your aisle every few minutes to be sure everything is in order and that patrons are not engaged in any sort of misconduct.

Say, “Yes, sir!” or “No, sir!”—”not “Yes,” “No.”

Make believe that you own the theatre and treat immature as if they were your own customers.

Meet rudeness with tact and kindness. (Continued on Page 20)

The Brass Tacks of Management

(Continued from Page 12)

be is the fellow who listens to the remarks of complaint or complaint from the patrons. He is the chap with whom they discuss their likes and dislikes. He is the one man in the whole organization who has his finger on the pulse of the people of his community and can best be regarded as knowing which picture deserves what playing time and what is needed to make the entire program enjoyable to the audience. He is theatre. However, it goes without saying that he MUST BE A GOOD MANAGER. Any other kind will keep the home office constantly in hot water.

I am well aware of the headache I am suggesting for the busy booking department in recommending that the manager be given a voice in the selection of acts playing his theatre. Circuit commitments and no end of other things are involved. But I feel certain—and have proved the wisdom of the policy in my own situations—that all can be handled to the satisfaction of the manager. Well, in turn, do a far better job of selling every change if only the reason is that he himself had a voice in the selection. The practice pays off in better receipts and better managers.

In summing up, let me say that it is a wise executive, either traveling or resident, who keeps loading responsibility on the shoulders of those managers who show a desire to accept it and the ability to handle day-to-day and week-to-week problems of the theatre.

Guide them but don’t command them. Help them develop immature ideas that have promise of benefiting the theatre. And, by all means, be sure that you give every ounce of credit—and even a little more—to those managers willing to spend their spare time ‘thinking’ the theatre.

It takes practice to make perfect. As I see it the executive’s job is to keep'em practicing and to make sure that practice does not make ‘careless’ instead of perfect.
Nocturnal Beauty Show
A Sellout for Benton

That summertime and pretty girls provide a combination that sells tickets to the tune of increased patronage was proved recently in San Jose, Calif., by Robert Benton, manager of the West Coast Mission Theatre.

All it took to attract an SRO crowd was a midnight show featuring a Bathing Beauty Contest, with a stage-full of the town’s top pulchritude. And credit for the sell-out, in Benton’s opinion, was that contest.

Each of twenty of San Jose’s leading stores entered a girl, who was identified by a shimmering satin shoulder brassard with the name of the store emblazoned thereon in bold letters. Each merchant also furnished, and paid for, the bathing suit worn by his entry, selected to best fit her face and figure.

The merchants also chipped in to buy a presentable diamond ring which was awarded to the winner. There were two runners-up, each of whom received attractive make-up boxes and a $25 bottle of perfume.

Members of the theatre staff sold reserved seat tickets, and the fast sale of these tickets was an assurance of a sell-out. Incidentally, a local night club was obtained to give musical tribute to the beauty display.

To Write Articles on Best Years of Lives

Fannie Hurst, Paul Gallico, Quentin Reynolds, and seven other leading American authors have been engaged by Samuel Goldwyn to write by-line articles under the title of “The Best Years of Our Lives” for publication in a top national magazine, as part of the promotion campaign for the film of the same name.

The ten stories, in which each writer will discuss what he considers the best years of his life, will appear in series throughout the late fall and early winter. The Goldwyn production, which stars Fredric March, Myrna Loy, Dana Andrews, Teresa Wright and Virginia Mayo, is scheduled for release in late December.

Cagney Firm Names Lennen & Mitchell

Appointment of Lennen & Mitchell, Inc., as the advertising agency for William Cagney Productions was announced this week by Ray VirDen, executive vice-president of the agency, which will handle all newspaper, magazine and radio advertising for the producing company. First of the pictures for which Lennen & Mitchell will institute publicity and radio advertising campaigns is “The Stray Lamb,” starring James Cagney, which goes into production in September.

Song on Chimes

One of the outstanding features of Jerry Fowler’s campaign on RKO Radio’s “The Bells of St. Mary’s” at Schine’s Geneva Theatre, Geneva, N. Y., was the playing of The Bells of St. Mary’s on the local chimes each day at 5:30 p.m.

REAL WESTERN ATMOSPHERE is provided by this stagecoach, built in 1849 by the Brewsters in New York, which was used as a street ballyhoo for the showing of Columbia’s “Renegades” at Loew’s State and Orpheum theatres, Boston. Stunt was part of the campaign put over by George Kraska, Joe Di Pesa, Jim Tibbetts, Jack Mercer and Columbia’s representative, Ed Rosenbaum.

Ballyhoo ‘Renegades’ In Boston Campaign

George Kraska and Joe Di Pesa, publicity directors of Loew’s State and Orpheum in Boston, staged an extensive campaign on Columbia’s “Renegades,” highlighted by the use of an appropriately, hampered stage coach which hauledwood the film and its playdate for several days in advance and currently through the downtown shopping center of Boston. Loaded to capacity with gaily attired cowboys and cowgirls strumming guitars and singing western songs, the stunt made a definite impression on Hub shoppers.

Jim Tibbetts, Jack Mercer and Columbia’s Ed Rosenbaum collaborated in other publicity for the picture, including a radio contest via station WORL on the popular Mary Roth program in which pairs of guest tickets were awarded to the 25 persons submitting the longest lists of names of stars who had appeared in western pictures.

Beec and Columbia record dealers were also contacted for special window displays of Gene Autry and other western stars’ recordings. Mounted stulls from “Renegades” were supplied to the dealers as backgrounds for the displays.

Kraska and Di Pesa dreamed up another stunt for the film, consisting of presenting each Boston critic with a toy gun in holster, with the holster strap marked “Renegades.” The novelty gag resulted in several column mentions, each treated in the same spirit with which the gift was made.

Several of Boston’s best known department stores gave special displays of the “Der” shirt with full credits to “Renegades.”

Leading beauty salons in Boston used stills of Evelyn Keyes for cooperative ad stunts on hairdos and facials for the picture.

The main branch of the Boston Public Library distributed to their 24 branches bookmarks giving the name of the film “Renegades,” the theatre and playdate and also giving a list of western stories.

Boston newspapers featured stories on the children’s page, beauty page, and color page of the Sunday sections.—BO

Youngstown Premiere

World premiere of “Shadow of a Woman,” Warner Bros., production starring Helmut Dan-tine and Andrea King, will take place at the Paramount Theatre, Youngstown, on August 15. National release has been set for September 14.

‘Key’ Hangers on ‘Notorious’

To help exhibitors create curiosity and interest in Alfred Hitchcock’s “Notorious,” RKO Radio has sent a set of four key-shaped ‘key’ hangers, colorfully contrived, to theatremen throughout the United States, Canada, England, Australia, New Zealand, etc., for hanging in their lobbies in advance of the film’s showing.

Many exhibitors, realizing the effectiveness of this “key” idea in connection with the theme of the film, might very likely go to the trouble and expense of having their own “keys” made. By making the die-cuts hangers available, RKO not only has provided showmen with a most potent show-selling medium, but at the same time has saved them considerable expense in printing and lithographing costs.
Sherred's Simple Photo Tieup Gets News Art Every Sunday for 16 Weeks

A simple but most effective and important tieup arranged by Carl B. Sherred of the Grace M. Fisher Theatres, Cumberland, Md., has resulted in at least one five- to six-column photo every Sunday for the past 16 weeks in the picture section of the Baltimore American.

The tieup works this way: A photographer from the American snaps a crowd on the streets of Cumberland sometime during the week. When the picture is printed the following Sunday, faces of five persons in the photo have been ringed by an artist. And the persons thus designated are given a pair of guest tickets to see the current attraction at the Maryland Theatre which Sherred manages. Caption accompanying the photo mentions the name of the current attraction, its leading players, the name of the theatre and directs persons seeing their photo to apply to Sherred for the tickets. Simple? You bet—and very, very good.

Sherred also is a constant user of very effective give-away tieups, such as envelopes reading, "Don't bite your nails when you see 'Suspect' at the Maryland, etc.—and inside the envelope is an imprinted eneery board for filing the nails. Another giveaway gag is another envelope with copy, "Here is the red hot tip of the week! Play this one straight, right across the board—and you can't lose. The price is right! Let the whole family in on this one!" And inside the envelope is a straight announcement about "Anchors Aweigh." This could be for any good picture, however, particularly in horse-loving Maryland.

Front-Page Reader

Lou Merenbloom, manager of Schine's Hippodrome, Corbin, Ohio, succeeded in getting the endorsement of the local Garden Club in a front-page reader on PRC's "The Enchanted Forest." The club also sent many of its members to every school classroom in the city to endorse the picture to 2000 students.

Good stunt for any theatre.

Aviation Day Exploitation Urged by NSS 'Showman'

The money-making possibilities of National Aviation Day (August 19)—"by-passed" by most exhibitors since it was so designated by Congress in 1939—are specifically pointed out by National Screen Service in its August issue of Mr. Showman.

Answering the perennial complaint of theatremen that August is a "month without dates," the publication, under the guidance of Melvin L. Gold, director of advertising and publicity, announces three trends in connection with the money date. It is suggested that exhibitors book reissues of topflight air epics for an "Aviation Show," an appeal to hobbyists is made in the plan for a Model Plane Contest, an item which has gotten attention even for those who do not participate directly in the plane building. The third special trailer is based on the "quiz show" idea, and features an Aviation Quiz which should be of interest to anyone with "plane knowledge."

Radio Dailies, Stores Sell 'Centennial Summer'

An extensive campaign via radio, newspaper and in local stores was used by Gerry Wollaston, manager of the State Theatre, Harrisburg, for the showing of 20th-Fox's "Centennial Summer."

Placards and other advertising material were placed in windows of music shops to sell the Jerome Kern tunes from the film, and a tieup was arranged with a midtown book shop. specially printed cards were attached to menus in a large restaurant, listing the cast and music. Cards were also placed in all city busses.

Prior to the opening day, a program of music and excerpts from the picture was broadcast over station WHGB, and additional spot programs were heard during the next few days until the listening public became thoroughly aware that "Centennial Summer" was playing at the State.—HA.

Uses Newspaper Contest On 'One More Tomorrow'

For the advance campaign on Warners' "One More Tomorrow" at the Grand Theatre, Columbus, Ohio, Manager Lawrence Capline arranged an intriguing identification contest with the Columbus Star.

The newspaper had its photographers take shots of the second stories of well-known buildings around the center of the city. These pictures were published under the heading of "Columbus is Looking Up to One More Tomorrow," and readers were offered prizes for identifying the buildings correctly.

Contest got off to a fine start and was kept going for two weeks, with free tickets to "One More Tomorrow" being awarded the winners.

Sold Back Pages

SELLING THE PICTURE

GIRLS, GIRLS FOR THE FIRST TIME. The main point of interest about this attractive front on MGM's "Ziegfeld Follies of 1946," according to the caption on the photo, "is that this is the first time the 5000-seat Fox Theatre, San Francisco, has lent itself to this type of ballyhoo." Seems that the management was urged to use some art of beautiful girls, which they did. Some of the figures were 20 feet high. Just compare the one at the left with the girl standing in front of it.

REISSUE SHOWMANSHIP. This effective front on the reissue of "Meet John Doe" was arranged by Manager George Daransoll of the Fabian-operated Wilmer & Vincent Granby Theatre, Norfolk, Va.

PLENTY OF COFFEE. The cans of coffee you see in the photo above are only a fraction of the number that were used to place behind the tie-in sign on Columbia's "Renegades" when that film played the Majestic Theatre, Houston, Texas. Three hundred of the cards were placed in store windows. Eddie Bremmer and Homer Jordan are manager and publicity director, respectively, of the Majestic, and Henry Morris is Columbia exploiteer.

CONTEST DISPLAY. This display frame in the lobby of Loew's Colonial, Reading, Pa., was one method utilized by Manager Larry Levy to announce his Freckle Face Contest in connection with the showing of MGM's "Boys' Ranch."

STREET BALLYHOO. Manager Don Shane of the Paramount Theatre, Omaha, employed a girl reading a newspaper as street ballyhoo for the showing of MGM's "The Green Years." If you will PLEASE look at the newspaper you will see how the front page was over-printed with selling copy.

TED ON THE JOB. Everywhere Ted Baldwin goes these days the promotion and exploitation manager for Vanguard Films is on the job plugging "Duel in the Sun." Even the caddies at the Grossinger Golf Club wear "Duel" T-shirts, brought along for the purpose by the alert Mr. Baldwin who, in the picture above, is fourth from left looking over final scores, with Dr. Leo Michel, president of Grossinger Golf Club, and Ross Sobol, the club's professional, on his right. The others are the "Duel" caddies.

SELLING THE MUSIC. Music shops are busy these days creating tie-in displays on the current crop of musicals. No exception is G. Schirmer's, New York, which featured this sheet music window on MGM's "Easy to Wed," showing at the Capitol.

Ted on the Job. Everywhere Ted Baldwin goes these days the promotion and exploitation manager for Vanguard Films is on the job plugging "Duel in the Sun." Even the caddies at the Grossinger Golf Club wear "Duel" T-shirts, brought along for the purpose by the alert Mr. Baldwin who, in the picture above, is fourth from left looking over final scores, with Dr. Leo Michel, president of Grossinger Golf Club, and Ross Sobol, the club's professional, on his right. The others are the "Duel" caddies.
SELLING THE PICTURE

ABOARD THE "PRC SPECIAL." In advance of the recent Missouri-Kansas 30-city world premiere of PRC's "Down Missouri Way," a premiere of the film was held at the Missouri State Penitentiary for 2,700 inmates. Shown above in one of the groups aboard the Missouri & Pacific's "PRC Special" en route to the prison showing are (l-r): Arnold Stoltz, PRC's national director of advertising, publicity and exploitation; Fred Laskowitz, Missouri & Pacific PRC's St. Louis branch manager; Kay Crombie, PRC starlet; Charles Zerjavogel, Missouri & Pacific inspector of dining cars; M. L. Plessner, Fanchon & Marco-St. Louis Amusement head of advertising and publicity; J. C. Ansell, Ansell Brothers Theatre; Sam Weiss, assistant manager of PRC's St. Louis exchange.

'Missouri Way' Campaign Held Finest, Best-Balanced in St. Louis in Years

The advertising and exploitation campaign for the world premiere showing of PRC's "Down Missouri Way" at the St. Louis Theatre, St. Louis, on Thursday evening, August 1, was the finest and best-balanced this city has seen in many years, according to competent local observers. (Simultaneously with the showing in St. Louis, PRC also held premiere showings of the film in Kansas City, Mo., and in 28 other key cities throughout Missouri and Kansas.)

Honors for the fine results obtained for the picture and its stars went to PRC's Arnold Stoltz, national director of advertising and publicity; Lige Brien, his assistant; Bill Sherman, St. Louis manager for the company, and M. L. Plessner, head of advertising and publicity for the Fanchon & Marco-St. Louis Amusement Company houses.

City officials, including Mayor Aloys P. Kaufman, gave their fullest cooperation. As a result, a parade to exploit a motion picture was permitted, for the first time, to traverse such important thoroughfares as Washington Avenue and Twelfth Boulevard during business hours.

In addition, the Market street entrance to the City Hall carried across its top a large white banner on which was printed: "The City of St. Louis Welcomes the Stars of 'Down Missouri Way' for the World Premiere."

The parade, which included screen players Eddie Dean, Roscoe Ates, Shirley Patterson, Helen Mowery, Hal Smith and the Sunshine Boys, moved to City Hall where the visitors were welcomed by Mayor Kaufman and presented with the key to the city.

Besides their personal appearances on the stage of the St. Louis on the night of the premiere and their talks over various local radio stations, the stars also appeared in person at the Slack Furniture Store, and Uncle Dick Sleule, the Jolly Irishman, took generous newspaper advertising space to apprise St. Louisans of that fact. Naturally he made prominent mention of "Down Missouri Way."

Another good publicity stunt that landed a large picture and some fine copy in the important St. Louis Globe-Democrat, lone morning paper, was the arrangement whereby Dean, seated in the Globe-Democrat radio-telephone reporter car at Lambert-St. Louis Municipal Airport, gave a telephone interview to a rewrite man in the newspaper's plant in the downtown district. A picture published shortly thereafter showed Dean in the radio-telephone car, flanked on either side by Shirley Patterson and Helen Mowery.

The stars provided some good newspaper space via interviews, and were even tied in with the efforts of the city to sell the $7,000 lineup it purchased for the personal use of former Mayor Bernard F. Dickman.—Stl.

'Reserved Seat' Gag

The old "reserved seat" gag, that of having a theatre chair in the lobby with a sign to the effect that it's reserved for those waiting to see a certain picture, was used by Ben Coleman, manager of Schine's Regent Theatre, Amsterdam, N. Y., in advance of the showing of "The Spiral Staircase."

Publicity Barrage

Although "Carnegie Hall" has just gone into production in New York this federal film being produced by Boris Morros and William Le Baron has been garnering plenty of publicity. Perhaps the most potent stunt—one that even the conservative New York Times went for by using photos and a story on the first page of its second section—was that of having Mayor O'Dwyer "direct" the film's first sequence in Carnegie Hall, thus bringing to reality a dream of former Mayor LaGuardia to make New York a motion picture production center. With wire services carrying news of the film's production activities to newspapers all over the nation; with music publications stressing the musical angle, "Carnegie Hall" may well be one of the most pre-sold pictures to come out of Hollywood, punden us, New York.

Levy's 'Freckle' Contest Makes Reading News

A one-shot idea that snowballed into city-wide proportions was the brain child of Manager Larry Levy, Loew's Colonial, Reading, when his Butch Jenkins-Freckle Face contest was co-sponsored by the Recreation Department of the Department of Education and the Kaufman Furniture Store, on behalf of MON's "Boy's Ranch."

The Recreation Department distributed 15,000 heralds with entry blanks attached, to children in 37 playgrounds operated by the department, and the Kaufman Store bought three large display ads in Reading's newspapers, one a four-column by 12-inch ad and the others three columns by 10 inches deep. The store also devoted a complete window to the contest and distributed heralds in the store.

The theatre ran a special trailer two weeks in advance of opening and set up a special lobby set-piece detailing information and rules about the contest. Reading newspapers, notoriously reticent about theatres and motion pictures in their news columns, let down the bars for the contest, giving generous space to the event.

Preliminary contests were held in each of the 37 playgrounds under the direction of the area supervisors, with the winners receiving guest tickets. These winners appeared in four district semi-finals, with four girls and four boys chosen for the finals which took place on the stage of the Colonial the Saturday night immediately following opening. Each of the finalists received a surprise gift from the Kaufman organization and the two eventual winners were presented with adult-size bicycles.

DOs, DON'Ts for Ushers Are Outlined by Loew's

(Continued from Page 16)

Always remember that grumpy people will not attract a smile. Once you have learned the power of a smile you will never forget it. Being cheerful will become your most valuable asset both in business and in private life.

DON'TS—
Don't chew gum, eat candy while on duty.
Don't slouch or lean against things.
Don't engage in an argument with patrons. If you can't handle a situation, call for one of the theatre executives.
Don't talk with fellow employees or ex-employees while on duty. You may carry on your friendships during the hours you are off duty.
Don't look at the picture while on duty.
Don't try to force people into seats they do not want unless no other seats are available.
Don't go about with a chip on your shoulder.
Never run. Through such actions you might start a panic.
Don't open exit doors unless instructed to do so by the manager.
Don't step backwards without first looking in that direction. You may step up against a patron's back.
Don't flirt. Such actions cheapen you and cheapen the theatre.
Don't litter up the locker room. You wouldn't toss your own clothes around at home. Remember your fellow workers must share this room and are entitled to a clean place.

We could go on and on and on listing Don'ts, but it really isn't necessary. If you use common horse sense and reason things out you'll get along.

Loew's wants to be proud of you and we want you to be proud of Loew's. That is the way to the company's further success and your own.
PHILADELPHIA

Friends will be glad to hear that Edward Emanuel, booking executive for the Jay Emanuel theatre, is recuperating after an attack of pneumonia.

The Philadelphia 20th Century-Fox film exchange has topped the entire country in sales. For that it receives the Tom Connors Trophy, which is why Sam Gross, local branch manager, is so-o-o chesty.

Theatre managers in Wilmington noticed a slight upshot in boxoffice receipts with the ending of the Delaware Park racing season and a brief cool spell.

Lew Black, Wilmington city manager and head of the Warner Theatre there, is on a vacation at Rehoboth Beach with his wife and two children.

Fred Faulkner, Edgemoor, continues to win golf victories. His latest is the Bon-Air Cup of the Hopalong Country Club, with a score of 69, which, with a handicap of 19, gave him 85 net.

Wedding bells will peal for Thelma Stein, of Warners' employment office just as soon as they can find a place to live. That may be a long time yet, Thelma.

William Golden is rushing completion of his new theatre for a world premiere of Paramount's "Monsieur Beaucaire," starring Bob Hope.

Rumor has it that Goldman is trying to swing a deal to bring Hope himself to the theatre. Jimmy Dormond, Warners' publicity department, is at last getting into his new home which he bought last April. His tenants finally found an apartment. He moves his family in the end of August.

Oscar Neufeld is busier than the proverbial bee working on his "Miss Philadelphia" contest, finals of which will be held at the Bellevue-Stratford ballroom on Aug. 14.

Colonel Jack Mulhall, former Warner out-of-town district manager, stopped in to say hello to his many friends while passing through town last week.

CHICAGO

Emil Stern, general manager of the Essanes Circuit, says the company has no plans for dropping stage shows at the loop Oriental Theatre, since bookings have already been made to October. It had been rumored along Film Row that Essanes was dropping vaudeville.

The expanding Ideal Pictures reports the opening of a new Minneapolis exchange with V. M. Price as manager. A Honolulu exchange will begin operation next month. A new Cambridge, Mass., exchange will be opened in September, with Jerry Wells as manager. This makes sixteen exchanges in all.

Roy Jenkinson has bought the Dale Theatre in Chicago from J. Rubens, who in turn has purchased the New Era Theatre in Harvard, Ill. through the Anthony Serritella Theatre Agency.

The Columbia exchange explains that "The Song to Remember" has been withdrawn from the Chicago territory only after having completed full coverage. It made the best record of any film ever handled by the exchange.

Four gunmen placed a bag over the head of the watchman at the Drive-In theatre at Morton Grove last week and got away with a safe containing $1,500, police say.

The Balaban Circuit has sold the Joy Theatre on Commercial Avenue to Harry Solomon, who will turn it into a business establishment.

Richard G. Karg of Berne, Switzerland was a recent visitor to the Ampro plant. He will have exclusive Ampro distribution for that country.

Balaban & Katz will celebrate the silver anniversary of their ace Chicago Theatre next month with an elaborate program, now being prepared.

Fred Coogler of Dallas Tent 17 was a Chicago visitor. T. C. Wright of Indianapolis Tent 19 was another visitor, as was A. K. Eddleman of Minneapolis Tent 12.

F. J. Raoul of Atlanta, son of Secretary-Treasurer William P. Raoul of the IATSE, was a delegate from Atlanta 225. He was recently released from the Navy.

F. J. Murtough, business agent of IATSE Union 81, Tacoma, Wash., visited with Chicago friends after the convention.

E. R. Fensin of the Fensin Seating Company is spending his vacation in the north woods.

The Chicago Variety Club will hold its summer golf tournament at the Hickory Hills Golf Club on August 22.

Larry Stein, Variety Club publicity director, celebrated his birthday on August 2. Dave Bala-

ban was due August 10, Sam Garelick, RKO manager, on August 16; Ben Louie, Columbia exchange manager, on August 20; Will Hol-
lander on August 25; and Irving Mack on August 27.

Jerry Winsberg, Paradise Theatre manager, is confined by illness to his home. Edna Gray, Paradise cashier, is seriously ill at St. Bernard Hospital.

George Tornow, Park Theatre manager, is dead after a long illness.

ST. LOUIS

New amusement firms incorporated recently include Swank Motion Pictures, Inc., with a charter to deal in every form of television and also with still and motion picture businesses. Incorporators are F. Ray Swank, Lucille Parker Swank, and Clifford Greene. The Kaimann Amusement Company was chartered to conduct all phases of the theatre business. Incorporators were Marguerite A. Kaimann, William S. Kaim-

mann, Mildred H. Kaimann, Walter R. Kaim-

mann, and Arline J. Kaimann. (What else could they have named it?)

The current polo scare is mounting in intensity. Six cases were reported in Marion County, Ill., four in St. Louis county, and three in St. Charles county. Mo. Two children's summer camps were closed near Clayton, Mo. and children under 13 were prohibited from using swimming or wading pools at St. Charles.

William Corcoran, 19, chief usher at the St. Louis Theatre, was drowned last week in the Meramec River after falling over the grip of his brother, Jack, 16, who had tried to save him. Jack almost lost his own life in the rescue attempt, being hauled out of the water by other swimmers who responded to calls for help.

Tom Edwards, owner of the Ozark Theatre in Eldon, Mo., plans to reopen his old Electric Theatre late this month. He has changed the name of the theatre to "Tom's" and will run it as a companion house to the Ozark, but at a lower admission scale.

R. E. Mayfield, who this spring took over the Star Theatre in Miller, Mo., completely remodeling and redecorating the house, has recently sold it to Tommy Hutchens, who is employed at the nearby Carnation company and who will operate the theatre during evening hours.

OMAHA

Some 30 cases of polo now are reported at Omaha hospitals, but there has been no indication of planes to close theatres.

William Miskell, Tri-States Theatres district manager, is vacationing in Minnesota.

Barbara Gregg has succeeded Mary Ellen Honey as a general clerk at Warner Bros.

Joe Deitch, with New York Paramount Thea-

tre offices, spent several days here. He former-

ly was a Tri-States booker with headquarters at Des Moines.

Warner Brothers employes have scheduled their annual picnic for September 8.

John McQuillian, exhibitor at Bloomfield, Neb., is back on the job after a Black Hills vacation.

Clyde Cooley, secretary of the local IATSE, also was among the Omaha delegates to the national convention in Chicago.

Fred Fedjar, MGM booker, left for parts unknown, and a fishing vacation this week.

Robert Wolheim, salesman for Columbia here who became ill on the territory recently, now is convalescing in Hot Springs, Ark.

John Croson, Humpty-Dumpty exhibitor, is taking it easy at Estes Park, Colo.

J. C. Van House has purchased the Sun Thea-

tre at Kennesaw, Neb.

Hickey, RKO publicity man from Chi-

cago, was in the city for several days.

Betty Pantier, secretary to Branch Manager (Continued on Page 22)
(Continued from Page 21)

Jack Renfro at KKO, is spending her vacation in Chicago.

To make walking easier for MGM employs a new asphalt tile floor has been installed in the Omaha office.

Mons Thompson, St. Paul (Neb.) mayor and exhibitor, is vacationing along the West Coast.

Ralph Ayre, Cooper Theatres district manager from Lincoln, was in the city before moving on to Colorado for a conference.

"Voice of the Turtle" has been booked at the Omaha Theatre for November 12-13 and "The Glass Menagerie" for October 2, indicating Tri-States will again bring a series of road shows to town this fall and winter.

Pat Halloran, 20th-Fox booker, is vacationing.

Paramount has adopted a new rule here requiring all new employees to pass a physical examination.

Two exhibitors families, the Guy Grifffins of Plattsburgh and the Ray Browns of Harlan, spent the week at Lake Okoboji.

Merchandise patron Film Row employees contributed 20 merchandise prizes, all good ones, for the wide variety of games on tap at the Variety Club picnic.

NEW YORK

Ted Barker, Loew’s State and Orpheum publicist in St. Louis, is vacationing in New York with his wife, who is something to take a third look at.

MGM Studio Publicity Director Howard Strickling went back to Hollywood Friday.

They’re sporting fancy titles at the Warner Bros. exchange these days in connection with the wild west roundup. If it’s something of a shock to see mild, courteous speaking Office Manager Weinberger bearing the title: Brave Heart, while Booker Sargiebino is called Pinto Pete, and that stalwart Indian Blumberg gets the title of Geronimo, you can be sure it’s all in good fun. And of course the boys say there is no connection between this and scalping the exhibitor.

The Elmwood at Elmhurst, formerly the Queensboro, was to reopen Friday with "Drag- onwyck" as the feature. Air conditioned, renovated, with its seating capacity enlarged from 1200 to 2200 by changing the balcony, the house is one of the Interborough Circuit.

MGM vacationers this week were Howard Levy, salesman, going to Southampton and Field Explorateur Elliott Forman, returning from a rest at Montauk Pt.

Republic Office Manager Robert Fannon is home ill. Lillian Kaplan of the same outfit went on vacation last week; Malacky being another one of that outfit who is going to take it easy for two weeks. Edward Brindley steps into the organization in the accounting department.

Ed Stern’s Capitol has joined the Rugoff and Becker booking service.

The week was quiet along Film Row with few exhibitors turning up. C. E. Smith of the St. Cloud Circuit with headquarters at Wash- ington, N. J. being one of the few noted.

Republic’s backroom workers received their full two years retroactive pay this week and indications are that inflation is already here.

Ben Levine starts his 18th year with United Artists this week and strangely enough he’ll probably celebrate it by working harder than ever because of vacation schedules. Gertrude Benbow, New York booker, is back after illness.

Mark Silver, former Washington branch manager for United Artists, took over the New York branch management last week following promotion of former Branch Manager Jack Elits to the post of district manager. Jerry Prince, Baltimore salesman for UA, takes over for Silver in Washington, while New York Up-State Representative Ollie Wog is transferred to replace Price as Baltimore salesman. Ray Wykle, New Haven United Artists Branch Manager, will take over Wog’s former duties.

Leow’s Vice-President Marvin H. Schenck returned to New York after two weeks of studio conferences.

Stephen Brener, formerly a member of the Warner Bros. publicity and advertising department in New York, is now associated with the Walter Read organization.

Mrs. Jules Levey, wife of Warner Bros. home office real estate department executive, died Monday at home at the Park Vendome, West 57th Street. The body was taken to Rochester, N. Y. for burial on Thursday. Survivors are her husband, Jules, and daughter, Symone.

Harry H. Thomas, president of PRK, proceeded to the coast following the Missouri–Kansas premiere of “Down Missouri Way,” while Arnold Stolz, national director of advertising, publicity and exploitation, returned to the home office in New York.

Manuel Tarshish, formerly with Warners’ short subjects publicity department, has joined the PRC publicity staff.

Harry L. Gold, general manager world wide distribution for United Productions, is the proud grandfather of Melissa Seymour, 6½ pounds, born recently at Doctors Hospital.

NEW YORK

Music, Maestro, Puhleeze

Organist Quennin McLean of the Toronto Shea’s Theatre must be proof of that old saying about music having charms. Recently when he took a summer vacation, disappointed patrons flooded the box-office with so many queries as to why he was not there that Manager Fred Treblicock had to prepare a special trailer of explanation.

Camera Roll In N. Y.

In a blaze of publicity set off by Murphy McHenry, veteran press ace of Hollywood, the filming of "Carnegie Hall," being produced by Federal, started Monday in Manhattan Monday with Mayor O’Dwyer acting as honorary member of the Screen Directors Guild. In photo above with His Honor are Boris Morros (left) and William Le Baron (center). The event pictured above registered for standout newspaper breaks in New York newspapers Tuesday.

OKLAHOMA CITY

Tom Johnson, a Lieutenant Colonel in the Army Motion Picture Service at Washington during the war and former advertising manager of Standard Theatres Corp. here, has been named assistant was appointed manager of KFMJ, new station now being built at Tulsa by the Fred Jones Broadcasting Company.

Fifty Oklahoma newspaper editors were guests at the Grove, Okla., ranch of L. C. Griffith when filming of an educational film under supervision of his circuit started last week. The film, made in cooperation with the state, will be shown in all Griffith theatres and will highlight features of Oklahoma.

L. C. Griffith last week announced that the Griffith Amusement Company plans to withhold further construction pending a more plentiful supply of materials and labor. Ten houses were in planning stages; six are now under construction.

The Will Rogers, Griffith neighborhood here, has been set for Aug. 15 and the May about Oct. 1. A third Griffith local house, the Agnew, will open Nov. 15.

LOS ANGELES

Dave Way, former manager of the Dreamland Theatre, has been appointed manager of Jack Chazen’s Rosebud Theatre, replacing Jimmy Finkler, who resigned.

Charlie Bogoroff sold the Monica Theatre to Leo Hershen. Another house changed hands when John W. Hazeldine sold the 300-seat Brentwood to the Richmand Brothers.

Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Simmons, managers of the Congress Theatre, one of the Vinnicof circuit, went to Shattler, California, for a week’s vacation.

Sam Decken, Screen Guild franchise holder for L.A., is making sure he’ll have plenty of product to sell by turning producer. Sam’s Affiliated Productions have already turned out a film and are reading another, and he just formed Banner Productions, which is scheduled to shoot nine films in the next three years.

B. J. Leavitt, local exhibitor, is treasurer.

William A. Cohen, assistant manager of the Hollywood Music Hall, has been on vacation in Beaumont. Doug Sonny, HMM’s manager, vacationed at the Sonoma Mission Inn in the Redwood country. Cliff Gisseman is spending 10 days in Frisco.

Charles P. Skouras, Harry Cox, George Bowser, John Bertero, Dick Dickson and Thornton Sargent attended the American Thea- tres Association meeting in San Francisco, is.

Francis Bateman, Screen Guild’s western sales manager, has returned from a three-week inspection tour.

Attending the Warner Bros. convention in Atlantic City are Henry Herbel, district mar- gager, and Fred Greenberg, branch manager.

George A. Hickey, Pacific Coast sales manager for MGM, left for the East, Boss Booth, Metro booker, is on vacation, and Eleanor Ka- lusna, booker’s steno, has returned.

Rollie Gunderson, UA booker, was another.
vacationist. Margaret Slater, UA cashier, went to Vancouver to visit relatives. Visitors to the Row: J. Ward, Valley, Lancaster; Paul Glick, Canoga; Charles Moxey, Burbank; Burbank; Paul Mallon, Lake- wood, Lakewood; Dave Rector, Eblen, Long Beach; Leslie Harper, Corona, Corona. Charlene Dorf, contract clerk for United Artists, is a new addition to the office. Ben Calhoun, brother of Samuel Goldwyn, has opened an office on the Row.

William Calhoun, Sr., assistant branch manager of MGM, is mighty proud of William Calhoun, Jr., these days. Young Bill was recently appointed production manager of Monogram Studios.

The Crosby brothers have gone into partnership with Uncle Sam and will operate one of the west’s biggest resorts, along with a new national park. This was announced in Hollywood last week when Everett N. Crosby, brother and manager of Bing and manager of the various Crosby enterprises, was named president of the Grand Canyon-Boulder Dam Tours, Inc., a new company approved by the Department of the Interior. Associated with the Crosby interests are those of Fred B. Patterson of Twentieth Century-Fox, Los Angeles.

The new all-year resort is to be located on Lake Mead at Boulder Dam.

CLEVELAND

Dorothy Brown, daughter of Ray Brown, Sr., of Springfield, southern district manager of Warner theatres, has signed up with the Women’s Army Corps for another hitch of active duty in Europe.

Earl MacBridge, manager of the Falls Theatre, Cuyahoga Falls, succumbed to local glamar last week when he was married to Katherine V. Lloyd.

Dorothy Sacheroff, assistant to Warner publicity director J. Knox Strachan, was tended a farewell dinner by the girls of the Warner theatre department, the occasion being in honor of her marriage on August 11.

At Sunshine, the Advanadas distributor, was traveling all last week following the arrival of his second son—weight 6 pounds, 12 ounces—name, David Michael.

John S. Allen, successor to J. P. Byrne as MGM district manager, was introduced to a group of leading exhibitors at a luncheon held Wednesday at the Statler Hotel. In addition to local branch manager Jack Sogg and the sales force, among those present were J. J. Maloney, central division sales manager, and William Zoeller of the home office.

Roy Gross of the Gross Theatre Circuit, this city, flew to California for a month’s vacation. Max Fedderan, Akron theatre owner and ex-president of the Akron Theatre Owners Assn., is back from a west coast trip.

The 20th-Fox annual picnic last Monday held at Turkeyfoot Lake and booker Joe Cosley’s wedding anniversary fell on the same day.

W. M. Carr of the Manley Popcorn Company is looking for space to open a Cleveland branch office.

George Wakely has sold his Fayette Theatre, Fayette, O., to Charles M. Loeye, Jr.

August Flg, veteran showman and manager of the Ohio Theatre, Lorain, was guest of honor at a luncheon sponsored by the Rotary Club, Kiwanis Club, Exchange Club, Lions Club and the Lorain Chamber of Commerce.

Lenore Fogelton, secretary to Warner Branch Manager Jerry Wechsler, is back from a Long Island and New York vacation. And Leah Gold- man, UA secretary, has returned from Cali- fornia where she saw everything but a picture in the making.

Frank V. King, assistant to Shea President E. C. Grainger, was a Film Row visitor.

George Stevens, ex-theatre manager and his son, Kenneth have formed the Genesee Com- pany, a flame proofing service for places of public gatherings which has been approved by the city fire department, city and state officials. Charles Raymond, absent from active duty the past year on account of his health, plans to take over again on September first as Loew theatre district manager.

Ted Morris, MGM goodwill ambassador, on tour to meet local newspaper representatives, was in town. Max Jacob of Dater Company is on a fishing trip in Canada.

PORTLAND

Although picketed by members of Local 199, Operators Union, the Televue Theatre at Glad- stone, Ore., opened last week with more than 500 persons passing the picket line, according to Norman Goodin, owner of the new house. Goodin advises that his operator, Leonard Back, had been in his employ before going into the Army, with which he served in the European theatre of operations, and that he had re-hired him when he resumed civilian status. R. C. Shelton, president of the local, advised the picket line was established when it became apparent that Back, who is not a union member, was to occupy the projection room of the theatre. Shelton said his union had ex-service men members who were out of work.

"Canyon Passage" at Parker’s Broadway Theatre was scheduled for a theatre switch, but a last minute change in plans, kept the scenic western on the screen for a fourth week.

Phil Carlin, 11-year-old organist, son of Phil Carlin, Sr., operating the Taylor Street Theatre, Portland, is putting on his own juve- nile show over the Mutual network.

Another suburban theatre, within easy reach of Seattle and leading Puget Sound areas, has been added to the growing list of Pacific North- west open-air movie houses, when the Aurora Motor-In Theatre opened the past week. Although the opening was unattended by any advance ballyhoo, it attracted a large crowd.

The temperature in Portland continues to soar to high degrees, Spokane residents find relief at the theatres, which are amply equipped with air-cooled atmosphere. Outstanding features bring in ample crowds to see "Night and Day" at the Fox; "Two Sisters From Boston"; the "Wife of Monte Cristo" at the Orpheum; and "Dixie" at the Granada.

Carl Porter, well known Warner theatre manager for a number of years past at Salem, Ore., has resigned to take over the operation of the Salem Hotel.

B. Loring Schmitt, former theatre owner and back from war service, is now making a joint application for a new theatre and radio station in the Willamette Valley, near Salem.

BOSTON

With the first run engagements in Boston, Providence, Worcester, Springfield, Pittsfield, and the summer situations all breaking on Aug. 15, the United Artists attraction of "Caesar and Cleopatra" will keep Phil Engel on the jump setting up campaigns.

Morris Aldort has succeeded Gertrude Jordon as cashier at United Artists.

Clayton Eastman, United Artists district manager, is in New Haven on business. Irving Mendelson of United Artists spends week ends with his family in Maine.

The Sound Engineering Service provided sound system equipment for the Telene Cinema recently.

Harry Brown has been named the Massa- chusets public relations director for the Ameri- can Theatre Association.

Ace Schimel of Universal has been transfered to the Cleveland office. Schimel has covered the New Hampshire and Vermont territory for a year.

John Scully, Universal district manager, and Melville Feltman, branch manager, took a trip through the territory last week with some of the salesmen.

Milton Epstein, booker with the Pouzzner Circuit, was in New Haven on business for the circuit recently.

Manager Harold Cummings of Warner Bros. and Manager Ben Gruber of the Waldorf in Lynn, attended a general meeting of Warner managers at the Racetrack Country Club in Orange, Conn.

At the annual election of officers of Local 232, IATSE in Northampton last week, Edward P. Daley was reelected president, Joseph A. Snape, vice-president; Daniel H. Schwartz, secre- tary-treasurer; and Talbot Peterson, business representative.

In Dover, N. H., the Strand Theatre staged a costume party for their Saturday morning Kiddle Show.

John Carroll is the new public relations direc- tor for the American Theatre Association in Rhode Island.

Closed for one week for renovation was the Magnet Theatre in Dorchester, which is oper- ated by Ken Forkey.

Spending their honeymoon at Lake Winnepe- suke, N. H., are Ray Carpenter, assistant man-ager of the Waldorf in Lynn, and Helen Collins, who were recently married.

Arnold Cummings, son of Harold Cummings, (Continued on Page 24)
WARNER BROS MANAGER, has joined the Marines. Arthur S. Allaire is now public relations di- rector for Vermont for the American Theatres Association.

Georgie Dolan, secretary to Bill Mascuso of Mascuso Service and Supply Company, is in St. Elizabeth’s Hospital recovering from a re- cent operation.

Charles Brooks, owner of the Opera House in Ashland, Me., was in town recently com- pleting his fall buying and booking. 

Harry Botwick, manager of the M & P Theatre in Portland, has been transferred to Phila- delphia to fill the position as city manager, effective in early October. Replacing Botwick is Ralph Tully, former manager of the Paramount Theatre in Lynn, Mass.

DALLAS

Don C. Clark, recently discharged from the Army, has been appointed sales representative in East Texas for Screen Guild Productions. He was formerly with the Paramount office in Cin- cinnati and in Cleveland, and is the son of Duke Clark, district manager in Dallas for Paramount.

During a haul in the Sunday night rush, Norma Moussy, the cashier at the State Theatre in Galveston was robbed of $715 in currency last July 28. The bandit approached her and said, "This is a stickup and don’t give me anything but paper money!"

W. J. "Dutch" Canner is recovering from a broken ankle he suffered while marching in the Shrine parade at San Francisco. The Film Classics branch manager came back to Dallas by airliner.

Arthur Lubin, film director, was here last week to consult with R. J. O’Donnell, general manager of Interstate, on the script of "New Orleans," a new film which Lubin will direct for Jules Levy. He went on to New Orleans to scout locations for the picture.

Edward C. Raftery, president of United Art- ists, flew in from New York via American Airlines with his wife last week; she is the former Mae Thedford of Fort Worth.

A bandit who coolly approaches his victims and whips a pistol from under the front of his shirt made the third call in a week at the Blue- bonnet Theatre in Houston and obtained $30 in cash last week after robbing two Houston liquor stores previously. Mrs. F. S. Ortega was the cashier who had the experience.

East Texas Theatres have purchased property in Marshall to build a new theatre there as soon as materials are available. They operate two theatres in Marshall at present.

E. E. Doughy and J. E. Poor have opened their new theatre in Natalia.

N. J. Colquhoun, Republican district manager, and C. D. Leon of the Leon circuit are back from a trip to Mexico City. Colquhoun has that territory in addition to his Texas spread.

J. W. Curley is ready to open his new National at Bridgport after many materials and equipment headaches.

S. G. Fry has purchased a half block of build- ings at Gladewater. Fry is a theatre owner and operator at Tyler.

W. A. Connor who has been operating the Ritz at Dawson for 30 years, has announced that he is retiring and has sold his theatre to his son, Harry, who formerly operated theatres in Kerens and Frankston.

It has been learned here that fire Aug. 3 destroyed the Joy Theatre, only house in Hayne, Louisiana, owned by L. C. Montgomery.

HARRISBURG

Martin C. Burnett, assistant to Carter Bar- ron, Louis C. Washington, D. C., was a visitor to the office of Sam Gilman, Loc’s Regent, Har- risburg, just before Sam took off for a week in Atlantic City. At the end of his holiday Gilman will go to Baltimore to relieve Billy Saxton, and Murray Drake, traveling relief manager, will fill in at the Harrisburg house for three weeks.

Bill McKay, maintenance man at Loc’s Regent, is back from a holiday deep-sea fishing off Cape May. He is sporting a lobster-red sunburn, but no fish.

Peggy Trout has returned from vacation and Eda Spangler left Loc’s for a week’s leave. Lilian, "Too’s" Perkins will go on leave next week.

The marquee at Loc’s Regent has been re- painted white and blue, and attracting consider- able attention are eight star heads, 3½ x ½ feet size, which were mounted above the foyer doors, four inside and four outside. Stars pictured are Margaret O’Brien, Lana Turner, Van Johnson, Robert Taylor, Judy Garland, Greer Garson, Spencer Tracy and John Gable.

On vacation from the Senate are Catherine Furjanic, Walter Wallis and Vincent Morgan, according to Manager Bob Sidman, who says it looks as if his vacation will be postponed this summer. In his spare time Bob has been antique hunting.

Jeanie Dell is new at the State.

Recent visitors were Abram F. Myers, Allied general counsel, and Sidney E. Samuelson, general manager of the Allied Theatres of Eastern Pennsylvania, Inc. They discussed independent theatre operation in the area.

The strike of the various trade unions of the A. F. of L. here last week against the Pennsyl- vania Supply Company, did not affect the build- ing of the two theatres, only ones under construc- tion were affected, it was said. Both the Camp Hill and Steelton houses, erected under the name of Harry Chertoff, Lancaster theatre man, are proceeding.

Gerry Wollaston, State, has set up a cooper- ative plan with a local florist in which the latter provides floral displays in the lobby in exchange for distribution of cards advertising his flowers.

Genevieve Funk, secretary at the Colonial, is vacationing with her sister, Mrs. Thomas Brennan, Wilkes-Barre. Mrs. Brennan, the former Midge Funk, is a former State cashier here.

WASHINGTON

I. William Stempel heads a new corporation formed to operate a chain of theatres to be built or acquired in and around Washington. The first operation will be the new Palm The- atre on Mt. Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, Va. The theatre, which is undergoing a complete renovation job at a cost of approximately $30,000, is nearing completion and its opening is ex- pected to take place this month. Officers of the corporation are: I. William Stempel, president and general manager; Alan B. Provis, Jr., vice-president and treasurer; H. Paul Mount, secretary.

The All-Star Amateur Boxing Carnival fea- turing Joe Louis, and sponsored by Variety Club, Tent No. 11 for the benefit of the Junior Police and Citizens Corp., at the Griffith Stadium on August 16, is shaping up well. Clark altura and Bill Hoyle are chairman for the affair.

Allen Dibble of the March of Time’s Wash- ington office is planning to spend a couple of weeks in Chicago on business.

Anna Ridgely, cashier at MGM, just returned from a two weeks’ vacation spent at Atlantic City and Glenbarne, Md.

N. D. Golden, chairman of the Membership Committee for Variety Club’s Tent No. 11, held a final induction for new members on August 5. Among those in the line-up were: John D. Miller, Brook Whittock, Edward D. Talbert, Louis Simonon, Robert K. Richards, Alfred H. O nth, Abram F. Myers, John Morrow, Herman Lowe, Douglas Stalker, Rick La Falce.

(Continued from Page 23)
INDIANAPOLIS

George Pappas, former manager of the Circle Theatre, Indianapolis, has been named new manager of Peru Theatres, Peru, Ind. Pappas replaces V. R. Bertram, who will take leave of absence to recuperate from illness.

Max Roth, central division manager of PRC Pictures, called at the local branch during the week, enroute to St. Louis to attend the world première of "Down Missouri Way." A. M. Van Dyke, sales manager at 20th-Fox Chicago exchange, called at the local exchange during the week on business.

Charles Acton, Republic Pictures accounting department, was promoted to student salesman.

William Conway, operator of the Irving Theatre, Cannelton, Ind., is back on the job after being confined to a hospital in St. Louis.

Max Paige, recently with Film Classics, has joined the PRC sales organization.

Sam Abrams, PRC branch manager, went to St. Louis to attend the première of "Down Missouri Way."


The Elhara Theatre here, 243-seat, will reopen Sept. 1, after several years. Pierce and Ricketts, have acquired the house.

J. E. E. McCallum, has installed new Mograph sound in the Anmus Theatre, Jasonville, Ind.

Don Hammer, Universal salesman, has acquired the Liberty Theatre, 450-seats, from A. E. Bennett. He will take possession Aug. 10. No successor to Hammer has been named by Universal authorities.

Children under eighteen years of age, are denied admittance to theaters in Columbus, Ind., due to three new cases of infantile paralysis.

VANCOUVER

Vancouver visitors here from Toronto are Charles Chaplin, manager of UA for Canada, and Joe Plottel, Dominion head for Monogram. Plottel announced the changes in Winnipeg personnel. Sam Pearlman, former Warner's manager at Toronto and Calgary, takes over as Monogram Winnipeg manager, succeeding Victor Raclow, resigned.

Connie Brown, Strand cashier, was rushed to General Hospital where at last reports she is coming along as well as can be expected.

The third booker to resign in the past two weeks from local film companies is Dave Soutar of Empire-Universal, succeeded by Larry Katze, from UA at Winnipeg. Eddie Weisberg, from Toronto, takes over as UA booker from Harry Page, resigned. Monogram is still without a booker since Don Wilson quit to go back as a projectionist at the York Theatre, Victoria. Page and Soutar were recently discharged from the navy after serving for four years.

Jay English, in charge of construction for Odeon Circuit, is in from Toronto and checking up on the reconstruction of the Beacon Theatre and will also visit Victoria where the circuit is erecting a new deluxer, he said, the Beacon will be one of the finest theatres in Canada when alterations are completed, and is expected to be ready for business the first part of September.

Warner's Manager Earl Dalgleish went to Atlantic City for the sales meeting. Paramount Manager Bob Murphy is back in town from the Winnipeg convention.

Leslie Allen, president of David Theatres, one of the main springs of the Diamond Jubilee show held at Stanley Park Bowl, has left for a combined vacation and business trip to Eastern Canada.

Some of the money made in British Columbia's Cariboo mining territory is now expected to find its way into studio and theatre investments, this province being a favorite location for Canadian and Hollywood productions.

The Canadian Legion in session here has requested the Attorney General of B.C. to waive the "blue" laws to permit Sunday sports where admission is charged and operation of theatres. (Continued on Page 26)
and other places of amusement on Sundays.

Leslie Pliottel, manager of Empire-Universal Films, has returned from the E-U convention at Quebec City. Pliottel recently passed his law examination and is now licensed to practice in Manitoba.

Wally Hamilton, cameraman for Shelly Films, is in Burma making a color short subject of the island which will be released by 20th-Fox.

Monogram has at last crushed the deluxe class with the booking of "Suspense" at the Vogue. Lou Spector, Monogram publicity man, was here from Toronto working with Mike Goldin, manager of the Vogue, and they did a tip-top job of publicity.

The Odeon Movie Club at the Circle had a very successful Sun Tan contest for the youngsters last Saturday. Prizes were donated by local merchants.

MONTREAL

Johnny Ganetals, general manager of Confederation Amusements Ltd., has taken on a new role. He blossomed out last week as the winner in a song writing contest held at Belmont Park, with his song, "I Whispered to You."

Laurence Olivier's "Henry V," is scheduled to move into the Kent for an extended run. The Kent has a two-month option and the right to option for a further two months if the picture stands up as expected. While the film is at the house with reserved seats an increase in price has been granted for the running by the Prices Board.

Neighborhood theatres are feeling the brunt of business loss due to one of the finest summers experienced here for some years. The downtown shows, however, are still sporting queues in the evening. This is due mainly to influx of tourists from the U. S. Bookers have not taken advantage of the usual summer drumming to bill in a lower class of product. "Gilda," "Saratoga Trunk," "One More Tomorrow," "Fanny by Gaslight," and "She Wrote the Book," are current first runs.

SAN FRANCISCO

An armed bandit held up Leola Huggins, Royal Theatre cashier, and escaped with $65.00. He overlooked $300 in receipts.

Western division managers for Producers Releasing Corporation, Paramount and Republic are in town. They are Harry Stern, Del Goodman and E. R. Collins.

Twelve local theatre and exchange executives were elected to the board of directors of the California Theatres Association. They are Joseph Blumenfeld, Harry P. Franklin, L. S. Hamn, Rota Harvey, Ben Levin, Robert L. Lippert, George M. Mann, Robert McNeil, M. Naify, George Nassar, Richard Siper and Herman Wobber.

Recently named sales manager for Paramount, Tom Bridge is currently on a tour of the valley theatres.

Hospitalized with yellow jaundice at Stanford Hospital are Howard Creighton, assistant manager at the Golden Gate, and his wife Helen. Jerry Mayer, Metro studio manager in Culver City, is also at the same institution. All are reported doing well.

Charles Rose, of the Four Roses Film Exchange, has returned from a business trip to Santa Rosa.

Visiting on the row were Guy Meeks, of the San Jose Drive-In Theatre; Bill Peters, owner of the El Rey, Manteca; William Nabham of Rio Vista; Peter Garrett, Yolo Theatre in Woodland; M. Naify of the Naify Circuit in Chico; and John Hillman, owner of the Grand in Morgan Hill.

Frank Jenkins has been transferred from exhibition work with Twentieth Century-Fox in Seattle to San Francisco. Murray LaFayette goes to Seattle from San Francisco. Edward Yarbrough, head of coast operation, announced the appointments.

New projection equipment, furnished by Walter G. Prodkle Company, has been installed in the Arena Theatre, Point Arena, the President Theatre in San Francisco, Sonora Theatre in Sonora; Rex Theatre in Fresno and the Sacramento Oak Park Theatre.

New openings are the Taolonne Theatre in Taolonne on August 15, the Center Theatre in Centerville on August 20 and the Plymouth Theatre in Plymouth in the latter part of August. The Taolonne Theatre was built by the local fire department during their spare time.

KANSAS CITY

W. Zollee Lerner, who directed the Resident Theatre here before he went to Hollywood in 1940 to become a 20th-Fox director under the name of Thomas Z. Loring, was a visitor in Kansas City last week. He had just been discharged from the Army after 38 months service in the photo department of the Signal Corps.

National Screen Service has purchased a building here to serve as a branch headquarters for the company. It is understood the office will have charge of all national advertising services in older films.

Lee Henry, Iowa exhibitor, has purchased the Lyric at Plattsburg, Mo., from Jim Presley. Polo is still hurting business here, chiefly at the subsequent run houses. First-runs are noticing drop-offs in attendance of family groups. As yet it isn't over serious and no theatre closing has been talked seriously.

Charles Crawford has been elected president of the 20th-Fox Family Club here.

COLUMBUS

Ohio's rocks and rills are going into the movies. Arrangements are being worked out for the production of a 40-minute film, designed for non-commercial showing, picturing the mineral resources of the Buckeye state and its scenic beauties. The U. S. Bureau of Mines, with the cooperation of various state agencies, will produce the film.

Sonny Van Dyke is the new assistant manager of the Southern, Manager Bernard Gantley reports.

John Murphy of the Uptown and Walter Miles, state censor board projectionist, are back in town after attending the Shrine convention in San Francisco.

Carl Rogers, manager of the Broad, is a happy man these days. His engagement to Frances Wallington, Chillicothe, has been announced and he was notified that his recent cartoon show won for him the coveted Loew Dollar Club award.

Joe Holleran was relief manager at the Boulevard while Manager L. M. Matthews spent a vacation. . . . Walter F. Forster acted as relief manager of the Arlington, another Academy neighborhood theatre, while Manager

FRENCH INTEREST IN 'ARCH OF TRIUMPH.' Reflecting the interest of the French government in the screen version of Erich Maria Remarque's "Arch of Triumph," which deals with France in 1938-39, Michel Dumont, director of the French Information Service in the United States, and Sacha de Manziari, French consul in Los Angeles, visit the set at Enterprise Studios. From left to right: Dumont, Charles Boyer and Ingrid Bergman, the film's co-stars, and de Manziari.

DISCUSS GOLDWYN. Above. Jock MacGregor, STR's London representative (left), and Cecil Wilson, film writer for The Daily Mail, discuss forthcoming Samuel Goldwyn productions with James Muiray at a party at Claridge's in honor of Muiray and Roy Disney during their recent visit in London.

"Voice of Theatre Speakers" JOE HORNSTEIN has it!
Affaire of Honor

It's not only a matter of clearance but a matter of honor with Mayor Phil Minner of Council Bluffs, Iowa.

His Honor doesn't like waiting 30 days to see his pictures. But he likes even less the idea that Council Bluffs has to wait on Omaha for pictures, so he sat down and wrote a letter to nine of the majors demanding first run pictures for his city.

"We've been discriminated against, unjustly," declared his honor pointing out that Council Bluffs is a city on its own and not a suburb of Omaha.

Regional Newsreel

TORONTO

"Henry V" has been booked into the International Cinema, 600-seat art theatre of Toronto, for Canadian first-run to start Sept. 4 on an unlimited basis. The British feature has also been sold to Odeon Kings Theatre in Montreal for the first-run in that city starting Sept. 5.

The license of the Capitol Theatre, Tillsonburg, Ont., was suspended by the Ontario Theatres Inspection Branch and Robert Hambleton, owner, was fined $25.00 and $17.75 for infractions of Provincial Government regulations. It was brought out in evidence that the theatre had been operated without a manager in personal charge, several exits were blocked and the wash room and elevator were "in a most unhealthy condition."

Open a month ago, the Skyway Drive-In Theatre at Stoney Creek, Ont., Canada's first automobile film arena, has changed its policy from program changes twice weekly to three times each week, the features continuing to be subsequent-run films.

Distinction has been accorded Mrs. James R. Nairn of Toronto in her appointment as national secretary-treasurer of the Canadian Wonder Press Clubs. Mrs. Nairn is the wife of the director of advertising for Famous Players Canadian Corp.

Arch H. Jolley, executive secretary of the Motion Picture Theatre Association of Ontario, Toronto, is resuming his speaking tour Aug. 22, in behalf of the Canadian film industry, with an address before a community organization at St. Catharines, Ont., after which he will speak at Renfrew and Pembroke. Since last October Jolley has appeared before 51 audiences in Ontario.

The third annual Canadian Motion Picture Golf Tournament, sponsored by the Canadian Film Weekly, has been fixed for Aug. 23, it has been announced by H. C. D. Main, committee chairman. The trophy competitions will be played on the Cedarbrae course near Toronto.

Recently retired from an executive capacity with Eagle-Lion Films of Canada, Toronto, L. H. Allen has announced early details for the establishment of his own company, Astral Films. A head office has been opened in Toronto and work is proceeding on the creation of branch offices to provide complete sales coverage across the Dominion. He has announced that product already committed includes both new and re-released British and Hollywood features.

General Manager H. M. Masters and the six branch managers in Canada of Warner Bros. traveled to Atlantic City for the company's annual convention. President J. J. Figgis and a number of Famous Players Canadian Corp., Toronto, has been vacationing in the United States, his vanishing point being New York City, with ultimate destination unstated. General Manager N. A. Taylor of 20th Century Theatres has gone to Bandi Park in the Canadian Rockies for a rest. Harry B. E. Allen, head of Producers Releasing Corp., went to New York on important business, while Sales Manager Dave Greisendorf of that company has been on a business trip through the Eastern Canadian Prov-inces. The Dough Bag Theatre at the Variety Tent, President B. S. Okun of Biltmore Theatres Limited, has returned to his Toronto office from a Northern Ontario holiday.

Following a vacation in Northern Ontario, Lloyd M. Mills is resuming management of the Belsize Theatre, Toronto, and Robert Case, at present in charge, is to be transferred to the 20th Century Royal Theatre, North Bay. W. J. McMillan has been appointed manager of the Avalon, Toronto, after being assistant manager at the International Cinema.

MEMPHIS

Dave Flexer of the Flexer-Habersfield Circuit has been confined to his home for the last few days by illness.

M. A. Lightman, ordered to remain home for a two-week rest, is reported feeling fit as a fiddle.

Ed Sapinles, city manager of Malco, is on vacation.

The Memphis Variety Club in the Gayoso Hotel Building is undergoing a face lifting. The entire club is being repainted and reupholstered and partitions dividing the bar from the lounge room and dance floor are being removed.

Herb Kohn, general manager of the Malco Circuit, has been taking a few days off out of town.

J. Allen West of the Hollywood has returned from a vacation spent in Colorado and Indians. While away his interests were handled by his son, J. Allen, Jr.

Bob Williams, Oxford, Miss., exhibitor, was a Memphis visitor last week.

Norman Colquhoun, district manager of Republic at Dallas, is circulating his territory again after a flying trip to Mexico City.

Tommy Baldrige has started a swing through Nashville and Louisville in the interest of United Artists' "Caesar and Cleopatra."

DENVER

William T. Hastings, recently manager of the Grand, Cincinnati, has been moved to Denver by RKO and will manage the Orpheum. He succeeds Mickey Gross, who resigned. Hastings has managed theatres in New York, Washington, Philadelphia and Dallas. Clarence McFarli- ing will continue as assistant manager.

Rick Rickerson, Robert Selig, Harry Huffman, Harold Rice, Ray Davis and Milt Hossfeld, all of Fox Intermountain Theatres, are attending the convention of National Theatres at the division office here. A film fire in the Isla, Lamar, Colo., booth, damaged some film.

The Griffith Circuit is now operating the Cortez, Belin, N. M., and the Pinto, Mountain Air, N. M.

Pete Gallegos has reopened the Kiva, Denver, and will run Japanese films two days a month and American films the balance of the time.

Earl Bell, Warner Bros. exchange manager, is attending the managers' meeting at Atlantic City.

Claude Graves, Albuquerque, N. M., theatre owner, underwent a second ear operation.

J. J. Morgan, National Theatre Supply company, is spending his vacation on the Ponde- fishing.

Devon Gates has taken over the Pix, Johnstown, Colo. The former owners, Anderson & Harrison, are devoting all their time to the Eaton, Eaton, Colo.

More than 300 are expected at the picnic and golf tournament of the Rocky Mountain Screen Club Aug. 14 at the Park Hill Country Club.

George Simms is reopening the Prince at Ault, Colo. He will do some remodeling and redecorating.

Barbara Roberts of the picture reports department, Paramount exchange, is engaged to Warren Parker. No dates set for wedding.

Going to the PRC convention in Atlantic City Sept. 4-6 from Denver are Eddie Ashkins, man-ager; Frank Sheffield, office manager and book-er; M. R. (Bud) Austin, Carroll Robinson and A. G. Edwards, salesmen.

John Daymeyer, former office manager at the Paramount exchange, is now the same job at Dallas, visited Denver on his way to Estes Park, Colo., to spend his vacation.

Earl Kerr, former manager of the Santa Fe, now operating in Iowa, in Denver on his usual summer jaunt in an attempt to shake hay fever, was taken to a local hospital for a short stay due to gastritis.

Mrs. O. S. (Shorty) Cleveland, Newcastle, Wyo., injured a finger painfully when she closed a car door on it.

Milwaukee

The state of Wisconsin is to make a movie, and a preliminary sum of $5000 has been ap- propriated by the state legislature for this purpose. The film is to be made of political and legislative activities to show how democratic processes work in the state. This was ex-

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REGIONAL NEWSREEL

(Continued from Page 27)

plained by F. N. McMillin, executive secretary of the League of Wisconsin Municipalities.

The Soldiers' Home at Wood, Wis. (a suburb of Milwaukee) was presented with two portable projection units, costing about $1500, for use of ex-soldiers at Veterans' Administration. The units were made by Mills Products Co.

The Davidson Theatre, Milwaukee, one of the city's oldest legit houses, which, rumor states, may be turned into a film house, has been ordered to make a number of changes to avoid fire hazards. Notice has been served on Floyd B. Scott, manager. The theatre will not be permitted to open for the 1946-47 season unless changes are made, including replacement of the fire curtain, better exits and several other items.

The Adler Theatre Co., Inc., has been formed at Marshallfield, Wis. by J. P., Ann V., and Elizabeth Adler to operate theatres and places of amusement. 2500 shares of capital stock at $100 per share have been authorized.

ATLANTA

E. D. Martin, Jr., of Martin Theatres, was host to all Atlanta and Columbus employees of the circuit at a party at his home in Columbus, Ga.

George Hyde, manager of the Decatur Theatre, Decatur, Ga., for the past nine months, has resigned and joined the "Amie Get Your Gun" company on Broadway.

E. R. Dixon sold his theatre at Screven, Ga., the Screven, to C. Tye.

Spence Pierce, 20th Century publicist, returned after visiting his mother in Philadelphia, his home town.

Karl Hart, former office manager of Columbia Pictures here, has been appointed branch manager of the Kay Film Exchanges, Washington, D. C.

E. P. Davis, former special sales representative for United Artists at Dallas, has transferred to the Atlanta branch, swapping posts with Phil Morand, who goes to Dallas.

Ace Carley, with the Paramount exchange at San Francisco, stopped off to visit the local gang.

Jack Goldsmith, former Atlanta, now with the MGM studio publicity department, visited the local press.

Babe Cohen, Monogram's local branch manager, critically ill for several weeks, has improved enough to be removed to his old home in New Orleans.

Louis Weinberg, office representative of Columbia, was in town.

Jack Kirby, former Paramount district manager, was in New York.

C. E. Poggioli, former UA manager here, now 20th Century-Fox branch manager at Philadelphia, visited here.

Frances Tibbitts and Hattie Miles have joined the staff at Film Classics of the Southeast.

J. V. Scully, home office representative, visited St. Louis and Chicago.

Charlie Durneyer, president of the Southern Automatic Candy Company, returned from a business trip to New York. While there he visited Bill Zoeller, former MGM branch head here.

Ralph McCoy, Warner division chief, and Ollie Williamson, branch manager, left for the sales meeting in Atlantic City.

The former Lois Cagle of Columbia and Harold Johnson announced their marriage, keeping secret several weeks.

Hugh Brady, Paramount's Philadelphia district manager and co-captain of the 34th Greater Year drive, was on the local branch.


ALABANY

Joe Miller, FRC division manager, was injured in an automobile accident Monday. In a collision with a truck near Hudson, N. Y. Miller ran into a barn and his car was completely demolished. Miller suffered a fractured nose and bruises and is now confined to his home.

MGM booker's secretary, Vennera Germano, surprised her fellow workers when she returned from her vacation wearing a shining sparkler.

Arthur Sklar, MGM an associate, is spending several weeks at the Albany office on routine check-up.

Jack Byrne, MGM's new sales manager, visited the Albany office on a get-acquainted tour.

Columbia—Dorothy Crandell, assistant cashier is vacationing in Cambridge while Mary McGuire, second booker, is spending some time at Cape Cod and Lake George. Margaret Williams, inspectoress, has been granted a leave of absence due to illness.

Paramount—Margaret Doran, cashier, is vacationing in New Jersey. John Moore, branch manager, weekended in Boston.

RKO—Max Westebe, recently was injured in an automobile accident, has left the hospital and is recuperating at home.

Fox—Fox executives A. W. Smith, Jr., C. A. Hill and E. X. Callahan in town for a meeting with the Albany sales force. Visiting Albany also are Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Hill. Winnie Allen, cashier, is enjoying her vacation at Atlantic City. Earl Kasten, assistant shipper, vacations at home.

About 75 are expected to attend the Film Row Union outing at Hoyt's on Saturday.

Dick Stephens, WB field man, stopped off in Albany to say hello.

George Goldberg, Warner salesman, and Mrs. Goldberg have announced the forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Arlene, to Elliot Horn of Rochester. The wedding will take place on September 2.

Visitors along Film Row included George Thornton of Saugerties; Vivien Sweet of Salem; Alex Mallory of Corinth, Frank Weinberg of Chestertown; Harold Strassman of Glens Falls; John Rossi of Schroon Lake; Clarence Dopp of Johnstown; Grover Woodward of Luzerne.

DES MOINES

G. Ralph Brantton and Myron Blank of Tri-States Theatres attended the annual Quad-City Theatre Managers Association outing at Short Hill, Moline, Ill., which included golfing and a banquet.

A number of promotions among Tri-States managers have been announced, including Jerry Greenbaum, manager of the Capitol Theatre at Davenport, named district manager for Central States. Theatre Plugs has been named manager of Capitol, Borge Iverson manager of Fort at Rock Island, Francis Gillon manager of State at Cedar Rapids, Richard Stoddard manager Esquire at Davenport, Rod McCallicough manager of Rocket at Rock Island, Horace Spencer manager of Garden at Davenport, Tony Abramovitch manager of Strand at Des Moines and William Smith manager of Hiland, also at Des Moines.

Paul Scholer has been named manager of the Gem Theatre at Charles City, replacing L. J. Posten, who resigned.

Charles Tintey of Clinton has been named manager of the Monte Theatre at Monticello, succeeding Fred Shaddy, who recently resigned.

The Burt Theatre at Alboga which was recently purchased by Frank A. Perry of Waterloo has been reopened with a new sound system.

Mrs. B. Caldwell has sold the Lyric Theatre at Seymour to James D. Miller.

The Levy, manager of the Universal exchange, is recovering from a throat operation.

Michael C. Leo is the new booker for Republic exchange. He formerly was with Tri-States.

James Clements, manager of the Spencer Theatre at Rock Island, was married to Miss Kathleen Hultgren in a ceremony performed at St. Paul's Catholic Church at Davenport.

CHARLOTTE

Visitors at the local Columbia office this week were Louis Weinberg of the home office and Robert Ingram, southern district manager for the company. The two were in town conferring with local branch manager, George Roscoe.


The West End Theatre at High Point, N. C., has been purchased from S. W. Saunders by Earlis Gillespie and the Marcella Theatre at East Rockingham, N. C. has been purchased from

New Ideal Theatre Chairs

JOE HORNSTEIN HAS IT!
REGIONAL NEWSREEL

CINCINNATI

With the announcement, pending for some time, that Cincinnati Playhouses, Inc. had assumed control of Keith's Theatre came further word that the theatre will undergo complete redecoration and refurbishing. Cincinnati Playhouses Inc. is an affiliate of the City Investing Co. Inc., New York, operators of the Astor in New York and of other major theatrical properties throughout the United States. Presumably the theatre will be opened when a new management is found, under the supervision of Maurice Maurer, supervising director of Cincinnati Playhouses, announced.

Jack Needham, Columbus, Ohio, will be honored for his 25 years of service with 20th Century-Fox's Family Club outing planned for the near future.

Visitors on Film Row during the past week were Joseph Scanlon, Marletta; O; Forney Bowres, Cambridge, O; and John Woodward, Zanesville, all of the Sheu Theatres Circuit; Paul Holler, Anderson; W. F. crane, Charleston, W. Va.; Harry Wheeler, Galipolis, O; James Weddle, Walnut Theatre, Lawrenceburg, Ind.; H. L. Pierce, Opera House, Granville, O; "Ducky" and Richard Myers, Majestic Theatre, Chillicothe, O; Kenny Hill, Twins Theatre, Waynesville, O; Frank Mandros, Alpine Theatre, Kanawaha City, W. Va.; Jerry Jackson, Happy Hour Theatre, Williamsburg, O; Ray Prisz and Bill Laible, Chacker Circuit, Springfield, O; Fred Helwig, Nitro, W. Va.; Martin and Howard Junk, Frankfort, O; Dr. J. C. Newbold, Bramwell, W. Va.; Bud Moular, Town Park Theatre, Batavia, O; Lucille Finke, telephone operator at Columbus, is engaged to be married.

Neva Gronotte, Columbus cashier, has left for a Minnesota vacation.

Ed Sall, manager of the RKO Palace, is vacationing in Northern Michigan.

Mrs. Margery Hines, secretary to the RKO office manager, is leaving her position to concentrate on a housewife's career.

RKO welcomes two new employees: Jean Tharp, assistant biller, and Mrs. Louis Smith, typist.

Vacationists from Paramount include Ruth Huebsman, booking department stenographer, in Michigan; Betty Copeland, assistant cashier, at Peckles, O; and Joseph Juegling, assistant usher, with his family in Florida. Among MGM vacationists were Dorothy Lang, from Los Angeles; Ben Helburn, in Washington and New York, and Edna Hahn, inspection, enjoying the home town, and Mrs. Mary K. Wolf, who has taken herself to Michigan.

Col. Arthur Freudenberg, RKO division manager, at the last count was "doing nicely" after undergoing a serious operation August 2 at Christ Hospital.

Irving Sochin, buyer for the new Theatre Owners' Corp. combine, returned last week from a tour of similar cooperative movements in the East.

Ben Cohen, manager of the Strand, leaves this week for a two-week visit in New York.

William A. Clark, assistant RKO division manager, was in New York for a division manager's meeting.

A. J. Holt, owner of the Idle Hour Theatre and former owner of the Emery Theatre, Reading, and the old Pendrola Theatre, Lockland, died August 2 at his home in Wyoming. Mr. Holt was 75 years old.

NEW THEATRES

Columbus, O.—Construction of the $400,000 Colonial to seat 2000 and to be the first neighborhood house with a balcony will start as soon as materials are available. J. Real Neth announced this week. Neff also plans two more—COL.

Columbus, O.—A combined theatre and shopping center will be under construction this week for the Livingston Enterprise, Inc., which operates a chain of neighborhood houses here including the Main, Columbus, Parsons and Hollywood. The structure will be of terra cotta, brick and stone.—COL.

Armour, S. D.—B. Schmidt has opened the new Lorraine which replaces the old house destroyed by fire.—OMA.

Akron, Neb.—A. G. Miller has opened the new Miller Theatre here.—OMA.

Chicago.—What will probably be the largest post war expansion plans in the midwest will get under way shortly when Manta and Rose start a building and renovation program which will cost four million dollars, a budget said to run over the million dollar mark. The new project, which will raise the Manta and Rose theatre holdings in Chicago and northern Indiana to 30, breaks down as follows: The Maple at LaPorte, Ind., to seat from 1300 to 1500; the 1200-seat Harbert at Indiana Harbor; the Capitol at Whiting to be remodeled and its seating capacity enlarged from 700 to 1200; the Uptown at Michigan City, to be constructed by the Manta-Rose partnership with Maurice Rubin, to seat 1400. Lawrence Monroe of Chicago is the architect.

Springfield, Mo.—Mo-kan Theatres, a division of the Griffia Theatres, has taken the lease on a $90,000 house to seat 1000 at Glenstone, which is now under construction.

Salt Lake City.—The Country Club Heights subdivision inclusion plans include for a theatre.

Ferriday, La.—The Ace, a 300-seat theatre for colored patrons, is soon to be opened here by J. T. White of New Orleans and R. A. Holloway and William G. Aertker of Baton Rouge. Equipment is being furnished by Delta Theatre Supply Company.—NOR.

St. George, Staten Island, N. Y.—A site for the new Fabian Drive-In Theatre has been selected and plans are being made to start work on actual construction as soon as possible; it has been announced by the Fabian Theatres office here.

Camas, Wash.—A. Combs, Sr. and Avery Combs will start construction this summer on a second theatre on NE Fourth Avenue, which is budgeted at $60,000. The Combs formerly operated the Liberty Theatre in Camas and the Roxy in the adjoining town of Washougal.—PRT.

Blue Mound, Ill.—Elmer W. Cline has announced the opening of his new 300-seat theatre about the middle or latter part of August. Mr. Cline started building the new house last March. It will be equipped with Simplex machines. It is estimated the total cost will go to $10,000.

Moore, Okla.—Work on the Moore Theatre building was resumed again last week after the arrival of steel, the delay having stopped construction several weeks. The building will now be completed within a short time. No date has as yet been set for the formal opening, according to Harold A. Kord, manager, ORL.

Montgomery, Ala.—Harp Barnes, long-time Atlanta exhibitor, reports that his huge new drive-in theatre recently completed here, will open on August 14. ATL.

Crivitz, Wis.—Contracts have been let by Edward Kradetski for a new theatre here. It will be one story, 34 x 115, with concrete walls and foundation. The architects are Karlin & Levine, Chicago. Steel beams will support a built-up roof. MIL.

Wenonoc, Wis.—Wenonoc Theatres has taken out a building permit for the construction here of a one-story theatre, 40 x 120, to be made of concrete blocks and brick. Plans are now being drawn by the architects, Weller & Strang of Madison, MIL.

Suring, Wis.—G. E. Berch of Carson, N. D. has taken out a permit to build a new theatre here. The architects are the Mc徨on Engineering Co. of Green Bay and Menasha, Wis. MIL.

Mill City, Ore.—Albert Taddon announces plans for the construction of a new theatre here in the near future to be budgeted at $42,500. PRT.
SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, August 10, 1946

CHECK-UP ON PRODUCT IN WORK

Hollywood Production Schedules Reach an All-Time Peak With More Than 60 Films Before the Cameras; RKO, Columbia, MGM, 20th-Fox Among the Busy Lots

With only one jarring note upsetting the scene, Hollywood is at top production speed. The sole exception is the Disney Studio, where talent trouble has been in evidence, forcing a slow down of output. Otherwise, the lots are jammed to capacity, and where producers can’t find studio space, they are turning to the great outdoors and their films on location. An all-time peak is current, with over 60 pictures before the cameras. Similar to other industries in this post-war period, Hollywood experienced intense strike (the recent strike resulting from months of agitation), but bounced back like a rubber ball off a wall to new production heights.

UA Starts One in N.Y.


Hedy LaMar’s “Dishonored Lady” and William “Hopalong Cassidy” Boyd’s “Dangerous Venture” were completed. Andrew Stone’s “Strange Bedfellows” got going again, following a relapse because of Priscilla Lane’s illness. Incidentally, Stone finally capitulated to the censorship authorities, and agreed to give his film a new title—yet unannounced.

Preston Sturges will start “Vendetta” on August 12, shooting at the Goldwyn lot. Three starring roles so far revealed go to deGeorge (that’s right, that’s his name), a newcomer; Hilary Brooke and Faith Domergue, Howard Hughes discovery. Gregory Marshall, child actor, will also handle an important assignment.

The film is taken from Prosper Merimee’s “Colomba,” a short story satirizing feudal of long standing. It is laid in Corsica following the Napoleonic Wars. Max Ophuls, French importation, is directing. Sturges produces.

Buddy Rogers and Ralph Cohn signed a deal with Belmont Studios for interior sets needed for Comet’s “Adventures of Don Coyote.” Most of the film is being shot on location, but the producers want to protect themselves on cover shots in case of bad weather.

Chaplin’s “Monsieur Verdoux” and Charles R. Rogers’ “The Fabulous Dorseys” brings UA’s current total to six pictures.

‘Katie’ Resumes et RKO

“Katie for Congress” resumed at RKO, after a halt caused by Loretta Young’s illness. With several films starting, this makes RKO as busy as any lot in town. Besides “Katie” there are more than a half-dozen pictures going. Samuel Goldwyn has another month to go on “The Best Years of Our Lives” and already has enough footage to make his opus run two hours and 47 minutes! When the film is completed, it is estimated that cutters will have to work on footage extending beyond the four-hour mark. Goldwyn is also rolling Danny Kaye’s “Secret Life of Walter Mitty.”

Irving Pichel directs “They Won’t Believe Me,” which started Aug. 5. Martin Mooney began his “Prison Story” the same day at RKO Pathe studio in Culver City, with Gordon Douglas directing a cast headed by Lawrence Tierney and Marian Carr.

Frank Capra moved his Liberty Films’ “It’s a Wonderful Life” troupe back to Encino for exterior sequences involving star James Stewart plunging into a torrential river.

“The Bachelor and The Bobby-Soxer,” “Trail Street” and Disney’s “How Dear to My Heart” shoot RKO’s production figures well over the half-dozen figure.

Paramount Active Again

Paramount, dormant for such a long time, is picking up steam. Cecil B. DeMille started “Unconquered” on July 29. Director Mitchell Leisen brought his troupe back from location work on “Golden Earrings,” to start at the studio Aug. 5.

The company had been at Bend, Ore.

A second unit of “My Favorite Brunette,” Bob Hope-Dorothy Lamour co-starring, returned from two weeks of filming in San Francisco and the Monterey Peninsula. The main troupe is scheduled to go to Carmel on location this month. Direction is under Elliott Nugent, with Mel Epstein assisting. Jack Rose and Ed Beloin penned the original script.

While DeMille is shooting “Unconquered” at the studio, a second unit is finishing action scenes in Idaho.

“Dear Ruth” was set to roll Aug. 5, also, with William Holden co-starring with Joan Caulfield, Sidney Luftfield directing, and Paul Jones produces. If production schedules are maintained, this will mean five films before the lenses.

Columbia Still in High Gear

Columbia continues to set a terrific production pace, with nine pictures going, a record for the studio. Clauda Drake was added to “ Lone Star Moonlight,” action musical starring Ken Curtis with Joan Barton, Hooster Hot Shots and Guy Kibbee. “Boston Blackie and The Law,” starring Chester Morris, with George E. Stone and Richard Lane, began Aug. 8. This is the latest tag for the picture, which previously had two other titles. "Ghost Town," Judy Canova starrer, has been completed.

Sam Katzman goes from serial to features (Continued on Page 32)

Gregory Peck Gets Lead in ‘Earth, High Heaven’

Gregory Peck has been signed by Samuel Goldwyn to play the lead in “Earth and High Heaven,” a novel by Gwethalyn Graham which the producer bought in 1944. A screenplay of the novel, which deals with the problem of religious intolerance, has been prepared by Ring Lardner, Jr. Peck’s role will be that of a Jewish lawyer who marries the daughter of a wealthy Canadian family. Goldwyn plans to photograph much of the picture on location near Montreal.

The Goldwyn one-picture deal is to be fitted in early next year among Peck’s commitments with David O. Selznick, 20th Century-Fox and MGM. Peck will go into “Earth and High Heaven” upon completion of his role in Alfred Hitchcock’s “The Paradine Case.”

Pressburger Buys Latest Novel by Maugham

Purchase of screen rights to Somerset Maugham’s most recent novel, “Then and Now,” for “a sum in excess of $200,000,” was announced this week by Arnold Pressburger, whose newly formed company, Regency Productions, will produce the picture.

George Sanders will be starred in the role of the scheming Machiavelli, whose name has become the symbol of guile and deceit. Sanders recently completed the starring role in another Pressburger film, “A Scandal in Paris.” Three important feminine roles remain to be cast.

Lubin to Direct Musical

Arthur Lubin has been signed by Producer Jules Levy to direct his forthcoming musical, “New Orleans,” which traces the growth of jazz as an international institution. The picture, which will be released through United Artists, is scheduled to go into production in mid-August. The script is ready for final revisions pending important casting of stellar names from the musical world. Herbert Biberman will function as associate producer.

Liberty Registers Title

The title, “The Red and the Black,” has been registered with the Motion Picture Association as a prospective production under the banner of Liberty Films, producing company headed by Frank Capra, George Stevens, William Wyler and Samuel Briskin. The film will be based on the 19th century French novel, “Rouge et Noir,” by Henri Marie Beyle, who wrote under the pseudonym of Stendhal.

Scenic Highway Is Locale

The scenic Roosevelt Highway along California’s northern coast is the setting for much of the action of RKO Radio’s forthcoming “Step By Step.” Top roles in the drama are played by Lawrence Tierney and Anne Jeffreys.
Nebenzal to Finish 3 For UA This Year

With the signing of Joe Popkin as production manager, and Jack Voglin as assistant director, both on a two-picture deal, Producer Seymour Nebenzal this week launched plans to complete three pictures this year for United Artists on a budget totaling $4,500,000.

Nebenzal finishes shooting "The Chase" this week. Robert Cummings, Michele Morgan and Peter Lorre head the cast, and Arthur Ripley directs. Next production, scheduled for a September start, will be "Heaven Only Knows," a romantic fantasy with a western background. Albert S. Rogell will direct, and Ernest Haycock is writing the screen treatment, marking the first time Haycock has written specifically for the screen. Following "Heaven Only Knows" comes "The Story of Mayerling," for which Nebenzal plans an outstanding cast and two million-dollar budget.

Dudley Nichols Returns To Coast From N. Y.

Dudley Nichols returned this week after two months in New York and Connecticut. While East, he conferred with producer-director Eugene O'Neill and officials of the Theatre Guild on his picturization of RKO Radio's "Mourning Becomes Electra.

In Hollywood, Nichols will immediately start the outline of the screenplay of "Mourning Becomes Electra," which he will direct as well as produce. On RKO Radio's Rosalind Russell-starring "Sister Kenny," soon to be released, he collaborated on the story, then served as producer-director.

Rogers Preparing 'Queen'

Producer Charles R. Rogers is preparing "Queen of Hearts," and has assigned Harold Shumate to write the screenplay of the original story by McKinley Brewster, Maria Montez and Pierre Aimont have been signed to portray the lead roles with Alexei B. Tschin-Tschi directing. The picture is scheduled to go into production in November for United Artists release.

Coulouris as Heavy

George Coulouris has been signed by Columbia to play the lead heavy in the Sam Bishoff production. "Mr. District Attorney," Dennis O'Keefe, Margaret Chapman, Adolphe Menjou and Michael O'Shea head the cast. Robert Sinclair is directing.

Cast in Prison Story

Lawrence Tierney temporarily deserts his bad-man roles to play the romantic hero of RKO Radio's "Prison Story." Tierney will play opposite Marian Carr, former Chicago night club entertainer, who makes her film debut in this feature.

3 Lines of Dialog

Three lines of dialog delivered in "Nocturne" have won Betty Hill an RKO Radio contract. She has been assigned the part of a pretty Kansas dance hall girl, in this studio's "Trail Street," picturization of the William Corson novel of the same name.

STUDIO NEWS & PROGRAM NOTES

McLeod, Ameche to Co-Star in a Drama for Republic;
New Contract With Comet Signed by Reginald LeBorg

Woody Herman and his orchestra have been signed to appear in Republic's top-budget musical, "Hit Parade," which goes before the cameras in August, with Robert North producing and Frank McDonald directing. Cast also includes Joan Edwards in the feminine lead, Gil Lamb, and Bill Goodwin.

Reginald LeBorg has signed a new two-picture a year, non-exclusive contract with Comet Pictures. His present directorial contract ends upon the completion of "Adventure of Don Coyote.

Moroni Olsen goes into a key role in Warners' "Possessed," Joan Crawford-Fan Helfin starrer which Carl Stalling directs and Jerry Wald produces.

Michael Towne, wounded veteran who was signed to a Columbia acting contract while in an Army hospital, has the option in his contract picked up by the studio. The young actor will be seen first in "Gallant Journey," the Glenn Ford-James Blair starrer now awaiting release.

Arturo de Cordova gets the stellar male lead in Jules Leroy's "New Orleans," on a loan-out deal from Eagle Lion. Louis Armstrong also joins the long list of musicians who will appear in the production.

Catherine McLeod and Don Ameche will co-star for Republic in "Gallant Man," which Frank Borzage will produce and direct.

Irish Clive and Jack Barty have been signed for featured roles in "Song of the Sierras," Monogram western starring Jimmy Wakely and Lee "Lassie" White. Film will be produced and directed by Oliver Drake.

Claudia Drake was signed by Columbia for one of the top supporting roles in the studio's latest action musical, "Lone Star Moonlight," starring Ken Curtis.

Screen Guild has signed Banner Productions, newly formed independent, to a deal calling for three pictures per year for the next three years, which Screen Guild will release. First picture will be "Bells of San Fernando," which James S. Burkett will produce.

Evelyn Ankers, Paul Kelly and James Millian have drawn top roles in Republic's "Spoil- ers of the North," which Richard Sale has currently before the cameras as his first direct- ing chore.

Rosanne Murray was signed by writer- producers Michael Fraser and Ernest Pagano for a featured part in Universal's Technicolor production, "Flame of Tripoli," which co-stars Yvonne De Carlo and George Brent, with Charles Lamont directing.

Republic exercised its option on Phil Ford, director, for another year. His last assign- ment was the Linda Sterling starrer, "The Mysteries Mr. Valentine.

Veteran character actress Dame May Whitty has been added to the cast of MGM's "This Time For Keeps," Technicolor musical starring Esther Williams.

Raymond Hatton, featured in support of Johnny Mack Brown in Monogram westerns for the past three years, has been signed to a new contract for the series. Agreement covers seven years, with yearly options. The latest Brown-Hatton film, recently completed, was "The Silver Trail.

Buy's Bromfield Novel

Rights to a forthcoming novel by Louis Bromfield entitled, "Kenny" have been pur- chased by Eagle Lion, with the author coming to the coast to work on the screenplay. The story concerns a midwestern farm boy who joins the Marines and is killed in the South Pacific, leaving his widow insane with grief.

Set for Principal Roles

Patricia Roc and Will Fyffe, noted Scottish actor, will have the principal roles in "The Brothers," a British film to be produced by Sidney Box for the J. Arthur Rank organiza- tion.

Film Cutter Graduates

Alma McCrerie, who was a Paramount film cutter when she made her film debut, in "The Man His Own," has left the company's editorial department to appear in a featured role in "The Emperor Waltz," which stars Bing Crosby.

Buys Western Screenplay

"Draw When You're Ready," completed screenplay by J. Benton Cheney, has been pur- chased by producer Scott R. Dunlap as Mono- gram's next special western drama with Johnny Mack Brown and Raymond Hatton. Filming is scheduled to start Aug. 19.
CHECK-UP ON PRODUCT IN WORK

(Continued from Page 30) to produce "Betty Co-Ed," starting Aug. 12. Jean Peters was borrowed from MGM for the lead. Film will be directed by Arthur Dreifuss. Director John Cromwell moved his cast and crew of "Dead Reckoning," Humphrey Bogart-Lizabeth Scott vehicle, to the studio ranches near a large, Helen Cavanagh's second unit has been shooting exteriors at Santa Monica and Malibu.

The Harry Cohn organization is so busy that producer Sam Bischoff is shooting "Mr. District Attorney" at General service studios. Two sound stages are being employed for the finale of "Down to Earth," Don Hartman production. Director Robert Rossen's "Johnny O'Clock" company, including Dick Powell, Evelyn Keyes, Ellen Drew and Lee J. Cobb, returned from a week of shooting night exteriors at Columbia Ranch. During the shooting, stuntmen risked their necks to film an auto crash into a brick wall.

It's "moving day" all the way around at the studio, with the Edward Small production, "Return of Monte Cristo," coming to the main lot after several weeks at the Sunset Annex. Mob scenes, involving 120 extras, were shot recently.

Universal Ends Western

Universal completed "Gunmen's Code," Kirby Grant western, with Fuzzy Knight. At the same time, Enterprise, releasing through "U," resumed production on "Ranrod," previously postponed because of star Veronica Lake's illness. Don Drake, one of the leading players of the "Flame of Tripoli" cast, was forced out because of sickness and may have to be replaced. The picture, being made in Technicolor, co-stars Yvonne DeCarlo and George Brent.

Enterprise added John Lawrence, screen and radio actor and singer, to its multi-million-dollar investment, "Arch of Triumph." Lewis Milestone is directing.

Of the three-crooked game sequence in "Swell Guy" was rescheduled after Sonny Tufts developed his friend's knee from four days of rolling the cubes on an office floor. Other dice-throwers in the sequence included Vincent Barnett, Sid Saylor and Frank Ferguson.

Deanna Durbin has been recording songs for her new film, "I'll Be Yours," which is set to roll in late August.

WB Starts "The Pursued"

"The Pursued," United States Picture, started at Warners, with Teresa Wright and Bob Mitchell. The Joseph Bernhard-Milton Sperling unit is making this western-type drama as its second effort for WB. Raoul Walsh is directing.

Kent Smith has had his contract renewed.

Director Jean Negulesco and art director Max Parker scouted locations in Northern California for "Deep Valley," to go soon with Jda Lupino, Dane Clark and Wayne Morris. Other WB films now rolling are "Life With Father" and "Deception."

Republic Hitting Stride

"Calendar Girl," Republic's big-budget special, is progressing nicely. Jimmy McHugh and Harold Adamson did the tunes for the musical. Auditory experience of a lesser nature, is "That's My Gal," to which Jan Savitt and his Top Hatters, the Four Step Brothers, Isabelita and the Guadalajara Trio and the dance team of St. Clair and Viloza have been added. Armand L. Schaefer produces the Donald Barry-Lyrene Roberts starrer in Trucolor.

Gene Autry began his second effort since his return from service, when he started "Trail through San Antonio," Peggy Stewart, William Henry and the Cass County Boys round out the cast.

"Spoilers of the North" started July 31 on location up at Big Bear Lake. The troupe has returned to the studio, having been flown back for interiors for this Northwest action drama. Players include Evelyn Ankers, Paul Kelly, James Millican, and Adrian Booth. Don Brown is producing, with Richard Sale directing.

6 on 20th-Fox Schedule

Six pictures are going at 20th-Century Fox, a splendid record for the studio and representative of the peak production being evidenced throughout Hollywood. " miała Cohn" continues its shooting in Quebec, with James Cagney, Annabella and Frank Latimore. On the home lot are "The Late George Apley," screen adaptation of J. P. Marquand's famous best-seller and stage success, with Ronald Colman, Peggy Cummins and Richard Ney; a Technicolor race horse story, "The Home Stretch"; "The Brasher Doubloon," starring George Montgomery, Nancy Guild and Florence Bates; and "I Wonder Who's Kissin Her Now," George Jessel's musical production, with June Haver, Mark Stevens, Reginald Gardiner and Martha Stewart.

"Bob, Son of Battle," dog picture, is still on location at Kanah, Utah. Louis King is directing a cast made up of Peggy Ann Garner, Lon McCallister, Edmund Gwenn and Cara Williams. Robert Bassler produces; he is also producing "Home Stretch" and "Brasher."

Monegran Gunning 'Em

Monegran is really gunning 'em these days. Jean Carlin was signed for the female lead opposite Jimmy Wakely in "Song of the Sierras," now on location at Kernville, actually in the Sierras. The film started Aug. 2, with Oliver Drake producing and directing. August 1 saw the start of "The Trap," Charlie Chan film starring Sidney Toler. Howard Bretherton directs for producer James S. Burkett. The picture is being shot in its entirety at Malibu, on location, Jan Grippo started his latest Bowery Boys flicker, as yet untitled, on August 10, with Bill Beaudine directing. Lee Gorcey is starred.

"It Happened On Fifth Avenue," Roy Del Ruth's million-dollar production, first for him under his recently signed producer-director contract, started August 7 at Goldwyn Studios. Victor Moore, Ann Harding, Don DeFore and Gale Storm star, with Joe Kaufman as associate producer.

Shooting on "High Conquest" has commenced in earnest in faraway Switzerland, where Irving Allen is producing and directing the mountain climbing picture on the Matterhorn for Monogram release.

2 in Work at Eagle Lion

It's two films rolling for Eagle Lion now, with the start of "Born to Speed," with Johnny Sands, on loan-out from Selznick, and Terry Austin. A midget auto story, the film is being directed by Edward Cahn and produced by Ben Stoloff. The latter is doing a switch on "It's a Joke, Son," by directing that one: Aubrey Schenk produces the Kenny Delmar "Im, based on the radio character, "Senator Claghorn."

Nine Rolling at MGM

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer has nine films going, adding mightily to the unprecedented total of pictures being shot in Hollywood. Over four months have been spent on "Sacred and Profane," Greer Garson starrer, in which her leading man, Richard Hart, makes his screen debut. Taken over by the studio for the summer, "Sea of Grass," went in line for shooting time, is finishing location scenes under Elia Kazan's direction. It has been shooting almost three months. Melvyn Douglas checked back on the location, while he is doing "My Empty Heart," to complete his role in "Sea of Grass."

Mickey Rooney, Gloria DeHaven and cast filmed "My Three Sisters" musical sequence for "Summer Holiday" at Ansham, with costumes reminiscent of the picture's setting of 1860. Frank Sinatra and Jimmy Durante rehearsed a routine in which they imitate each other for "It Happened in Brooklyn," in which the star plays a GI returning from England. Wallace Beery reported to the studio for added scenes for "The Mighty McGurk."

Joan Woodbury, absent from the screen for several years, is making a comeback in "The Arnoo Affair," playing John Hodiak's girl friend who is mysteriously murdered.

Director Roy Rowland returned from the Pepsi-Cola Northwest after a scouting trip for the location scenes for "Romance of Rose Ridge," Van Johnson starrer, which gets rolling as soon as Johnson ends his current part in "High Barbaree."

SG Postpones Film Start

Screen Guild was scheduled to start "My Dog Shep" on July 29, but story revisions caused the film to be delayed until August 12. Ford Beebe will direct, with William B. David producing for the Golden Gate unit.

One Starts at PRC

Sig Newfeld got his untitled comedy for PRC release under way Aug. 1 at Sutherland Studio. With Sam Newman as liaison, Roach may possibly release his comedy product through Columbia, although no definite confirmation has been made.

Hal Roach and 'Joe'

Soon to be completed is Hal Roach's "The Fabulous Joe," which stars Walter Abel, Margot Grahame and Marie Wilson, Bebe Daniels plays "Killer." Roach may possibly release his comedy product through Columbia, although no definite confirmation has been made.
Feminine Class

Para. (R3-10) Spotlight 10 mins.

Feminine sporting forms in four colleges are demonstrated in this excellent Spotlight. The Wellesley eight-oar crews display fine timing and rhythm, while the girls at the University of California in Los Angeles show their speed and ability in swimming. Horseback riding at Mills College in Oakland, Calif., and skiing at Middlebury, Vt., are结合 wonderful performances of the subject’s “feminine class” coverage. Ted Husing’s narration, as always, is ideal, and the film entertains through every one of its ten minutes.

Atomic Power

(Amazing) 20th-Fox

March of Time 19 mins.

If the March of Time’s “Atomic Power” is not the greatest short subject ever produced from the Pencil, it is certainly an awe-inspiring climax, it will do for that classification until a better one comes along. The editors have craftily contrived a mounting mood of suspense that finally bursts upon audiences with nearly the impact of the atomic bomb itself. The short traces the development of uranium fission from the time when first information about progress in the field came out of Germany, then through the war years, explaining that research in America was carried on by several universities simultaneously. The most significant development came, it is pointed out, with the first atomic “chain reaction” achieved at the University of Chicago by Dr. Enrico Fermi late in 1942. It is the test of the first bomb on July 16, 1945 in the deserts of New Mexico that provides the short’s most dramatic moments. This is built up to indicate that the scientists and military men present were not even sure that the thing would work. As history now knows it, it did. But the moments just before the explosion are handled so well in the film that audiences have the feeling that they are there—and share in the apprehensions of everyone present.

One more significant moment in the film comes at the close, with no accompanying commentary that lessens the impact. An atomic missile is shown taking off (in slow motion) and the camera follows its flight into the sky.

NEWSYNE REVIEWS

(Released Saturday, August 10)

MOVISTONE (Vol. 28, No. 98)—Amusing spectacles at Bikini.

NEWS OF THE DAY (Vol. 17, No. 26)—Atom bomb blast No. 5.

PARAMOUNT (No. 99)—Atomic bomb underwater scene.

RKO PATHÉ (Vol. 17, No. 101)—Underwater atom blast rocks Bikini.

(Released Wednesday, August 7)

MOVISTONE (Vol. 28, No. 97)—Paris conference meets. (Radio review.) military pageant in Moscow; Curfew in Jerusalem; Diplomats build world’s greatest flying boat; Tyrone Power pilots plane (except St. Louis, Kansas City, Memphis); Maine potato blossom time (Boston only); River barge sinks ferry boat (St. Louis; Kansas City and Memphis only); Wisconsin children; Fun and Judy show; Hare and hounds chase in Australia.

NEWS OF THE DAY (Vol. 17, No. 256)—Paris peace conference; portrait at Nuremberg war trial; Stalin reviews Soviet might; Henry Ford’s birthday (Detroit only); Maine picks queen (Boston only); Sky giant almost ready; Punch and Judy show for orphans in Vienna; Strict curfew in Jerusalem.

PARAMOUNT (No. 98)—Super air gun nearly ready; Shooting game at Palmiades; World aways Nuremberg verdict; Paris peace conference; Russia and its military might.

RKO PATHÉ (Vol. 17, No. 100)—Paris peace conference opens; De Gaulle calls for French-British pact; Japan’s might in Red Square parade.

UNIVERSAL (Vol. 19, No. 252)—Paris peace conference opens; 11 dead in ferry crash; May Day in Russia; Huge seaplane assembled; Outboard ace race.

ALL-AMERICAN (Vol. 4, No. 198)—Negro insurance company ad; Associated Press, Los Angeles girls “man” street cars; Harlem kids have midsummer theatre; Age of woman is 50 years old; Joe Louis guest of honor at Chicago banquet; Nestor’s stage hands stage show; Negro flyers form club in St. Louis.

Courtship to Courthouse (Interesting) RKO

This Is America 18 mins.

That the percentage of divorces in America among the number of marriages in one year is over on the upswing and that the percentage curve was a sharp uprising during the last few years is the basis of a penetrating treatment on the subject by the This Is America series in its “Courtship to Courthouse,” produced by Frederic Ullman, Jr. That the subject is a difficult one to analyze in so sensitive a way that the producers who attempt to depict the possible reasons for the recent increase in divorces, naming easy divorce laws, preceded by easy marriage laws of some states, and illustrates its vague contentions by showing the super-romantic notions of radio programs, gossip columnists and the activities of those celebrities whose marriage antics have become notorious. The film’s depiction of some practices in labor unions, directed to the imagination of viewers as to just who was supposed to be caricatured in the scenes. Although the short pulls no punches, it really offers no panaacea about the problem except for the usual stop, look, think listening that has been offered to youngsters by their parents from time immemorial. “Courtship to Courthouse” is interesting, however, and offers extensive exploitation possibilities.

You and Your State (Interesting)

New York State Department of Commerce 11 mins.

The Government of the State of New York in action might have been the title of this short, produced by the March of Time for the New York State Department of Commerce and intended for showing within the theatres of the State of New York. It takes audiences through a rapid survey of the activities of the State governmental agencies as they provide residents with business aids, vocational training, welfare, old age pension, unemployment insurance, social welfare services, hospitals, schools, clinics, anti-discrimination program, health activities, recreational facilities and other modern advantages. It is interesting rather than just informative, well produced and directed and altogether worth seeing, for residents of New York and other states.

ADVANCE DATA ON FORTHCOMING PRODUCT

MAGNIFICENT DOLL (Univ.) Drama, Principla: Ginger Rogers, David Niven, Burgess Meredith. Director, Frank Borzage. Plot: This is the story of the penniless young Dolly Payne, destined to become First Lady. Woaded by both James Madison and Aaron Burr, the choice is a hard one until she sees in Burr the lust for power that later proves his downfall. She marries Madison, then Secretary of State, and becomes mistress of the White House. When Burr is imprisoned under charges of high treason, she goes to Richmond and succeeds in having him freed by her husband Europe and oblivion, while Dolly goes back to Madison and happiness.

SCARCE TO DEATH (Screen Guild) Magnificence: James Cagney, George Zucco, Molly Lamont. Director, Christy Cabanne. Plot: A woman is married to the son of a doctor, the proprietor of a private sanatorium, where she is under un-willing treatment. It is disclosed that she is the former wife and partner of a Paris dancer who had been shot by the Nazis. Attempting to draw a confession that she had betrayed her danced husband and collaborated with the Nazis, they use a device employing a death mark in a Parisian painting which literally frightens her to death.

SEA OF GRASS (MGM) Drama. Principla: Spencer Tracy, Katharine Hepburn, Montgomery Clift, Ella Kazan. Plot: Daughter of a rich St. Louis banker goes to a small town to marry a cattle man. Years pass, their daughter is born, and gradually a rift appears between husband and wife over the problem of farmers versus cattle men. After a quarrel, she goes to Denver and meets a lawyer who has loved her for years. After her return to the ranch, a son is born, but her husband realizes the child is not his, and the rift between them widens. She leaves him for good and does not return until years later when her son is held in a showdown gun duel and dies in her husband’s arms. In tragic woe, they are reunited.

HOME IN OKLAHOMA (Rep.) West. Principla: Roy Rogers, Dale Evans, George “Gabby” Hayes, Director, William Witney. Plot: Rogers is editor of a newspaper in a small town. The old man who owned the largest ranch in the community has killed a man and dies in his husband’s arms, and a girl reporter is sent from St. Louis to check on a rumor that he was murdered. Poignantly, this is the girl, with the help of a 12-year old boy, bringing the responsible parties to justice.

CODE OF THE WEST (RKO) Western. Principla: James Warren, John Laurenz, Debra Alden, Director, William Berke. Plot: After saving a young lady and her father from the hands of stagecoach bandits, a cowboy decides to restore law and order to a small western town, controlled by a cabaret owner and his henchmen. The cabaret owner’s men continue their plundering until the cowboy, helped by the girl’s father, rides the town of its evil element and wins the girl.

SPOOKBUSTERS (Mono) Drama, Principla: Leo Gorcey, Huntz Hall, Bobby Jordan, Douthat Dumbrell. Director, William Beaudine. Plot: The Bowery Boys set up an exterminating business, and their first assignment is supposedly a haunted house. A mad doctor carries on crazy experiments in the house, and his henchmen try to frighten the boys away. They capture one of the boys and plan to transplant his brain into a gorilla. Before the operation, he is rescued and the doctor and his accomplices are taken by the police.
**ASTOR PICTURES**

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**COLUMBIA**

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Blonde Knows Best.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Benny Sinatra-Lawrence</strong></td>
<td><strong>Columbia</strong></td>
<td><strong>Blonde Knows Best.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Benny Sinatra-Lawrence</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Crime Doctor’s Honor.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Warner Baxter-Drew</strong></td>
<td><strong>Columbia</strong></td>
<td><strong>Crime Doctor’s Honor.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Warner Baxter-Drew</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Desert Heat.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Humphrey Bogart-Elizabeth Scott</strong></td>
<td><strong>Columbia</strong></td>
<td><strong>Desert Heat.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Humphrey Bogart-Elizabeth Scott</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Devil’s Front Yard.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Gail Russell-Blair</strong></td>
<td><strong>Columbia</strong></td>
<td><strong>Devil’s Front Yard.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Gail Russell-Blair</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dead Reckoning.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dennis O’Keefe-Evelyn Keyes</strong></td>
<td><strong>Columbia</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dead Reckoning.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dennis O’Keefe-Evelyn Keyes</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Gallon’s Journey.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Glenn Ford-Jane Earl</strong></td>
<td><strong>Columbia</strong></td>
<td><strong>Gallon’s Journey.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Glenn Ford-Jane Earl</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ghost Town.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Monroe-Dallin</strong></td>
<td><strong>Columbia</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ghost Town.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Monroe-Dallin</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Glowed Hand.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Anita Louise-Special Scott</strong></td>
<td><strong>Columbia</strong></td>
<td><strong>Glowed Hand.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Anita Louise-Special Scott</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>It’s Great To Be Young.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Perry Como-Lee</strong></td>
<td><strong>Columbia</strong></td>
<td><strong>It’s Great To Be Young.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Perry Como-Lee</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Johnny O’Clock.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dana Andrews-Lawrence</strong></td>
<td><strong>Columbia</strong></td>
<td><strong>Johnny O’Clock.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dana Andrews-Lee</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mr. District Attorney.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dennis O’Keefe-M. Chapman</strong></td>
<td><strong>Columbia</strong></td>
<td><strong>Mr. District Attorney.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dennis O’Keefe-M. Chapman</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Return of Monte Cristo.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Hayward-C. Macready-O. Connover</strong></td>
<td><strong>Columbia</strong></td>
<td><strong>Return of Monte Cristo.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Hayward-C. Macready-O. Connover</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Secret of the Whistler.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Barry Sullivan-Joan</strong></td>
<td><strong>Columbia</strong></td>
<td><strong>Secret of the Whistler.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Barry Sullivan-Joan</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Spoilers.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Richard Dix-Dick Brooks</strong></td>
<td><strong>Columbia</strong></td>
<td><strong>The Spoilers.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Richard Dix-Dick Brooks</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Toluma</strong></td>
<td><strong>Evelyn Keyes-Dalton</strong></td>
<td><strong>Columbia</strong></td>
<td><strong>Toluma</strong></td>
<td><strong>Evelyn Keyes-Dalton</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Voice of the Whistler (D)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Richard Dix-L. Merrick</strong></td>
<td><strong>Columbia</strong></td>
<td><strong>Voice of the Whistler (D)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Richard Dix-L. Merrick</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Walls Come Tumbling Down (D)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Bosco-C. Chapman</strong></td>
<td><strong>Columbia</strong></td>
<td><strong>Walls Come Tumbling Down (D)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Bosco-C. Chapman</strong></td>
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**Westerens Current (1945-46)**

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<th>No.</th>
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<th>Title</th>
<th>Prod.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Coyote).</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ken Curtis-Jim Donnell</strong></td>
<td><strong>Columbia</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cowboy Blues</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ken Curtis-Jim Donnell</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Desert Horseman (W).</strong></td>
<td><strong>Charles Starrett-Snappy Burnett</strong></td>
<td><strong>Columbia</strong></td>
<td><strong>Desert Horseman (W).</strong></td>
<td><strong>Charles Starrett-Snappy Burnett</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Glaring Gunslinger (W).</strong></td>
<td><strong>Charles Starrett-Tex Harding</strong></td>
<td><strong>Columbia</strong></td>
<td><strong>Glaring Gunslinger (W).</strong></td>
<td><strong>Charles Starrett-Tex Harding</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gunning for Vengeance (W).</strong></td>
<td><strong>Charles Starrett-Snappy Burnett</strong></td>
<td><strong>Columbia</strong></td>
<td><strong>Gunning for Vengeance (W).</strong></td>
<td><strong>Charles Starrett-Snappy Burnett</strong></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW,

38

Company

Title

WB

One More Tomorrow
One Romantic Night
One Way to Love
Open City
Open Verdict

Asfoi

Way

Up

PRC

Overland Riders

PRC

Col

Past

RKO
Mono.
RKO
RKO

Passkey to Danger
Paanoort to Destiny
People Are Funny
Perfect Marriage
Perilous Holiday

Para.
Para.
Col.

Perils of Pauline

Para.

Personality Kid
Phantom Thief
Pilgrim Lady
Pillow of Death
Pirates of Monterey
Plainsman & the Lady
Portrait of Marie
Possessed

Postman Always Rings

Col.
Col.

Rep.
Univ.
Univ.

Prairie Bad Man
Prairie Rustlers

PRC
PRC

Prelude to Murder
Prison Ship

Univ.
Col.

WB

Pursued

.....Univ.

Pursuit to Algiers

Q

Queen

Burlesque

of

PRC

R
Rainbow Over Texas

Ramrod

Law

Range
Razor's

Rep.
Mi3c.

Mono.

Edge

20th-Fox

UA

Rebecca

Red Dragon
Red River Renegades
Rendezvous 24
Rendezvous With Annie
Renegades
Return of Frank James
Return of Monte Cristo
Return of Rusty
Return of the Vampire
Riders of the Dawn
Rio Grande Raiders
Riverboat Rhythm

Mono.
Rep.
20th-Fos
Rep.

CoL
20th-Fox
Col.
Col.

CoL
Mono.
Rep.

RKO

Roaring Range
Roaring Rangers
Rogue's Progress

Mono.
Col.

Univ.

Rolling Home
Roll on Texas Moon
Romance of the West
Rough Riders of the Cheyenne
Rough Ridin* Justice

Runaround

SGP
Rep.

Takes a Wife
San Antonio *T

Sailor

Sante Fe Uprising
Saratoga Trunk
Scared to Death
Scarf ace

Secret Heart, The
Secret Life of Walter Mitty
Secrets of a Sorority Girl
Secret of the Whistler
Senorita From the West
Sentimental Journey

Seven Were Saved
Seventh Veil
Shadow of a Woman
Shadow of Terror
Shadow Returns

Shadows of the Range
Shadows Over Chinatown
Shahrazad
She Went to the Races
She Wolf of London
She Wouldn't Say Yes
She Wrote the Book
Sheriff of

Redwood Valley

Shock
Shocking Miss Pilgrim

Happy Life
Macomber

Short

Sing While You Dance
Sing Your Way Home
Singing on the Trail
Sin of Harold Diddlebock
Sioux City Sue

Kenny
Scandalous

Snafu

Snow

Silk

Cinderella

So Goes

My

Somewhere

Love

in the

446 Along the Navajo Trail (W)F
*45 Don't Fence Me In (W)F
431 Mexicans (CM)F
430 Tiger
(My)

A

Woman

A Guy

A

Catman

of Paris (H)
of the Century

Crime
(My)A
Dakota (D)F
French Key (My) A
Gay Blades (C)F
Girls of the Big House (D)A
Home on the Range *M (W)F
In Old Sacramento (W)F
Inner Circle
Last Crooked Mile

Madonna's Secret, The (D)F

Man From Rainbow

Valley *M (W)F
Music Hall (My)F
My Pal Trigger (W)F
Night Train to Memphis (CD)F
One Exciting Week (C)F

Murder

in the

Passkey to Danger (D)A
Rainbow Over Texas (W)F
Rendezvous With Annie
Song of Arizona (W)F
Song of Mexico (M)F
Specter of the Rose (D)A
Traffic in Crime

Undercover

Woman

Home
I've

in Oklahoma
Always Loved You *T

529 Invisible Informer

Last Frontier Uprising *T
Magnificent Rogue
Mysterious Mr. Valentine

Out California

Way

*T

Pilgrim Lady

Plainsman and the Lady..
on Texas Moon
Spoilers of the North
That Brennan Girl
That's My Gal *T

542 Roll

PRC

Mono.
541

lion

Under Nevada Skies
Will

Univ.

Tomorrow Ever Come

Winter Wonderland

MGM
Univ.

Col.

UA
UA
Mono.
RKO
CoL
RKO
CoL
UA
Rep.
RKO
Astor
Univ.

Night

Univ.
20th-Fox
Univ.
Rep.
Univ.
20th-Fox

,

.a6/22/46

Bennett-R. Ryan-C. Bickford

.a3/9/46

Rel.

1944-45

Constance Moore-Tito Guizar
-

Kane Richmond-Lorna Gray

Date
66.
71.
83.
57.

.bl2/15/45
.12/15/45
.blO/27/45
.10/20/45
.11/15/45 ...bll/24/48
.11/15/45 ...M2/22/45

Allan Lane-Jane Frazee

65.

Kaye Dowd-Robert Duke

70. ..11/27/45

Brenda Marshall-William Gargan
Jane Darwell-Edgar Kennedy
Carl Esmont-Lenore Aubert

68 ..3/15/46

bl/28/49
....D12/8/4B
b3/2/48

70, ..11/17/45

...M2/15/4S

Stephanie Bachelor-Michael Browne
John Wayne- Vera Hruba Ralston
Albert Dekker-Evelyn Ankers
Allan Lane-Jean Rogers
Lynne Roberts-Richard Powers
Monte Hale-Adrian Booth
Constance Moore-William Elliott
Adele Mara-William Frawley
D. Barry- A. Savage-T. Powers
F. Lederer-A. Rutherford-G. Patrick...
Monte Hale-Adrian Booth
Vera Hruba Ralston-W. Marshall
R. Rogers-D. Evans-G. Hayes
Roy Acuff-Allan Lane-Adele Mara
Al Pearce-Arline Harris
Stephanie Bachelor-Adele Mara
Roy Rogers-Dale Evans
Eddie Albert-Gail Patrick
Roy Rogers-Dale Evans
Adele Mara-Edgar Barrier
Michael Chekhov-Judith Anderson

65,
55,
82,

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Kane Richmond-Adele Mara

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Bachelor-R. Livingston
Robert Livingston-Adrian Booth
Nancy Kelly-John Loder

56.

S.

Valley of the Zombies (HD)A
Woman Who Came Back, The (D) A

Angel and the Outlaw
Calendar Girl
530 Earl Carroll Sketchbook
Fabulous Suzanne
528 G. I. War Brides
Ghost Goes Wild
Heldorado

WB

Univ.
Rep.
20th-Fox
20th-Fos

..a6/I/46
.a5/ 18/46
.b7/27/46

,

101

56.

68.

..1/27/46

..4/20/46
b2/23/48
..2/27/46
b6/22/46
..12/25/45 ...bll/10/43
b5/25/«
..5/18/46
b3/30/46
..1/25/46
..11/2/45 ....bll/17/46
..4/18/46
D4/13/46
b4/27/48
..5/31/46
..8/7/46
al/26/46
..8/9/45
..2/16/46
b2/23/48
..6/15/46
b6/22/46
b2/23/«
..4/10/46
b6/22/46
..7/10/46
..7/12/46
b8/3/46
b6/10/48
..6/8/46
b7/13/46
..5/11/46
b5/ll/48
..5/9/46
a5/25/46
..7/22/46
b3/6/38
..3/9/46
..12/28/45 ...bll/24/46
b5/25/46
..7/5/46
..6/28/46
a4/27/48
al2/22/45
..4/11/46
b6/l/46
..5/24/46
..12/13/45 ...bl2/28/46

COMING

Col.

.Mono.

.a6/22/46
,

Roy Rogers-Dale Evans
Roy Rogers-Dale Evans

Could Change (D)F
An Angel Comes to Brooklyn (CM)F
A Strange Impersonation (D)F
Captain Tugboat Annie (CD)F

Affairs of Geraldine

PRC

Univ.
20th-Foz
Para.
Univ.

,

Current 1945-46
508
503
513
504
514
511
505
519
509
502
5501
517
526
527
510
5502
512
5541
523
521
518
448
525
447
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515
520
507

RKO

Cot.

Smash-Up
Smoky
Smooth As

J.

Issue of

,

D. Kaye-V. Mayo-F. Bainter
D. Fairbanks, Jr.-M. O'Hara
Luana Patten-Bobby Driscoll
R. Scott-R. Ryan-A. Jeffreys
Jack Haley-Anne Jeffreys

CURRENT

555
5307
565
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554
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567
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Alias Billy the

Kid (W)F

Blue Montana Skies
California Gold Rush (W)F
Cherokee Flash (W)F
Colorado Pioneers (W)F
Conquest of Cheyenne

Days

of Buffalo Bill
El Paso Kid, The (W)F
Marshall of Laredo (W)F
Red River Renegades
Rough Riders of Cheyenne (W)F
Sheriff of Redwood Valley (W)F
Sun Valley Cyclone (W)F

Wagon Wheels Westward (W)F

PRC

Gun Man

Sky Devils
Slightly

MGM
Para.
MGM

MGM

Silver City Kid
Silver Trail
Sinbad the Sailor

Six

WB
Rep.
WB

of Francis

Show-Off

Sister

M GM
MGM

Bergman

See

Shown

REPUBLIC

Col.

SGP

Wind

Searching

C. Grant-Ingrid

Prod.
No.

Astor
Univ.

Scarlet Street
Sea of Grass

(My-D)A

Rep.

s

1946

,

Young- J. Cotten-Ethel Barrymore
Day-B. Aherne-Gene Raymond
Pat O'Brien-Anne Jeffreys
George Raft-Lynn Bari

Vacation in Reno
Woman on the Beach

PRC
Univ.

Sacred and Profane

Heart *T

Trail Street

Rep

MGM
WB
Twice.... MGM

My

Secret Life of Walter Mitty »T
Sinbad the Sailor *T
Song of the South *T

Col.

Partners in Time
Partners of the Trail

The Locket

L.
L.

to

Mr. Fix
Nocturne
Sp. Notorious

P

My

Pardon

It's

S.

a Wonderful Life
Katie for Congress

Rep

California
Outlaw of the Plains
Out of the Depths

Mins.

Temple-F. Tone-G. Madison
Luana Patten-Bobby Driscoll
J. Stewart-D. Reed-L. Barrymore

How Dear

WB

Para
Para

Time Trade

COMING

Honeymoon

Misc.

10,

Run

(Continued)

Block
No.

Col.

O.S.S
Our Hearts Were Growing

Out

RKO RADIO

August

Jane Withers-Jimmy Lydon
.J. Wayne-G. Russell-I. Rich
J.

C.

a3/2/46

Frazee-J. Ellison-V. McLaglen

Moore-W. Marshall

Barbara Britton-Rudy Vallee
James Ellison-Anna Lee

69... 8/12/46

James Ellison-Ann Gwynne
Roy Rogers-Dale Evans-"Gabby" Hayes
R. Rogers-D. Evans-G. Hayes
Catherine McLeod-Phllip Dom
Linda Sterling-William Henry
Monte Hale-Adrian Booth
L. Roberts-W. Douglas
William Henry -Linda Sterling
Monte Hale-Adrian Booth
Warren Douglas-Lynne Roberts
W. Elliott- V. Ralston-G. Patrick
R. Rogers-G. Hayes-Dale Evans
Evelyn Ankers-Paul Kelly

James Dunn-Mona Freeman
Don Barry-Lynne Roberts
R. Rogers-Dale Evans
Nelson Eddy-Ilona Massey
L. Roberts-C. Drake
Westerns (Current 1945-46)
Sunset Carson-Peggy Stewart
Gene Autry-Smiley Burnett
Wild Bill Elliott-Bobby Blake
Sunset Carson-Linda Stirling
Wild Bill Elliott-Bobby Blake
Wild Bill Elliott-Alice Fleming
Sunset Carson-Peggy Stewart
Sunset Carson-Marie Harmon
Wild Bill Elliott-Bobby Blake
Sunset Carson-Peggy Stewart
Sunset Carson-Peggy Stewart
Bill Elliott-Alice Fleming
B. Elliott-A. Fleming-B. Blake
Wild Bill Elliott-Bobby Blake

a5/25/46
a5/25/46
a6/29/46
a5/4/48

90

10/15/46

a 1/26746
a3/16 48

57... 8/19/46

10/22/46
56... 9/3/46

a6/29/46
a5/4/46

9/6/46
67
68... 9/12/46

a7/6/46

69. ..8/26/46

a5/25/46

58.
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60.
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.12/1/45
.2/4/46
.12/13/45
.11/14/45
.7/22/46
.2/8/46 .
.5/22/46
.10/7/45
.7/25/46
.11/1/45
.3/29/46
.5/10/46
.12/21/45

.b4/27/4S

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.b3/2/4*
.b3/2/46

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.M/5/4S

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.b8/3/46
.bll/17/45

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..b4/13/4S
. .b6/15/46
..bl/19/4«

Westerns (Coming)

Homesteaders of Paradise Valley
558 Rio Grande Raiders
Sante Fe Uprising
Sioux City Sue
Stagecoach to Denver
Trail of San Antone
Vigilantes of

Boomtown

Allan Lane-Bobby Blake
Sunset Carson -Peggy Stewart
Allan Lane-Bobby Blake
G. Autry-S. Holloway
Allan Lane-Bobby Blake

.9/9/46

Gene Autry
Allan Lane-Bobby Blake

.86/29/46


**UNIVERSAL**

**prod. No.**

136. Because of Him (CM) (F).

137. Blonde Abel (My) (F).

141. Canyon Passage (T) (D) (F).

169. Crimson Canary (My) (F).

173. Cabin Fever (My) (F).

174. Daltons Ride Again (W) (F).

186. Danger Woman (A) (F).

190. Guevera (C) (F).

192. Dressed to Kill (My) (A).

213. Frontier Girl (T) (D) (F).

237. Little Giant (C) (F).

238. Never Came Back (C) (F).

239. Madonna of the Seven Moons (D) (F).

**Night in Paradise (T) (D) (A).**

252. Pillow of Destiny (A) (F).

297. Pursuit to Algiers (D) (F).

322. Runaround (C) (F).

324. Scarlet Street (D) (F).

339. Seventh Veil (D) (F).


442. Slightly Scandalous (C-M) (F).

453. Smooth as Silk (My) (A).

478. So Goes My Love (D) (F).

486. Strange Confession (M) (F).

530. Senorita from the West (C) (F).

533. Woman from Antigua (H) (A).

532. Gangster (D) (F).

537. Terror by Night (My) (A).

546. The Lady (D) (F).

543. Wild Beauty (D) (F).

**Temptation**

**other**

516. Underdog, The...

.... PRC

Underneath a Dead Man...

.... Col.

Under Nevada Skies...

.... Rep.

Unknown, The...

.... Par.

Up Goes Maize...

.... MGM

**V**

Vacation From Marriage...

.... MGM

Vacation in Reno...

.... RKO

**W**

Wagon Wheels Went South...

.... Col.

Wanderer of the Wasteland...

.... RKO

**Y**

Yearling, The...

.... MGM

Yokel insisted on the Third...

.... UA

**Z**

Ziegfeld Follies of 1946...

.... MGM

**TITLE CHANGES**

*"Bella Donna" (Int'l) now Temptation*

**PICTURES STARTED LAST WEEK**

**COLUMBIA**

Lone Star Moonlight—Principals: Ken Curtis, Joan Barton, Guy Kibbee. Director, Ray Nazarro.

**MONOGRAM**

Song of the Sierras—Principals: Jimmy Wakely, Lee "Lassie" White, Jean Carlin. Director, Oliver Drake.

**PUBLIC**


**WARNER BROS.**

Pursued—Principals: Teresa Wright, Robert Mitchum. Director, Raoul Walsh.

**WITNESS BROS.**

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THE THEATRE ADVISORY COUNCIL

and

THE PROJECTION ADVISORY COUNCIL

Original and Exclusive Features of

SHOWMAN'S TRADE REVIEW
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130 PORTABLE TWO SECTION ASSEMBLY Chairs, $1.50 per chair; 2000 Stadium Chairs, $4.25; 400 American lacquer metalized reupholstered padded backs, boxing cushions, rebuilt $7.85; 200 rebuilt, reupholstered Stafford handbag boxing chairs, $9.55; 104 American lacquer rebuilt, reupholstered red striped velour padded back, boxing, metal lined, $7.95. Wire for stock lists. S. O. S. CINEMA SUPPLY CORP., 449 W. 42nd Street, New York 18.

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SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW

'The Service Paper of the Motion Picture Industry'
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Vol. 45 No. 5
AUGUST 17, 1946

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Also: Two New Service Features See Pages 35 and 49
“Hey, what are you doing in my trade-mark Lassie?”

“Why not? I rank with your top money making M-G-M stars, Leo!”

BUSINESS IS CLASSY WITH
(TOP GROSSES! NEW RECORDS! HOLD-OVERS!)

“COURAGE OF LASSIE”!

M-G-M presents LASSIE in a New Adventure “COURAGE OF LASSIE” in Technicolor. ELIZABETH TAYLOR, FRANK MORGAN, TOM DRAKE. Original Screen Play by Lionel Houser. Directed by FRED M. WILCOX. Produced by ROBERT SISK
ATA And The Court Decision

Well informed sources insist that in the very near future ATA will become mighty interested and active in the government suit decision.

We are happy to hear this and sincerely hope the rumors are accurate, because this is one mess that ATA should be in, right up to its neck.

The question, originally, about getting involved seemed to have revolved around the technical point as to whether the court decision could be construed as being a trade practice matter or a legal and/or legislative one. From this writer’s point of observation it falls into the latter class and, therefore, is something that is within the province of ATA activity.

Just how much can be accomplished is still a moot question. But it is our feeling that aggressive action on the part of ATA and all of its members will be recognized by the Department of Justice, and may prompt a receptive ear to recommendations made on behalf of theatre owners against trade practices, such as auction selling, which would work a hardship to the average independent exhibitor.

Add Showmanship

Is it possible that there is so little showmanship and show-selling being utilized by the theatremen of today as to cause the amount of wind and words being directed in that direction?

Everybody, it seems, is shouting that the industry needs more and better merchandising to attract new patrons and hold on to the old ones. In our opinion, there should never have been any letdown in aggressive show-selling, even during the lush, boom years.

The key cities have enjoyed the benefits of home office aid on practically every picture played through the assignment of a field exploitation man from the distributor’s organization.

That narrows it down to the theatres located away from the keys and which account for a tremendous percentage of any picture’s national gross. It would appear, from the barrage of pep talks and printed statements, that these are the theatres that are not practicing the great art of merchandising, thereby costing the theatres as well as the distributors a lot of potential money that is not garnered at box-offices.

To those theatres and the men who own and/or operate them, we can only say that if you are lax in your efforts to attract business to your theatres, you are making a sad mistake. We all know that the boom honey-moon is over and business has already started to level off. At this moment no particular territory has been hurt because the levelling off process has spread the total volume of business among all the theatres rather than just the downtown or big first runs.

But the new step in the process will be a possible drop in total attendance in all theatres and the only way we know of to avoid that condition is to get out and sell your theatre and its attraction as strong as your showmanship ability will permit.

Make it a double-barrelled shot. Sell your theatre as well as the show. Tell your community about the comfort, the projection, the seats, the air-conditioning, the sound, the improvements and the healthy manner in which you run your theatre.

They won’t resist the temptation to see a good show in a theatre that has been “sold” to them the right way.

Right Or Wrong?

Some weeks ago this page commented on the ownership or financial interest in theatres by branch managers and salesmen.

Since then we have been queried by sales managers, exhibitors and the two other classifications referred to.

All exhibitor comment thus far is strongly against the practice and some cite instances where this dual distributor-exhibitor condition has created unfair competition.

Big League Ben

Ben Kalmenson didn’t need to prove his right to membership in the big league of general sales managers—Ben did that long since assuming his post as sales head of Warner Bros. But if ever there was a demonstration of outstanding accomplishment, it is the tremendous record Kalmenson has run up with the total of 54,779 bookings during the Sound Anniversary Week which climaxed the company’s sales drive. That total of 17,584 theatres which played a Warner feature or short during the week, means that Kalmenson and his boys signed every possible prospect in the U. S. and Canada.

It was a sensational demonstration, and Ben well deserves the enthusiastic congratulations being showered upon him by the industry.

—"CHICK" LEWIS
Sues Paramount in Checker Fight

What is said to be the first damage suit to arise out of a checking controversy had been filed in the Sedgwick County Court of Kansas this week as Sullivan Independent Theatres Inc. of Wichita, Kansas sued Paramount for $5,995 damages allegedly arising out of non-delivery of the "Virginian" to its Civic Theatre at Wichita.

In his petition, General Manager O. F. Sullivan asserts that Paramount demanded that this house permit checkers to clock within the theatre property. He refused this and termed it a subterfuge to avoid the Wichita city ordinance which taxes checkers who clock from the streets a license fee of $5 daily. Upon his persistent refusal to allow checkers to clock from the theatre property, Sullivan said, Paramount refused delivery of "The Virginian".

Sullivan acknowledges that he helped pass the checker sidewalk tax and states in his petition that "said clock ordinance . . . is very obnoxious to distributors."

In New York, a Paramount spokesman said the courts regards the refusal to permit clock checkers at the Civic Theatre to be a violation of its contract. Sullivan is also general manager of the West and Crawford theatres, which with the Civic comprise the Sullivan Independent Theatres. Paramount employs Confidential Reports as checkers.

Exhibitors Split on Divorce,
MPTOA Early Returns Show

First Week’s Results From 135 Theatres Demonstrate ‘Auction’ Opposition

Exhibitors are evenly divided on theatre divvorce but are overwhelming against the auction selling and the clearance and run arbitration phases of the federal statutory court anti-trust suit opinion, first returns of a poll now being conducted by the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, indicated.

Results of the poll will not be final until all ballots are counted after the closing deadline of Sept. 15, but returns to date from 29 exhibitors, representing 135 theatres located in the District of Columbia and 16 states (Vermont, Delaware, New Mexico, California, South Carolina, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Tennessee, Missouri, New York, Texas, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Maryland, Oklahoma) show the following results:

On auction selling: (Do you approve of the method of competitive bidding proposed by the Court whereby pictures are to be sold theatre by theatre, by picture, by picture, to the highest responsible bidder, having a theatre of the size and equipment adequate to show the pictures upon the terms offered by the distributor?) 20 exhibitors voted against the plan advocated by the court, three in favor.

Seven exhibitors were against the court’s recommendation for arbitration covering disputes as to bids, clearances, runs, whether the bidder has a theatre adequate for the run for which he

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4,779 Bookings for Week

Bookings at 17,884 theatres in the U. S. and Canada accounted for a grand total of 4,779 playdates for Warner Bros. features and shorts during the August 4-10 sound anniversary week which climax the company’s 1940 sales drive, it was announced this week by Ben Kalincen, Warner vice-president and general sales manager.

Mulvey Says Competition Seals Doom of ‘B’ Films

(See Cover)

Foreign competition, accelerated by inflated production costs, will all but eliminate the low-budget film from the studio schedules of American film producers. James Mulvey, president of Goldwyn Pictures Inc., said, at a trade press interview in New York this week, Mulvey had just returned from a business trip to England and France. He leaves New York five years ago to report his findings to Samuel Goldwyn and also to view "The Best Years of Our Lives," camera work on which was completed this week at the Goldwyn studio.

Mulvey said that when any British or European producer can realize from his domestic gross sufficient money to return the cost of present-day production. This forces the producers of all countries to make pictures of a quality and scope that will gain them bookings in all other countries. The increase in "dubbing" as well as bi-lingual production therefore will be tremendous. The immediate effect upon the industry in the United States, he said, will be a shrinking of production of the lower-cost pictures, which will not be viable in many foreign countries and country. He expressed no concern over this form of competition, declaring that the pictures of quality will win out in the rivalry for playing time and box-office patronage in all countries.

Vigorous showmanship, American style, will be necessary for Hollywood producers in building up their stars and pictures for favorable reception in foreign countries. He said that the details of the program remain to be worked out, but that the Goldwyn company would establish publicity and exploitation agencies in England and France, and also introduce exploitation that has been definitely set is a trip to England and France of the Goldwyn Girls.

Brisson Forms Unit

Frederick Brisson, president of the newly formed Independent Artists, Inc., has announced that $17,000,000 will be budgeted for the company’s five-year program. Independent’s present schedule calls for two pictures yearly over the five-year period.

The company has four properties in preparation. These are a Rosalind Russell starrer, titled “The Happiness Of Pursuit”; “Vanity Hill,” which Jack Jace will direct; “Feather On The Title,” an original by Frank Horn, and an original by Dudley Nichols, titled “This Is The Life.”

SHOWMEN’S TRADE REVIEW

Title and Trade Mark Registered U. S. Patent Office Published every Friday by Showmen’s Trade Review, Inc., 1301 Broadway, New York 18, N. Y. Telephone Long Is. 3-0121. Charles E. Chick Lewis, Editor and Publisher; Tom Remmel, Associate Editor; James A. Croc, General Manager; Ralph Coban, Managing Editor; Harold Renda, Equipment Advertising Manager; West Coast Office, 6777 Hollywood Boulevard, Hollywood 28, California; Telephone Hollywood 2055; Ann Lewis, manager. Chicago representative, Harry W. Brown, 923 Wright Building, Chicago 6, Illinois, London Representative, Jock MacGregor, 16 Leinster Mews, London, W. 10, England; Assistant Representative, Gordon V. Curie, 1 Elliott St., Homebush Sydney, Australia; Western Member Branch, 2530 Beverley Bldg., Los Angeles 6, California. All contents copyright 1946 by Showmen’s Trade Review, Inc. Address all correspondence to the New York office. No copies published for year in the United States and Canada; Foreign, $5.00. Single copies, $1.00.
Clearance Question May Be Industry Headache

If uniform clearances in any territory became allowed under the anti-trust suit decree, which is to be written, the clearance question may provide the tuggest obstacle which both the distributor defendants and their exhibitor clients will have to handle, film circles prophesied in New York this week.

While there apparently is nothing in the court's opinion which prohibits uniform clearance, informed legal opinion believed that any clearance which was reached through concerted action by the distributor defendants together, would be illegal, and that in such cases an individual clearance system for each defendant and for the theatre clients might be set up.

Reports persisted that sales heads of various organizations had been busy this week studying the clearances of the nation's exchange centers, but it could not be learned whether this was a routine study in connection with business or whether it was made with a view of establishing individual clearances.

Exhibitors see the future, that if individual clearances are set up, it will add chaos and confusion to an already confused situation and will make booking more of a chore than ever.

At present an exhibitor knows that film becomes available to him within a specified time, no matter from what company he is buying. But if each company sets up a different clearance system, it is feared exhibitors will find a log jam of pictures released for their use at conflicting dates and disrupting their booking schedules.

O'Keefe New 'U' Assistant General Sales Manager

A. J. O'Keefe this week was appointed assistant general sales manager of Universal, W. A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager, who announced the appointment, simultaneously announced the promotion of Charles J. Feldman to executive offices as western sales manager.

The appointment fills the vacancy created last June when E. C. Gomer,salesman resigned to become general sales manager of Enterprise productions.

O'Keefe joined Universal in 1933 and in 1938 he was named western division manager.

Morals Ok. Safety, No

It passed the town censor, but it was too hot for the fire department to Ok. Recently Leon Weager, manager of the Mullicken Theatre at Springfield, Mo., asked the city censor to look at "Half Way to Hell." Mrs. Harry Bassett, the censor, passed the picture on the basis of the scripts sent by Weager and Weaver was all set to run it when the fire department stepped in. What wasn't too hot for the fire department was too hot for the fire fighters who claimed that the film was old, spliced, glued, and that the numerous tears in its perforations created too much of a fire hazard to permit its showing.

Polio Hits Box Office

Spread of infantile paralysis, with its accompanying cut into the box-office grosses of the affected territories, continued this week with North Dakota feeling the impact of the dread disease after then neighborhood state of Minnesota had topped the thousand case mark and had voluntarily closed, over 30 theatres.

Theatre operations in North Dakota which stopped voluntarily as disease invaded their territories were the Roxy at Antler, the Majestic at Franklin, the Homier at Homer and the Lake at Willow Lake.

The Movie News of Minneapolis and St. Paul, which had banned admission of children under 15, reported a drop in grosses of approximately 20 per cent. Theatres in Kansas, which still admit children, figures a similar attendance loss.

In St. Louis eight new cases were hospitalized while at Highland, Ill., Dr. Norman Rose, Illinois district health office said the disease had reached its peak and should taper off.

ITOA Asks Clark for 6 Months Delay on Single Selling

The Independent Theatre Owners Association, an organization of New York and New Jersey exhibitors, Wednesday called upon Attorney General Tom Clark to postpone the 60-day restrictions on sales of films from Oct. 8 single selling and, presumably, the other features embodied in the statutory court's anti-trust suit opinion.

Claiming that this interval was necessary to permit an orderly adjustment of the industry, the ITOA says is in "turnover and confusion," the association action came on the same afternoon which found lawyers for the majors closing the directors' room of the Motion Picture Association of America, presumably working on a more nearly final draft of what they want in the decree which is still to be written.

The ITOA action came after a sluggish week whose major activities seemed to be legal conferences and rumors. In the rumor group, the most important seemed to be that lawyers and sales forces were eyeing clearances with a view that they might have to be revised.

Paul Williams, general counsel for the Southern California Theatre Owners' Association, arrived in New York Tuesday, after a visit to the Department of Justice in Washington, which he refused to discuss, and visited Robert Coyne, executive director of the American Theatres Association.

Reading Law

Williams told SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW that he was reading law books, apparently with the intent of some day to add an independent exhibitor appeal along these lines, if it were legally justified. He said that he had no statement to make at the moment because he had not determined his course of action and that he would not make any statement until there was a definite course of action in sight.

He was to leave for New Orleans Friday to take part in a conference on the proposed decree in which several exhibitor organizations were scheduled to participate.

Organizations which were supposed to participate in this meeting were: Southwestern Theatre Owners, Tri-State Motion Picture Owners, the Motion Picture Owners of North and South Carolina, the Theatre Owners of Texas, and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Virginia.

Individuals expected to be present were MPTO General Counsel Herman Levy, Southwestern Theatre Owners President Mack Jackson, Tri-State President James West, MPTO Directors Oscar Lam and Mitchell Wolfsam, Malco's, A. M. Lightman, Arkansas MPTO's C. C. Misko.

Meetings by the lawyers for the majors continued during the week behind closed doors. Assumption was that the majors were seeking a common ground upon which to finalize a decree plan which the court and report had the satisfaction there being little hope of getting together with the Department of Justice on all points since the Department is said to be committed to "auction selling" because of the court's opinion on the subject.

Would Avoid Confusion

The lawyers were reportedly especially concerned in getting a decree which would not throw sales into utter confusion.

In Washington, Attorney General Tom Clark told SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW that the government would make "some changes" in its proposal for the decree before Sept. 15. The government already has what Clark indicated was a "tentative" suggestion for the decree be.

(Continued on Page 11)

20 Per Cent? Pouff!

American exhibitors may think that 20 per cent federal tax is pretty steep, but when it comes to putting the bite on admissions Uncle Sam is a mere piker compared to the French government. Over there, the exhibitors pay 50 per cent right off the top in taxes.

Reminder of the steep taxes in France came when Prexy Ed Mulvey of Goldwyn Productions, told trade paper boys some figures on admissions at the Rex—de luxe Paris theatre on the Champs Elysees. The admission is fixed by the government at 60 francs (a franc is pegged at one cent U. S. dollars). With the amount to the theatre halved by the tax, that means the de luxe operations collect a total of 27½ cents per admission.

Ed thinks good pictures can cure that aliment too. According to Mulvey, Disney's "Pimpochio" played seven weeks at the Rex for a total gross of 27 million francs.
UA Offers 36 Features, 59 Shorts on '46-47 Program

United Artists product for 1946-47—a total of 38 features and 59 shorts—will represent an investment of $50,000,000. President Edward C. Ratterey this week told that organization's sales convention at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York.

Ratterey termed United Artists "the greatest stronghold of independent producers in the world," adding that the company now has 29 producers in its ranks and that its coming output would be the "maximum" total of releases of its history.

He listed the 1946-47 producers and their product as:

**Preston Sturges—**"The Sin of Harold Diddlebock," with Harold Lloyd; "Vendetta" with Hillary Brooke and Faith Domergue.

**Hunt Stromberg—**"The Strange Woman" with Helen Lamarr, George Sanders; "Dishonored Lady" with LaMarr, Dennis O'Keefe, John Lodge.


**Andrew Stone—**"The Bachelor's Daughters," with Gail Russell, Claire Trevor, Ann Dvorak; an untitled feature based on "Strange Bedfellows" with Eddie Bracken and Priscilla Lane.


**Benedict Bogeaus—**"Mr. Aces" with George Raft and Sylvia Sidney; (in association with Casey Robinson); "The Happy Life of Francis Macomber" with Gregory Peck, Joan Bennett, Robert Preston; (in association with Burgess Meredith); "A Miracle Can Happen" with James Stewart, Henry Fonda and Meredith.

**Seymour Nebenzal—**"The Chase," with Robert Cummings, Michele Morgan.

**Loew-Lewin—**"Bel Ami" with George Sanders, Angela Lansbury.

**Federal Films—**"Carnegie Hall."

**Jules Lavey—**"New Orleans" with Arturo de Cordova, Lena Horne.

**Charles Chaplin—**"Monsieur Verdoux," with Chaplin and Martha Raye.

**Crosby Productions—**"Abe's Irish Rose," with Joanne Dru and Richard Norris.

**Cagney Productions—**"The Stray Lamb" with James Cagney, Robert Cummings.

**Sel S. Lesher—**"No Pressure" with Edward G. Robinson, Lon McCallister.

**Sam Coslow—**"Copacabana" with Carmen Miranda, Andy Russell.

**Arnold Pressburger—**"Then and Now" with George Sanders.

**Six Hopalong Cassidys with William Boyd—**"Fool's Gold," "Dangerous Venture," "The Devil's Playground."


$8,000,000 for Ads

To advertise its forthcoming product, United Artists will spend $8,000,000, Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., Advertising and Publicity Director, told the convention at its Tuesday session. Lazarus claimed that out of the $40,000,000 people in the United States there was a potential motion picture audience of 90,000,000, which was hardly tapped since, he maintained, only about 18,000,000 see the average feature.

With the intention of doubling this average, United Artists is appropriating the greatest ad budget in its history to blanket the field with 1,000 line newspaper ads, increased magazine space and other advertising media. Lazarus also predicted a return to strong exploitation.

"In the future," he said, "a return to showmanship is inevitable. Not this year, or the next, but any slackening of buying power at the boxoffice by broad field exploitation into full focus as in the pre-war years."

General Sales Manager J. J. Unger pointed out to the convention that the single selling,

(Continued on Page 11)

DISCUSS PICTURES AND POLICIES. New productions from its 29 producer sources together with sales and advertising policies for the coming season were discussed by the top executives and members of the sales forces of United Artists at its meet in New York this week. Those who may be identified at the speaker's table in the photo above are: (left to right) Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., advertising and publicity director; Harry D. Buckley, exchange operations head; Edward M. Schracter, eastern sales manager; Edward C. Ratterey, president; J. J. Unger, general sales manager; Maury Orr, western sales manager, and Paul N. Lazarus, Sr., contract manager.

Golden Circle

Formation of the Golden Circle, a United Artists organization of selected salesmen, was announced at the sales meeting this week by General Sales Manager J. J. Unger.

The Circle, membership in which is a reward for initiative, is to serve a pool for future exchanges. It will be enlarged from year to year but will have a maximum membership of 20, Unger added.

Those initiated at this convention are Al Iscove, Toronto; James T. Blackmon, Charlotte; Buster Hammond, Kansas City; Roy Sachs, Dallas; Kenneth R. MacKai, Los Angeles; Herb Schaeffer, Boston; Casper Chouinard, Chicago; Mel Koff, Philadelphia.

Besa Short, Interstate Booker, Resigns

Besa Short, winsome, sharp-headed short subject booker for the Interstate circuit during the last 12 years this week announced that he was resigning so that he could go to Hollywood to join his husband, Paul Short, connected with the Paramount studio.

His work will be taken over by Debbs A. Reynolds, Interstate feature booker, whose department is being expanded to include short subject booking.

Miss Short was elected for her post by Interstate Vice-President and General Manager R. J. O'Donnell at the time that circuit determinedly turned its back on double features and decided to concentrate on strong shorts as a builder for its regular shows.

Paramount Earns $10,205,000

Paramount this week announced its estimated earning for the second quarter ending June 29, 1946 at $10,205,000 after deducting all charges. Paramount also declared a dividend of 40 cents a share on its split two for one common, payable Sept. 27.

Conversion to Peace

The Quonset hut which did war duty is now being converted to peace time use in the amusement industry—as a theatre. Second such house in New York State is to open around October in Morristown, under management of Howard Rathburn, who runs the Strand at Manlius. The hut will have a seating capacity of approximately 300 and will be set on concrete blocks. The box-office will be at one end of the hut, the screen at the other.

First such house noted is in the central Adirondacks at Inlet where a hut 100 feet long, 40 feet wide and 20 feet high is serving as a summer theatre with the hut providing the air conditioning. Only five days were required to construct it.
UP GOES THE BOXOFFICE!

FOR PRC's 3rd SMASH HIT IN A ROW—

DOWN MISSOURI WAY

TURN THE PAGE AND SEE FOR YOURSELF HOW RECORD AFTER RECORD IS TUMBLING!

HIT NO.

1. "THE ENCHANTED FOREST"
2. "THE WIFE OF MONTE CRISTO"

AND NO. 4. ON THE PRC HIT PARADE "HER SISTER'S SECRET"

NOW BEING PRE-SOLD IN HUGE NATIONAL AD CAMPAIGN!
THE SAME STORY
BIG CITIES . . . TOWNS
PRC'S NEW MONEY MAKE
OPENING TRIPLES
AVERAGE BUSINESS AT
TREMENDOUS ST.
LOUIS THEATRE IN
SPITE OF 100-DEGREE
HEAT WAVE—NEW
RECORD FOR 1st
WEEK'S BUSINESS!

FOX MIDWEST'S
BARNEY JOFFEE SAYS:
"WEEKEND BUSINESS
EXCELLENT. CUSTOMERS LOVE ITS
ENTERTAINMENT QUALITY."

TURNED AWAY BUSI-
NESS FOR A NEW REC-
ORD OPENING!

ST. LOUIS
KANSAS CITY
SPRINGFIELD
FROM 30 OPENINGS...
AMLETS... ALL BREAK RECORDS WITH
MISSOURI WAY

JEFFERSON CITY
Sensational grosses of opening day holding up!

INDEPENDENCE
Greatest crowds since the President's last visit!

TOPEKA
They almost broke down the doors, trying to get in!

SALINA
New house records for opening day and opening week!

WICHITA
Biggest opening in history of the city!

LEAVENWORTH
Topped all previous grosses by plenty!

AND IT'S THE SAME IN EVERY OTHER TOWN...
JUST MORE PROOF THAT "DOWN MISSOURI WAY" IS YOUR TOP MONEY HIT OF THE YEAR!

JOPLIN

T. JOSEPH

OVER SIX THOUSAND HAD TO BE TURNED AWAY FROM THE THEATRE AT THE EXTRA MIDNIGHT SHOW! BUSINESS CONTINUES PHENOMENAL!

PATRONS HUNG FROM THE RAFTERS. BIGGEST BUSINESS IN TOWN HISTORY—EVERY INCH OF SPACE COVERED FROM ORCHESTRA PIT TO FRONT DOOR!
**Goetz Names 'U'-Int'l Staff**

William Goetz, president and production chief of the newly formed Universal International Productions, born of the merger between Universal Productions and International Pictures two weeks ago, Wednesday announced the following executive set up for that organization:

William Goetz president and production head; Leo Spitz, board chairman; William Dozier, vice-president and associate production head; Cliff Work, former Universal studios chief, vice-president and senior studio executive; John Beck, Jr., vice-president and general manager; Rufus LeMaire, promotion; Edward Muhl, contracts and commitments; Jack Marton, casting director; Ray Crosett, story and writing department chief; James Pratt, production manager; John Joseph, national publicity director, with Leo Kaufman, of the old International set up, as associate.

**Rank Merges Eagle-Lion With General Films**

J. Arthur Rank this week merged Eagle-Lion of Britain into the General Film Distributors Ltd., carrying out another step of international change which began when Universal Pictures absorbed the partly Rank-owned United World Pictures in the United States.

The move, which is applicable to operations in the United Kingdom only, also includes the withdrawal of Universal from the distributing field there and makes General Films one of the largest distributors in that area, handling all the J. Arthur Rank output and Universal International product—an anticipated total of 30 pictures yearly.

Edwin T. (Teddy) Carr, former Eagle-Lion managing director, and John Woolf, will head General films as joint managing directors, succeeding former General Films managing director Frank Ditcham, retired.

The merger affects the United Kingdom only and does not apply to Eagle-Lion operations outside of that area or in Canada. In New York, a Rank spokesman said Eagle-Lion would continue production and distribution within the United States, including in its distribution program 10 Rank pictures.

**Theatre Building Curbs To Stay Says CPA**

The Civilian Production Administration in Washington this week said that drastic restrictions on theatre construction will continue for "many months to come."

Even CPA's tough two-thirds cutback in commercial and industrial construction, which stopped cold building of many theatres, will not be withdrawn for "three or four months," Administrator John Snell said, adding that except in rare cases, construction of new theatres is far in the future.

**Filmack Incorporates**

Incorporation of the Filmack Trailer Company of Chicago, formerly a partnership, into an organization to be known as Filmack Corporation was announced this week by President Irving Mack, who founded the company in 1939. Offerings of the new outfit, which has been engaged in providing theatres with special announcement trailers are: Vice-President Joseph R. Mack, Secretary Bernard Mack and Treasurer Donald Mack, who with Samuel S. Cohen and the president constitute the board of directors.

**Copyright Snarl Holds Up Gov't Film Sales**

Efforts to clear copyrights on 5,000 Government films made during the war were not advanced this week following suggestions made by Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers that the Attorney General rule copyright is to be government property under the "national emergency" act which is still in effect.

Nelson made his suggestion in Washington to the surplus properties committee of the Senate Military Affairs Committee, which regarded it as a temporary solution at best. The committee has the disposition of these films, which has been snarled due to the fact that copyrighted material is included in them and clearances would be needed by the owners before they can be sold.

The Motion Picture Association of America has suggested that the films be "broken down" by title and apparently that individual clearances be sought.

**Morgan Sees Exhibitor Care In Shorts Booking**

Exhibitors are spending more time and care in planning their shorts programs lately, Oscar Morgan, Paramount short subject sales manager declared in New York this week, expressing the belief that shorts were showing an upturn throughout the nation.

Morgan said that his observations did not show any evidence to a trend in types of shorts but that the interest seemed to cover the entire field.

"Children shows alone have gained tremendous popularity," Morgan commented. "You find as many adults at them as kids. In fact the number of houses which have played these matinees, but a rough guess would put the number at from 4000 to 5000, though how many of these have adopted children's shows as a regular policy I don't know."

The Paramount shorts head said that it was too soon to know whether shorts were getting any better exploitation than they had been getting but that "exhibitors are now careful in selecting programs," and said that there was less exhibitor resistance to shorts than there had been at any time in the past few years. Rentals were going up also, he added.

**Studio Wins NLRB Case**

Paramount was justified in discharging two members of the AFL Engineers, Architects and Draftsmen's union for inefficiency, the National Labor Relations Board in Washington ruled last week, reversing the Los Angeles Board ruling.

**Bible Film Plan Aroused Religious Editors Interest**

Paramount's plans to distribute, without profit, a series of shorts based on the Bible this week had awakened the interest of editors of the Catholic America and the Protestant Christian World Herald.

Frank S. Mead, managing editor of The Christian Herald, said: "It's a good idea. It has tremendous possibilities with people like Paramount behind it. The trouble with this type of plan is that it has never had sufficient money behind it and the results were pictures that looked like they had been made in the rain.

"These pictures should spread a more vivid picture of the Bible and its meaning among audiences.

"The only difficulty may be, as far as the Protestant churches are concerned, that they will have to compete with the vast sector of the Protestant Church which is anti-movie. But if the pictures are good, it remains to be seen whether they will not overcome that objection."

**Overcome Illiteracy**

Father John LaFarge, editor of the Jesuit operated weekly, America, declared of the bibli- cal project:

"I think they will serve to overcome the almost complete religious illiteracy now existent by familiarizing people with the Bible and helping them to a very much wider knowledge of the Bible in the same manner of the radio program, 'The Light of the World.'"

"I think they will be a success because people are interested in religion. There is a great deal of interest in religion. It is a vague type of interest but it is an interest."

Paramount formally announced its plans to dis- tribute a series of shorts which will be made by R. P. Finsen, and his corporation The Living Word, Inc. Finsen, producer of "Mata Hari" and "Journey for Margaret" himself explained his program which is to consist of a series, the first series to contain 18 shorts which he will start to film shortly. His plans calls for actors who have not been associated generally with worldly parts and the stories will be selected from both the Old and the New Testament. After being passed upon by an interdenominational board.

Finsen got a laugh when he acknowledged under questioning that the scripts approved by the board, which consists largely of clergymen, would also be passed upon by the Production Code Authority. (The Breen Office.)

He added that production would be made in independent studios, and that he estimated that the films would have a potential audience of some 72,000,000 church-goers.

Paramount Shorts Subjects Sales Manager Oscar Morgan said that Paramount had agreed to distribute the pictures on a non-profit basis and would not control the 16-mm. versions beyond asking that they not be made available to churches, schools and the like until theatrical distribution had been completed.

**Mich. Allied Meets Nov. 11**

Michigan's Allied Theatres owners will meet at the Book Cadillac Theatre on Nov. 11-13, it was announced in Detroit this week.
Atlantic City's showmen this week viewed with concern what they said were signs of a tightening up of enforcement of ordinance provisions—and most of them believe followed resentment in some circles over showing of "The Outlaw" under protection of an injunction which tied the hands of the city officials.

The picture has been playing to tremendous business on the Steel Pier, which operates only during the summer. Prior to opening Pier operator George Hamid procured an injunction preventing action on the part of the city, which opposed showing of the picture. The crowds have been so heavy that the pier's three theatres are playing the picture non-stop day and date.

Exhibitors who stay open the year round believe that this alleged tightening up was first manifested by enforcement of ordinances which had been on the books for years but which had been neglected. Among these was the report for issuance of ballyhoo involving noise, which had not been enforced.

Reports from Detroit indicate that Catholic influence is seeking a more vigorous censorship here after the police board passed "The Outlaw" for showing.

From New York, Hughes distribution general manager Harry Gold said "The Outlaw" has grossed $1,000,000 in the first week of its three-theatre engagement in Atlantic City and was holding a record pace in its second week, being the first feature to play more than a week there. Gold added that the picture had broken records in Asbury Park and had started a two-theatre run on Aug. 13, and that at the Shore Theatre in Wildwood, N. J., the film, playing a return engagement topped its first run gross of $3,400.

**Code More Liberal Than Anglo Censorship—Breen**

British censorship, which is semi-governmental in character, is less "liberal" than that of Motion Picture Administration's Code, Administrator Joseph I. Breen declared in New York Wednesday upon his return from London. The MPAA Administrator, who has been abroad at the invitation of the British industry to show it how to make films without violations or situations which might run afoul American censorship, denied that he had sat in a Hollywood conference with representatives of the Legion of Decency and agreed to "tighten up" on the code administration.

Asked if he did not think the code, unchanged since its adoption in 1930, should not be changed to make it compensate with changed views and conditions, he replied:

"Maybe," adding that he only administered and did not write the rules under which he operated.

**Gaumont Founder Dead**

Leon Gaumont, optical expert who pioneered in several motion picture developments and founded the Gaumont Company, Ltd., which later became Gaumont British, died at his home on the Riviera last week at the age of 84. Among Gaumont developments were the first synchronized talking films in Europe, presented in Paris before the Academy of Sciences in 1910, and pioneer color work done by the triochrome process.

**Egon Breecher Dies on Coast**

Egon Breecher, 66-year-old Bohemian actor who came to America to open in the stage version of "Lillom" in 1921 and appeared in such motion pictures as "Diary of a Chambermaid," "A Royal Scandal" and "The Hairy Ape," died of a heart ailment in Cedars of Lebanon Hospital in Hollywood Tuesday.

**DeMille Double Feature**

Cecil B. DeMille, who doesn't think so much of double features at theatres, featured a double anniversary at his home in Hollywood Monday. The occasion marked the producer's 65th birthday which also happens to be his 34th anniversary as the maker of stars and spectacular scenes which rank among the greatest money-makers in the box-office returns of the industry.

**36 Features, 59 Shorts On UA '46-'47 Program**

(Continued from Page 6)

-established as a policy of the company 27 years ago which is organized by Douglas Fairbanks Sr., Mary Pickford, Charles Chaplin and D. W. Griffith, was identical with the pattern the statutory court was recommending for the entire industry in the anti-trust suit.

"The entire film industry," Unger said, "is being remodeled after the way United Artists was patterned and the way in which it has been functioning ever since.

Unger also announced a $100,000 Grad Sears Gold Cup Sales drive to start Aug. 19 and end in January, covering current product which will be open to district, branch managers, salesmen and office managers. In addition to the cash prizes, the winning branch will receive a gold cup.

The convention attendance was estimated at slightly over 100. Executives present, besides Ralfey, Unger and Paul Lazarus, Jr., were: Edward M. Schnitzer, eastern sales manager; Maury Orr, western sales manager; Paul N. Lazarus, Sr. contract manager; Harry D. Buckley, exchange manager; Harry J. Miller, United Artists' treasurer; Thomas P. Mulrooney, assistant foreign manager; Harry W. Schroeder, foreign sales manager; Tom Waller, publicity manager; Mori Kushren, exploitation manager; Robert Goldfarb, home office manager; Howard LeSeur, advertising manager; Herbert Jaediker, art director; Charles M. Steele, and Sammy Cohen, foreign sales manager.

Home Office personnel present included Jack Weirge, Abe Dickstein, Herbert Ginsberg, John Hughes, Steve McGrath, George Roth, John Powers, Francis Winikus, Lew Barash, Nick Manella, Len Daly, Phil Cowan, Joseph Gould, Leon Roth, Lew Melamed, John Ingram.

District managers present were Jack Ellis, New York; Clayton Eastman, Boston; Moe Dubson, Detroit; Fred M. Jack, Dallas; Rud Lohenrz, Chicago; W. E. Callaway, Los Angeles; Charles S. Chaplin, Toronto.

**Mary Pickford Heads New Producing Firm**

Announcement of a new producing company, as yet unnamed, consisting of Mary Pickford, Buddy Rogers and Ralph Cohn, was made at the United Artists' sales meet in New York this week. The company plans production of "The Bat" which Miss Pickford owns, and an untitled western in color on a budget of $250,000. Rogers and Cohn are already associated in Comet productions.

**Tom Baily Passes Away**

Tom W. Baily, 45 year old former Paramount publicity director and one time consultant to the Treasury department during the war loans, died at his Beverly Hills home Wednesday. Baily, who was born in East Orange, N. J., had served as assistant managing editor of The New Jersey Chronicle, with Paramount, and later as West Coast manager of National Screen Service. He is survived by his widow and a daughter, Barbara Ann.
While

**THESE BEST-SELLERS**...

are at the peak of
their record performance
everywhere, exhibitors
are getting set for

**THE NEXT BEST-SELLER.**

from **20th Century-Fox**

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**IT'S A FACT:**

...that 20th Century-Fox is **Always The**
Everywhere crowding "Leave Her To Heaven" as 20th's biggest boxoffice picture of 1946!

Getting more money, more playing time than any Technicolor musical ever released by 20th!

Their NEW love adventures! And their first date—Roxy, New York City—wonderful!

Biggest Figure in Best-Sellers!

By America's top mystery writer! "A solid hit" predicts Boxoffice!
Twentieth Century-Fox President Spyros Skouras is going to keep the 20th-Fox trademark from here on out only for pictures produced in the company's studios. Outside product released through the outfit will bear its own trademarks.

Columbia International's Australasian Managing Director, Nick Perry, and its European Supervisor, Lacy Kastner, are in New York for conferences.

Paramount's theatre department was seeing the new men off on their jobs last week. Louis Lazar, who used to be with Schine, left for his Paris headquarters as general manager for the continental European houses. Raymond Fried is on his way to Cairo and Tel Aviv. Antonio Sastere, shifted to Havana where he will assist Cuban Director Eugene W. Street, and late this month, Clement S. Crystal, general manager of all Paramount's foreign theatres, will leave for a tour of the Latin Americas.

Expansion of the J. Arthur Rank sales force within Universal was beginning to shape up this week as Rank General Manager William J. Heineman announced that Bernard G. Kranze, had moved up to assistant sales manager of that special unit. Kranze, who has been in the industry for 24 years, up until recently was eastern central district manager for RKO.

Ben Martin Cohn, who used to be operations' chief for Loew's International theatre department, this week became head of Universal's Overseas Theatre Department.

John F. Kirby, former Paramount sales executive, is now southeastern district manager for Warners' with headquarters in Atlanta and supervision over the Atlanta, Charlotte, and New Orleans, succeeding Ralph L. McCoy, resigned. Kirby started his film career 21 years ago as a salesman in the Wilkes-Barre territory, subsequently transferred to Philadelphia as sales manager for Paramount, and eventually became district manager in Atlanta.

**Welles Talks, RKO Hit**

In what was said to be retaliation against a broadcast in which Orson Welles said a New York newspaperman had his eyes gouged by an Alien, S. C. police man, that community's City Council passed a bill prohibiting the showing of RKO's "Tomorrow and Forever," which stars Welles. The action was taken because of "erroneous publicity given Alien" by the Welles broadcast, it was said.

Steve Edwards, Republic's ad and publicity director returned Monday to his desk at the home office, New York, following several weeks of leave of absence for rest and recuperation.

Tony C. Reddin, who writes the ads and publicity for Paramount's International Theatres in Great Britain, came back state-side to confer with Paramount International President George Weltner and Great Britain General Manager J. E. Perkins.

Mrs. Marjorie Dawson who heads the Motion Picture Association's Community Relations Department is off to tour Chicago, Iowa City, Milwaukee, Detroit, Toronto and Montreal. She plans to try to extend the organization's reviewing activities to include mothers of young children and adolescents and possibly junior reviewers. The Department reportedly is preparing a correspondence course in junior reviewing.

**Calls Tax Session**

A special session of the Ohio legislature has been called for Aug. 20 by Gov. Frank J. Lausche to study the tax system. Possibility that tax reductions might result, including the three per cent tax on amusement tickets, was considered at Columbus because the governor is reported in favor of cutting taxes since the revenues of 1945, totaling $75,000,000 is way ahead of the estimated state expenditures of $65,000,000.

**German View 'Dictator'**

A test German audience last week got its first chance to see Charles Chaplin's "The Great Dictator," but the reaction even among known anti-Nazis was reported on the disapproving side.

One chief complaint seemed to be that the satiric Hitlerian gangster tactics and war was a tender subject to a people who had actually experienced the former and suffered defeat in the latter. Another criticism was on the speech with which Chaplin ends the film. (American reviewers also found fault with this when the picture was first released).

The audience roared however at the scene in which paunchy, be-medaled Goering appeared, bends over to kiss a girl's hand and knocks the Dictator down the stairs. Other laugh getters according to the New York Times, was the scene in which the Dictator dances with a globe of the world in his hands only to have it blow up in his face, and the one in which the Jewish barber shaves a customer in rhythm to a Brahms dance.
The Time of Their Lives

Universal

Comedy

82 Mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: Somewhat of a departure from the usual Abbott & Costello fare, this comedy has less slapstick and more story, with results that are all to the good. It is fresh, funny and fantastic.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: (Family) There are the stars, of course, and in this they can be billed as the NEW Abbott & Costello. Sell 'em on the "different" angle; you can't miss.


Plot: Lou Costello is Horatio Prim, a tinker who in 1789 arrived at Danbury Manor to live with his rival Bud Abbott for the hand of housemaid Anne Gills. He and Mistress Melody (Marjorie Rhodes) are mistakenly shot by American troops as traitors and buried in a well in a curse that binds them to Danbury acres until "crack of doom." Since, as spirits they can not get away to join their loved ones in what apparently is heaven, they haunt the house seemingly as if still alive. They move about, until the inmates find a paper that clears them of the traitor charge. After many attempts they succeed and Lou is last seen walking away with the pearly gates, which is closed because of Washington's Birthday.

Comment: Remember "The Ghost Goes West" and the Topper pictures? This new Abbott & Costello vehicle is out of the same barn. The boys make use of just about every possible situation that can arise from the ghost premise and they do a wonderful job of it, too. Materializing at will and fading out of sight when they want to, Costello and Marjorie have a grand time wandering through the picture to everybody else's discomfort, although it seems Lou can't fade through closed doors as Marjorie can, which is a help to the audience. There is a strange strain of wistfulness running through the picture which is very effective; Lou becomes a real actor and Marjorie makes a wonderful foil for his doings. They are really cute together. Although the comedian does his share of prat falls, the effective story provides him with fresh material and a new background for his antics. That's why the picture is different from any other Abbott & Costello and why you can sell them as the NEW Abbott & Costello. What more do you want?

New STR Service

Audience classifications of features as designated by 3 national reviewing committees now are reported weekly in our Booking Guide section.

This information enables the theatre-man to quote National Board of Review, General Federation of Women's Clubs or National Legion of Decency classifications of "Family" or "Adult" when queried by local groups or individuals about a current or forthcoming feature.

SLANT:

CAST:


Plot: When the body of a man is found in a rooming house, only an insurance adjuster takes interest in finding the killers. Through the clue of a green handkerchief plus underworld informers, he learns that the dead man belonged to a gang that had staged a successful robbery some years before. The dead man and a girl, involved with the gang, doublecrossed the others, and the killing was the result.

Comment: For a sure-fire box-office mystery picture, one that will need no marquee draw once word-of-mouth praise spreads, "The Killers," is one of the best of its kind. In quality, it is comparable to any of the proven top box-office winners, since it has all the essential ingredients usually found in good, exciting murder dramas. It is so extremely powerful that it should make top spot in any situation and is a particularly outstanding offering for the neighborhood and subsequent houses. Everybody connected with it deserves the highest praise, from producer Mark Helfinger, who had the foresight to buy Ernest Hemingway's short story and elaborate it into such a splendid film, down to the smallest bit player. Outstanding and better perfect in his first screen role is Burt Lancaster, as the big, dumb Swede. Lancaster is a real find, with looks plus acting ability. Ava Gardner, as the weak, sexy moll, turns in the best work of her career and Charles McGraw and William Conrad, who play the hired killers, are as menacing a pair of individuals as have ever appeared on the screen. The rest of the cast are splendid, too. According to Robert Siodmak reveals, one reason why he is rated one of Hollywood's best through his extremely skillful handling of numerous tense situations. Scenarist Anthony Veiller must take a bow for his remarkably tight script, considering the picture runs 102 minutes, yet never lets down in pace.

Shadows On The Range

Monogram

Western

59 Mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Mediocre efforts to maintain the pace set by predecessors in this series.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Should get by nicely at box-office because of Johnny Mack Brown's well established name value.


Plot: Johnny Mack Brown masquerades as an outlaw to trap a gang of rustlers. Brown is successful, although before herounds up the gang he is nearly shot by the daughter of a slain rancher. The girl comes to realize Brown is actually an agent of the Cattleman's Protective Association, called to the Western community by an old employee of the murdered rancher to combat the rustlers.

Comment: This is awfully slow in getting started and never manages to pick up any momentum speed. Dialogue is by scenic and Westerns. Brown and Raymond Hatton try hard, but can't surmount the obstacles in their paths. Some one should have checked the musical background. The best parts of this film is supposed to be the photography, which is cloudy in spots, and on the whole, this one is not up to the series' par.

The Big Sleep

WB

Mystery

118 Mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Adult) In this mystery, which co-stars Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall, the average patron will find that Bogart is as excellent as usual and that Miss Bacall is okay in the same type of role. Previously scored in, Film is a good mystery for all.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: If advance exploitation possibilities are taken advantage of, this should be a top box-office attraction everywhere.


Plot: Bogart is retained by a rich general to straighten out the mess his younger daughter has gotten herself into. Checking on this, he discovers that there is blackmail, murder, farming and poison involved and six men meet untimely ends before he clears up the mystery.

Comment: Selling this picture, with the exploitation possibilities is a test of the marketing mettle of Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall carry, should be a cinch. Especially when the general public is informed that this is a Raymond Chandler story and that Bogart plays the private detective. Philip Marlowe,

(Continued from Page 40)
LOS ANGELES

National Theatres ended its district managers convalesce August 8, with Dr. Michael M. Moniz, professor of political geography at the University of Pennsylvania, as guest speaker. During the meet the men were given a luncheon by Louis D. Meyer at MGM studios and a dinner by Charles Skouras, N. T. head.

Francis A. Bateman, who has been Western sales manager for Screen Guild since June 16, has been appointed general sales head for the company.

The Fox Westcoasters Club held their annual golf tournament and dinner dance August 9, at the Riviera Country Club.

Peter Johnson's Ad Art Company is preparing to move from its present quarters to 1735 S. Vermont, with building in progress.

Twentieth Century-Fox has a new receptionist, Laura Lauricoa, formerly with PRC. She replaces Lois Schoening, who moved to the billing department.

Don McLean, John P. Filbert Equipment Outfitter manager, is taking a vacation in California and Oregon with his family, making use of a trailer and camping outfit.

Louise Fenstermaker, Branch Manager Al Taylor's secretary, is vacationing in Salt Lake City. Betty DeBrown, secretary to the booking manager, is subbing for Louise. Other Paramount vacationists include Jeanne Hayes, Charlotte Phillips and Josephine Sheraviza, all of the accounting department.

Jerome Salton is presiding over a district meeting for Columbia managers being held August 16-18.

Ralph Ravenscroft is Lon Lewellen's successor as Paramount exploiter. Ralph comes to the exchange from the studio, but formerly worked in distribution, Louis Auriclo returned to Chicago after coming here to be Zone 4 salesman for Paramount.

Morrie Sudman's secretary over at Fox, Alice Adair, is on vacation, Sudman, branch manager Glynn Zaffke, district manager Buck Stoeker and division head Herman Wobber were among those present at a district meeting August 10-12, at which national sales chief Tom Connors spoke.

Harry Stern, PRC Western sales manager, returned from San Francisco. Harry Thomas, national sales head, was in town for studio conferences.

G. K. Haddow, Paramount home office branch service department, returned to New York after looking things over at the local office.

Seymour Surowitz, Elgin branch chief, recently resigned from the sales departments of Seattle branch offices.

Frank J. Kies and his staff from Paramount Pictures are shooting scenes of the wheat country near Pasco, Wash.

J. P. Smith, sales district representative for RKO Radio Picture, has been named Portland branch manager, succeeding the late M. E. Cory.

Warner Brothers, operators of Salem's two largest theatres, the Elmsmore and Capitol, are now under the supervision of J. F. Kelley, the last held for a number of years past by Carl Porter.
Kiss every old Bogart record good-night!
REGIONAL NEWSREEL

(Continued from Page 16)

verse to the Irving, Leonard Utech to the Embassy, and E. A. Langenfeld to the Embassy. The hearing on the Oriental Theatre case has been postponed until next month because some of the attorneys are out of the city on vacations.

H. E. Erickson has been named assistant manager of the RCA Training Films Department at Camden, N. J., headquarters. He was in charge of 16 mm. equipment sales in the Chicago territory for three years. Bob Hunt has been transferred from the sound department to succeed Erickson.

Roosevelt College executives report the purchase of the Auditorium Theatre and Hotel for $500,000. The theatre will be restored to commercial use and the hotel will be used for school purposes.

Henry Teller, 65, Balaban & Katz musical director, is dead.

Allen Usher, Paramount district manager, has sold his farm in Matawas, Mich.

Martin Barnett has retired as Chicago Paramount newsreel representative and is slated to go with News of the World.

P. J. Patel, Bombay, India film executive, recently visited the Ampro plant here. He reports business in India as immense.

The Hallicrafters company is moving into its new west side factory and expects to get production lines in motion within a month. The company reports an order backlog of $12,000,000.

Norman Kassel, Essaness publicity and advertising director, is in New York on vacation.

ST. LOUIS

Mrs. Besse Myers, 45, a patron of the Princess Skydome, the open-air annex of the Princess Theatre, suffered a possible fracture of the skull last Sunday when someone carelessly threw a soda pop bottle in her direction. Mrs. Myers was taken to the City Hospital.

Al Hoosier, formerly with Altec for a number of years, has joined the sales staff of the St. Louis Exhibitors Supply Company under Ray Colvin.

The 332-seat Virginia Theatre at Chatsworth, Ill., which was damaged by fire about four months ago, recently reopened and has been enjoying nice business. The lobby and inner entrances to the house has been enlarged, while new seats, projection equipment, screen and other furnishings were installed.

The Princess is the name selected for the new theatre George and Raymond Farber plan to operate in the old Brazill Building at Columbia, Ill., now under process of thorough remodelling.

Mayor Arthur O. Janke recently told the City Council of Joliet that the city's parking problems created by the recent opening of the new Lee Theatre on Jefferson street are nearing solution. Edward Codo, manager of the theatre, has made arrangements for the theatre patrons to use a large parking lot across from the theatre.

The Frisina-Lawrence Theatres Company of Lawrenceville, III., has been incorporated with 120 shares of $100 par. The incorporators were Dominic Frisina of Taylerville, III., and John B. Giachetto, Ciro Pedracci and Dominic Giachetto, all of Springfield. All four incorporators are officers of the Frisina Amusement Company of Springfield, operators of the largest circuit of motion picture theaters in Southern Illinois.

The Palatine Theatre at Palatine, Ill., a 300-seater, has been leased by Mr. and Mrs. Tom Norman to C. Thompson of Avon, Ill.

The Opera House at Washburn, Ill., which has been owned and operated by George M. Butler for some 35 years, has been leased to Merle F. and Carroll A. Johnson of Plymouth, Ill.

Joe Napole of Decatur, Ill., is the new residence manager for the Frisina Amusement Company's Liberty and Rex theatres at Mexico, Mo. He succeeds Jerry Baker, resigned.

The Salem Theatre in Salem, Ill., was slightly damaged during a fire recently when a motor became overheated. The house filled with smoke, but the actual damage was slight. There was a matinee in progress at the time, but the audience left quietly when told of the trouble.

Theatre transactions: The Bond Theatre in Galesburg, Ill., a 300-seater, has been purchased by Robert Davilla of Stronghurst, Ill.

The New Dixie Theatre in Brookfield, Mo., was sold recently by Eldon Roles to Herbert Newman, who formerly operated theatres in Branson, Liberty and Plattsburg, Mo. The Lyric Theatre, Plattsburg, Mo., a 425-seat house, has been taken over by Lee Henry of Stuart, Iowa. The Palace, a 200-seater in Ridgeway, Mo., was sold recently by Mayor D. A. Lindsey to L. P. Kipple, a former Virginian. The Windsor Theatre in Windsor, Mo., has been sold by Allied Theatres, Inc., of St. Louis to the Dickinson circuit of Mission, Kan.

WASHINGTON

Two important meetings of the all-star amateur boxing carnival committee were held this week by the Variety Club. A 100 per cent charity show, with everything going to the Junior Police and Citizens Corps., this carnival at Griffith Stadium on August 16, had Champion Joe Louis as honored referee. Co-Chairmen Bill Hoyle and Clark Davis of District Theatres met at the Liberty Athletic Club with their committees to arrange pairings for five of the ten matches, three of which Louis refereed.

The committee which also met this week was the entertainment committee headed by Gene Ford of Loew's Capitol Theatre, who made plans to bring in some top entertainers and celebrities for the affair.

Jerry Price, recently promoted to branch manager of United Artists, was given a testimonial buffet supper at the Variety Club Rooms on August 19, by the Salesmen's Club and the Variety Club.

Three of the Capitol's theatres will be involved in the semi-finals and finals of the "Miss Washington" contest, being run locally by Station WWDC. Two of the three semi-finals will be chosen at K-B's Atlas and Naylor theatres. A total of nine entrants will then compete in the finals at the Loew's Capitol on Monday night, August 22.

Ray Bell, formerly Loew's publicist, and later director of public relations for Capital Airlines, has been elected chairman of the Public Relations Advisory Committee for the Air Transport Association.

MGM Salesman Harry Buchbaum, an Assistant (senior grade) of the Naval Air Corps, recently rejoined the Naval Air Corps Reserve. He claims to be the only salesman who has seen his complete territory from the air.

CLEVELAND

Nate Shultz, Monogram franchise owner, Sam Schultz and Carl Schenck were all out in the territory this week closing contracts on their new product. They are selling the entire year's output of 32 features and 12 westerns.

James E. Scoville's son-in-law, James Templeton, has joined the Scoville, Essick and Reif circuit.

P. J. Wood, secretary of the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio, spent several days of last week in Cleveland on association business.

Ernest Schwartz, president and George W. Erdmann, secretary of the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors Association have been officially designated as association delegates to the National Allied Convention in Boston.

Cliff Peggi, manager of the Parma Theatre, is breaking in his new venture on a vacation trip to New York. Joe Robbins, Warren theatre owner (Continued on Page 20)
hail the CRUSADER

Congratulations to the WARNER BROTHERS Harry Jack Albert on the 20th Anniversary of TALKING PICTURES

The Prize Baby

NATIONAL Screen SERVICE PIONEER BABY OF THE INDUSTRY
was in town. Mrs. M. B. Horwitz, wife of the general manager of the Washington circuit, received her hospital discharge and is back home following an operation.

Edwin R. Bergman, PRC branch manager and his wife, Ethel, are back from a vacation in New York. Bergman announces the appointment of Gordon Bugie as head booker succeeding Nadine Fagler.

Theatre business is holding up exceptionally strong for August. Cool weather has been a great help, also an influx of vacationers.

Edwin Catlin, promoted from Cleveland city Warner salesman to Warner branch manager in Buffalo, took along with him to his new post an onyx desk set presented to him at a testimonial dinner held at the Statler Hotel and attended by 92 representatives of exchanges.

Bernard Kranze's testimonial dinner, in honor of his promotion to eastern division sales manager of Universal International, originally scheduled to be held here on August 19 has been postponed to an as yet unannounced date.

MGMT took Monday off for their annual summer picnic, held this year at Lake near Akron. The exchange closed at 1:30 P.M. Jack Walsh, MGM city sales manager has a new daughter named K-A-lyn. The young lady is completed by three brothers.

Herbert Horstemeyer, Universal office manager, just returned from a motor trip to Yellowstone National Park, was impressed by the fine scenery in the many small towns through which he passed.

Edwin R. Bergman, Chief Barker of the Variety Club, has sent out notices that the club's temporary headquarters is over the Hickory Grill Restaurant on Chester Ave. The club's lease in the Hollenden Hotel having expired, this interim location will prevail until permanent space is available.

Moe Dudelson, United Artists district manager, was in from Detroit to confer with local branch manager William Shartin. And RKO district manager Milton A. Cohen was also in from Detroit. While not occupied with official business he was looking for a home to which to bring his family.

DALLAS

R. J. O'Donnell and Raymond Willie, Interstate executives, were in San Antonio recently as guests at a special luncheon of local theatre men. O'Donnell, National Chief Barker for Variety, spoke briefly on the organization's activities for the year and outlined plans for the forthcoming turtle derby in Dallas on September 14.

Closed since July 14 for installation of air-conditioning, the Lucas, one of Dallas' newest suburban theatres, re-opened August 6 under new management. W. S. McLeomore, Jr., has purchased the theatre from Roy Lunnin. Before entering the Army McLeomore operated the Palace in Plano, Texas. The Lucas originally was opened in May.

Dolores Foy, manager of the Palace Theatre, is back from New York where he was looking after his comedian-brother, Eddie Foy Jr., ill in a hospital.

Variety Club members and their families will be entertained August 18 at a barbecue picnic at Boys' Ranch, the rehabilitation camp for boys located on the borderline between Coryell and Bell Counties.

"The Outlaw" has played in only a few Texas spots, but where it has played it has been hitting high gross figures. Major circuits have not bought the picture, but R. E. Griffith Theatres are negotiating. The Long circuit has bought and is playing the film. The Jewell in Texas City, B house of the Long Circuit, played the film for two weeks, in itself a record there. Many people came from Galveston where the film was banned. Several weeks ago Lown's State played the picture in Houston for three weeks and more recently the Lindsey Theatre in Lubbock, operated by Griffith, broke its house record.

J. Wood and his son Johnny Fain have purchased the Crescent at Sour Lake from C. D. Edwards and will change the name of the house to The Fain. They also have a theatre at Woodville.

The J. G. Long circuit has Sam Lewis of Dallas doing a top-notch redecorating job on their Queen Theatre at Wharton.

Buddy Harris is back from bass fishing in Possum Kingdom Lake.

Bill Finch, office manager at Astor Pictures, is recovering nicely from an appendectomy.

CINCINNATI

Al Smilken, former branch manager of Warner Bros., now with the San Francisco office, was in town last week renewing old acquaintances. The stop-off in Cincinnati was made during his return trip from the Warner Bros. convention at Atlantic City.

John Allen, district manager of MGM, also was in Cincinnati during the week. Other out-of-town visitors seen on Film Row included Roy Wells, and Fred Krimin, Dayton, Ohio; James Weddle, Lawerenceburg, Ind.; Chris Davie, of Corning and New Lexington, Ohio; Mandle and Louis Shore, Holden, W. Va.; J. R. Law, Lebanon, Ohio; Ray Thelan, Clendenin, W. Va.; C. A. Metro, Portsmouth, Ohio; Saul Bragin, from the Warners' Pittsburgh office; Lloyd Rogers, Welch, W. Va.; A. J. Sexton, Jr. and his mother, Mrs. Fon Sexton, Ashland, Ky.; Willard Gabbral, Harrodsburg, Ky.; C. F. Pfister, Troy, O.; Robert Harrell, Cleves, O.

District managers, sales personnel and head bookers of 20th Century-Fox Mid-East District are to meet in Cleveland August 21-26. Representatives of the local office who will attend the meeting are Leavitt J. Bugie, branch manager; James B. Neff, head booker; Robert C. McNabb, sales manager; John A. Needham, James W. Christian, Emanuell C. Naegei, Jack Kaufman, Robert Laws and Gilbert Sheppard, sales personnel.

Charles Perry, Paramount publicity man, is recuperating from an operation at Good Samaritan Hospital.

Members of the Paramount Pep Club enjoyed a picnic last Saturday at a private residence.

Two from MGM were reported vacationing last week: Margaret Weller and Milt Jacobs. Peggy England of 20th Century-Fox is visiting relatives in Indiana.

Wedding bells will ring for Vera Dohlerbein, assistant cashier of the Republic on September 7. She plans to stay on duty after her marriage.

The Variety Club will hold its 12th Annual Golf Tournament at the Summit Hills Country Club, August 19, Earl Greene, officer of the day, announced. A new Chevrolet will be raffled off.

Personnel changes in the Paramount Northio chain: Tom Campbell goes from the Palace in Hamilton to manage the Paramount in Middletown, O.; Campbell's place has been taken by Don Utz, just back from Army duty; Dale McCombs is assistant manager in training under the G. I. training program at the Paramount, Middletown, while Don Dully holds the same title under Utz in Hamilton.

NEW YORK

Generally speaking showmen may not like rain, but New York exhibitors for the last few weeks are actually glad to see it—when it happens on Friday nights. Reason: Rainy Fridays mean that many family which had intentions of week-ending in the country or at the beaches stay home, so that Saturday and Sunday business doesn't take that week-end sock in the solar plexus.

That was some party the Starr family, who take quite a chunk of money out of Film Row every week in their combined salaries, threw to surprise their mother at the Cafe Zanzibar. Present were her son—United Artists City Booker Hyron Starr and Warren Bros. Accountant William Herr—her daughter Dolores Starr of National Screen with her husband, and the wives of the Starr boys.

Latest comer to Film Row is Myrtle Michaelson, from Washington, where she was secretary to Mark Silver. When Silver became head manager in New York, the secretarial post in that exchange was opened; it was taken by Blanche Healey, secretary to former New York Branch Manager Jack Ellis, had moved with her boss when he became district manager. So Miss Healey has things wrapped up to continue as Silver's secretary in New York.

MGM is pushing its shorts as a means of increasing its billings and bookings in the current heat wave.

The heat seems to have kept the usual Film Row visiting exhibitors at home this week with only a few noted. Among them were Maurice Spewak of the Cartaret, N. J., Palace; Harry
Savett, Adirondack exhibitor; Sam Rosenblatt of up state New York, who runs the Strand in Watertown, is visiting Englemen from Livingston and Caldwell, N. J., and George Blank, booker for Prudential.

Sam Wu, Chinatown tycoon who owns the motion picture theatres in this jammed packed section of New York as well as reportedly owning the Chinese legitimate theatre, has taken over the Universal in the Bowery.

Funeral services for Harry Rod, veteran exhibitor, and father-in-law of Eddie Laechman, booker of the Brooklyn State, were held last week.

Warner up state Salesman Irving Rothenberg lost his mother last Monday.

Edward Schmitz, eastern division manager for United Artists, became a grandfather for the third time recently when his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Gerald Schmitz, gave birth to a boy and a half pound girl.

If you're in Circeville, see these dog hot days, give it a tip to the Warner Bros. exchange staff in New York for their work in getting and delivering bookings during the week for the sound celebration week. The territory has approximately 977 theatres, 730 of which ordinarily Warners considers as possibilities. The sales staff persuaded managers of all 977 to play at least a short during the week. In addition, for the same period, 700 features were booked, 2,654 single reelers and 170 two reelers.

To get an idea of what work this meant for the shipping room, think this over. They usually handle about 1,435 shipments weekly. This week the number jumped to 3,809.

Madeline White, who handles publicity for Monogram, is off vacationing for a week.

Arthur Mayer, of the Rialto Theatre, New York; Mayer-Durstyn, distributors of imported films, public relations director of the American Theatres Committee; and officially prominent in war activities of the industry as well as the Red Cross, this week attained the status of grandfather. "It's a boy! G. L. at birth"—the son of Captain and Mrs. Michael Mayer.

Nat Beier, who broke into the industry in 1912 with Paramount, stepped into the post of eastern district and circuit sales manager for Screen Guild Productions.

COLUMBUS

The Van Wert city council has been asked by the Rev. Charles R. Martz, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, to enact a measure banning midnight shows in Van Wert theatres. The Rev. Martz said he was speaking for the Van Wert County Ministerial Association.

Dee White, Circleville, will have a featured role in "The Best Years of Our Lives," a forthcoming film. Officials of Liberty Films Inc. have signed him to a seven-year contract. He was in Circleville recently visiting his father, T. W. White and his brothers, Howard and Donald.

Robert Blashke and Harry Murphy are new members of the Variety Club, Tent No. 2.

C. E. Herpich is now sole operator of the Noble Theatre at Caldwell and Mrs. Freeman is in full charge of the Roxy of the same town. Formerly the two theatres were operated in partnership.

Jack Needham, who is celebrating his silver jubilee year as a Twentieth Century-Fox salesman in his territory (August 11 was the actual date of the anniversary), is looking forward to a vacation starting August 25 in the north woods around Duluth and Northern Minnesota.

Carl Rogers, manager of the Broad, and Frances Wallingford will be married Sept. 15 in United Brethren Church, Chillicothe.

John "Benny" Brobst, Ohio maintenance man, is back on the job after an eight-week layoff caused when several bones in his foot were broken in a stage accident.

Lois Spire, former Broad office assistant, has shifted to the Ohio in a similar capacity.

Ohio’s natural resources are going to compete in forthcoming films. While plans were ahead for the U. S. Bureau of Mines to make a motion picture called "Ohio and Its Natural Resources," the League of Ohio Sportmen was completing arrangements to have a similar picture made of its wild life and scenic beauties. The league has engaged R. B. Howard and Associates to promote the picture.

MILWAUKEE

News has reached film row that the La Crosse Theatres Co., La Crosse, Wis., has been acquired by Ben Marcus of Oshkosh and Edwin Schwabale of La Crosse. This includes the real estate formerly owned by the La Crosse concern. Marcus is manager of the S. & S. Theatres Co. in Oshkosh. The company with which he is connected also owns the Time Theatre in Oshkosh, two houses in Ripon, one each at Appleton and Neenah, one at Menasha and two at Clintonville, all in Wisconsin. The La Crosse real estate deal involves the four-story Rivoli Theatre located in the building as well as five stores and offices; the two-story Wisconsin Theatre with stores and offices; the Riviera Building, housing the Riviera Theatre and stores and offices; and the Strand Theatre Building, all in La Crosse. These theatres are to be operated by the new owners under the name of the La Crosse Amusement Co.

TORONTO

Something akin to a controversy has developed at Sarnia, Ont., between Famous Players Canadian Corp. and Odeon Theatres of Canada over the question of midnight shows, which the local city council proposes to prohibit except for New Year's Eve. Famous Players came out with a statement, through its three Sarnia theatres, in support of the proposed civic prohibition and announced that all performances would not be held the following Sunday night. On the other hand, the Odeon Theatre conducted a scheduled midnight and presented a protest against the near-complete ban on the late shows. Frontier Theatres Limited, the operating company for the Sarnia Odeon, recommended as an alternate move that the performances be authorized six times during the 12 months in conjunction with weekends having a statutory holiday on the Monday. This compromise plan is to be dealt with at an early meeting of council along with the original motion to permit a midnight show only at the turn of the year.

Paramount Film Service Limited, Toronto has held regional sales conventions at Winnipeg and Montreal under the direction of General Manager Gordon Lightstone and has announced that Canadian Paramount was releasing next season 18 features, 4 re-issues, 64 shorts and 52 issues of Canadian Paramount News.

Considerable success has attended the operation of Canada's first open-air theatre, the Skyview at Wasaga Beach, Ont., which has 982 seats and is not of the automobile drive-in type. The policy of the Skyview, which is managed by Keith Wilson, is to change programs each night, the single bills being presented twice nightly and also at a Sunday midnight show, the admission being 50c for adults and 25c for children, tax included. Since opening at mid-July, (Continued on Page 22)
the theatre has been playing to capacity, principally summer residents of the popular district who are able to see recent features. The Sky-view is operated by Peter Barnes and Lou Davidson of Toronto who are rushing the construction of a similar theatre at Crystal Beach, Ont., opposite to Buffalo, N. Y. The partners are also erecting regular year-round theatres at Beamsville, Campbeltown and Palermo.

Three more theatre robbers were captured by police when they surrounded the Regent at Sudbury, Ont., to arrest two local youths, Karlo Bubalo and Stan Lukowy, and John Mocilenko of Windsor, after they had started to crack the safe in the manager's office. Several weeks ago another trio was caught in the Kent Theatre at Windsor.

A penalty of $100 and costs was meted out in the police court at Tillsonburg, Ont., and the licence of the Capitol Theatre there was suspended when Robert Hambleton, theatre proprietor, was found guilty of infractions of the Ontario Theatres and Cinematographs Act. D. M. MacPherson, government inspector, swore that no manager was in charge during a performance, a number of exits were blocked, and the retiring rooms and basement were in a dirty condition. Magistrate R. G. Groom threatened a further fine of $25 per day until the situation was corrected.

Following his re-election as Second International Vice-President, William P. Covert of Toronto, was tendered a complimentary banquet by the Canadian delegates to the convention at Chicago of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees.

OKLAHOMA CITY

Governor Robert S. Kerr, other state officials and newspaper editors will turn actors this week with the feature attraction the state's natural resources. They will appear in "Development of Oklahoma Natural Resources" to be made by the State Planning and Resources Board in co-operation with the Griffith circuit. Shooting began last Monday at Grove and the Grand River Lake. Griffith is furnishing the technicians, and McBride and private contributions are financing the other costs so that the state government itself will not have to invest any funds in the project. The film is scheduled for release October 15 and will receive feature dates in Griffith houses.

The new Plaza Theatre was opened last Tuesday evening after a complete remodeling job throughout, which includes a new cooling system, new chairs and Western Electric sound. A mural depicting highlights in the life of Will Rogers has been painted in oils for the foyer of the new Will Rogers Theatre at Northwest 43d and Western by J. Craig Shepard. It's the newest Griffith theatre here.

MONTREAL

Larry Stephens, public relations chief from United Artists' main office in Toronto, has been busy himself here for the past two weeks getting ready for the premiere of "Henry V." Art Dalin, manager of the Kent, expects by present indications that the house will be sold out for at least the first month by the time the film opens on September 5. U.A. launched its campaign with a cocktail party at the Mount Royal Hotel.

Odeon has two theatres in the course of construction here now. Both around 800 seat capacity. This will make a total of nine houses in the city. This continuation of building is sure indication that the shortage of materials is more on the wane. Odeon seems most reluctant of all potential builders to start construction without adequate assurance that once begun the cinemas would be completed without holdups.

Consolidated has embarked in a paint-up, clean-up and general housecleaning at its Dominion Square building offices. Increased business over the past few years has forced the company to enlarge its offices.

Phil Maurice, former Loew's manager, has been elevated to supervising manager of Consolidated's five downtown first run theatres. Johnny Reidy, Palace manager, moves to Loew's, and Johnny Rosenberg, assistant manager at the Palace, now moves up into the top slot. Norm Charlton, of Loew's staff, is now assistant at the Palace.

Hatton Taylor, manager of RKO's local office, has been named by the company to take over in Michigan. His headquarters will be in Detroit. He got a send off from the gang who feted him at Ruby Foo's. A presentation of luggage was made and the bouquets were tossed by Bill Lester of United Amusements and Arthur Hirsch, Consolidated president.

The mounting toll being taken by infantile paralysis (polio) here may force civic officials to stop in and temporarily close gathering places where the public must come in close contact. This includes theatres. Health authorities point out the trend indicates September will show an even greater increase in the worst outbreak for many years.

NEW THEATRES

Flushing, N. Y., is to construct a $50,000,000 modernistic shopping center which will contain a 4,000 seat theatre.

Coleman, Wis.—Work on the new Coleman Theatre here, to seat 400, is progressing with the opening scheduled for fall. Norbert Wettstein is the owner.—MIL.

Spring Valley, Mich.—Permit for the construction of a theatre here has been granted Cecil Charlanue. Architects will be A. J. Moorman and F. N. Steinmetz of St. Paul. Miss.—MIL.

Manaw, Wis.—Permission to build a house here has been granted the Manawa Theatre Corporation.—MIL.

Windsor, Ont.—Skyway Drive-In Theatres Ltd. of Toronto is completing its second automobile theatre in Ontario here, the site of 12 acres being sufficient to accommodate 700 cars. The throw to the screen from the booth is 170 yards. The first Skyway auto theatre was opened at Stoney Creek on July 10.—TOR.

Galveston, Texas—The new 802-seat Broadway Theatre, being built by Interstate is scheduled for completion during the latter part of September.—OKL.

MINE HOST COLLIER. Rodney Collier, manager of the Stanley Theatre, Baltimore, played host to the press and other notables at a party held at the Baltimore Variety Club in celebration of the Twentieth Anniversary of Talking Pictures. In the group pictured above are: Carroll Dulaney, News-Post columnist; Larry Cooling, editor of the Sunday Sun; William F. Curran, Attorney General of Maryland; Gilbert Kanour, critic of the Evening Sun; Congressman George Fallan of Maryland, and Collier.
INDIANPOLIS

Fred Greenburg, Los Angeles exchange manager for Warner's, and formerly of Indianapolis, stopped off at Indianapolis on his way home after attending the Warner sales convention in Atlantic City.

Boyd Sparrow, manager of Loew's Theatre, is vacationing in Wisconsin.

Howard L. McCracken, counterman at National Theatre Supply Co. here, is the father of a 7½ pound baby girl, Sally Lynn, born August 13 at the Methodist Hospital.

Edna Merriman, inspector at Columbia exchange, is confined to the Methodist Hospital after a major operation.

Screen Guild is now located at the Chamber of Commerce Building in a permanent location. Dorothy James is the office manager and booker.

Exhibitors seen on Filmrow: R. T. Page, Brazil; Doyle Carter, Bloomington; W. C. Kohlhorsel, Napanser; W. H. McNab, Mooresville; William Comers, Marion; Kenneth Law, Argos; D. Steinkamp, English, and Joe Schilling, Connersville.

Timothy Cleary of the United Artists sales group has resigned.

Hobart Kayfetz, Warner Bros. booker, is spending his vacation at Lake Webster, Ind.

Larry Shmbnall, who managed the theatres at Columbus, Ind. for the Rensbuach Circuit, is now manager of the Vogue and Elwood at Elwood, Ind.

Ruth Burnell, secretary to manager Guy Craig at Columbus, has been chosen local correspondent for Columbia's Beacon, the company's house organ.

Robert (Bob) Stevens, RKO office manager, is attending the Illinois golf tournament in Ft. Wayne, Ind., to be held Saturday and Sunday.

Harry Lorch and John Jones, who hold the Illinois and Indiana franchise for Screen Guild, were in the city during the week on business.

Margaret Muecell, inspector at Columbia Pictures, is confined to her home by a sprained ankle.

On vacation: W. A. Michel, 20th-Fox cashier; Louise Munson, Columbia cashier; Betty VanWinkle, Columbia typist; and Thelma Smith, head of Universal contract department.

NEW ORLEANS

Joy Houck, of Joy Theatres, Inc., Waddy Jones, manager of the Strand Theatre, Rae Stevens and Mr. and Mrs. William Prewitt of Associated Theatres were among those who attended the wedding of Willis M. Houck and Junita Porter of Dallas last week.

The Joy Theatre at Rayne, La. was completely razed by fire recently. C. C. Montgomery, the owner, said he will have his new Arcadia Theatre there ready for opening by October 1.

Mrs. Henry Lazarus of Lazarus Theatre circuit is vacationing in Hollywood.

Mrs. Esther Meltzer, formerly of National Theatre Supply Company, has returned from a month vacation in New York City.

W. A. Winters, who has been in the employ of National Theatre Supply Co. here as bookkeeper, has accepted a position with the War Assets Administration.

A recent death of one of the oldest Louisiana exhibitors was that of Jules Scharff, owner of the Fessane and Palace theatres in New Iberia, La.

Jules Levy, producer and Arthur Lubin, director were here recently in the interest of their movie, "New Orleans," which is a dramatization of the history of jazz from its beginning in New Orleans.

W. A. Prewitt of Associated Theatres has returned from a week's trip over his circuit of theatres in Mississippi.

Shirley Reach of Joy Theatres is on a two-week vacation, ditto Connie Black of Associated Theatres.

Bill Cobb is out in the territory to interest the exhibitors in his poster service.

Hodges Theatre Supply Company will soon move in their new modern air conditioned building at 1309 Cleveland Ave.

Milton Guild, head of Lighting Film Delivery Service and of a circuit of theatres in western Louisiana, was a film row visitor.

Out-of-town exhibitors in town were Don George of Alexandria, Charles Waterall of Mobile and West Alabama Circuit, Nick Lamantia of Bogalusa, La., Banchette & Dushon of Eunice, La., Claude Kelley of Liberty, Queen and M & M, Eunice, La., Bill Lighter of Lighter circuit, and Clarence Thomassie of Harvey, La.

MEMPHIS

Leonard Shea, salesman for RKO here for the past two years, announced last week that he has been appointed branch manager for the new PRC branch office which is to open in Memphis soon. Grover Parsons, district manager of PRC, has been in Memphis for the last two weeks helping to make preparations for the opening of the new branch. Operations are to get under way here early in September. Prior to joining RKO, Shea was with Monogram and Republic, both in Memphis and New Orleans.

Wesbee Hall, Fox Movietone representative in Memphis, has gone to New York on his vacation.

Jim Barnes, manager of the Warner, arranged a real "Hollywood type" premiere here for "Night and Day." A roped off circle in front of the theatre provided space for invited guests to be interviewed over WMPS, local radio station, while police battled with the mob of curious who crowded against the ropes and flooded out into the street.

The advertising department for Malco Theatres is being moved into larger quarters in the theatre basement, since Malco adopted a new policy of having Elliott Johnson, local advertising manager, handle most of the advertising for the entire circuit. Myron Meyer, former manager of the local Malco, has joined John son's staff and several artists have been added.

DENVER

Twentieth Century-Fox has been holding a district meeting at the Brown Palace Hotel this week, with personnel from the Denver and Salt Lake City exchanges in attendance, along with officials of the company from New York and San Francisco. The meeting was devoted to sales policies and other company matters. Attending the sessions were Tom Connors, vice-president and general manager; Peter Latashes, his assistant; John Caskey, legal department, all of New York; Herman Webster, division manager; Charles Walker, district manager; Frank Jenkins, publicity; Clyde Blau, manager the Salt Lake City branch; Roy Pickrel, office manager and booker, Salt Lake City; Kenny Lloyd, Harry Swanson, Bishop Tidwell, Salt Lake City salesmen; James Dugan, Denver manager; Carl Larson and Howard Metzger, booker, Denver; Hugh Rennie, George Tawson and Robert Hamel, salesmen, Denver, and Ann LeGendre, Dugan's secretary. The sessions covered two days, August 13-14.

The Denham Theatre Co., Dave Cockrell, president, has bought corner property at 18th and Welton Streets, and in two or three years, as soon as conditions permit, hope to build a theatre on the site. It is less than two blocks from the Orpheum, Denver and Paramount.

Lynn Fetz, head usher at Metro, was married to Ann Ellis, of Denver.

Gibraltar Enterprises, operating theatres in (Continued on Page 24)
REGIONAL NEWSREEL

(Continued from Page 25)

several states, entertained exchange and supply personnel at a cocktail party and banquet at the eleven Pawn Court Hotel, 200 present. At the affair from Gibralter were William Ostenberg II, Scottshuff, Neb.; Eddie Ward, Silver City, N. M.; Ed Schutte and Clarence Chidley, Casper, Wyo.; Tom Murphy, Raton, N. M., and from Denver, Charles Gilmoun, president and general manager: Fred Knell and Robert Sweeten.

Carl Shrum, owner of Western Air Pictures, Los Angeles, closed with Bernie Newman for distribution in the Denver and Salt Lake City areas.

Well over 300 were in attendance at the annual picnic and golf tournament of the Rocky Mountain Screen Club at Park Hill Country Club this week.

Paramount exchange vacationers include Mrs. Maxine Law, booking department, and Alberta Wells, PBX operator.

Philip Fidel hopes to have his new theatre at Española, N. M., open within two months.

Charles Hintz, Universal exchange manager, is in Los Angeles for a manager's meeting.

Charles Means, Grants, N. M., theatre owner, and his son William were on one of their infrequent visits to the Paramount lot.

Mayer Monksy Universal branch manager, is fully recovered and out of the hospital after a severe shak ing up in an auto accident.

OMAHA

Although outbid, 14-12, the Wandering's downed the Hot Potatoes, 7-6, in an intra-Film Row softball battle at Peony Park. Pat Halloran pitched the winning game with Captain H. B. Johnson behind the plate. Paul Walsh hurled for Captain Jess McBride's club. Only a muddy field marred the game and other events at the Variety Club picnic.

Frank Hamon, Warner branch manager, went to Atlantic City for the national sales convention.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Scott Ballantine are spending a couple of weeks relaxing near Walker, Minn. He owns the Ballantine Theatre Equipment Company.

Donald V. McLucas, United Artists branch manager, left for the national sales meeting in New York.

Jim Castle, Paramount exploiter from Kansas City, while in town invited any servicemen who had witnessed the Bikini atom bomb tests to see films of the event.

The Noble, Jr., district manager for Dent Theatres, visited Omaha before hurrying on to a conference in Colorado Springs.

Frank Good, Red Oak (Ia.) exhibitor, showed up along the Row, but told friends not to look for him for awhile because he was headed for a vacation in Canada.

Josephine MacGnre, Warners biller, is splitting her vacation between Grand Island and Des Moines.

Dorothy Weaver, 20th-Fox assistant cashier, selected Colorado for her vacation.

Dick Huntz, son of Ralph Huntz of the Tecumseh (Neb.) Theatre, visited at home. A B-25 pilot, he flew over the family home, then on to Omaha for a landing.

Betty Davis, Tri-States secretary to Boss Bill Miskell, took her first airplane trip, flying to Denver on vacation.

Marjorie Gerlack, Paramount secretary, is vacationing on a farm near Griswold, Ia. A co-worker, Regina Healy, is spending her two weeks at Lake Okoboji.

Marie Hasse, chief inspectoress at Paramount, is driving to California to see her son, Pat.

Paramount's staff is looking forward to an August 19 visit from Al Kane, branch manager at Boston and co-vice president of the Paramount sales drive.

Tri-States' Rivoli Theatre at Falls City will premiere Republic's "Roll on Texas Moon." August 29 with company officials from Omaha present.

BRIDGEPORT

Albert E. Sheu, managing director of the Lyric, and his wife, Katharine, have returned from a six-week vacation in the White Mountains of New Hampshire.

Rene Harriman, usherette at the West End, has announced her marriage to take place September 4.

Mrs. Dean Brown, who before her marriage was Dorothy Peddle, associated for a number of years in various capacities with Bridgeport Loew theatres, has just become the mother of a baby girl, and Martin—heir second daughter. During the war, while her husband was serving overseas, Mrs. Brown worked in the box office at Loew's Globe.

Ruth Smiter, advertising director of the Strand Amusement Co., operators of a Connecticut chain of houses, is back from her vacation.

Eleanor Witter is a new usherette on the staff of the West End.

William Muccia, Jr., doorman at the American, is on vacation. James Vizzio is pinch-hitting.

Morris Jacobson, general manager of the Strand Amusement Co., is back from his vacation in the Catskill Mountains. His assistant, Nate (Sony) Greenberg is off for his annual holiday.

Manager J*ames Tobin, of the Warner, brought each of his employees an extra week's salary for winning a drive among Warner New England theatres during April, May and June where there was a concentrated campaign on cleaning up, renovation and bringing service up to the highest possible standards.

Getting in on the prize money was Edwin Ribah manager of the Merritt. He was awarded a special $100 prize for the theatre having the most perfect score. Manager Ribah also managed to collect some of the monthly award money. Other Fairfield county winners of the monthly awards were, in reverse, Hiljamin, of the Empress, Danbury; Manager Jack Harvey, of the Palace, Danbury, and Merrick Lyons of the Rialto, South Norwalk. A $75 honorable mention award was given to Marlin Robinson of the Capitol, Danbury.

DES MOINES

Tri-States Theatre Corp. of Des Moines will throw a 13th anniversary party for members of the Des Moines film row at the Wakonda country club on the evening of August 23. The affair will be a stag party with all the men in film row invited.

Don Robertson, assistant manager, is in charge of the KKO Orphen at Des Moines while the manager, Jerry Bloedow, is vacationing at Deluth. Bloedow got a swell break just before he left with a playbill by Sterling Bennis in the Des Moines Sunday Register. Bennis told all about the theatre business in the write up, how Bloedow keeps customers eating popcorn, young patrons trying to crash the house and other interesting things a manager runs into.

Mary Benjamin is leaving as cashier at the Columbia exchange to take a similar job with the company in its Los Angeles office. Lois Ewing, who has been assistant cashier, will take her place.

Joan Smith is a new ledger clerk at Paramount, Waverly Edginton has joined Universal as an inspector, and Kenneth Bishard has resigned as a salesman for Universal.

The employes of 20th Century-Fox recently held their annual picnic at the Riverview Club. The affair was a dinner party, with the gang taking to the rides at the park.

L. J. Wegner, district manager for Central States Theatre Corp. at Burlington, has returned from a three-week vacation trip to Los Angeles.

Sy Fauman of the Rialto Theatre at Boone, la., enjoyed an ideal vacation. He spent it at home.

SAN FRANCISCO

Al Shmitkin, Warner Brothers branch manager, has returned to the exchange from the Atlantic City convention.

Jerry Mayer, studio manager for MGM, has been discharged from Stanford Lane hospital here following an abdominal operation. Howard Creighton, assistant manager at the Golden Gate Theatre and his wife, Helen, left the institution after an attack of yellow jaundice.

Vacation bound are Mary McCall, secretary at California Theatres Association; Jerman Polzin, Orpheum Theatre secretary; Myrle Geddick, poster clerk at National Screen Service; Fractive Neece, Pacific Geiger, bilier, Joseph Hanley, office manager, Gladys Paull, contract clerk and Ruth Maldanado, receptionist, all at the Warner Brothers exchange; Dorothy
Sanchez, of the Paramount accounting department and Johnny Johnston, head usherette, and Norma Moya, secretary, at the United Artists Theatre.

Returning from business trips in Los Angeles are Charles J. Maestri, assistant general manager for Robert L. Lippert Theatres, and N. P. Jacobs, RKO branch manager.

Nat Nathanson, United Artists branch manager, has left for the UA sales convention in New York.

Exhibitors visiting on the film row this week were Andy Goldschmid, Bijou Theatre, Visalia; E. Stefani, Isleton Theatre, Isleton; Charles Gray, Westside Theatres; John Hillman, Granada Theatre, Morgan Hill; Oliver Woolridge, Mount Shasta Theatre, Mount Shasta; Lester Blumberg, of Porterville; L. Marks, Rio Alto Theatre, Sacramento, and Guy Meeks, San Jose Drive-In Theatre.

Santorn Jushandia, Siamese exhibitor, was in town.

George M. Mann and Hal Honore, assistant general manager for Mann Theatres, played host for fifteen Euroka, California, Boy Scouts this week.

Approximately $15,000 in new booth equipment has been installed at the Pine Tree Theatre in Klamath Falls, Oregon, under the direction of Clifford Morris, service engineer for Mann Theatres. Equipment was supplied by National Theatre Supply, Los Angeles.

Emmett Keefer, Fox shipper, is expecting a new addition to his family.

RKO Contract Clerk Pat McMillan, will be married in October to Glen Davis.

Robert L. Lippert, Lippert Theatres head, has returned from a short business trip to Los Angeles.

Two new RKO exchange employees are Maud Nicholson, bills, and Nadine Price, box office clerk.

ALBANY

Neil Hellman and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hellman went to Binghamton to arrange for the opening of the Hellman-Fabian Drive-In Theatre.

Harry Berkson, Monogram franchise owner, visited the Albany exchange. Nate Dickman, Monogram branch manager, spent a day in New York for conference.

Jack McGrath, manager of the Albany Theatre Supply Company, will install 500 chairs in the Playhouse Theatre, Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Theatre is operated by R. R. White.

Little Junior, weighing 8 lbs, 13 ounces, was born Tuesday, August 13 to Mr. and Mrs. Francis Downey. Francis is head of the sign shop department for Warner Bros. Theatres.

Universal district manager John Scully was in Albany for a sales meeting.

Evelyn Hoffman, Warner Bros. Theatres' booker's secretary, has been confined to her home for the past two weeks because of grippe.

Mrs. Elizabeth Hawkins, mother of Upstate's office manager, Mary Flynn, is resting comfortably at the St. Peter's Hospital after a recent operation.

Sid Dwore has rented the Palace Theatre, Schenectady to Frank DePaula. Booking and buying will be done by Upstate Theatres.

Vacationists: Floyd Fitzsimmons, MGM field man, to Long Beach; Helen Hart, office manager's secretary, to Boston; Columbia's cashier, Camille McCaffrey to Lake George, Mr. and Mrs. A. Marchette (Universal and Warner Bros. Pictures respectively) traveling along the coast of Maine; Jane Flynn, Universal inspector, to New York; and Ethel Amamater, manager's secretary, in Canada; Warner Bros. booking clerk, Idether Denbro, at Lake Luzerne.

Charles A. Smukwitz, Warner Bros. assistant zone manager, spending a week in Canada.

Mr. and Mrs. Cal King of Williamstown, Mass., stopped off at Film Row after vacationing in New York City. Morris Slotnick of Waterville in town as was Mr. and Mrs. Sam Davis of Phoenixia, Grover Woodard of Luzerne and Sam Rosenblatt of Waterville.

Irene May Smith, Warner Bros. assistant zone manager's secretary, week-ended at Blythwood, Loon Lake.

PHILADELPHIA

Harry Reiners, RKO exploitation supervisor, was a Philadelphia visitor this week.

E Everett Callow, Warner Theatre advertising and publicity department head, is vacationing at home this week. He expects to take his family to Ocean City next week.

A regular meeting of the Motion Picture Associates was held in the RKO projection room on Monday. The meeting was called to order by President McFadden. Plans for the coming season were discussed.

Milt Young, Columbia's exploiter, has returned from a vacation in the Poconos. He was up there for two weeks with his wife and daughter.

The Byrd Theatre was the scene of an exciting episode last week that is usually enacted on the screen. A military prisoner passing the theatre with his captor sergeant asked permission to go to the washroom. The sergeant removed the prisoner's handcuffs when they entered the washroom, and then the prisoner dashed out, ran through a crowd in the lobby and escaped.

The policy of the new Goldman Theatre, which will operate from 8 A.M. to 1 A.M. will be an interesting one to watch. This is the first time in Philadelphia history that a first run 'A' house will operate for such long hours, as a regular policy. During the war years special late shows were held on Friday evenings at one downtown first run house every week in order to give war workers a chance to see a new 'A' picture, but no first run house has run later than the usual "last feature at 10 P.M." except on special occasions.

Hank Howard expected to go on vacation this week, but a series of pictures breaking first run will probably postpone his leave until after Labor Day. In the meantime, he is breaking in a student publicity man, Morii Passaro.

Mike Weiss, 20th Century-Fox exploiter, just beginning to relax after the terrific "Century Summer" campaign, had to start all over when Vivian Blaine visited town for a week's stand at the Earl Theatre.

Apparentilly the opening of the Atlantic City race track has not hurt the resort's matinee business any to speak of. A checkup of the town's theatres revealed that all matinees were holding up to usual mid-summer form.

Moss Hart, Pulitzer prize playwright and film producer, was married to Kitty Carlisle, star of stage and screen, last week-end at New Hope, Pa. The couple honeymooned at Hart's farm in the New Hope district.

KANSAS CITY

The biggest neon sign in the middle-west has been scheduled for the new "81-Drive-In Theatre" being completed five miles north of Wichita. It will have ten big panels, built on a 60-foot tower in offset sections of modern design to be "painted" at night with changeable color neon and display lights. Six-foot letters will herald the theatre name in rose and blue.

Continued on Page 26)
(Continued from Page 28)

green tubing and fluorescent green tubing will tie 'the name sign in with the changeable color panels. A 6x35 foot sign panel with 24 inch Wagner third dimension letters will carry the film name.

Charley Lindsey has sold his Sheridan in the Missouri city of the same name to Billy M. Chambers of Ravenna. Chambers formerly managed a theatre at Marysville.

Sam L. Sosna has leased his Sosna in Aggieville, Kansas, to H. J. Griffith theatres. Harold Gran will manage.

The Kansas City city council has passed an ordinance in co-operation with local theatres offering $25 rewards to help curb local vandalism which has been growing here of late.

Bill Collins of DeSota has started a new 300-seat theatre at LaGrange.

J. B. and H. A. McMillen have opened a new theatre in Hollister; they have been in the business for ten years.

BOSTON

Martha Ferris of Film Board of Trade is on vacation.

Ethel Bolognese of Philadelphia is working in Herb Philbrick's Department at M&F Theatres doing special art work on their new "kiddie" manual.

Evelyn Scantine, of M&F's Advertising Department, is back at work after a week's vacation in New York.

Nathen Buckman, of Standard Candies, has returned from two weeks vacation at the Cape.

Margaret Dolan, secretary to district manager, Hy Fine, has gone on vacation.

M&F's district manager, James Dempsey, has returned from Maine where he spent an enjoyable vacation. Edward Cantor, of M&F, and his family spent three days in Tanglewood at the Berkshire Music Festival.

M&F's home office enjoyed a "screening" of
dechrome color photos taken by Herb Philbrick at the M&F outing this summer.

Spirto Latchis, owner of the Latchis Theatre in Brattleboro, Vermont, commemorated V-J Day, Thursday, August 15, by joining merchants in a parade with floats advertising coming attractions.

The Lawler Theatre in Greenfield, Massachusetts, recently observed its first anniversary, with a street parade, band concert, radio broadcast, organ recital, and birthday cake for all.

E. X. Callahan, of 20th Century Fox, just returned from a trip to Albany and New Haven with Andy Smith, Eastern sales manager.

J. M. Connolly of 20th Century-Fox, spent the weekend at Nantucket.

Martin Adams, Tub Thumper and president of the Massachusetts Pharmaceutical Association for many years, has been named Massachusetts chairman for the Nurses Memorial Home drive, the campaign for which is to run September 16 through October 16. Adams, who has worked on many drives with Sam Pinanski, Maurice Wolf, Ed Callahan and others of the film row district has again enlisted the support of these men and will have their active support in the campaign to raise a quarter of a million dollars in the Massachusetts area.

The father of Bert and Don Jacobs died last week.

Eddie McDonald, former screen publicist, is aiding in the publicity for South Shore amusements currently.

VANCOUVER

Charles Doctor, manager of the Capitol Theatre, Vancouver, was married to May Morrison here last week. The couple are honeymooning in Victoria.

Bert Cooper has resigned as booker at 20th-Fox Calgary branch and will move to the United Artists Calgary office as booker.

The film exchange local employment union has completed an agreement with all B. C. distributors to cover employment in Vancouver exchanges. Contract is for a three year period. Whippers where given an increase from $27.30 to $33 weekly, poster clerks and revisers received a hike from $20 to $23.87 weekly. The union B-7 is affiliated with the IATSE.

Dave Brickman, former branch manager in Winnipeg for Monogram and Paramount, is now a resident of Vancouver.

Marge Robbins has been promoted to the position of Capitol head-usherette and replaces Virginia Jones, who has resigned.

Bill Baillie returned from his Hollywood vacation to discover he was the proud papa of a baby girl which Mrs. Baillie gave birth to in his absence. Baillie is head of the Famous Players art shop here.

Mel Stackhouse manager of the Regent Theatre has another son and heir which he is bragging about.

The City of Vancouver has awarded a civic citation to Win Barron of Paramount Film Service for his production of a special short subject to commemorate Vancouver's Golden Jubilee Festival, which was called "City of Destiny."

Visitors to local film row where Owen Bird, Columbia Circuit, Golden; Mel Gow of the Capitol and Strand, Nanaimo; Romeo Rinaldi, Rio, Trail; Sam Bannister, Astor, Esquimalt; Mrs. Guy Graham, Park, White Rock; and William Harper, Empress, Kelowna, B. C.

Terry Bennett, manager of the Marpole Theatre, has resigned to join the Vancouver Sun. Frank Marshall, former doorman at the Paradise, succeeds Bennett at this Odeon suburban theatre.

Frank Scott, manager at Calgary for Monogram, is a Vancouver visitor, looking up his friends in the amusement business.

The interior town of Qualicum, B. C., is booming at present and the population has increased from 1000 to 2300 in the past few months. Pop Elliott, veteran exhibitor who operates the Rex Theatre there, is planning to increase his seating capacity by 150 seats to take care of his increased attendance.

Coming from and going on vacation are Al Mitchell, Paradise; Larry New, Windsor; Al Jenkins, Plaza; Mike Golkin, Vogue; Dave Borland, Dominion; Bob Fraser, Dunbar; Frank Soltice, Earl Hayter, Odeon district office; Stan Pool, Strand; Mabel Grant, Empire-Universal; Al Goodman, Varsity; Jimmy Davie, RKO booker; Mary Wallace, W. B.

Lloyd Murz, manager of the Victoria Theatre, Vancouver, has resigned from Famous Players to handle the publicity job for RKO in Western Canada under Terry Turner. Murz will make Vancouver his headquarters.
Training and Promotion in Theatre Chains
Experts Tell How They Get Good Projection
A $100,000 Drive-In Theatre
Maintenance Memos for Managers
They'll Build and Lease You a Modern Theatre
A Remodeled Lobby
Equipment Showcase
Varieties of Facades
Maintenance Memos for Projectionists
Saves 15-20% on Building Cost with Mica Slabs
Governor Praises Theatre Owner on Parking Lot
Better Transit Solution to Parking Problem
Refinements in Air Conditioning
A Projectionist Writes to the Council
Shutter for Low Ceiling Projection Rooms
Established in 1896, America's oldest manufacturer of projectors is celebrating its half-century of service by bringing to you the widely heralded and greatest projector that ever bore the name.

It fittingly marks the birth of a new golden era of prosperity and peace for mankind.

MOTIOGRAPH 4431 W. Lake St., Chicago 24, Ill.

For 50 Years, a Standard of Quality That Has Never Varied
Policies of Theatre Chains in Training and Promotion

Personnel Methods Differ Enormously, Discussion by Theatre Council Reveals

among the matters on which the theatre industry follows a very varied pattern of activity is the training (and advancement) of its employees. This month’s Council meeting revealed a wide difference in practices with respect to the theatre manager. A number of chains consider the manager has reached a rank where he ought to train himself, and his advancement ought to depend on his own initiative. Many others, however, systematically groom him for promotion to city or district manager. All chains represented arranged for some training of junior members of the theatre staff.

There are striking differences in the training methods used.

The Manager

“We do not feel it is necessary to train managers for more important jobs. These jobs should be filled as a result of knowledge, ability, honesty, efficiency and the all-consuming ambition on the part of the manager to advance himself.”

“We make no special effort to train managers for more important posts.”

Managers are advanced according to actual experience gained under the personal supervision of their district manager.

Other chains take a different view.

“We train managers for advancement through thorough, complete, detailed discussions of all problems of operation in weekly district meetings.”

Managers are encouraged to become as familiar as possible with all departments in the main office and to learn as much as possible.”

“Training is handled by our district or division managers by placing men in more important theatres and tutoring them in the more important job.”

With specific reference to problems of maintenance, some chains do and some do not offer special training to the manager.

“We have a maintenance school, supplemented by letters and booklets.”

“We have a manual containing detailed instructions, which we supplement by periodical division meetings devoted to maintenance.”

“Maintenance information is transmitted to district men who relay the same to the managers in weekly meetings.”

“Several methods are used. Maintenance matters are discussed at monthly managers’ meetings. Vendors of various maintenance and cleaning supplies are required to call on all managers and instruct them and their staffs.”

Managers are given personal schooling in maintenance, on the job.”

“Some chains, however, make no special effort in this matter; one feels that none is necessary. Maintenance is drilled into our men from the time they become assistant managers. Contact is constantly maintained between the home office and the men in the field, with the result that in our operation no special procedure is required.”

Training of managers with respect to projection and sound is exceptionally slight, where any is offered at all.

“Fundamentals such as amperage and its relation to light, carbons, etc., are covered in our manual of instruction.”

“Our manual instructions cover sound and projection.”

“Only so far as to enable him to recognize bad focus, framing faults, and such sound troubles as sprocket hole and framing line noise.”

One chain believes that in small theatres the manager should know a good deal about projection, and even be capable of operating the equipment in emergency. He is expected to acquire this knowledge, however, by working with his projectionists.

Assistant Managers

All chains represented at the meeting train assistant managers, ushers and other subordinate employees — and encourage their advancement. A large percentage of our managers have come up from the ranks of the men. Men are picked for further training according to their loyalty, interest, education and honesty.”

“Training our people for advancement is a specific duty of all managers and supervisors.”

“We very often assign men whom we think have excellent possibilities to our better managers, who unselfishly train these men for bigger jobs.”

In general, the training of subordinate employees is left to their managers, or to managers whom they are especially assigned, but some chains offer specific assistance.

“We have a special booklet which augments the manager’s instructions.”

“They are trained by their managers and by books on management.”

“Our Manager’s Manual covers every phase of theatre operation and managers discuss theatre problems with their assistants both individually and at house staff meetings.”

“Weekly staff meetings are held and frequent division meetings.”

Weekly staff meetings not further augmented by other measures were also favored.

Usher Training

All theatre chains represented at this month’s meeting endeavor to train ushers

(Continued on Page E-25)
The Experts Explain How They Get Good Projection

Council Members Set Forth Their Policies and Standards on Equipment for Sight and Sound

SMPE standards for screen lighting were generally favored, Academy standards for theatre sound voted inadequate, at the second meeting of STR's Projection Advisory Council. Use of emergency sources of arc current was strongly endorsed, and emergency sound amplification generally approved. The value of installing a third projector was disputed; while divided opinion also appeared with respect to adding improved speakers to existing sound installations, and the use of offset projection for dressing up a show.

Total unanimity of opinion was not obtained except on one point—the desirability of having an emergency source for arc current. Even on this matter one member registered the qualification that if the equipment is not available, a chain can resort to the alternative measure of keeping one spare rectifier or generator on hand in each town.

Standards

The Society of Motion Picture Engineers' standard for screen brightness (9-14 foot lamberts at the center of the screen with no film in the gate) was overwhelmingly endorsed, but several members said that if they made any change they would favor still more light. One member has his own set of standards, which vary according to the theatre. Another declared: "We are using the SMPE standard at present, but experimenting in some theatres with additional light. If print quality does not improve we may have to standardize on more light. In my opinion, present prints are too dark."

"By using enough light on the screen we can lighten up the auditorium to prevent vandalism: cut seats and so on. This also forces the janitors to keep the theatres cleaner, by showing up sloppy work. The picture will stand out in a well-lighted auditorium if screen illumination is increased."

"Anything less than the SMPE standard is unsatisfactory light in our opinion. Whenever we find less in any theatre we do everything in our power to increase it."

"The SMPE standard has proven satisfactory in our operation."

"It is the most efficient." Still another member noted that he certainly ought to favor the SMPE standard, since he was on the committee that drew it up! When the theatre sound standards of the Academy Research Council were first offered to the industry they were considered in some circles to be excessive, even revolutionary. A majority of this month's meeting of theatre experts, however, preferred to install even more volume.

"I am in favor of more power. Some pictures force me to use high gain to get enough sound, putting the amplifier into overload condition. More powerful equipment will give better safety and less distortion."

"My experience also is that some recordings need more power; and I can't put in new equipment every time Hollywood changes recording level. Besides, a tube or some other part may go weak and the trouble may not be located right away, but with reserve volume on tap you can keep right on giving a good show."

"More powerful amplifiers produce less distortion at normal and above-normal settings. We always compare competitive systems by considering the undistorted output only."

"Academy standards are O.K. in most cases, but in others more power is needed."

A large minority dissented: "The standards are pretty reasonably O.K. for all theatres," was a typical comment.

Emergency Equipment

Opinion was just about unanimous on the installation of duplicate apparatus for supplying current to the arc.

"Owing to extra motor-generator sets in every projection room on the circuit and complete semi-annual maintenance of (Continued on Page E-28)

---

COL. FRANK CAHILL
Warner Brothers Circuit

C. A. DENTELBECK
Famous Players Canadian

HARRY J. GLENN
Wm. K. Jenkins Theatres

IRL GORDON
Skirball Brothers Theatres

CHARLES HORSTMANN
RKO Theatres

A. C. INCE
Griffith Theatres

LESTER ISAAC
Loew's Incorporated

I. F. JACOBSEN
Balaban and Katz Corp.

NATHANIEL LAPKIN
Fabian Theatres

HARRY RUBIN
Paramount Pictures

LEONARD SATZ
Century Circuit

J. C. SKINNER
Interstate Circuit
This is the lamp!

- This is the lamp that puts doubly brilliant high intensity projection lighting within reach of all theatres.

- This is the lamp that delivers the snow-white light necessary to the satisfactory projection of Technicolor pictures.

PROJECTION ARC LAMP

Distributed Exclusively by

NATIONAL THEATRE SUPPLY

Division of National - Simplex - Bludworth, Inc.

"THERE'S A BRANCH NEAR YOU"
A $100,000 Drive-In Theatre

With a Capacity of 1250 Automobiles in Its 9-Acre Auditorium the "Central" Runs 14 Shows a Week at 50 Cents per Adult Patron

Located at 1700 Long Pond Road, Rochester, New York, the Central drive-in theatre accommodates 850 cars on fourteen ramps, with "standing room" for 400 more. It is scheduled to open in the middle of August.

Principal structural items are two separate units, the projection house and the screen tower. The latter is of cement block and steel frame construction and is 75 feet high. It mounts a projection screen (made of steel panels) measuring 45 feet high and 62 feet wide. The whole is built on two 250-ton sunken concrete bases, and braced to withstand the highest velocity winds.

Below the screen is a 1250-square foot balcony, where patrons will dance before and between shows to the music of "name" bands.

The road side of the screen structure displays a glass brick marquee lighted in full color and a large changeable-letter attraction board that can easily be read by persons driving past.

Lesser buildings located to one side of the marquee-and-screen structure serve as box-offices. From them "carriage porch" roofs extend over the driveways to protect passengers from the weather while they open their windows to pay admission.

The second large structural item, the projection building, is located very roughly at the center of the auditorium area. It is built of cement blocks, and steam heated. This building, with its equipment, accounted for $30,000 of the $100,000 investment.

Policy

The theatre will operate seven days a week, hours varying with the season. Two performances will be given each evening, starting as soon as darkness begins. Each will consist of one feature, and a variety of shorts.

Admission will be 50 cents per person (including an 8-cent tax). For children under 12 years the admission price will be 12 cents (including a 2-cent tax).

As a further attraction, a number of different "name" bands will be booked in the course of each season to provide

THE "AUDITORIUM"—As Seen from the Top of the Screen Structure, 75 Feet Above Ground
music for dancing at no extra charge.

Opening was originally scheduled for August 1st, but exceptionally heavy rains not only prevented completion of the 9-acre "auditorium" area, but made repairs necessary. Some ramps which had not yet been rolled sank as much as nine inches.

Ownership

The Central Drive-In has three owner-managers—H. Graden Hodges, Elmer H. Ellis and William Tishkoff.

William Tishkoff is one of the oldest exhibitors in Rochester, having operated a number of theatres there over a period of 25 years. The Center Drive-In was his idea originally, he planned its details and is chiefly responsible for the project.

Graden Hodges was for several years the manager of the Scottsville Road Drive-In, also located in Rochester; and prior to that manager of the RKO Palace and Capitol theatres in the same city.

Elmer Ellis has been a theatre maintenance man and electrical contractor; he has had charge of electrical and projection maintenance in the Rochester theatres of RKO-Paramount and those of the Schine circuit.

Equipment

Projectors are Simplex E-7's mounted on Simplex pedestals. Special concrete blocks higher at the front than at the rear are built into the floor of the projection room. The pedestals mount on these and are thus given the tilt necessary for projection at an upward angle. A very small area directly outside the projection ports is fenced off, to assure that patrons cannot drive close enough to intercept the upward-tilting light beam and throw the shadows of the cars across the picture.

Because of the immense size of the screen an extremely efficient optical system is essential. Lenses are 3½-inch Bausch & Lomb Super-Cinephor, surface coated by the metal-fluoride process. They operate at an aperture ratio of f:2.0 instead of f:2.3 as in the older Cinephor series, and are said to produce a comparative gain in speed of 70 per cent. This is the same type lens first used for filming "Gone With the Wind" in 1940; it has been unavailable since Pearl Harbor; the pair installed in the Central are among the first of the post-war production to reach theatre users.

Despite the speed of the lens, however, the size of the screen still requires use of up to 175 amperes at the area. Lamps are Peerless Hyconescent, utilizing B. & L. f:2.2 fused quartz condensers and "heavy duty" carbons.

Soundheads, volume controls and pre-amplifiers are Simplex 4-Star. The remainder of the system comprises two Altec-Lansing Type 87 amplifiers, rated at 50 watts each and operated in parallel for 100 watts total output.

Loudspeakers fitted with outdoor trumpets are mounted on tall poles near the screen and around the periphery of the theatre. These, however, are a temporary expedient. Individual speakers for each car will be installed in the future.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Memo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AUG.  19</td>
<td>Are you checking marquee copy after every change for misspellings, poor illumination?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUG.  20</td>
<td>Re-check your house for stray light on prosenium, ceiling or wall which may distract audience.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUG.  21</td>
<td>Obtain style charts showing winter uniforms for staff. Avoid delivery delays by ordering early.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUG.  22</td>
<td>Are all advertising accessories stored neatly and in good condition for future use?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUG.  23</td>
<td>If your theatre is adjacent to a food or produce store take extra precautions against rodents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUG.  24</td>
<td>Move wiring connections of baseboard outlets and floor plugs checked as precaution against fire.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUG.  25</td>
<td>Time for another drop of oil on all door and seat hinges for quiet operation during show.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUG.  26</td>
<td>Are you watching film condition reports, having prints checked before they are run?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUG.  27</td>
<td>Prepare tapes and standards for Labor Day weekend crews. Check supply of tickets, towels, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUG.  28</td>
<td>Check bannisters and handrails to make certain all are securely fastened at all points.</td>
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<tr>
<td>AUG.  29</td>
<td>Remind new employees to report even minor accidents promptly, in detail. Lawsuits are expensive.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUG.  30</td>
<td>Have your lighting tubes been washed recently to assure peak illumination for current season?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPT.  1</td>
<td>Watch cleanliness of phone booths and recesses in which they stand. Food waste breeds odors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPT.  2</td>
<td>Do employees turn off all lamps not needed or in use? Use remainder signs or inspection system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPT.  3</td>
<td>Re-check your stairway lighting. One burnt-out bulb may constitute a hazard to patrons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPT.  4</td>
<td>Is your first aid kit complete and available instantly in case of accident or emergency?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPT.  5</td>
<td>Examine all lobby and lounge mirrors; resilver, replace or eliminate any in poor condition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPT.  6</td>
<td>Replace ornaments and drops in lounge rooms to provide fresh appearance for fall season.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPT.  7</td>
<td>Candy tramped into your carpets invites insect and rodent invasion. Keep cleaners alert.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPT.  8</td>
<td>Do not hesitate to authorize overtime for needed projection room repairs. You sell projection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPT.  9</td>
<td>Start the day with staff meeting on handling crowds, courtesy, and precaution against accidents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPT. 10</td>
<td>Check condition of upholstered furniture. If you use slip covers, change to bright fall colors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPT. 11</td>
<td>Does your cleaning crew keep sidewalk clean at all times; all briss and glass shining and bright?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPT. 12</td>
<td>Have you an adequate supply of lamps in warm colors for the changeover when cool weather comes?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPT. 13</td>
<td>Autumn flowers now at peak; tie up with florist for fresh cuttings for foyer or lobby.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPT. 14</td>
<td>Have your maintenance man a sufficient supply of parts of all sizes, instantly available?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPT. 15</td>
<td>Time to consider closing down the cooling plant, withdrawing refrigerant if necessary.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
They'll Build You a Modern Theatre and Lease It to You

New Company Puts Up Standardized Houses at Own Expense
—Exhibitor Supplies Land, Pays Estimated 15% of Gross

WANT another theatre?

Elementary, my dear Watson. You supply the land, agree to pay McKee Theatres Company something like 15 per cent of the gross, and they'll build you a theatre.

You do your own booking, manage the house to suit yourself.

That figure of 15 per cent is W. E. McKee's present estimate of what your flat rent to him will amount to. Also, you will have an option to buy the theatre. Each lease will run for twenty years, and at the end of any year if the lessee wants the house and can pay for it, it's his. If he wants it and can't pay for it, McKee Company may help him finance the purchase, depending on his financial situation.

There are a couple of catches, however—for one thing, everybody can't get in. McKee says he will confine operations to established, competent exhibitors. Further, contracts will not be accepted in small-town areas unless the location can absorb another theatre.

All theatres will be standard in construction, style and size, although the number of seats installed may vary from 450 to 700.

Contracts are now being entered into in the New York exchange area; expansion into the Boston exchange area will begin next month and McKee expects it to continue into other regions. The present program calls for 100 theatres within the first year.

Three private investment groups are said to have backed the organization headed by McKee, who is a former Ross Federal executive; the initial capitalization of $100,000 is said to have been over-subscribed two to one. Advantages claimed for the McKee plan include mass construction of theatres of one standard design, and mass purchase of equipment, whereby costs will be held down to a lower level than a small-scale builder or purchaser would have to meet.

Special Features

Planned to be a small-town or neighborhood community center as well as a place of motion picture entertainment, the theatre will be fitted with two portable 16-mm. sound projectors in addition to the standard 35-mm. installation in the projection room. The lounge is designed to serve a double function as a meeting place for women's clubs, the local Chamber of Commerce and other organizations, and the 16-mm. projectors can be used there or taken to the projection room to throw a special picture on the auditorium screen. Standard lounge equipment also includes a small soda fountain equipped to serve coffee and sandwiches when the lounge is used for special occasions; a candy bar, and a popcorn machine.

Still further advancing the community center idea a stage will be provided (although initially stage lighting equipment will not be included) so that in suitable locations the house can be used on occasion as a Little Theatre with live talent, local or imported. It may alternate its functions, with normally slow nights such as Monday or Tuesday set aside for Little Theatre use.

ALL GLASS FRONT Standardized Theatre Designed by Michael J. De Angelis for McKee Theatres Company
Remodeled Lobby

PART OF a larger remodeling job, the new lobby of Robert C. Cannon’s Amherst, a unit of the Shea chain, shows how very effectively a limited space can be treated. New lighting was installed throughout, and box-office and refreshment counter locations interchanged. The new location has helped refreshment sales, according to Ray Smith, who supervises the Amherst, Westfield and Greenfield Theatres, and who believes that popcorn and candy deserve definite merchandising effort. The Amherst’s front also was remodeled, and a new curtained standee rail installed in the auditorium.

** ATTRACTIVELY UNUSUAL box office in glass and bleached oak finish **

** DISPLAY BOARD for three 40 x 60 poster frames, finished in gold leaf **

** POPCORN AND CANDY NICHE finished in bleached oak and brilliantly lighted **
FOR PERFECTION and PROTECTION

Buy only WAGNER PLASTIC LETTERS

because

WAGNER CHANGEABLE PLASTIC LETTERS

PATENT No. 2048040

Adjudicated to the U.S. Supreme Court

are mounted by the safety proved method which employs 18-8 stainless steel bars.

Wagner Plastic Letters are a proved success because of the slotted method of mounting. This method allows more than six times the bearing surface of the lug type letter.

Frame structures, containing heavy glass, are not practical when made of plastic, because of shrinkage and possible breakage. Safety is assured only with stainless steel frames such as employed by Wagner and approved by Underwriters' Laboratories.

The Wagner slotted mounting arrangement permits the play that is necessary because of the slight shrinkage, or warpage, of plastic.

Wagner Letters, furthermore, cannot freeze to the sign as in the case of letters designed for mounting arrangements which employ channels.

Wagner DOES NOT and WILL NOT make a Lug-Type Letter

Wagner Sign Service, Inc.
218 S. Hoyne Avenue
CHICAGO 12, ILL.

See your theatre supply dealer or write today for free catalog.
Twenty years ago, as everyone has just been reminded, sound pulled this industry out of a then serious slump. Luckily, however, such revolutions are exceptional—the sudden cost of sound equipment threw many an old-time exhibitor by the roadside and permanently darkened thousands of theatres. It is much less painful to advance step by step over a period of years.

Here shown are a few more steps.

Exploitation is facilitated by the "Roto-Sho" electric turntable pictured above. It can be used behind a scrim cut-out to present a succession of pictures of star players or scenes from the feature, and for an endless variety of other attention-catchers devices. The turntable is rated to carry up to 150 pounds balanced load or 200 pounds center load. Turntables 8, 11 1/2, 16 and 18 inches in diameter are available. Speed is three revolutions per minute, rated power, consumption 11 watts. General Die and Stamping Company are the makers.

The theatre seat here shown is the newest model Kroehler Push-Back chair, tailored with the post-war improvement of Terson, a plastic-coated fabric. It is claimed that this material, made for heavy-duty upholstery, will withstand extreme flexing. It is waterproof and may be cleaned with a damp cloth.

The driving side of a new model of a well-known projector is shown in the center of the page. It is a revised design of the Model U Superior mechanism. J. Burgi Contner, president of Blue Seal Cine Devices—manufacturers of 35-mm. equipment since 1929—has acquired all manufacturing rights. The mechanism is equipped with an enlarged lens holder that will accommodate the latest f:2.0 projection lenses, framing lamp, and white-enamed interior. Delivery can be had in 90 days.

Blue Seal Devices, it is reported, will announce a new sound system in the near future.

In its upper right-hand corner our Showcase displays one model of the Raytheon dust precipitators. A typical unit is guaranteed by the company to remove 90 per cent or more of all contaminating particles of dust, smoke, oil mist, lint or pollen. The action is to pass air through an ionizing section where contained particles receive a positive electric charge, then between negatively charged collector plates which attract the dust and hold it.

Knowledge is equipment too. Last May STR’s publisher, "Chick" Lewis, asked the Society of Motion Picture Engineers to publish those parts of its technical knowledge which can be helpful to the average exhibitor in a form the exhibitor can use. That has been done. The loose-leaf binder containing SMPE “standard sheets” is pictured here. Individual standard sheets cost 15 cents each, the binder $1.50. Twenty sheets have been issued to date; more will follow soon. The Society’s address is Hotel Pennsylvania, New York.
Film producers spend millions to give you productions which are examples of the best in photographic art. To realize their great potentials on your screen, however, you must project them with the same brilliant, snow-white high intensity light that is employed in film production. Only then can you obtain for your patrons all the highlights, deep shadows and intermediate values necessary to pictures of depth and fine definition.

Strong High Intensity Lamps deliver double the light of low intensities at a cost within reach of the most modest theatre. Sold by independent theatre supply dealers everywhere.

THE STRONG ELECTRIC CORPORATION
87 City Park Avenue
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"The World's Largest Manufacturer of Projection Arc Lamps"

When the lamps are STRONG the picture is bright!
Varieties of Facades

Illustrating the Adaptation of Theatre Design to Environment

HERE ARE SHOWN architects' designs for new and remodeled theatre facades in widely separated communities. Location, local sentiment, type of patronage all count, but modern structural materials can produce any appearance desired.

Below is seen the new front designed for the remodeling of Joe Gerbrach's New Ames Theatre, Ames, Iowa, by Wetherell and Harrison, Des Moines architects. Located on a shopping street south of the campus of Iowa State College, the New Ames will present a facade of terra cotta with solid glass doors and modernistic box-office. Generous space has been allotted for a new candy and popcorn sales counter. New air conditioning and fluorescent lighting are to be provided, and the $50,000 remodeling will also include installation of 950 heavily upholstered American Seating Company Bodiform chairs. Special furniture pieces are to be tailor-made for the enlarged lounge space.

Rapp & Rapp of Chicago drew the plans for the remodeling of Warner Brothers' Parthenon at Hammond, Indiana, seen opposite, above. This is one of the largest theatres in the northern part of the state, with a seating capacity of 2,000. An ultra-streamlined appearance is planned not only for the front, but also for the lobby, which will be glass-walled, two stories high, with an impressive winding stair.

Conservative and traditional is the appearance planned
by Boston architects Krokyn and Browne for Mrs. Joseph Dondis' new theatre (below on this page), which will replace the razed Empire on Main Street, Rockland, Maine. New England Theatres, Inc., are associated with Mrs. Dondis' in ownership of the new structure; operation and management will be under the direction of M. & P. Theatres Co. Standard Theatre Supply Corporation of Boston will supply and install the equipment. In style, material and decoration, without and within, the new theatre will be very strictly Early American—with, however, entirely modern seating, air conditioning and acoustics and every Twentieth Century comfort for the convenience of patrons.
AUG. 19
Check the sound system ground connection for freedom from corrosion, accumulation of dirt.

AUG. 20
Pin white paper on the screen, project light to test for yellowing and accumulation of dirt.

AUG. 21
If your projection ports have glass soundproofing check cleanliness of the glass—clean as needed.

AUG. 22
Is projector vibration increasing? Check carefully for the cause and remedy it promptly.

AUG. 23
Test each loudspeaker unit INDIVIDUALLY for volume, quality and rattle-free operation.

AUG. 24
Test volume controls. Correct or replace any that are not COMPLETELY noiseless in operation.

AUG. 25
Are projection, sound optical surfaces CLEAN—mirrors free from defects of silvering?

AUG. 26
Is the takeup action smooth, and correct; the belts or chains taut and not excessively worn?

AUG. 27
Check readings of tube meters; replace tubes as necessary for quality and reliable operation.

AUG. 28
Is rectifier cooling fan behaving normally? Rectifier operating at the proper temperature?

AUG. 29
Is sound track alignment the best possible to avoid sprocket hole and frame line noises?

AUG. 30
Using a watch, check the starting time of both projector motors. Have they slowed down?

AUG. 31
Is your stock of spare parts COMPLETE? Have you enough carbons— for ALL needs?

SEP. 1
Examine projector and soundhead gears; order replacements in advance if any are seriously worn.

SEP. 2
Check all motor-generators for cool bearings, commutator condition, freedom from sparking.

SEP. 3
Check all oil cups, oil reservoirs, grease cups, other lubricating points. Lubricate as needed.

SEP. 4
Inspect tungar rectifier tube filaments. Replace all tubes that show any serious filament sag.

SEP. 5
Watch the screen carefully during showing of titles for even slight travel ghost.

SEP. 6
Test fire shutters of projectors for reliability; check action of port safety shutters.

SEP. 7
Rotate the pre-focused exciter lamps into operating position. Are they in perfect focus?

SEP. 8
Check film guides, tension shoes, idlers, aperture plates, for wear. Order replacements now.

SEP. 9
Examine the asbestos covered leads to all lamp-houses. Are they still in good condition?

SEP. 10
Examine carbon jaws in all lamp-houses. Sandpaper as necessary to remove all roughness.

SEP. 11
Listen to sound critically; any flutter or wows? Remedy cause in soundhead or projector.

SEP. 12
Examine all sprocket teeth in projector and soundhead for signs of wear and undercutting.

SEP. 13
Test each loudspeaker unit INDIVIDUALLY for volume, quality and rattle-free operation.

SEP. 14
Test volume controls. Correct or replace any that are not COMPLETELY noiseless in operation.

SEP. 15
Are projection, sound optical surfaces CLEAN—mirrors free from defects of silvering?
A GREAT MANY small movie houses have discovered that Simplified High Intensity Projection pays off handsomely at the box office! It's a sure bet that this inexpensive form of high intensity projection can sell more tickets for you too!

Here's why: One-Kilowatt High Intensity Projection gives you a 50-100% brighter screen. It provides a snow-white light, specially adapted to color pictures. This means sharper, more easily-seen black-and-white images — richer, more beautiful color scenes.

Such high quality projection will give your patrons a bigger kick out of seeing pictures in your theatre. Naturally, this will bring them back again and again!

So put Simplified High Intensity Projection to work. It will sell extra tickets for you—at little, if any, additional cost.

Consult your supply house on the availability of High Intensity Lamps

NATIONAL CARBON COMPANY, INC.

Unit of Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation
The word "National" is a registered trade-mark of National Carbon Company, Inc.
Saves 15-20% on Construction Costs With Mica Slabs, Theatre Owner Says

Declares 2½-Inch Expanded Mica Concrete Provides All the Wall Thickness and Insulation Necessary

"WE THINK WE HAVE BEATEN the pre-fabrication idea of FWC on their steel type of building," says owner Walter L. Morris in praise of the type of construction used for his new Pike Theatre, located on Kingston Pike, near Knoxville, Tenn. Final determination of costs is expected to show a saving of 15 to 20 per cent as compared with normal construction costs, according to Morris. Time also was saved; the welded steel frame for the side and rear walls was erected in a week.

The core of the method followed in building the Pike lies in the use of pre-cast slabs of a special concrete composed of Portland cement and vermiculite. The latter is an expanded mica of high insulating value. These slabs, 2½ inches thick, are bolted to the steel frame, and that is all there is to the side and rear walls except for waterproof paint outside and ornamental paint inside.

"From an insulation standpoint, it is as ideal a theatre as I have seen in 20 years of experience," Morris declares. "We have no air conditioning, only using conventional blowers. During the hottest summer days to date we have had patrons request that we turn off our 'air conditioning' because they were too cold. Many factors contribute to this, but I would say that the material used, and the position of the theatre related to surrounding foliage and trees, have a great deal to do with our being so fortunate as to have a comfortable house without air conditioning expense. We naturally have the winter months to come, but with exterior heat repelled in summer we have all reason to believe that interior heat will be conserved in winter."

Two types of construction are used. The front portion, including adjoining stores, is conventionally built of concrete block painted with waterproofing material, and plastered inside. The plaster used, however, also has a vermiculite content, for by a coating of pre-cast slabs. The slabs measure 4'x6'x2½" and weigh ten pounds to the square foot. Because of their vermiculite content they have, according to Architect Fred Manley, an insulation value equal to twelve inches of brick masonry.

Joints between the slabs are caulked and the entire surface waterproofed. On the interior, the slabs furnish a textured surface with good acoustical properties, easy to decorate.

The steel frame of the auditorium is exposed at each bay of the interior, and merely painted to harmonize with the wall treatment.

The surface for the ornamental scrolls at either side of the proscenium is vermiculite plaster.

The hanging ceiling of the auditorium is Celotex, consisting of sheets measuring 4'x6' and 4'x12' at staggered intervals.

Lighting is from banked groups of lamps of different colors installed in a cove running along each wall of the auditorium. It is controlled from the projection room. The heating plant is an oil-burning hot air furnace. A cry room and private party room occupy part of the second floor of the front structure.

Fred Manley Associates of Knoxville worked out the architectural design and all structural and mechanical engineering.

“This construction,” says Manley, “was pioneering, and many difficulties had to be worked out and many improvements can be made in another theatre. However, the final cost of the Pike was very satisfactory and the results in every way have proved that this type of construction is superior to masonry.”
Makes EVERY Seat Make Money!

The Revolutionary New RETISCOPE CONCAVE SCREEN
"Shaped like the Retina of the Eye"

★ ABSOLUTELY ELIMINATES IMAGE DISTORTION AT ALL POINTS IN THE AUDITORIUM
★ Affords a perfect image even at the extreme sides and in the balcony. Puts every chair in the center section.
★ PERFECT FOCUS . . . No special lenses required.
Made of two one-piece sheets of "Fiberglass," one behind the other, laced to a curved, movable steel frame.
★ GIVES ILLUSION OF DEPTH TO THE PICTURE
★ REDUCES GLARE, HOT SPOT AND EYE STRAIN . . . the light being polarized by the two screen surfaces.
★ IMPROVES SOUND . . . The glass fibers react like a "million" baffles for the sound waves, resulting in a less directional effect.
★ ABSOLUTELY FIREPROOF
★ PRACTICALLY INDESTRUCTIBLE
★ WASHABLE AS A WINDOW

Write today for literature and prices.

YOU'RE THROUGH BUYING SCREENS WHEN YOU INSTALL A RETISCOPE

Proved by actual installations now in 7 different type theatres (names on request). See it and be convinced!
Adaptable to any theatre. Each screen is engineered to exactly meet the requirements of that particular theatre.
Developed by Advance Research Corporation from products of Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corporation and Sparks-Withington Corporation.

RETISCOPE SCREEN COMPANY
214 W. 42nd St. • New York 18, N.Y.
State Governor Praises Theatre
Owner For Opening Parking Lot

That a substantial-sized theatre parking lot is a major service to the community was attested by Georgia’s Governor Ellis Arnall and Atlanta’s Mayor William B. Hartsfield at the dedication on July 26th of the new parking facilities of William K. Jenkins’ Fox Theatre, Atlanta. The dedicatory ceremonies and speeches of the officials were carried over WGST, Columbia Broadcasting System’s major Georgia outlet.

“Under Bill Jenkins’ leadership,” said the Governor of the State, “the Fox Theatre has just completed an outstanding development which is certain to prove of tremendous value in solving one of the most difficult questions confronting the great city of Atlanta.”

Governor Arnall was introduced by Mayor Hartsfield, who declared: “It is a great community asset, I hope it will be an encouragement to other businesses in Atlanta to do something similar. This is a great progressive enterprise undertaken by Georgia Theatre Company.”

President of the Chamber of Commerce Harry Sommers added that “Mr. Jenkins and his organization have done a very wonderful thing in Atlanta.”

“It is a great job,” said the President of the Georgia Power Company, W. E. Mitchell.

Parking Arrangements

The Fox’s lot can accommodate 800 cars. It is open for general parking, except at night, when its full capacity is needed for theatre patrons. A feature particularly appreciated by the community, and singled out for special mention by a number of the celebrities who spoke at the opening exercises, is an arrangement whereby Atlanta bus lines will be routed right through the parking lot. Thus suburbanites can park their cars and use the bus system for shopping along streets where no parking is available.

The area covers two full city blocks at the side and rear of the theatre. Seventeen parcels of real estate were assembled for the project, the land being among the most valuable in Atlanta. The lot is paved, except for one small section consisting of rock surfaced with sand, and is terraced with massive stonework. Its borders are landscaped and equipped with concealed lighting. Floodlights illuminate every corner of the development at night.

There are ten exits and two entrances. Both entrances have modernistic, streamlined box-offices. In addition, one is equipped with a waiting room, complete with lounge, rest rooms, telephones and theatre-type marquee with changeable letter sign boards. There are twenty attendants.

Fees for parking are 25 centsduring the day, and at night 25 cents plus one adult admission ticket to the Fox Theatre.

ATLANTA’S MAYOR W. B. HARTSFIELD TELLS THE STATE OF GEORGIA THAT THE FOX THEATRE’S NEW PARKING LOT “IS A GREAT COMMUNITY ASSET.”

JEEP AND JALOPPY, Right and Center, on the New Fox Theatre Parking Lot, Which Extends Around to the Rear of the Theatre and Provides Parking Space for Eight Hundred Cars.
Condenser in Mirror Lamp Visibly Improves Illusion

Better definition, more even distribution of light on the screen, and strikingly enhanced illusion of three dimensions were observed at a showing of the improved model of Hal Huff's Orthoscope lens, held for the trade press on August 7th at New York's Art Theatre.

The Orthoscope is intended for use with mirror-type lamp houses. It has been improved by substituting fused quartz, which was not available during the war, in place of glass.

Actually a condenser assembly, the Orthoscope is inserted in the optical system between the lamphouse and the projector. It takes the place ordinarily occupied by the projector's mechanism's spot-sight box, which is discarded. Its function is to improve the efficiency of the optical line-up. Lamp mirror and projection lens continue to operate in the usual way, except that mirror adjustment becomes considerably less critical.

Despite the fact that the Orthoscope interposes four additional optical surfaces in the path of the light, screen illumination proved visibly better with it than without it.

Observed Results

In comparison tests held for the press the new lens was slipped in and out of place. When it was not in use the remarkable three-dimensional illusion was very visibly reduced—the picture "flattened out." And illumination toward the sides of the screen faded noticeably. With the Orthoscope restored, observers agreed, the picture seemed to snap into life. The cause of this illusion may have been improved definition of background objects. Other comparison tests, using a split aperture, also demonstrated improved definition.

Inventor of the new lens is Hal Huff, chief projectionist for the Hollywood screening rooms of the Association of Motion Picture Producers. It is manufactured by Huff's, Incorporated, Los Angeles; and merchandised through National Theatre Supply. A pair of Orthoscopes cost the theatre $225. There are eleven models, since good results require that the device be very carefully matched to both the lamphouse and the projection lens.

Improved techniques for manufacturing motion picture film, discovered in Germany by British investigators, have been made available to American manufacturers in a 76-page report which can be obtained through the U. S. Department of Commerce. The report describes the formulas and machinery used by the Germans. A simple change in one machine—substitution of a nickel band in place of a gelatine band—enabled the Germans to speed up production 25 per cent.

A new film editing machine capable of localizing sound to such a degree that the cutter can easily split a word into syllables has been designed by Col. Nathan Levinson and his staff for use on the Warner Brothers lot. When used with musical sequences the new machine can be stopped at any desired note, without winding back. The device has no sprockets, thus protecting valuable master reels.

H. Y. Brass & Wire Co.
Bought by Lawrence Metal

Producer of brass standee rails and other crowd control equipment for the theatre, New York Brass and Wire Works Company, founded in 1911, has been acquired by a newly formed organization, Lawrence Metal Products, Inc.

The new company, headed by Benjamin Lawrence, will continue to do business for the time being at 434 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

The first British post-war 35-mm. motion picture camera has been placed on the market by Newall Engineering Co., Ltd. G. B. Kalee are sole world distributors.

Harry Oastler, owner of the American Theatre building in Winnemucca, Nevada, a 600-seat concrete building, has sold his property to Nasser and Preddy.

Projection Room STEALING from the Box Office?

Booth equipment troubles can grow large enough to seriously interfere with take! An RCA Sound Service and complete Parts Replacement Contract means regularly scheduled checkups and needed repairs ... at the cost of but a few admissions per day. See your RCA Theatre Supply Dealer, or write RCA Service Company, Inc., Dept.78-H, Camden, N. J.

RCA SERVICE COMPANY, INC.
A SERVICE OF RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA
Better Public Transit Needed
To Solve the Parking Problem

By Jack Lambert

BUSINESS VOLUME—AND PROFITS—of most showmen are dependent upon the type, speed and reliability of traffic in each locality, and included in this is the transit service available.

Urban theatre must draw upon outlying sections and even distant towns and suburbs for patronage; and when congestion reaches the stage it was in just prior to the last war, showmen may well be concerned. Not only was the average flow of traffic in congested urban areas moving at the rate of about three miles an hour; but theatre patrons were finding it almost impossible to park their cars.

In a few instances where theatre owners have been able to provide adequate parking space, on an off street, there has been little bad effect upon business in the long run. However, there were only 27 million motor vehicles on our streets in 1938, while for the near future the total number is estimated to be 50 millions.

Surveys made all over the country during the war and which are now the basis of postwar traffic control planning all point to the primary need to reduce the number of people driving private cars into congested areas at least on casual business. How is this to be done?

Since general aims of civic organizations, municipalities, police and engineers are the same, traffic control ceases to be the purely local matter it was previously. Among these objectives, we find an endeavor to make transit travel (street car, motor bus, and trackless trolley coach) safer, more comfortable and speedier as a means of winning car owners to parking their cars at terminal points and riding in and out of congested theatre areas by mass urban transport vehicles.

Planning also provides for better regulation of off and on-street parking, illuminated traffic signs, improved signal systems, more parking spaces, both underground and overhead, and more intensive education of drivers and pedestrians.

It is figured that if more people can enjoy the comfort and safety, not to say speed, of improved transit vehicles, including the trackless trolley coach, the theatre man will find his ever present parking problem nearly solved to his own and the public's advantage.

A word about the newest transit vehicle—the trackless trolley coach—should interest every urban theatre man. While in no sense a substitute either for the modern street car or motor bus, this vehicle, after wide tests in cities and towns, has proved to offer certain advantages in clearing streets and getting more people in and out of congested areas in less time. Some of these advantages are:

1. Safer, loads and unloads at the curb.
2. More easily driven and controlled.
3. Quiet in operation.
4. No fuel odor.
5. Can by-pass obstacles, hold place in traffic, be re-routed.
6. Fewer jolts and jerks.
7. More easily air-conditioned.
8. Faster—accelerates and decelerates more rapidly.

Depending upon purely local conditions, an increasing percentage of show patronage has come from outlying areas, and from a greater and greater distance. A growing percentage of this trade has been motor trade, and this has provoked the parking problem for the theatre man in nearly every case.

What the modern theatre man prefers is a mobile crowd—just as the merchant does. He knows that if the patron and his family cannot find a place to park the car, they will not attend the show.

On the other hand, if they will use street car, motor bus or trackless trolley coach at least within the area congested, they will be able to meet their needs with greater comfort and convenience to everyone including the theatre owner.

Of course, there are some risks in some of the postwar traffic control planning. The tendency to provide more "through" streets and arteries may and often does cut off, very suddenly, a large part of the theatre's patronage if that by-passing is such as to divert traffic. These matters the local theatre man, once realizing the general scheme of planning in this country, can watch and meet in cooperation with other merchants as occasion may suggest. A theatre cut off by a "through" artery is very likely to suffer more than the retail merchant.

In any case, studies indicate that with trackless trolley coaches now augmenting urban traffic in over a hundred cities and towns, there is a gleam of promise for the showman who for years has pondered the great and vital question of local traffic control.
Refinements In Air Conditioning

Future Developments May Include Ionizing Air To Produce Buoyant Feeling of Well-Being*

If you could trap and analyze the air in an average theatre on a sultry summer day, you would probably find the following: about 500,000 billion dust particles. 100,000,000 million bacteria, dozens of thousands of pollen specks, and enough water for a bath.

These are the number one enemies of a good wholesome diet of air. They cause that familiar muggy feeling which leads to lowered efficiency and frequent complaints that “it ain't the heat, it's the humidity.” They aid and abet hay fever, asthma, and other respiratory diseases and add millions of dollars to cleaning bills.

Most people escape the humidity by going where it’s “twenty degrees cooler inside”; and so air conditioning has come to be synonymous with air cooling. But the air conditioning engineer of today aims at a complete, year-round control of the quality of air. He wants not only to cool and dry it in summer, and warm and moisten it in winter, but also to cleanse it of dust, purify it of bacteria, and free it of unpleasant odors.

The tools to do it are nearly all at hand. To lick the dust problem, for example, Westinghouse engineers have developed the Precipitron, an electronic air cleaner that removes dust and dirt electrostatically. The standard method of removing dust is to blow air either through water sprays or through various kinds of mechanical filters. But this leaves untouched millions of microscopic particles—such as tobacco smoke—that create both a dirt nuisance and a health hazard. In the Precipitron these elusive particles are given an electrical charge and then trapped on oppositely-charged plates—up to 94 per cent of them.

During the war the Precipitron was used extensively in lens-grinding rooms, bomb-sight factories, and other precision processes. Now Westinghouse engineers have designed a Precipitron that can be attached to air conditioners. Dirty-laden air is channeled through ducts into the Precipitron, where it is thoroughly cleansed, passed through the furnace for heating, or the refrigerator for cooling, and re-circulated.

Air-borne bacteria—spreaders of the common cold, influenza, and other diseases—have always been a formidable obstacle in the path of complete air conditioning. But Westinghouse research scientists have devised a very effective way of getting rid of them by ultraviolet extermination. This is achieved in the Sterilamp, a long, slender, gas-filled tube that produces ultraviolet radiation of a wavelength deadly to bacteria.

Hundreds of thousands of Sterilamps are already in use wherever the prevention of cross-infection or the destruction of bacteria, viruses, and mold is necessary. These can be fastened to the walls, where they will kill all bacteria carried within their range by the normal air currents. Or they may be installed directly in the air conditioning system and sterilize the air before it is distributed.

One of the latest up-and-coming devices in air conditioning is a versatile unit that can be converted from a cooling system in summer to a heating plant in winter—simply by the flip of a switch. On hot days the unit pumps heat and moisture out of the indoor air and exhausts it outdoors. On cold days it reverses the process and pumps heat units (that are always present even in the coldest air) from the outdoor air and combines them with the heat given off by the compressor, and delivers them indoors.

One elusive quality of air still being tracked down by the research scientists is freshness—that invigorating something found in mountain air or at the seashore. Most evidence points a finger at the free ions—electrically charged particles—in the air. Too many positive ions seem to induce sluggishness, while an abundance of negative ions creates a feeling of buoyancy. A final answer to this problem may not be far off.

Air conditioning engineers have revised the Mark Twain witticism on weather. While everybody talks about outdoor weather and does nothing about it, air conditioning experts have done plenty about indoor weather, and will do more.

*Condensed, by permission, from the article entitled “Air of Quality,” originally published in the Westinghouse Newsfront.
SHOWMEN’S TRADE REVIEW, August 17, 1946

Piecemeal Remodeling Of Theatre Advanced

Step by step remodeling of the Park Theatre, Point Pleasant, W. Va., has advanced another notch with completion of a new air conditioning system. Following purchase of the house several months ago Ross N. Filson, manager of State Amusement Company, has glass-tiled the lobby, rebuilt the projection room, installed new projection and sound equipment, enlarged his stage for better presentation of live entertainment, and added fire exits.

Bijou Announces 46th

The forty-sixth theatre of Bijou Amusement Company of Nashville went into operation August 11th, according to General Manager Evans Sprott, with the opening of the Ritz at Rocky Mount, N. Carolina.

SMPE Will Honor Seven For Sound Achievements

SEVEN citations in recognition of outstanding achievement in the field of sound motion pictures will be presented at the 60th Semi-Annual Convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers to be held in Hollywood October 21-25. Don E. Hyndman, President of the Society, announces.

The awards, recommended by the Committee on Citations, will be presented to the following:

For pioneering work in producing sound-on-film pictures for theatrical entertainment—Dr. Lee DeForest.

For pioneering work in producing improved quality sound-on-film pictures by selecting Western Electric and Theodore Case techniques—Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corp.

For outstanding research and contributions to fundamental knowledge in sound recording and reproduction—Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Pictures Corp.

For technical developments which resulted in greatly improved sound quality—Bell Telephone Laboratories, General Electric-RCA, Western Electric Co., and Westminster Electric Co.

Geared to Run SMOOTH AS OIL

Projectionists and theatre managers everywhere praise the smooth, trouble-free operation of the Syncro-Dynamic Theatre Sound Projector under hard everyday usage. Its ease and economy of operation, together with its unexcelled performance in projection and sound reproduction make the Syncro-Dynamic Projector an engineering achievement in modern theatre operation. Write for complete information.

WEBER MACHINE CORP.
ROCHESTER 6, N. Y.

Export Office: 13 E. 40th St., New York City Cable: "Ramos"

NEW HOME of Goodall Fabrics, Inc., at 525 Madison Avenue, New York, as remodelled for Goodall's use by Eleanor Le Mair. The structure is completely air conditioned; and upholstered, draped and carpeted throughout with products of Goodall-Sanford mills.

Construction of the new Peoples Theatre, Beaumont, Texas, was started July 15th, S. L. Oakley, vice-president and general manager of Jefferson Amusement Company, announced. The house will cost $100,000, will contain more than 1,000 seats on two floors, and be fitted with every modern improvement. It replaces an older theatre of the same name that was destroyed by fire last Fall.
TRAINING AND PROMOTION
(Continued from Page E-3)

as to appearance, poise, courtesy and conduct in emergencies. Their own managers are largely responsible for this, sometimes exclusively responsible. But in some groups the process is definitely organized.

"Schools for ushers are conducted by theatre managers."

"Each usher receives complete written instructions as soon as he starts to work. These are discussed at staff meetings held weekly."

"The chief usher in each of our theatres conducts a daily school of instruction."

"Special classes are held periodically to train ushers, and there is a required monthly meeting."

"Staff meetings and drills once a week by manager and city manager."

Some of the chains also hold periodic fire drills in connection with usher training.

In the majority of chains, the manager himself is directly responsible for the appearance of ushers’ uniforms, their pressing, cleaning and general neatness. In a large minority, this responsibility is entrusted to the captain or chief usher; in one or two the assistant manager is responsible. The arrangement also varies within the same group of theatres according to the size of the operation; an assistant manager or captain may attend to the matter in larger houses and the manager himself in smaller ones.

Inspection of ushers for neatness and poise follows a specified daily or weekly routine in some chains; in others there is no specified process but each individual manager holds or orders such inspections as he considers desirable.

In almost all cases the practice is to assign specific posts to each member of the ushers’ staff; except that in smaller houses these assignments are not always rigid. Ushers in some cases are authorized to leave their posts if needed elsewhere—by the discussion of the Council members shows clearly that this is an exception and not the general practice.

Ushers are not often entrusted with watching projection and sound, or communicating with the projection room. In the majority of chains, this is the duty of the manager himself or of the assistant manager. In some, however, it is the duty of the chief usher; one chain assigns a special usher who wears an armband reading: “Chief of Sound and Ventilation”—and in one chain watching the sound is among the responsibilities of the doorman.

L. A. Mercier, owner of the Mercier Theatre, Fredericctown, Mo., will remodel a garage building into a new theatre to be known as the Ozark.

Remodeling of the Ambassador Theatre, Oakley, Ohio, is nearing completion. William Bein will operate it.

The new theatre now under construction in Menlo Park, Calif., will be known as the Park.

Interstate Circuit has announced plans for a new house at Harlingen, Texas.

NON-SYNCH phono motor by Alliance Manufacturing Co., features friction rim drive method of reducing "wows" and shock mounting of the motor and idler plate to reduce transfer of vibration to the turntable. Available for 25 and for 50-60 cycles, 110 volts; and for 25 cycles, 220 volts. Power rating, 12 watts. The motor is built with amply proportioned bearings and large oil reservoirs. Maximum depth below the base mounting plate is 2 1/4 inches. The same company also manufactures a line of small fractional horsepower motors useful in constructing animated displays for the lobby and other exploitation.

Snook Becomes Partner In Mid-West Theatre Supply

Homer B. Snook has acquired an active interest in Mid-West Theatre Supply Co., Cincinnati, and will take active part in the management of the organization.

Until recently, Mr. Snook was Sales Manager of RCA’s Theatre Equipment Section, in charge of all the varied phases of that company’s supply business. He had held that post since 1937, having previously been an Assistant Treasurer of RCA Manufacturing Company; and prior to that, market research analyst for Victor Talking Machine Co.

Mid-West Theatre Supply Company has also been in the theatre supply business since 1937. It was organized in that year by the late Jake Gelman and by Jack Stallings, who remains a partner but now plans to devote the major portion of his time to other interests.

... BEATING THE BEACH with Controlled Comfort

When you buy air conditioning from USAIRCO you’re taking a solid step to protect Box Office in the summer-time. You can beat the attractions of the beach with the power-house combination of Lana Turner on the screen and comfort cooling by USAIRCO throughout the house.

To do a real job, your air conditioning must show a profit. For 22 years USAIRCO has been designing and installing comfort cooling systems built to make profits for the exhibitor.

United States Air Conditioning Corporation
COMO AVENUE S. E. AT 33RD MINNEAPOLIS 14, MINN.

PROFITS IN THEATRE COOLING FOR THE EXHIBITOR
A Projectionist Writes to the Council

Fox Beyer Theatre
Excelsior Springs, Mo.
Aug. 6, 1946.

Projection Advisory Council
Showmen's Trade Review
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sirs:

I read the article about what you think we projectionists should do. First let me say something about the many one man rooms. As you know, he has a lot to do every day. I guess there are a lot who don't do what they should. I have seen a good many of those fellows. But why should the film be hand checked after each run? If the print is in good condition, I mean. Doing this, watching the screen and the lamps and so on, we only have two hands you know. I get good prints most of the time, and I check them once before the showing, which is the night before. If all patches are good I don't have any trouble.

Have very good equipment here. New Super Simplex, double shutters, good sound and lamps, Magnarc by Peerless. New B. & L. coated lens both inside and out. New screen. Get a nice picture. It is a 7 day week job here. Three shows a day. Continuous on Sunday. No double features, only on Saturday night.

I am sending you some samples as to what comes through the exchanges here. Many patches are way past using yet they let them stay in. All prints had the inspection seal on. Note that some of these patches have thick cement and it was just poured on it seems. And some poor sap don't even have a good splicer to work with. Hand made patches are what he makes. I have also sent you a few of the patches that I make here. I scrape the film on both sides that are to be spliced together, use a thin cement and you will see that it makes a nice smooth patch.

I had a print Saturday from Republic that did not have any cues at all. Someone had punched them in, I mean the print had no cues at all to begin with. I have a Clint Phare cue marker here.

Well, so many projectionists in cutting off the tail strip to fasten on a trailer will cut into the music. why? They will do the same on the front if they put the trailer there.

Some exchanges will just not take care of their leaders. Mostly RKO does this. They have the poorest prints of any.

And the exchanges need a lot of good shipping cases now, so many are past using. Projectionists need some good pre-war Goldberg reels. The ones that are made now are about the worst I have ever seen. We need some good pre-war copper coated carbons too. And the cues on all prints should be kinda large with a white circle around them. We have been getting quite like that but I had to print from Universal that the cues were so small you couldn't see them if you were ten feet from the screen.

Let's have better cues, and leaders, and shipping cases, reels, canisters, better inspection by exchanges. That is all for the present.

Earl Rupple

The Council noted that hand-inspection after each exchange is impractical in one-man rooms. See STR for July 20th. The samples of patches accompanying Mr. Rupple's letter are specimens of how not to splice film, except those made by himself, which are very good.

—Editor

PROJECTION ADVISORY COUNCIL DISCUSSES EQUIPMENT
(Continued from Page E-4)

them, we have what we consider a most unusual record. No picture loss has resulted from motor-generator trouble in the past 18 years.”

“Definitely necessary.”

“Definitely, yes.”

“Yes.”

“I favor installing a spare of anything that is able to stop the show if it breaks down.”

“Provided it's available. But if it's not, at least there should be one extra rectifier or transformer per town.”

Duplicating amplification was favored.

“In all theatres.”

“All our new equipments will be dual channel.”

“If it can stop the show by breaking down, put in a spare.”

“A worth-while safety feature.”

Some dissenting voices were heard, however.

“The box-office value is really ques-

tionable. In some situations, it may be worth while.”

A few members thought emergency sound amplification can usefully be combined with the P.A. system—that is, their P.A. amplifiers are used for film sound in emergency by means of a switching panel installed for that purpose, or the emergency sound channel is made to do double duty as a P.A. amplifier. The great majority, however, prefer to keep the public address system, if any, completely separate.

All chains represented, incidentally, use public address apparatus in some of their theatres at least. A minority install it in all theatres; others report that from one-third to one-half of the houses under their supervision are so equipped.

Third Projector

Many members favor a third projection installation in large or A houses, and a minority consider this a good investment in all houses.

“Putting in a third projector doesn't cost anything. You are dividing the wear among three projectors instead of between two, so they will last half again as long. What is spent on the installation is saved on repair and replacement bills. Against that, figure the cost in money and prestige of a breakdown and refunds, even only once or twice a year.

“There is another reason, too. It's pretty hard for anyone to be both a good projectionist and a good repair man. What the theatre needs is a good projectionist. With these mechanisms, repairs can wait until a repair man comes in and does the job right.

“But there is one condition. All three projectors must be used continually. If one is left permanently idle, just as a spare, chances are that when trouble comes that one will be found out of order.

ANNOUNCING

A New Six-Tube Rectifier

The result of the very newest scientific developments, in single and twin type models—achieving a new high standard in three-phase full wave rectification. Built in remote control relay with provisions for operating spotlights. DC output flexible from 40 to 75 amperes.

IMMEDIATE DELIVERY

LD-60 and LD-30 Bulb Type Rectifiers
*Projection Arc Lamps Sound Screens
Super MCS Rectifiers
*Slight delay on lamp deliveries

FOREST MFG. CORP. 60 PARK PLACE, NEWARK, N. J.

SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, August 17, 1946
too. If all three are used right along, two will always be in shape to throw a perfect picture.

Others said:

“We eventually hope to have three projectors in all our theatres, except only where the projection room is too small to hold them.”

“In our larger houses, yes; and a spare mechanism in every house. The psychological aspect of expecting only the best in return for a high admission price causes the public to resent any stop in a large first-run theatre—they look for perfection and you’d be surprised how fast the news travels if a stop occurs. In other types of theatres they will tolerate some trouble, but our policy has been to lean over backward.”

“Our policy is to install three projectors in first-run and show-window houses, not everywhere.”

“A third installation is advisable only in large A houses.”

“No third installation in any theatre, but emergency heads should be on hand, either in the theatre or at the very least in the town.”

“Our records show that proper maintenance of projectors, and regular overhaul or replacement at established intervals, makes the expense of a third machine unnecessary.”

“We also haven’t found that it is necessary.”

**Dimmers**

Equipment for dimming auditorium lighting during the showing of color pictures, as compared with the house illumination used with black-and-white, was discussed, with opinion evenly divided. The negative side, however, was the more voluble.

“The important point is to arrange the auditorium lighting so it doesn’t cast a glow on the screen. Aside from that, adhere to standards set by local authorities. Incidentally, red exit lights are less harmful with color pictures than with black-and-white, because there is usually enough red in any color scene to mask the glow, while with a black-and-white picture it shows up.”

“No, even with black-and-white pictures keep the house illumination as low as possible.”

“No.”

“Instead of dimmers, we favor switching off all light circuits that aren’t actually needed.”

But an equal number thought the other way.

**New Speakers**

Adding new, improved-type loudspeakers to existing sound systems “has been found very desirable” in the opinion of some members. The majority, however, added qualifications.

“Only if the rest of the system is relatively new—not with some older type systems. I don’t favor a comparison test where a new set of horns is tested against a 1930 type. Naturally an improvement will be noticed. New equipment and new horns is the right answer my way of thinking.”

“If the old system cannot be replaced completely.”

“If there is a marked improvement.”

“If the rest of the equipment is such

that the new horns will be a genuine improvement.”

Some other comments were:

“No. We prefer entirely new equipment.”

“No. We favor a complete new system. Why add new speakers to old equipment? New amplifiers put out more and better sound and eliminate the risk of breakdown so common on old jobs with brittle wiring.”

**Effect Projection**

Dressing up the start of the picture by means of an effect projector and appropriate slides again brought forth a variety of views. No one favored such fancy dress for all theatres; but some use it in many of their houses, others in few, in none.

Here are some of the opinions:

“Use effects in as many theatres as possible, especially A theatres.”

“In as many theatres as practicable, but only where the manager has the showmanship, the vision and ideas to use it effectively. Without creative ideas, effect projection has no value.”

“In all theatres if possible, but small ones can’t afford it.”

“In A houses and better suburbs.”

“In A houses only.”

“Certain neighborhoods don’t go for it; otherwise we use effects in all theatres.”

“Where it helps the box-office.”

“Nowhere. We consider it old-fashioned.”

The STR Projection Advisory Council will meet again next month. You are cordially invited to send any questions on which you would like their advice.

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**They Can Help You Improve Your Theatre**

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**Congratulations to WARNER BROTHERS on the 20th Anniversary of the Introduction of SOUND PICTURES and heartiest wishes for continued success and achievement**

NATIONAL THEATRE SUPPLY
horizontal Shutter Arrangement
For Low-Ceiling Projection Rooms

By WALTER DUNKELBERGER
Chief Projectionist, Isis Theatre, Fargo, North Dakota
Member, IATSE Local No. 510

IN MANY of the smaller theatres the problem of crowding both projection room and lobby into a limited space between the street level and the floor of a hotel or apartments overhead makes it necessary to place the observation ports lower than they should be. This hampers the projectionist’s vision, making his work that much more difficult and consequently his efficiency that much less.

In our own situation, after giving the lobby the very minimum height permissible, we found our projection room ceiling would fail under six feet. By digging into the floor beams of the hotel overhead we finally managed to create a 6 foot 4 inch ceiling. (We had to use specially made cantilever pipes.) As for the observation ports, the one in the illustration has its top flush with the ceiling of the auditorium.

It is obvious that if this port had been placed lower down to allow a standard fire shutter to be mounted in the regular manner, the projectionist would have had to stoop or sit to see his screen.

The idea occurred to me that if I used a pulley and weight system we could mount the fire shutter on its side instead of putting it above the port, and so obtain maximum efficiency in vision by building the port at the proper height.

To accomplish our purpose and still comply with State fire laws it was necessary to do the following things:

1. Weid a new handle near the lower edge of each fire shutter so that the chain to pull it closed might be attached. It is advisable to use a new handle so a more direct and positive pull will be exerted.

2. To this handle is attached a chain, which in turn passes through a flat pulley mounted as shown in the picture. To the other end of the chain a weight is fastened. We use a three-pound sashweight; smaller weights would also work satisfactorily.

3. The weight is now attached to the fire shutter release system in the usual manner with sashcord, so that when the release system is operated the weight will drop, pulling the fire shutter horizontally into the closed position.

It can be seen that this mechanism for closing the shutter meets all the fire laws requirements; it is fireproof, and it operates by gravity (sashweight closes it).

The above-described method has been examined and tested by the North Dakota inspector for the State Board of Electricians, in whose province theatres fall, and received his O.K. We have found it to be positive in action in all tests.

Care should be used in attaching the new handle to the shutter so that it doesn’t have too thick a joint or weld. A thick joint will prevent it clearing the glass in the projection port when the shutter slides into place. A little care in connection with this assures an easy-working shutter.

A large eye can be placed in the wall and the sashcord run through it. This will keep cord and weight against the wall and out of the way. Do not run the chain through the eye. The chain must be free to avoid any possibility of fouling.

Built-in Cribs Feature Remodeled Cry Room

Built-in cry room cribs are among the innovations of the remodeled New Falls Theatre, Black River Falls, Wis. The house was re-seated, the projection room modernized and new projection and sound equipment installed. The re-opening attraction was the State premiere of “God’s Country.”

Fire Alarm Boxes In Theatres

St. Louis, Mo.—The Public Safety Committee of the Board of Aldermen has reported favorably a bill to require theatres seating 1,500 or more persons to have one fire-alarm box near the stage and another near the front of the building, and a single alarm box in theatres with a seating capacity of 200-1,500.
**The "Walls" Tumbled -- and Reinert Was There!**

The provocative title of Columbia's "The Walls Came Tumbling Down" was seized upon with glee by George Reinert of the State, Allentown, when he took advantage of a local situation where a fire in a nearby apartment house had devastated the building. A wrecking crew moved in to tear the ruined structure down and, with the usual crowds gathered to watch the laborers work, Reinert selected the literally "tumbling down" walls of the wrecked building as an ideal spot to post a 24 sheet on the picture.

The newspapers loved the gag, printed plenty about it in story and pictures and it became the favorite gag of the town in a short time. And what with building wrecking being in progress in one form or another in nearly every city, the stunt can be repeated, thanks to Mr. Reinert.

Marjorie Chapman's unadorned beauty was the angle seized upon by Bill Brereton of Basil's Lafayette, Buffalo to sell "Walls." Photo editors were serviced with Kodachromes of the beautiful Miss Chapman and two of them responded with full page reproductions.

Store windows carried prominent displays, based on the Chapman beauty, including Robinson's Ladies Wear, J. J. Adams, Woolworth's, Main Street Jewelry, Conner's, Levy's, Kay's Tanke's and Jassey's. In addition, Brereton arranged to have all delivery trucks of the Richter's Periodical Company carry banners announcing the opening of the film on both sides of the trucks.

**N. Y. Public Library Finds 'Henry V' Worthy of Plag**

Some pictures are just naturals for getting the cooperation of city departments, and such a one is "Henry V," the Laurence Olivier production which is going the rounds as a two-a-day attraction in New York. For instance, the public library has cooperated to an almost unheard of extent.

In every branch in the five boroughs are seen announcements and color posters advertising the picture and the fact that it is playing at the New York City Center. In some instances, throwaways are also stacked on the out-going book desk.

**RKO Grand Re-Opens With 'Caesar & Cleopatra'**

Extensively renovated both inside and out the RKO Grand Theatre, which now boasts the largest theatrical electrical sign in Chicago, had a gala re-opening Wednesday (18th) with the mid-Western premiere of Bernard Shaw's "Caesar and Cleopatra."

The opening was heralded by a lobby broadcast, a barrage of Klieg and searchlights and a host of celebrities headed by Mayor Edward J. Kelly, who accepted the streamlined theatre on behalf of the city.

A delegation of RKO executives, headed by Malcolm Kingsberg, president of RKO Theatres: Sol A. Schwartz, Vice-President and General Manager; and William W. Howard.

**Philly's New Goldman Debuts with 'Beaucaire'**

The debut of Philadelphia's first post-war theatre, the Goldman (Thursday 15th) with the initial world showing of Bob Hope's latest picture, "Monsieur Beaucaire," was a civic event bringing together a group of leaders of Philadelphia life headed by Mayor Bernard Samuel, who dedicated the new showhouse. The mayor was the principal speaker.

Among others honoring William Goldman, veteran Philadelphia showman for whom the occasion was the realization of a life-long ambition, was James McCallion, general manager of the Board of City Trusts of Philadelphia, who purchased the first ticket; Anthony Felix, executive vice-president of the Pennsylvania Co.; Judge Herbert F. Goodrich of the Federal Court of Appeals; Albert M. Greenfield, prominent Philadelphia realtor; Jack Kelly, ex-Democrat city chairman; Henry D. Saylor, former Pennsylvania State Senator; Col. Harold D. Saylor, his son, and Frank Murdoch, one of the city's leading legal lights.

Representing Paramount Pictures, producers of the Goldman Theatre's first attraction, were Charles Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution; Earle Sweigert, eastern division manager, and Ulrik F. Smith, Philadelphia branch manager.

Following the opening ceremonies Mr. Goldman, who is president of the William Goldman Theatres, Inc., was host to Mayor Samuel and the other notables at a luncheon at Ritz-Carlton Hotel.

Dedication exercises, including the mayor's address, were broadcast locally and served as a tribute to Mr. Goldman—PH.

**National Magazine Ads Set for RKO's 'Crack-Up'**

As part of the promotion which is being planned for "Crack-Up," RKO Radio has set a national magazine ad campaign in 20 publications with a combined circulation of more than 30 million copies, it has been announced by S. Barret McCormick, Director of Advertising and Publicity.

Full page ads have appeared in the June 9th and June 10th issues of Look and Life magazines respectively, and the Woman's Home Companion for July. Following in order are Pic, True, Inside Detective and Front Page Detective for August, Collier's for August 24th and Life for August 26th: the September issues of Modern Screen, Screen Guide, Screen Romances, Movie Show, Screwcrafter, Silver Screen, Motion Picture, Movie Story Magazine, True Detective, Master Detective, Look magazine for September 17th, Liberty for September 21st, and the October issues of Screen Stars, Movieland, Photoplay, Movie Life, Mutoscope, Moving Picture Parade and Official Detective Stories.

**A Cover for Kelly**

Look Magazine in the issue of August 23, now on the stands, carries a cover in color of Gene Kelly, MGM dancing star, plus a double-page color spread of triple action shots of dancing sequences in "Life's for the Living."
Universal Turns on Ballyhoo for Wanger's 'Canyon Passage'

AS FAR AS THE EYE CAN SEE thousands of milling persons wait in Portland's flag-beleeked streets for the cavalcade of Universal's stars who came to the city to celebrate the world premiere of Walter Wanger's "Canyon Passage." More than 40,000 witnessed the hour long parade, which took place prior to the film's opening at the J. J. Parker Broadway Theatre.

A return of the old-fashioned but nationally effective player-press junket type of ballyhoo was employed by Universal to exploit its world premiere of Walter Wanger's "Canyon Passage" at the J. J. Parker Broadway theatre in Portland, Oregon. About forty stars and newspaper editors took active part in a hour-long parade through Portland's in Main Street, witnessed by more than 40,000 people. State and city officials turned the town over to the visiting stars and other celebrities, who included producer Walter Wanger, Joan Bennett, Lou Costello, Yvonne DeCarlo, Peggy Ryan, Hoagy Carmichael, Jess Barker, and Ernest Haycox, author of "Canyon Passage" and one of the city's most celebrated residents. Civic officials who took part in the celebration included Governor Snell of Oregon and Mayor Riley of Portland.

Highlights of the campaign in addition to the parade, included a luncheon at the home of Haycox, awarding of the degree of Doctor of Literature to Haycox by Lewis and Clark College, a civic banquet and barbecue. The Portland Oregonian and the Portland Journal carried stories on the premiere for days, climaxing their coverage with three successive days of page one stories and art. During the public appearances of the celebrities Elsa Maxwell acted as mistress of ceremonies.

Windows Welcome Stars

"Welcome" windows were promoted all over town, tying in with every kind of business concern. Special displays were built and placed in more than forty of the most prominent store windows in Portland, including Weisfeld and Goldberg, Oregon City Woolen Mills, George H. Lowenson and Company, J. K. Gill Company (three windows), Grable-Pulay, Sherman and Clay, Weiner's, Lipman-Wolfe Company (six windows), Meier and Frank, Bedell (six windows) and the J. C. Penney Company (three windows).

Radio listeners were made "Canyon Passage" conscious when a stunt was effected with the People are Funny radio show, wherein a newly-married couple was selected to honeymoon in the Canyon Passage country of Oregon. Dressed in costumes of pioneer days, they were given a covered wagon, drawn by a team of mules. They took from Portland (where they were flown by plane) to seek a reward, a $1000 check, that was planted somewhere along the journey back to the coast. When found, it was to be their property. The stunt covered three weeks of travel. On three successive shows People Are Funny reported the progress of the couple, until the termination of the jaunt at the studio, where the prize was awarded by Susan Hayward.

In Portland, a man hunt was effected, along the lines of a Raffles contest. Hundreds of persons, on horseback, competed for a cash prize, in which the winner had to spot his quarry, a Portland policeman, dressed as a cowboy, before the policeman could reach the center of town from the outskirts, from where he started. A stunt that broke the front pages of Chicago newspapers was inspired by the love interest in the production. The first twenty-five couples to present themselves at the marriage license bureau on a specified day to obtain marriage licenses had their fees paid for by Universal. Teaser ads were taken in the daily newspapers asking the couples to present themselves to the clerk at City Hall. A huge wedding cake presented by Susan Hayward, was sliced by County Clerk Michael J. Flynn, and each couple given a slice. A wedding band had been placed in one of the slices, so that the couple receiving that particular slice, won the ring as a prize. Cake was imprinted "Canyon Passage. Palace Theatre, To-day." This stunt will be repeated elsewhere.

At Baltimore, where the picture opened at Keith's Theatre, a "Miss Canyon Passage, Pioneer Girl" was selected from a bevy of 25 beauties. At the Meadowbrook Pool, where Buster Crabbe's Water Pollies was playing, (and Crabbe was one of the judges) Miss Mary de Villiers, nineteen-year-old blue-eyed blonde beauty was judged the winner.

Pistol Packin' Mama

A ballyhoo put on by the theatre was a real attention-getter. A model, dressed in western attire and carrying a pair of sixshooters lead two pack-laden mules through the busy downtown section of town, placarded with picture and playdate copy.

For the engagement at the Criterion Theatre, Broadway, New York, a specialized campaign is in progress that has already seen full page color ads taken in four New York dailies, reaching an estimated 8,000,000 readers.

Several radio tieups are in progress, as are a few special events. Archery is given attention in the picture, therefore, an archery tournament was arranged at White Plains where bow and arrow experts competed for places on the "Canyon Passage" team. These experts engaged in a duel of accuracy against the New York Yankees preceding a night game before a crowd of 70,000. The archers used bow and arrow against the throwing arms of Tommy Henrich, Joe Di Maggio and Charley Keller.

American Airlines and Universal share an exhibit at 32nd Street and Avenue of the Americas, where a DC4 is on display. Alongside of the plane is a covered wagon, the type used in "Canyon Passage," comparing the present mode of travel and that of 100 years ago.
**Hayride, Coney Spieler**

Ol' timers who remember the days of street ballyhoo would sure have got a kick out of it if they could have been in Parsons, Kan., recently when the Kansas Theatre put on a Kansas premiere for PRC's "Down Missouri Way." Arthur Turner, the manager, and his staff ran a regular campaign via radio and newspapers, but added to this usual promotion a street campaign that turned out to be great fun for all concerned.

To begin with, Turner had a Coney Island spiker in front of the lobby, who sold small models of Shirley, the mule appearing in the picture. These toys were animated, and brought many oh's and ah's from the kids.

The big thing, though, was a hayride—yes, a hayride. Of course, it didn't take place in the moonlight, but in the middle of the day when all could see it. The wagon was drawn by two large farm horses and on the ride were a dozen employees of the theatre dressed in typical hillbilly fashion—the girls in blue denims and the boys in khaki trousers and straw hats. Stretched above their heads for the full length of the wagon was a cloth banner advertising name of picture, dates, and star names.

But that wasn't all. Walking along behind the hay wagon was a mule which carried a banner blanketed with this copy: "I'm on my way to the Kansan to see my Sweetheart—Shirley the mule, in 'Down Missouri Way' with Eddie Dean. Sunday-Monday-Tuesday."

Following the mule came the theatre's advertising truck, whose 4 x 6 boards carried this copy: "COME ON FOLKS FOR A MUSICAL HAYRIDE. Eddie Dean in 'DOWN MISSOURI WAY' with Martha O'Driscoll-John Carradine. Kansan Theatre, Sunday-Monday-Tuesday."

The truck was also provided with a loud-speaker, so that Eddie Dean records could be played. The truck itself covered the local Parsons territory for four days before opening, completing a 35-mile circle.

In the matter of radio Turner got unusually good coverage for "Down Missouri Way." Starting five days in advance the picture was plugged over the KGFF Coffeyville station.

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**Wider Use of Outdoor Advertising Planned by 20th-Fox for New Films**

In the belief that outdoor advertising has taken on increased importance under the system of single-picture selling, prescribed in the recent opinion handed down by Judge Augustus N. Hand, 20th Century-Fox has inaugurated the use of teaser 24-sheets to give a longer range to the outdoor phase of the advertising campaigns on its individual pictures.

In the future, 20th Century-Fox plans to have two sets of paper, one teaser and one regular, on its pictures, according to Charles Schlaifer, head of the company's advertising, publicity, exploitation and radio department.

So far, the 20th Century-Fox poster department has prepared teaser posters for seven pictures on the 1946 schedule—"Leave Her to Heaven," "The Dark Corner," "Somewhere in the Night," "Claudia and David," "Three Little Girls in Blue," and "Margie."

For its posters, as well as other forms of advertising, 20th Century-Fox has made it a practice to use outstanding artists to create key art for the campaigns. Norman Rockwell, famous for his Saturday Evening Post covers, is at work now on a striking painting of Tyrone Power and Gene Tierney for "The Razor's Edge." Sol Tepper's paintings of Irene Dunne and Rex Harrison were used as the keynote for "Anna and the King of Siam," and for the "Claudia and David" posters, Arthur William Brown, who created the "Claudia and David" sketches for Rose Franken's Red Book series on this famous couple, was commissioned to do special drawings. Gilbert Bundy, New Yorker artist, did a logo type of dancing figures, spelling out the title "Margie" for the teaser posters on this picture.

Teaser posters also have been used by 20th-Fox to introduce new personalities to the public. For example, Mark Stevens and Nancy Guild were launched in this manner for their first appearances in the company's pictures. For "The Dark Corner" poster only the back of Stevens' head was shown with the catch-line, "Wait Till You Meet Mark Stevens Face to Face—Save Your Lipstick Girls, He Plays for Keeps." The now famous line: "Meet the Guild Gal, she rhymes with Wild" called attention to a striking painting of Nancy Guild on the teaser posters for "Somewhere in the Night."

**R. S. V. P.?**

The Rose Hill Theatre, Rosehill, N. C., used an inexpensive but effective teaser to exploit "Janie Gets Married" in the form of a type-written invitation to a wedding set up in formal style. The invitation read "Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Ramsey request the honor of your presence at the marriage of their favorite, Janie to Mr. Jake Lawrence (Robert Hutton), Thursday the first of August, at seven-thirty o'clock. Rose Hill Theatre, Admission 35 cents." The invitations were distributed door-to-door throughout the residential area.—CHA.

**Appear in Person**

When MGM's "The Green Years" played at the Fox Wilshire and Belmont theatres, Los Angeles, the Scotch Fidd Pipers who played in the picture were induced to appear in the lobbies during the film's engagements.
SELLING THE PICTURE

**Goldwyn Launches $10,000 Radio Contest to Exploit ‘The Best Years’**

One of the most unique and probably one of the most effective methods yet devised to exploit a motion picture will be launched in a five months long contest to find a lucky young couple who will win a honeymoon trip around the world. Samuel Goldwyn Productions will sponsor the contest and will finance the tour of the globe to the extent of $10,000 for the most attractive young bride and groom in the nation. A jackpot of gifts for the winning couple is planned in addition to the $10,000 tour.

Mr. and Mrs. America of 1947 will be chosen from prospective newswomen everywhere in a radio search starting this week (Aug. 17) via more than 200 stations of the American Broadcasting Company’s network on the popular daytime program, Bride and Groom. The individual stations will weed out applicants and each participating station will be permitted to name one engaged couple from its own area whose photographs, background and record of attributes will be sent to Hollywood. In addition to Samuel Goldwyn, judges of the final winners will be Myrna Loy, Frederic March, Dana Andrews, Teresa Wright, Virginia Mayo, Hoagy Carmichael and the rest of the cast of “The Best Years of Our Lives.”

With one of the highest Hooperatings of all daytime radio shows, Bride and Groom will carry word of the contest to an estimated 6,500,000 people every day, 5 days a week, with each participating station devoting a stipulated extra amount of time each week, in order to select local winners and keep contestants informed.

Originated to popularize the title “The Best Years of Our Lives” and to acquaint the public with its cast, the search for the honeymoon couple is one of the most intensive radio promotions ever put behind a motion picture and is planned to be the most spectacular contest ever staged in radio.

The exploitation innovation is expected to be watched by the motion picture and radio industries as a new approach to the promotion of films via radio.

**Cleveland Public Library Aids ‘Smoky’ Promotion**

There may seem to be little or no relation between “Smoky” and book marks, but the KKO Palace in Cleveland nevertheless thought book marks would be a good idea. Accordingly, Manager C. H. Schreiber arranged a tieup with the Cleveland Public Library whereby book marks announcing the engagement of “Smoky” were inserted in all volumes loaned out. They said the customers—if public library borrowers can be called “customers”—liked the idea very much.

Another stunt was to have six usherettes distribute heralds at Thistle Downs, local race track in Cleveland, on the day the handicap was run. The winning horse was presented with a blanket inscribed “Smoky Handicap.”

**Smart ‘Renegades’ Angles Produce Top Campaign**

Smart showmanship on the part of exhibitors and field exploitation men on the part of Columbia’s “Renegades” continue to produce impressive results on the national pattern. The film is re-released to additional theatres across the country.

In San Antonio,Norman Schwartz and Jack Chalmans of the Astec Theatre, and Henry Morris of Columbia, concentrated on radio, window displays and co-operative advertising to sell the film. Station KTSA ran a four day contest on “What I Like Movies In Technicolor,” plugging the film and the local playdate on the air, and using hill-billy music as a more direct tie-in with the frontier motif of the picture.

Attractive windows were obtained from the local Columbia Records dealer, who sells fifteen windows; Jean’s Millinery Shop, Lucchese Boot Company and Peyton’s, the largest department store in the city. In addition Peyton’s ran newspaper advertising hinged strongly on the theme of the film. In all of the windows, as well as in the ads, full credit went to the local playdate.

**Seattle Scores**

Radio and windows also scored in Seattle, where Leroy Johnson and Glen Winebuhl, with an assist from Columbia’s Sammy Siegel, handled the campaign for the Liberty Theatre. Two radio shows, “Rhythm Rodeo” over KXA and “Requestfully Yours” on KRSC, devoted full shows to “Renegades” for three days in advance of the opening. In the window department, the boys worked out eye-arresting displays with Mast’s, Kurn’s Music Center, Sherman & Clay, H. L. Green, Hooper-Kelly, Myer’s Music, The Record Shop and S. H. Kress.

Harold Mortin of the State, Syracuse, and Columbia’s Bernie Maxwell turned in a campaign that included some novel stunts as well as the usual windows, radio, etc. With the co-operation of the police department, several wrecked cars throughout the city were permitted to remain in the streets, properly labeled “Don’t Be A Modern Renegade . . . Keep Syracuse Safe.” A crowd stopper, the stunt got great newspaper as well as public notice. A twist on the “frying eggs on a hot sidewalk” gag was used. This time the egg-fryer had a sign on his back reading “Renegade At Work.” Working with the police reporters, Mortin got nice newspaper notices when he applied to the police department for a permit to construct a hitching post and watering trough in front of the theatre. As a final stunt, all red-heads (like heroine Evelyn Keyes), were admitted free on opening night.
SELLING THE PICTURE

Keys 'Breakfast' at Parsons With Special Advance Show

Ring Twice?
A "Postman" drink was featured by the Roger Smith Hotel, White Plains, N. Y., in connection with the showing of MGM's "The Postman Always Rings Twice" at Loew's State, managed by Michael Stranger. Probable effect of the potion was that it rang the bell not once, but twice.

Unique Song Tieups On 'Night and Day'
Theatre managers and exploitation men are finding "Night and Day," Warners' Technicolor film based on the life and music of Cole Porter and chosen as the keynote release for the 20th Anniversary of Talking Pictures, full of unusual possibilities for tieups, especially in the song division.

For an engagement at Shea's Great Lakes Theatre, Buffalo, Manager Charles B. Taylor arranged with the largest local department store, J. N. Adams & Co., to run a series of daily ads, each using a Cole Porter song from "Night and Day" as its theme. For instance, an ad featuring shoes was headlined "I Get a Kick Out of You": evening clothes, "In the Still of the Night"; jewelry, "My Heart Belongs to Daddy"; hat, "You're the Top," and perfume, "You Go to My Head." All these ads ran in one big ad on the picture's opening day.

Manager Bill Harwell of the Laroy Theatre, Portsmouth, O., set up a radio contest with WPAY under the title of "Mystery Song Contest of Songs from Warners' 20th Anniversary Musical Hit, 'Night and Day.'" A song from the picture was played daily, and the first two persons naming the tune received free tickets.

RKO Orpheum in Sioux City, Iowa, tied in with Davidson's Department Store for seven of their main windows. In addition, the store used quarter-page to full-page ads and bought radio spots over KSCI, KRTN and WMAX to plug its "Night and Day" merchandise tieup. A window display typifying night and day also was arranged by the Schmoller & Mueller Music Store, while Kresse's and numerous other shops gave space to the film.

RKO Souvenir Envelopes Hail Iowa Anniversary
When the stamp commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Iowa Statehood was sold for the first time on August 3rd in Iowa City, Iowa, first-day-of-issue souvenir envelopes were mailed from that point to exhibitors throughout Iowa by Ned E. Depinet, RKO Radio executive vice-president.

The engraved souvenir envelope contained a picture of the present State Capital at Des Moines, the State motto as shown on the seal "Our liberties we prize, and our rights we will maintain," and data concerning the admission to the Union of Iowa on December 28, 1846 as the 29th State.

Good Will Gesture
The Fabian Staten Island Theatres are again cooperating with the military, as in time of war. All seven houses are running the Marine Corps recruiting trailer at every performance, and the management finds this type of cooperation pays off in goodwill to the Fabian circuit and to the industry as a whole.

At their publicity meeting to decide upon a selling approach for "Breakfast in Hollywood," Arthur Turner and his staff at the Parsons Theatre, Parsons, Kans., decided that an advance screening for the ladies of the town, accompanied by all of the whoopla associated with the film and its theme, would result in invaluable word-of-mouth publicity for the film.

So they arranged a special showing six days in advance of the opening at the Parsons in which they reproduced Tom Brennan's regular show from the stage, served free breakfast to the ladies attending, held a Crazy Hat Contest, a Wishing Contest, gave prizes to the best good neighbor, mother of the largest family present, to the lady who had traveled the farthest just to attend the show, orchids to the eldest lady, and capped it all by giving away 12 pairs of nylon hose! Another contest sponsored by the Parsons men gave prizes to the writers of best letters on "Why it is important to keep yourself fresh and young looking."

A trailer about the event was shown starting two weeks in advance of the special showing, and at the same time a 24-foot banner was hung in the lobby. A breakfast table also was set up in the lobby, marked with a "Reserved for Tom Brennan card. Two 40x60 setspieces also heralded the coming party.

Ten days in advance a want ad appeared in the local newspaper asking for 1000 ladies to attend the Breakfast Party at the Parsons. The ad gave details about the prizes, contests, etc.

Newspapers and merchants gave full cooperation to the event, with the stores which donated prizes setting up window displays and the newspapers carrying almost daily stories.

Special tickets for the morning show were placed on sale 12 days in advance and were completely sold out long before the special program was scheduled to take place.

SHOWMAN SAM SAYS: You can't tell me that all the owners who are installing crying rooms are doing it for the babies. Owners will have much more space for crying, with a crying room than they have had with their crying towels; and besides, the towels are getting pretty well worn out by now.
Life Cycle of the Mosquito (Excellent)
Emerson Yorke Studio
12 mins.
The 12 minutes contained in this extremely interesting short subject took the Emerson Yorke Studio just a little more than a year to complete. The length of time is understandable, after viewing the completed work; so amazing is the micro-photography which reveals the development of the mosquito physically from the egg to the larva, then the pupa and finally the adult. Three important organizations cooperated in the production of the film: the U. S. Public Health Service, Washington, D. C.; New Jersey State Agricultural Experimental Station, Rutgers University; Rockefeller Foundation, International Health Division, New York City. The short takes viewers through the probable breeding grounds of mosquitoes, the control of their breeding and the work being done in the study of the insect preparatory to providing additional control of its breeding. Interesting for any type of theatrical program.

Conquering Darkness (Instructive)
New Jersey State Commission for the Blind
20 mins.
Although this is a little long and too detailed for ordinary theatre showing, it is a comprehensive film document which factually records the activity of the New Jersey State Commission for the Blind. It highlights the activities of the following departments of the commission: Education, Industrial Placement, Assistance, Home Industries, Talking Books, Braille Library and Prevention. Milton Cross narrates the film and appears in the opening sequences with George Myer, Director of the Commission, himself blind, who proves in practice the basic policy of the Commission—that of providing activity in a constructive manner for the blind persons of the State of New Jersey. Emerson Yorke Studio produced.

South of Monterey (Pleasant)
WB (2065) Technicolor Special
20 mins.
Director Sullivan C. Richardson has put together a pleasant travelog which covers nearly all of Central America in its 20 minutes' running time. This makes the effect seem rather short-winded and the picture at the same time gives the impression of being a little slow. The best scenes are those of the Paricutin volcano, very much in action. It was too bad more footage on this subject was not available; however, the travelog offers possibilities as a good program filler.

Acrobats Bunny (Excellent)
WB (2722) Bugs Bunny Special
7 mins.
Right up to the usual Bugs Bunny standard, this Technicolor effort offers solid entertainment, held to a fast pace throughout. Bugs is aroused from his slumber when a circus camp right over his hole-in-the-ground home. When he comes up to investigate he finds himself right in the lion's cage. But you know bugs. He tries all the tricks in his nimble brain, with the lion finally winding up in the mouth of a cannon. Mighty good comedy fare.

I'll Take Milk (Gets There)
RKO (63705) Leon Errol
15 mins.
Leon awakes from a bad night out and receives a caller who turns out to be a lady raffles who has planted a stolen necklace on her hero. Hemmed in by his wife, a girl cousin, his fiancée and the police, Errol gets into all kinds of trouble before the police catch the criminals and explain that Leon was entirely innocent. Has a fair quota of laughs and can go it on an average program.

Wall Street Blues (Good)
RKO (63404) Edgar Kennedy
17 mins.
Edgar learns the kind of stock he bought some years ago is now worth $75 per share and then remembers he had papered a room with it when he thought it worthless. The house now belongs to another man, and the antics of Kennedy and his son-in-law to get the wall containing the stocks forms the basis of the fun. It turns out that Edgar had common stock and that it is the preferred issue that brings $75. A serviceable comedy for any bill except the art theatres.

Frank Duck Brings 'Em Back Alive (Excellent)
RKO (64113) Disney Cartoon
7 mins.
Donald Frank Duck arrives in the jungle looking for a wild man, and when he sees Goofy swinging through the trees and out-doing anything Weismuller could ever manage, he tries to sign him up. Goofy signs and then eats the contract. After that it is a chase. They land in a lion's den and the film ends with both Donald and Goofy legging it as the lion snaps at their heels and other things. Up to snuff—enuff said.

The Tortoise Wins Again (Good)
Terrytoon
20th-Fox (408)
7 mins.
The Hare is showing off on ice skates, doing some remarkable figure work. His kids and the Tortoises' offspring have an argument over whose father is best, with the result that poor, slow Tortoise has to race the swift Hare on ice. He wins, of course, when one of his children attaches a magnet to a fish; the fish swims and papa Tortoise is dragged along through magnetic attraction. All right for any situation.

Let's Go Camping (Pleasant)
WB (2804) Technicolor Adventure
10 mins.
The camera follows the vacation wanderings of two girls—ex-Campfire Girls—who range the U. S. from Colorado eastward. They set up a tent at Lake Irwin, Colorado and make out well in the way of trout in the famed Gunnison River; after a glance or two at the Grand Canyon they took over the Petrified Forest. Then eastward to Michigan for a sail on Lake Macatowa, following which they catch clams and whitefish off Long Island, and end dropping pheasants in upper New York State. All we have to say about those two girls is that it's nice work if you can get it. Good for any situation.

The Purloined Pup (Funny)
RKO (64,108) Disney Cartoon
7 mins.
Pluto is a member of the canine police force whose first assignment is that of finding Little Ronnie who has been spirited away by Butch, a vicious bulldog who holds him for ransom. Pluto's antics are now familiar but they are nevertheless funny, particularly as the conflict between Butch and Pluto develop. Pluto, of course, does his stuff brilliantly in this Technicolor short, and his fans will not be disappointed.

Palmetto Quail (Excellent)
RKO Radio (64,312) Sportscope
8 mins.
Everyone who has ever hunted for anything in the way of game and everyone who has ever dreamed of doing so, will get an enormous kick out of this presentation of hunting the elusive Bob White, or Palmetto Quail in western Florida. The beautifully trained pointers go into such picturesque freezes when they spot their game, that the written word is not adequate to describe them. The film is enormously interesting, even to persons who have never thought of any interest in the sport. It is bound to receive unanimous audience support.

Fish Is Food (Good)
Emerson Yorke Studio
11 mins.
This deals with the problem of feeding New York City with its daily supply of fresh-water fish, shell fish and sea food and stresses the value of fish as food and the relative importance of the industry in the New York scene. It takes audiences through a record of the Fulton Fish Market's night activities, in preparation for the daily sale to hotels, restaurants, clubs, etc., and shows the areas from whence come the species which daily decorate the tables of the city. Interesting for any theatrical program.

This Is TB (Instructive)
Nat'l Tuberculosis Ass'n
11 mins.
The second film about Tuberculosis produced by the Emerson Yorke Studio for the National Tuberculosis Association, this is a factual presentation of just what the disease is, how it can be and is communicated, its treatment; how it can be cured and how it can be avoided. The short is well acted, carefully directed and edited and might well be presented in theatres throughout the country as a public service. It is entertaining throughout, as well as instructive.

Rodeo Romeo (Enjoyable)
Para. (BS-6) Popeye
6 mins.
The adventures of Popeye and his trusty can of spinach, contrary to having run their course, get better with each release. In this newest effort, which shows Popeye pitting his wits against a star rodeo performer (Bluto, of course), there is a clever twist (Bluto's substitution of loco weed for spinach) and some unusual animation that make the Technicolor reel an enjoyable subject for the family.
Good patron-pulling advertising ammunition is scarce and getting more so every day. Don’t waste it!

Select the kind of a target that is most discernible through the binoculars of YOUR BOX-OFFICE and don’t pull the trigger unless you are reasonably certain of a bull’s-eye.

Recently, I’ve noticed a lot of advertising and exploitation campaigns that were as ill-fitted to the theatres putting them in work as the breaches of a circus clown—and not as likely to attract the kind of attention that pays off at the wicket. The why of these misfit efforts may be found in any one of many causes and I’m willing to take my share of the blame for the insistence I’ve placed on doing things that will attract new patrons and hold the old reliables. However, investigation has proved that in most instances the ungainly advertising garments were wrapped around the exhibitors by the field exploitation men of the distributing companies.

I have every respect for the field exploitation men and a keen appreciation of their jobs and the problems that go with it. I’ve been one of the drum-beaters myself and know what a headache it is to be sent into a situation where the pattern of customer potential is totally at variance with the story, stars, title, theme, costumes, scenic investiture and general construction of the super-special under treatment. I’ve worried myself right into the open nozzle of a bottle trying to figure ways to entice Mr., Miss and Mrs. Boogie Woogie to lay their moola on the line for a two-hour session with the old masters of the classics and vice versa. I’ve sat up nights with exhibitors who were unwilling to loose the purse-strings for their share of recommended activities that had proved to be house-packers in New York, Philly and Chicago (and let me say right now that in the vast majority of cases the theatremen was 1000 per cent right). I can recall but very few instances where my affirmative conversation was not in dire conflict with my negative convictions, and it took considerable mental maneuvering to settle on some out-of-the-ordinary or not-too-trie advertising procedure that was agreeable to the three of us—my dual sell and the exhibitor—and which would satisfy the “powers that be” in the home office that was paying my salary.

New Dress For Old Stunts

Reports from managers indicate that today’s distributor representatives are either lacking in the needed background of showmanship that their job demands or that they are too lazy, mentally and/or physically, to rise above the latticor and bromide practices that repetition has dulled to the point of uselessness if not offensive as advertising material. I’m not saying that practically all of the old stunts aren’t good, but they do need to be re-worked and re-shaped until they present some semblance of the sparkle that distinguishes the jaunty and spectacular from the stale and repetitious. It’s not only permissible but proper that the ossuary of past successes should be thoroughly and frequently explored for material. But for heaven’s sake give whatever is used a hypo of 1946 jive and jigger and make sure the stunt is padded well to keep the bones from rattling before you send it out to represent you in the glittering advertising marts of this giddy and highly competitive era.

Familiarity with the problems of both exhibitor and field exploiter prompts the conclusion that the exhibitor holds an ivory-soap percentage over the field man in deciding what will and what will not attract favorable attention and bring business to his box-office. The field man who is not willing to assume, without prejudice, that this is true and is incapable of adapting ideas that have proven successful in other applications or coming new ones to fit the situation at hand is not properly representing his company. If a reasonable amount of persuasive argument does not persuade the exhibitor, immediate steps should be taken to substitute a compromise activity—and the home office advertising execs will cheer for the fellow who does it.

Be Open-Minded

The showman who allows a visiting distributor representative to engage in any form of activity which the exhibitor considers unsuited to the situation should have his head examined. He (that field man) may be a swell fellow and all that, but if his proposed effort promises to be harmful rather than beneficial, shove your sympathies under the desk and “go negative” in a rough way. Be as open-minded as possible to every suggestion and draw heavily on your knowledge of the community in an effort to fit the already proven approaches to your customer pattern. There are very few situations where the expertly prepared and executed schemes can be properly rejected as being totally unsuited. Some part of the whole is of value in your town and you and the field man can dig it out if you just go deep enough into your mental mines.

Make Them Conform

Making the exploitation, publicity and advertising proposals conform to your house and the people of your community is an exhausting job but it is well to remember that the distributor thought enough of the ideas to send a man to help put them over. The least you can do is to give the time needed to thoroughly diagnose the possibility of application to your house and explore every angle before turning thumbs down.

I realize that I’m trying to carry “a bucket on each shoulder”—one for the exhibitor and one for the exploiter. My reason is that I honestly feel that both sides have been equally guilty of laxness in planning activities for the theatre that are in keeping with the new trend of things. And I would like nothing better than to see both sides get their heads together and co-ordinate their every effort. Playing together, the exploiter and the

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Wide-Awake Job

The Essaness Woods Theatre in Chicago has found it necessary to create a new staff job. This is "The Walker." The Woods runs all-night shows, and the "Walker's" duty is to awaken patrons who fall asleep and snore, thus spoiling the picture for the spectators whose eyes fail to close. —CHI.
THEATRE MANAGEMENT

Circuit Trains GIs in Theatre Operation

Practical Experience in All Phases Provided by Northio's 6-Month Course

In an effort to ease the manpower situation in management and to provide World War II veterans with experience in all phases of the theatre operation—a program which would ordinarily require three or four years—the Northio Theatres Corp. of Cincinnati, a Paramount affiliate operating some 15 theatres in the Ohio territory has instituted a six-months' training program to develop managers and assistant managers.

Aided by GI Bill

Operating with financial assistance from the GI Bill of Rights, the program provides for training under four different theatre managers in a 24-week period, one manager each six weeks. During the final six weeks the trainees take a one-week course in the actual operation of projection machines, a ten-day advertising course where they learn to write ads and lay out campaigns under the supervision of an advertising specialist, and finally act as assistant managers in the remaining three-week period. Those who make the grade at the end of the six months' program will be placed in assistant managerial posts in the circuit's theatres.

Twelve Now Training

Twelve men are at present engaged in the training program, according to Jack D. Braunagel, Northio theatres supervisor, who points out that the program will furnish much needed manpower for the circuit's theatres and will also enable the veteran to regain some of the time lost while in service.

The first six weeks of assistant manager training experience involves such phases of work as 40 hours of ushering; 30 hours of door work; maintenance work (sweeping auditorium, mopping rest rooms and lobby, washing all glass, etc.); changing the marquee with one assistant only; changing lobby displays without assistance; operating popcorn machine, cleaning it before opening, selling candy during busy periods; 50 hours of cashiering; submitting marquee copy for next change to manager 24 hours in advance; checking all lobby and marquee changes to insure correctness; inspecting theatre each morning for cleanliness and any possible deficiencies; watching the staff in operation; making rounds of the theatre each hour during busy periods midnite and evening to check on cleanliness; checking temperature each hour; closing theatre each night (check for loafers, check rest rooms for lighted cigarettes, make sure all doors are locked); checking box-office after closing; checking all film in and out; checking in any popcorn or candy received; checking first showing of each program for correct sound or imperfections, scratchy film, correct dates on trailers, running time of each subject; furnishing written reaction to each program at end of week, including patrons' comments, trainee's personal opinion of show, and any suggestions.

The trainees are also urged during the first six-week period to read reviews of all coming attractions; read the trade papers thoroughly each week; practice typewriting; learn the reasons for doing things when the reasons are not readily apparent; practice courtesy at all times; abstain from liquor just before coming on duty; refrain from standing around in the lobby or foyer to talk; make no dates with female employees (this practice is not permitted); watch for patrons who might annoy others; refrain from unnecessary conversation with employees and outsiders while on duty; refrain from chewing gum while on duty.

First Period Reviewed

During the second six weeks, the training assistant manager must complete a review of all work done during the first six-week period. One week after his transfer to another theatre, the trainee accepts the responsibility of chief usher, supervising the usher staff and assuming responsibility for any mistakes made by the staff. Although he must be present when applicants for usher jobs are interviewed, the manager must approve the hiring of new employees. Regular managers and their assistants oversee the duties of the trainee.

Actual Practice

Each week for six weeks the trainee puts into actual practice all the rudiments of theatre operation learned during his initial six-week training period. Among other duties, he makes a written report of his ideas for possible improvements in the theatre (this report has no bearing on the manager's rating of the trainee, since it is not returned to the manager until the training program has been completed); makes suggestions to the manager and carries through, if possible, his idea for a new type of lobby display on one of the following week's attractions; distributes window cards and sees that "dead" cards are picked up at end of run. For the final week of the second period, the trainee follows through on all details learned during the first eleven weeks of training. At the same time, the manager observes what the trainee does on his own initiative, what he overlooks, how he "takes hold" of his work, then reports on the trainee's progress.

STUDENT MANAGERS. Above, group photo of the Northio Theatres circuit's training group taken at a meeting held in Hamilton, Ohio. Seated left to right: Carl Long, Don Dulli, Melvin Carder; Ass Jarvis, Harry David, Jack D. Braunagel (Northio Theatre supervisor), William Borack, Eugene Sharpe, Dale McCombs, James Martin, Gene Peffley; standing: John Cooper and Don Utr.

Moving to still another theatre for the third six weeks of training, the prospective assistant manager assumes still more responsibilities in connection with the duties he has learned during the previous training periods. In addition, he works on inspection reports and account books; works up new type lobby displays with the assistance of the house artist; writes a letter to circuit executives containing his ideas for improvements in advertising, maintenance and service should he be appointed assistant manager; works on weekly books as far as possible without assistance. During the sixth week he must handle the books alone, observe and receive the manager's ideas of his newspaper advertising, and draw up an effective ad on the two different programs of the week.

Third Period

The third period of training, Braunagel points out, is the most difficult for the trainee, since he must not only learn all the bookkeeping details, but carry on with his other work as well. Meetings for trainees are held at certain intervals at the Anthony Wayne Hotel in Hamilton for the purpose of discussing mistakes made during the previous training period. Anonymous excerpts from managers' reports on the men in their charge are read to the assemblage, followed by comments. At one meeting recently the most prevalent criticism of the managers was the failure of their trainees to read trade papers. Presuming over the meeting, Braunagel cited several reasons why the trade papers should be carefully perused. First, he said, the men were not too well acquainted with the business and could learn something of all its phases by reading the weekly publications. Pointing to the publications' informative articles, Braunagel cited the Theatre Management section in SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW as an example of the type of informative material from which they would benefit.

Braunagel, who before entering the service was district manager for Fox Intermountain Theatres in Utah and Idaho, spurs his trainees on to success with this suggestion: "Tackle first the things you dislike doing, and work the hardest on them, as the things you dislike doing in training are the things that must be done well in order to insure your success."
Jackson Advocates Closer Teamwork

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exhibitor are capable of making some mighty sweet box-office music.

Ben Serkowitz and Harry McWilliams of Columbia; Howard Dietz and Bill Ferguson of MGM; Maurice Bergman and John Joseph of Universal; Terry Turner and Barrett McCormick of RKO, and other heads of distributor advertising and exploitation departments send their men into your town to help you set up and execute novel and out-of-the-ordinary maneuvers whereby the stay-at-homes and once-in-a-whilers are inoculated with the let's-see-that-movie bug. They do NOT send men into the field to supervise or oversee the kind of selling activities that are the normal routine of your theatre. The distributor field man whose contribution to your campaign consists of an assembly of stale and musty stunts that have long since lost their magnetism is not doing the job he was sent to do. His superiors equipped him with a tailored-to-measure campaign for a particular picture and credited him with the intelligence and show sense necessary to delete, amplify or embellish the formula to fit the engagement at your theatre. To reach the objective—(added patronage in your theatre)—may develop into a genuine pick and shovel job but you, Mr. Showman, should team up with the field man and insist on the task being performed according to the pattern that will fit best and look finest on your theatre.

Your customers look to the theatre for complete information as to "what's new in the world." It follows that your patron approach should be the model for local advertising and set the pace in distinctive and striking new manners of catching the public eye. Whenever you permit a worthwhile attraction—the kind that distributors are so proud of that they send men into the field to exploit—to be introduced and presented in the same manner and by the same overworked advertising team that handles the mediocre and commonplace chores for pictures of lesser value you become a wastrel.

Advertising is the fair-haired child of successful theatre operation. Its talents and abilities are limited only by the imagination and effort put into it by those entrusted with it. When, through neglect, carelessness, laziness or inattention, you permit this talented helper to appear in the same attire (window cards, posting, amusement page readers, casual ad space, etc.) week after week and month after month, you can't expect public applause or the kind of attention that pulls the amusement seekers to your theatre. Advertising is the beautiful daughter of the successful theatre family and—whether you know it or not—you are depending on her every public appearance to provide second and third glances, "hubba hubbas" and whistles from all who come within her alluring presence. Your

(Continued on Next Page)

New STR Service

We inaugurate an innovation in service with the Notebook feature appearing on this page. The format adopted obviously is for convenient filing and preservation by theatremen. We know from long experience that alert managers and theatre executives are quick to avail themselves of this form of presentation of service material. Thus we feel free to express the thanks of great numbers of theatremen to the officials of Wilby-Kincey Theatres for permission to quote and paraphrase the text of the outstanding and excellently prepared notebook which is used in connection with classes conducted for managers of that circuit.

THEATRE MANAGER'S NOTEBOOK MAINTENANCE

INTRODUCTION. Housekeeping, the most important phase of theatre maintenance, has to do with keeping the entire theatre clean and orderly, from roof to basement and from sidewalk to stage. It affects every other job directly in that dirt and evidences of neglect encourage destructive reactions throughout the building. It is impossible to over-emphasize the importance of efficient housekeeping in theatre maintenance.

EFFICIENT HOUSEKEEPING requires organization, which includes teaching the staff how to use tools and cleaning supplies; the delegation of specific jobs to individuals; scheduling so that the entire operation may be completed in the allotted time, and, finally and most important, inspecting the work in detail at frequent intervals. (Since it is essential that the manager know how to use the tools and cleaning supplies before he can teach and supervise others, such operations will be discussed in detail later.)

FIRST STEP in organizing and scheduling any job is to know the size and scope of the job to be done. Thus it is essential that a list be prepared covering every cleaning operation necessary to good upkeep. This list should be broken down as to tasks which must be done daily, weekly, monthly or at what time, according to time intervals (express, for example, must be vacuumed daily, while glass behind marquees letters need cleaning only once a week.) Since the time interval will vary depending upon local conditions of the individual theatre, the manager must determine the particular tasks which must be performed daily, weekly, etc.

Next in importance is the determination of how long it should take for each cleaning operation, and this must be indicated on the list of items of places to be cleaned as broken down to show intervals for performance of the particular task.

An efficient cleaning schedule must show which individual of the staff is to perform the various tasks listed. Next step, therefore, is to delegate specific jobs to certain individuals—this phase of the organization calls for care, study and good judgment so that the work is properly divided and the time element figured so that various assignments for each individual can be performed with the necessary regularity if the individual works with proper diligence and speed as figured on the basis for an average worker doing the particular task.

The schedules should be posted in advance daily or weekly and the manager must see to it that these schedules are adhered to. Any change necessary in the schedules as laid out must be made only by the manager, or at least with his authorization.

Proper makeup, posting and adherence to the schedule is most important because: a) the study required to make up the schedule gives the manager a knowledge of the work at hand that can be obtained in no other way; b) the schedule precisely telling the individual what tasks must be performed with the stated regularity tells the entire staff OVER
THEATRE MANAGEMENT

More DOs and DON'Ts for Service Staff Advised by Loew Magazine

An article on "DOs and DON'Ts for Usurers," as outlined in LO, a publication of Loew's Inc., appeared recently in SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW (STR, August 10, p. 16). The original treatise also included valuable hints for the conduct and guidance of Doormen and Cashiers that are well worth passing on, and are therefore included here, with the suggestion that the theatremen add them to the previously published list of DOs and DON'Ts for Usurers:

DOs for DOORMEN

Try to remember faces. Soon you'll recognize the theatre's regular patrons and you'll get to know many of them by name. Memorize these names and offer some personal greeting each time they pass.

Keep your uniform clean and neatly pressed. Dito for shirt and collar.

Be sure your hands and nails are clean. Fear every ticket in half. Return half to patron. Deposit other half in ticket chopper.

Be ready to answer questions as to times of showings, length of performance, change days, etc.

DON'Ts for DOORMEN

Never admit anyone without a ticket or the approval of the manager or assistant.

Don't engage in conversation with other employees or cronies.

Never go near the box-office.

Don't leave your post until you have been properly relieved.

Don't stand, rest on ticket box or prop yourself against a sail.

Don't watch the picture during the times you are on post. You can see it during the time you are off duty.

DOs for CASHIERS

Be sure your uniform is neat and attractive. Soon you'll get to know many regular patrons.

Greet them with a smiling "Good evening!"

When making change for a bill, don't put it in the till until patron has received his correct change and walked away from the window.

Attempt to attract the attention of "walk-aways" (patrons who forget to pick up their change).

Advocates Fire Drills

Maury Rubens, head of the Great States circuit in Chicago, has been holding bigger and better fire and emergency drills for the staff of the circuit's various theatres lately. He explains in a bulletin that efficient drills of employees prevented a panic at the circuit's Pekin Theatre in Pekin, Ill., when a false cry of fire was raised. Rubens declares that the safety of patrons is the most important phase of theatre operation — CHI.

Notify manager of any suspicious characters who may loiter near the theatre entrance.

Take your hourly register readings promptly. Be sure to check the amount of your opening bank. Verify the opening ticket numbers.

DON'Ts for CASHIERS

Don't sell a loose ticket. See that it is voided immediately.

Don't permit friends to loiter around the box-office.

Don't allow money to be exposed to passersby.

Don't chew gum or eat candy, read newspapers or magazines while on duty.

Don't make refunds unless manager or assistant has approved refund slip. Refund to be made to patron only.

Don't permit box-office ledge to be cluttered with miscellaneous articles.

Don't allow too much money to accumulate in box-office. Notify manager or assistant to make pick-up.

Replace Old Bulbs

Don't wait until several light bulbs burn out before replacing them. Put in new bulbs as old ones burn out.

Jackson Says...

(Continued from Page 35)

own common sense should tell you — and if it doesn't your wife or daughter will — that, regardless of natural beauty, no woman attracts even passive attention if her hair is straggly, her make-up unkempt, her clothes ill-fitted or out of style and her shoes run down at the heels. Keep your advertising dressed up and smartened up. Make certain that every curve shows to advantage and that no minute detail of the complete ensemble is overlooked that will detract from the unassuming verdict of its being the most attractive, most convincing and best-presented unit of merchandising endeavor in your community. Admitted that you can't do this every week, you can do it frequently enough to maintain prestige as the pace-setter in the advertising field.

And, don't forget, when you have that kind of effort perfected, be certain it requires those hard-to-get customers. Diameter cannot be sold successfully in ten cent store backgrounds. Pick your shots carefully and when a distributor's field man is at your disposal be sure that he observes the "keep off" signs of your regular activities and directs and expends his ammunition knocking off the "stay-at-home" and "don't-come-so-often" groups.

SHOWMAN SAM SAYS: What this country needs is a good 25-cent nickelodeon.

concretely and with no room for misunderstanding just exactly what is expected of each;

1. It fixes on individuals responsibility for work omitted or poorly done and therefore promotes efficiency;

2. It justifies the size of the cleaning organization maintained;

3. It gives the manager an intelligent basis upon which to make inspections and aids in constructive criticism.

The time consumed and work involved in scheduling the housekeeping tasks will result in a smoothness of operation, efficiency in performance, improved, overall appearance of the theatre and will make the manager's job much easier and certainly more pleasant.

Responsibilities of Others.

It is well to keep in mind that not all housekeeping operations are performed by the cleaning crew. The artist must keep his art shop in order; the projectionists must keep the booth "policed," the manager and his house staff must keep their offices, locker rooms and desks in neat, orderly fashion at all times. It is not possible for a manager to impress a cleaning staff with the necessity for a thorough job when he himself and others of his operating staff show no regard themselves for neatness in their surroundings and their appearance. This is a fundamental involving the wisdom of setting the proper example to those under your jurisdiction.

Inspection. The most important element for making the whole housekeeping schedule work is regular and frequent inspections by the manager himself. If the cleaners gain the impression that the manager is not interested enough to check the operation, the manager can be sure they will work haphazardly and the whole housekeeping program will break down from sheer carelessness and neglect. Evidence of sloppy work or neglect of a task to be performed at a specified interval must bring reprimand to the guilty party. Evidence of good work conscientiously performed should bring commendation to the worker to whom credit is due.

Check housecleaning daily and, by means of private criticism of faulty work and public praise of good work, imbue your staff with a spirit of pride in their jobs and the responsibility each bears in the operation as a whole.

SUMMARY:

To assure good housekeeping

1. Organize a comprehensive housekeeping program.

2. Teach the cleaning staff how to use their tools and cleaning supplies.

3. Schedule the work of the cleaners.

4. Inspect the operations daily.

(The results will be pleasantly surprising.)

(All of the foregoing comprises verbatim quotation or paraphrase of a chapter in the book issued to members of classes in the School of Management of Wilby-Kincey Theatres circuit. The book was made available to showmen's Trade Review for such quotation by the company, which is headed by R. B. Wilby and H. F. Kincey, and is recognized as one of the most progressive and efficiently operated circuits in the United States. The book, according to Mr. Wilby, was prepared not as a manual, but merely to serve members of the classes (which are conducted for managers of the circuit) as a notebook to spare those attending the classes the effort of making their own notes during the talks and demonstrations.)
CHECK-UP ON PRODUCT IN WORK

Production in High Gear Again As Labor-Management Snarls Are Smoothed—At Least Temporarily; Most Schedules Emphasize Big Budget Production Efforts

Hollywood production continues in high gear, with every studio busy as the proverbial beaver. All of the "majors" are jammed to capacity, including the newly formed Universal-International, and the independents are rolling, too. Disney is settling his labor differences, and will be quiet for a long time that the recent, short-lived strike found that lot entirely untouched because not a film was being shot.

Five Shooting at Paramount

Today five films are shooting at Paramount, including "The Emperor Waltz," to the cast of which Mickey DeMille has just been added after a four-year absence from the screen. They turned the Technicolor cameras on a gigantic ballroom scene following several weeks of rehearsal for the 500 people and 200 dancers in it. Richard Haydn, character actor, has started his role of Emperor Franz Joseph, being made up to appear 70 years old.

Quentin Reynolds finished his portrayal of himself for "Golden Barrings," Ray Milland-Martine Dietrich vehicle. Reynolds questions Milland to bring out the story of a soldier's escape from Germany, with the aid of a fascinating Hungary gypsy, played by Dietrich. "Desert Town," Hal Wallis production began Aug. 15, near Flagstaff, Ariz. Lewis Allen is directing. A new set and location sites in the vicinity will be used. Cast includes Elizabeth Scott, John Hodiak, Burt Lancaster and Wendell Corey—Hodiak being borrowed from MGM.

Work continues on Cecil B. DeMille's "Unconquered" and "My Favorite Brunette," in which Bob Hope is reported to have a personal financial interest.

UA Wraps Up 2 More

United Artists finished several films. Included among those now in the cutting rooms for editing and later release are Andrew Stone's entitled comedy-drama, and Comet Productions' "Adventures of Don Coyote."

Scoring on David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" is scheduled for completion by August 24. Dimitri Tiomkin and his 90-piece symphony orchestra have been working on the scoring for more than a week.

Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey started their acting work in "The Fabulous Dorseys," following completion of their childhood sequences. Tommy will be played by T.D., and Buzz Buckley enacted the part of J.D., as kids. Twelve-year-old Warde actually plays the trombone in smooth Dorsey style. The famous brothers' first acting chore at General Service studios, where Charles R. Rogers is producing the film, was with Paul Whitman in a 1927 New York cabaret scene.

Chaplin continues work, cloaked in secrecy, on "Monstre Verdoux," and Federal Films are working on "Carnegie Hall" in New York. Preston Sturgess got his "Vendetta" under way at the Goldwyn lot.

Eagle Lion Has Two Going

Eagle Lion, still busy renovating the former PRC lot, is shooting "It's A John, Son" (unique in that it marks the entry of "Senator Claghorn" into pictures and the return of Una Merkel after a long absence) and an action-drama about midget auto-racing called "Born to Speed."

PRC Keeps Active

PRC, its producers using whatever studio space they can obtain, is nevertheless managing to keep production rolling. Sigmund Neufeld has completed his "Gas House," and James S. Burkett started "Don Ricardo Returns" on Aug. 8, on location at San Fernando. The picture features Isabella and Fred Coby. Renault Duncan is associate producer, with Terry Morris directing.

Al LaRue, who scored mightily as an unusual "villain" type in the Eddie Dean series, is going to be starred in a group of westerns, himself. First release is not yet set.

WARNERS DELAY 'POSSESSED'

Considerable delay was occasioned on the Warner lot in making "Possessed" when star Joan Crawford came down with a throat throat. Trouble also brewed in the selection of a cameraman, with Miss Crawford allegedly dissatisfied with Sid Hickox, who has been replaced by Joe Valentine. The latter was secured by Warners on loan-out from Shirball-Manning Productions at Universal. Valentine started work Aug. 14.

Milton Sperling is producing "Pursued" for his and Joseph Bernard's U. S. Picture unit, with Raoul Walsh directing. Cast at this point lines up as Teresa Wright, Robert Mitchum, Judith Anderson, Harry Carey, Jr., and John (Continued on Page 39)

20th-Fox Renews 6 Options, Including Jeanne Crain

It was option time last week at 20th-Fox. Heading the list of those who were renewed for new terms, was Jeanne Crain. Two of the company's juvenile stars, Peggy Ann Garner and Constance Marshall also were re-optioned. The two will soon be seen in "Home Sweet Homicide."

Clifton Webb had his option lifted before he left for New York play. Lee J. Cobb, who turned in an outstanding performance in "Anna and the King of Siam," will be with the studio for another term.

In the music department, Maurice De Packh had his contract extended for another year as composer, orchestrator and arranger.

Add 'Forever Amber'

 Casting additions for 20th Century-Fox's film version of "Forever Amber" in which Linda Darnell will play the title role are Richard Haydn and Natalie Draper. Richard Greene also has been named for the film which William Perlberg is producing. Otto Preminger will direct.

'Betty Co-Ed' Lead

William Lehner has been signed by Columbia for the male lead in "Betty Co-Ed," musical to be produced by Sam Katzman and directed by Arthur Dreifuss, co-author with George Pyfrom of the original screenplay. Joe Porter, on loan-out from MGM, is the feminine lead.

Bakewell Back Again

William Bakewell's first film role since donning Uncle Sam's uniform, will be in RKO's "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer," supporting Cary Grant, Myrna Loy and Shirley Temple. He will team with Rudy Vallee in a comedy characterization.

Two Writing RKO Scripts

James Benson Nabors, author of the novel, "The Long November," has been signed by RKO to work on the screenplay of "A Woman With Spurs," melodrama with an early California background. Also at RKO, Richard Wormser will write the screenplay of "Revenge," another melodrama, this one with a west coast waterfront setting.

To Make Langtry's Story

The life of Lily Langtry, famed character of the gay nineties will be the subject of an original story currently being prepared by Donald Hoffmna, for producer William Haydn and Natalie Draper. Richard Greene also has been named for the film which William Perlberg is producing. Otto Preminger will direct.

MGM Signs Flying Film Deal

A contract to supply films for exhibition on the Airline lines flying over continental Europe has been signed by MGM, Seymour R. Mayer, 16-mm, sales manager for Loew's International announced this week.
RKO Sets Musical; Reverie in 'Little Women'; Dale Evans Option Lifted; Russell Directs 'Dear Ruth'

Rosemary La Planche, the "Miss America" of 1941, was signed by Sam Katzman for a top role in Columbia's romantic musical, "Betty Co-Ed," an expose of undergraduate practices of college sororities which will be directed by Arthur Dreifuss. Joan Porter is the feminine lead with William Mason playing opposite her.

Mercy McGeire was cast for a part in MGM's musical, "It Happened in Brooklyn." She will play opposite Billy Roy, who has played the piano for sixteen of his eighteen years and who has composed more than forty songs.

Lambert Hillyer has been signed to direct "Draw When You're Ready," next Monogram western with Johnny Mack Brown and Raymond Hatton.

Paramount announces that William Russell has been assigned to direct "Dear Ruth," replacing Sidney Lanfield, because of the illness of Lanfield. Film will co-star Joan Caulfield, William Holden and Edward Arnold with Paul Jones producing.

Al La Rue, who has been featured in PRC's Eddie Dean series of outdoor action films, will star in a series of his own westerns for PRC, in accordance with a seven year contract he has signed with the studio.

Academy Award-winner Anne Revere has been cast in the role of Marmee in David O. Selznick's Technicolor production, "Little Women."

Tom Gones, on loanout from Universal will play the lead heavy in Columbia's "Johnny O'Clock," starring Dick Powell and Evelyn Keyes.

Harry Warren and Ralph Blane have been assigned to write the lyrics and music for MGM's "Huckleberry Finn."

Dorothy Kent and Allan Hale Jr., have been added to the cast of "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," first picture to be produced and directed by Roy Del Ruth for Monogram release. Ann Harding, Victor Moore, Don DeFore and Gale Storm have co-starring roles.

Richard Powers was signed to a term contract by RKO and cast in a featured role in "San Quentin." Powers was brought to Hollywood from the New York stage by Cecil B. DeMille in 1928. He then was using his own name, George Durrea. Later, under the name of Tom Keene, he became one of the screen's popular western stars. After a long career in outdoor dramas, he returned to the Broadway stage and took the name of Richard Powers.

George "Gabby" Hayes will have one of the top roles in Republic's forthcoming "Wyoming"

May Send Unit to Italy For 'Then and Now' Scenes

Douglas Sirk, who has drawn the directory plumb of assignment to direct "Then and Now," the Somerset Maugham novel to be produced by Regency Films, may take a troupe to Italy for natural-setting scenes, it was announced by Arnold Prewitt of Regency.

Sirk is scheduled to leave Hollywood for Italy within 30 days to examine terrain and report on location filming prospects for the picture that will bring to the screen the novel for which Prewitt paid Maugham $200,000 for film rights.

Stewart Starts Dribbling

James Stewart has the role of an all-American basketball player in his next picture, "Magic Town," and just now he is taking lessons from Sam Barry, basketball coach of the University of Southern California. No announcement has been made concerning what position he plays on the team.

Barrett Dies 801 Times

Tony Barrett, the most murdered man in Hollywood, dies it again in RKO Radio's "Prison Story." When he kicks the bucket from gunfire at the hands of Lawrence Tierney it will have been the 801st time this dire happening has occurred in his film career.

Da-De-Da-Da-Da

Special oriental music is being written by Roy Webb as a backdrop sound for RKO Radio's Technicolor feature, "Sinbad the Sailor," in which Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., Maureen O'Hara, and Walter Slezak appear. Constantin Bala-lehnikoff is doing the scoring.

Fine-Thomas Sign Scott

Pine-Thomas have signed Randolph Scott for the starring role in "Albuquerque." The deal will return Scott to the Paramount banner under which he starred for many years.

American Debut for Friend

Philip Friend, young British film star who was brought to Hollywood last month by David O. Selznick, will make his American film debut in "Little Women" in the role of John Brooke.

Hively Signed as Director

Jack Hively, recently released after four years of service in the Signal Corps as photographic officer for General MacArthur, has been signed to a term contract as director by International Pictures.

Debut for Betsy Blair

Betsy Blair (Mrs. Gene Kelly) will make her film debut in the Columbia picture, "My Empty Heart," co-starring Rosalind Russell and Melvyn Douglas. She was the star of William Saroyan play, "The Beautiful People," on Broadway when Gene married her in 1940.

New Mirrophone Sound

JOE HORNSTEIN has it!
CHECK-UP ON PRODUCT IN WORK

(Continued from Page 37)

Rodeny. Warners have two more, "Life With Father," and "Reception" to make a total of four before the lenses.

Universal-Busy

Universal-International has five films rolling, including Enterprise's "Ramrod." Harry Sher- man, producer of the picture, concluded nego- tiations with Paramount for Victor Young, to com- pose an original musical operetta for the film.

Enterprise had had luck, however, with Louis Calhern in "Arch of Triumph," when the actor was unable to report for his first day's work because of an attack of flu. Director Lewis Milestone was forced to revise his shooting schedule, putting Ingrid Bergman and Charles Boyer into a sequence set two weeks later.

Lois Collier has replaced Dona Drake in "Flame of Tripoli" owing to an attack of ill- ness to Miss Drake.

'13 Rue' Back in Hollywood

The entire location company of 20th-Fox's "13 Rue Madeleine" returned to Hollywood on August 10 from Quebec. Headed by Jimmy Cagney and Annabella, the troupe did a series of on-the-spot locations in Washington, D. C., Bos- ton and Quebec, stretching out for 56 days.

Three Technicolor films are before the special cameras, including "The Home Stretch," "Bob, Son of Battle" and "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now." "Bob" continues on location in Utah.

"The Late George Apley" and "The Brasher Doubloon" give Fox a half-dozen pictures before the lensmen.

"Calendar Girl' Finishes

Producer-director Allan Dwan finished his special, "Calendar Girl" on August 8. Also completed for Republic is "Spookers of the North," action drama. "That's My Gal" is scheduled for completion on August 17.

Just started is "Oregon Trail Scouts," a Red Ryder with Allan Lane, Martha Wentworth and Bobby "Little Beaver" Blake. Sidney Picker produces and R. G. Springsteen directs. The other Republic picture going is Gene Au- try's "Trail to San Antone."

Columbia Leads Rost

Columbia, for the first time, has more pic- tures rolling than—or certainly as many as— any studio in town. The studio is really shooting the works, with eight before the cameras. Included are a number of high-budget efforts.

Trudy Marshall returns to the screen after an absence occasioned by the birth of a baby. Her remaining vehicle is "Boston Blackie and the Law," 13th in the series starring Chester Morris. "Blondie's Big Moment," one of another Columbia series, started August 12, with Arthur Lake and Penny Singleton. Anita Louise co- stars in this 19th in the "Blondie" series.

Shirley Mills and Rosemary LaPlanche have been added to the recently started "Betty Co- Ed." Marvin Miller completed his role in the Humphrey Bogart-Lizabeth Scott starrer, "Dead Reckoning," and entered the hospital for an opera- tion. Miller, a screen "beavy," injured a previously hurt knee in a rugged fight scene with Bogart.

Others going, are "Down to Earth," "Johnny O'Clock," "My Empty Heart" and Sam Bisch- off's "Mr. District Attorney."

Monogram-Bernard Fact

Monogram has signed a new two-year pact with producer Jeffrey Bernard, starting the first of next year. Under its provisions, the former British film-maker will make eight pictures, four a year. Bernard and his director, Phil Karlson, have been scouting locations for "Black Gold," latest of Bernard's productions.

The most recent of Bernard's pictures started August 10, with the title of "Mr. Hex." William Beaudine is directing.


"The Trap," Charlie Chan release, has been completed and goes into printing for release later. Roy Del Ruth is producing and directing his "It Happened On Fifth Avenue," Monogram's high-budget special, at the Goldwyn Studios.

The "High Conquest" unit finished its film- ing on the queen reaches of the Matterhorn in Switzerland on August 17, with four camera- men working.

RKO Has Eight Going

RKO continues to set a fast production pace, with eight films shooting on sound stages and location sites. Although the outdoor dramas, "Trail Street," is three days ahead of schedule, producer Nat Holt and director Ray Enright have put the unit on a 24-hour-a-day schedule. Two units are shooting on the RKO ranch, where a Kansas City in the 1880's has been re-created.

Director Lynn Shore started a second unit to Washington, D. C. to film backgrounds for the tag scene of "Katie for Congress."

Barton MacLane is the latest addition to the cast of Martin Mooney's "San Quentin," for- merly called "Prison Story." Jacqueline White was announced for the part of Cary Grant's fiancée in "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer." The "Outside" quartet of RKO films before the cameras now are Goldwyn's "Best Years of Our Lives" and "Secret Life of Walter Mitty"; Disney's "How Dear to My Heart," and "They Won't Believe Me."

Hodlak Rushes for MGM

John Hodlak has been the busiest actor at MGM, completing his role in "The Arsenio Af- fair." Because of his loan-out by MGM to Hal Wallis for "Desert Town," at Paramount, Hodlak is dovetailing the two jobs, day for day.

Whattaguy? And the second busiest person on the lot ought to go to Jimmy Durante, who is appearing in both "It Happened in Brooklyn" and "This Time for Keeps."

MGM announced that most of "The Romance of Rosy Parker" on "Looper Mill," is the location at Santa Cruz and Sonora, with Van Johnson starring as an Arkansas hillbilly. John- son is currently finishing his lead in "High Barbaree," with June Allyson. The studio completed "Sea of Grass," with director Elia Kazan returning to New York to discuss plans for a new Broadway show.

"Ballerina" was changed to "Unfinished Dance," the original tag. Joe Pasternak is produc- ing this one, as well as "This Time for Keeps." Both are musical-types.

Metro has five musicals going, a record; others are "Summer Holiday," and "Life's for the Living."

Wurtzel Sets Final Pair for His 6-Film Schedule

With the addition of Irving Elman's "Back- fire," and "Eyes Alone," to be produced in the order named, S. M. Wurtzel's production pro- gram for 1946 is now complete.

"Rendezvous 24," and "Deadline for Murder," have been released.

"Strange Journey," has been delivered to 20th- Fox headquarters in New York.

"Dangerous Millions," is now being edited.

Menzies at International

William Cameron Menzies has checked in at International Pictures as Sam Wood's associate producer on "Ivy," first film on Wood's new schedule for the producing company.

To Lens 'Bloomer Girl'

Tony Guildo has been set as the director of photography on "Blomer Girl," Milton H. Fould Technicolor production for International Pic- tures.

To Be Made in Mexico

Stephen Ames will produce RKO Radio's "In the Darkness of the Sun," based on C. E. Scrogg's mining novel, "Tycoon," at the com- pany's new Churubusco plant in Mexico late this year. The screenplay has been written by John Twist.

RKO Lifts Three Options

RKO Radio has exercised its options on Vir- ginius Huston, Anthony Quinn, and Lester. Miss Huston has just completed the second lead in "Nocturne," while Quinn is a supporting role in "Sinbad the Sailor."
**The Big Sleep**  
(Continued from Page 15)  
and Miss Bacall is cast in a role similar to the one that made her famous. If these advance exploitation possibilities are taken advantage of, this picture should prove to a top box-office attraction at all theatres. There is mystery and suspense—and enough people meeting untimely ends to satisfy the most rabid mystery fans. All this, plus the usual excellent performance by Bogart, and the fine work of the rest of the cast, to make "The Big Sleep" entertaining fare for everyone. Miss Bacall, who shares practically every scene with Bogart, proves that in order to enhance her drawing power and create more and more fans for herself, the studio should continue to cast her in sultry, mysterious roles. For here she shines more than any other actress she has been attracted with her first role will enjoy, but many other theatregoers will find most acceptable. Among the splendid supporting players, top performances are given by Martha Vickers, John Ridgely, Regis Toomey and Charles Waldron. Production and direction have been expertly handled by Howard Hawks.

**The Show-Off**  
MG M  
Comedy  
90 Mins.  
AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) A light, frothy comedy with Red Skelton in the leading role. Good wholesome fun for the entire family.

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** Should make a very good " autumn" attraction as a companion feature to a dramatic offering and show strong pull-power where Skelton has followed.

*Credits:* Directed by Harry Beaumont. Screenplay by George Wells. Adapted from the play by George Kelly. Produced by Albert Lewis, Director of Photography, Robert Planck.

*Plot:* This is the story of a young man who manages to mess up everyone's life with his tall tales and his pre-destination for getting into trouble. To everyone's surprise he ends up making a lot of money for himself and his wife, and the wife's young brother.

*Comment:* This remake of "The Showoff" with Red Skelton in the leading role has universal appeal. It is good wholesome fun for everybody in the family, for there is plenty of amusement and laughter in the screwball situations in which "The Showoff" becomes involved. Skelton, an artist at this type of light, frothy comedy, is very much at home in the role. He makes every line count and the playfulness of the situation, in spite of his predilection for causing trouble. Lively to look at, and a fine performer besides, is Marilyn Maxwell, the young lady who is the target of his wife. Her resemblance to Lana Turner is quite marked, and this is made use of in some of the dialogue. Two splendid performers like Virginia O'Brien and Marjorie Main among the supporting members of the cast, but why is one of the mysteries of picture-making, for they get very little to do. Also in the cast is Martin Milner, who turns in an excellent interpretation as the mother-in-law—George Cleveland, Leon Ames and Marshall Thompson, all very good in their respective roles. Direction of this neat, fast-moving comedy was by Harry Beaumont and Albert Lewis handled the production chores.

**Earl Carroll Sketchbook**  
Republic  
*Musical*  
90 Mins.  
AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) A lavish musical in the Earl Carroll tradition that provides swell entertainment for those who are dazzled by feminine beauty, gowns, and catchy songs. Constance Moore a standout.

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** There are some good cast names to plug, but the big thing is the lavishness of the production and the girls. Best for a slap-happy week-end audience, it takes top spot on the program; second feature should be short.


*Plot:* Connie Moore is in love with song-writer Bill Marshall, but he sees her merely as a secretary. When she is hit by an automobile she takes the opportunity to feign amnesia. SLANT: It is then that Marshall discovers what she means to him. Stage producer Bill Goodwin becomes his rival, and things look bad when Connie inserts one of Marshall's songs in the show, despite the fact that Marshall has sold it to a radio sponsor. At the last minute Marshall withdraws the song from the sponsor and it becomes the hit number of the show. He and Connie are reunited.

*Comment:* "Earl Carroll Sketchbook" is just that—typical Carroll girl review, with plenty of songs and pretty production numbers. However, the story is adequate to hold things together (which is more than can be said of some other Carroll affairs) although there is a sad lack of comedy. The star of this picture is clearly Miss Moore, who sings right on the beam and looks gorgeous throughout. She does a really first class job. Three songs stand out, "I've Never Forgotten"—which is a great vehicle for Miss Moore; "Oh, Henry," and "I've Got a Right to Sing the Blues" (the last by Harold Arlen). All in all, the picture will pay off in almost any situation if it is presented with imagination. Challenge here for all sorts of fashion and beauty tie-ups. What this picture will do depends on the exhibitor.

**Wild Beauty**  
Universal  
Drama  
61 Mins.  
AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Plenty of warmhearted, human appeal to please family audiences.

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** Nice support for a strong feature in the dual situations.

*Credits:* Written by Hal Kanter.

*Plot:* An ardent young school teacher at an Indian reservation compels a 12-year-old orphan to stop riding his pony. Heart-touched by their situation, he is determined to find a colt whose life he and a doctor had saved. The doctor rescues him and orders the schoolmarm to leave, but the boy intercedes. Her former suitor arrives and plans to

slander wild horses and ship their hides to his shoe factory in the East. The scheme bothers the young teacher, who is forcibly ejected from the reservation community, leaving the doctor and teacher together.

*Comment:* This is bound to be a moderate crowd-puller with every family. The production is nicely mounted, with extra credit due Wallace W. Fox for handling both producer and director chores. Photographers Maxy and Demos did splendid work on a number of wild horse scenes, and the trainers of both "Wild Beauty" and a pet dog that appears prominently in the film deserve special mention for the way their charges perform. Outstanding acting was done by young "Buzzy" Henry in an exacting part, the Indian boy with a great love for nature, Adele Buffington's script has a tendency to bog down at intervals, but on the whole she handled the subject rather well.

**The Last Crooked Mile**  
Republic  
*Mystery*  
67 Mins.  
AUDIENCE SLANT: (Adult) For the entertainment of the armchair detectives.

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** Supporting fare for the subsequent and neighborhood houses.


*Plot:* A private detective projects himself into a case in which a $300,000 theft is involved. If he solves the case, he gets ten per cent. He follows all leads, including a singer at a night club, and the gangster's get-away car which is on display at a wax works until he finally solves the crime.

*Comment:* This will make satisfactory fare for the supporting spot in the subsequent and neighborhood houses. There is little to distinguish it from any other standard program offering, and it will get by because there are enough murders for the regular armchair detective fans to find some entertainment in it. Donald Barry, in the role of the private detective, walks through his scenes with a peculiar earnestness that seems to worry about being bumped off, even though this keeps happening all around him. Whether it is his smug, unfaithful attitude that frightens the big, bad men, or just what he is successful in clearing up the crime but not the confusion in the spectator's mind, Adele Mara and Ann Savage, the two women in the leading roles opposite him, are both quite good, while Tom Powers, Sheldon Leonard and Nestor Paiva are okay as heavies. Philip Ford directed, Rudolph E. Abel produced.

**Shadow of a Woman**  
WB  
Drama  
79 Mins.  
AUDIENCE SLANT: (Adult) A slow-moving drama that may get by with the audiences as acceptable fare.

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** Rates as fair draw in the supporting spot on dual bill programs.

*Credits:* Produced by William Jacob.

*(Continued on Page 41)*
Cod With Hamberger

You can get your corn with hamberger in Mobile, Ala. The Ellis Grill here has put in pictures for the patrons to look at so that they can sit and chew while traveling- For the campaign run over the screen for a 30-minute show. The policy is popular, according to reports.

NEWSREEL SYNOPSIS

(Released Saturday, August 17)

MOVIEBOOK (Vol. 28, No. 106)—British soldiers search for Zekiel terrorists in T-A-A-V, General Doolittlearamel doted in desolate Zone. Bombs bomb submarine pen near Berlin; Menlo harbor cleared of sunk jep ships (except Philadelphia); Antwerp, Belgium, celebrates 360th anniversary of famous artist; Truman signs terminal pay bill; Banan crop of potatoes mashed at Moses Lake; Washington; Holly- wood premiere of "Anna and the King of Siam"; Baby parade at Wildwood, New Jersey, (Philadelphia only); Hamblenbrenn retorting classic; Herman, the jocketer monkey.

NEWS OF THE DAY (Vol. 17, No. 258)—Veterans commission report; World War II; Chemical Revival; War Department

PARAMOUNT (No. 101)—U-boat nest destroyed at Bremen. Germany: disposal of Nazi poison gas off Germany; New Zealand; War Department.

UNIVERSAL (Vol. 10, No. 528)—Nazi submarine pen used for bombing raids; Brazil’s capital city wel- come home, 44-year-old Chessick is first pilot; Press ofFluids of oxidates washed on airstrip for manufacture of chemicals; Pennsylvania; New Haven; Red Cross sustains children; Hamblenbrenn racing classic run at Gothenburg, New York.

LONDON OBSERVATIONS

By Jock MacGregor

Speculation still is rife regarding the Universal-International-Rank set-up. It appears that the Frank Capra-Frank Film will again become the major British distributor of the Rank organization and United World will now, to quote a Rank spokesman, be "still born."

J. Arthur Rank as President of the British Film Producers Association introduced their first Direct General, Sir Henry French, to the press. During the evening we had an inter- esting chat and Mr. Rank took care to stress that he has no bones to pick with the critics whom he fully appreciates do a difficult job. It was quite obvious that he was pleased with the way they had handled "Man of Two Worlds."

Sir Henry who has been associated with the Ministry of Food during the war is new to films and has a reputation as an able organizer. Unquestionably he will find his early efforts con- siderably eased by the assistance that he will receive from Jou Lonsdale, the energetic and hard working secretary.

In the past the BFPA has been dominated by producers in the Rank organization, but a lively opposition in the form of the "independents" is taking shape.

New Union Charter

The CEA and NATE (the employers union) have drawn up a charter agreeing generally to better conditions in the minimum wage of approximately $14 weekly.

Pre-war visits of foreign managers to London were trade paper news. Today, they are always dropping in. Record is held by Bob Benjamin with six crossings in ten days.

It would be hard to find a more suitable person than Geoff Segal for the job. He was an exhibition manager for the new Army Kinema set-up. Long associated with Paramount he joined the Army at the outbreak of war and helped Alfred Davis arrange the initial supply of entertain- ment films for the troops. He rejoins after five months. He says he finds the post combines training and educational with real movies the wits are ribbing him with "This is where we came in?"

Showmen’s Quiz: Who is the arch villain of British films?

EXCURSION FROM TOWN

With so many important American executives in town it has been almost impossible to visit a smart restaurant or hotel lately without seeing one. Joe Breen has been telling the British pro- ducers how he wants them to abide by his code. The Universal contingent headed by Matty Fox and Nate Blumberg were discussing the intricacies of the new Universal combine with Arthur Rank.

Murray Silverstone brought over Otto Bolle as the new managing director for 20th-Fox and promoted Arthur Silverstone and Ken Har- groves to assistant managing directors.

While Roy Disney and James Muveley were in town, RKO Radio threw a reception at Clar- idge’s and invited the press and leading trade personalities. There was a very representative turn out and much in evidence were Sam Gun- wyn’s London representative, genial Arthur Dent, and his legal representative, Ernest Jack- son; Arthur Silverstone; Sir Arthur Jarratt; Arthur Brown, GB booker; Dick Hamer, Oden booker; Lou Morris, independent circuit oper- ator; Jack X. Prendergast, Bill Gell, Dave Grifiths, Dr. Galgerson and the newlyweds, Mr. and Mrs. Alf Adler.

Another notable reception was that run by "Bill" Sykes to introduce Leslie Howard’s son, Ronald, to the press. Recently discharged from the Navy, he is appearing in the Terrence Rat- tern-Dudman’s production, "With the Sun Shines," which Anthony Asquith is directing, and is the image of his father, Pathe having the British distribution, Monty Marks and W. Fielder of the Pathe sales staff were much in evidence at this party.

Mr. Rank Perturbed

Mr. Rank seems to have got himself into grips with the press once again. He sponsored a feature- length documentary called "The Way We Live."

The story goes that his theatre people do not like it, but the press have gone for it in a big way, suggesting that it would be a crime to suppress such a masterpiece.

There is much speculation as to which picture will get the honor—and the resultant pub- licity—of being selected for screening at the first Royal Command Cinema performance.

Those who have seen the records of United World’s Technicolor "London Town" are raw- ing over Sid Field as a great comedy discovery. The film opens late in August day and date with London and the principal holiday resorts—an innovation.

Incidentally, John War of Eagle Lion is doing a great job with the advance publicity. Dudman’s mammoth canvas posters in Picca- dors for UA releases are finding a healthy rival in his "London Town" displays on the other side of the Circus. Good work.

BOX-OFFICE SLANTS

Shadow of a Woman

(Continued From Page 40)

Directed by Joseph Santey, Screening by Whitman Chelle, C. C.Grabemeyer, Virginia Perdue, Director of Photography, Rill Glaser, N.Y.

Plot: A nutty health-fadist is the cause of great suffering because of his ignorant prac- tice of medicine. His unsuspecting wife helps him until she sees the havoc he has wrought. When he realizes this, he tries to do away with her, but his criminal latter saves her life by throwing the madman off the balcony of their home.

Comment: The slow pace and lack of sus- pense puts this dramatic offering in the minor league class, suitable chiefly as supporting fare. One could call it average and say that the regular customers will take it calmly as the second picture, except for the fact that it never quite finds the pace bound to prove a detriment to its reception. Even the less dis- criminating patrons may find little entertainment in the conglomeration of situations which at a suspense they fail to accom- plish. Helen Dantine and Andrea Dreyfus have the leading roles with William Prince and Peggy Knudsen in the secondary spots. All strive valiantly to overcome the handicap of the material given them, but to no avan-

SHOWMEN’S TRADE REVIEW, August 17, 1946
TITLE INDEX

Listed in the following index are titles of features (exclusive of western series releases) with name of studio, director, and cast under the title. For data as to running time, stars, etc., refer to title under distributor company listings.

ASTOR PICTURES

PROD. No.

Beware (MIF) .......... Louis Jordan-Frank Wilson
Beyond Tomorrow .......... Winchering-Carrey-Aubrey Smith
Sp. Birth of a Star .......... Louis Jordan & Band
Sp. Collection .......... Winchering-Aubrey Smith
Fangs of the Wild .......... John Hall
Gentleman from Alaska .......... Lynn Harlow-Hall
Hell's Angels (C) .......... Barbara Stanwyck-Young Young
Enlisted Man (C) .......... Claude Colbert
Jimmy Steps Out .......... J. Stewart-P. Goddard
Let 'em Have It .......... Bruce Cabot-Virginia Weidt
Little Men .......... Oakie-Frances Bamer
One Romantic Night .......... Elsa Maxwell-Alan Curtis
Sons of the Desert (D) .......... H. Gibson-Stephan Fetchit
Silver Devils (C-D) .......... Spencer Tracy
Sky Devils .......... Edw. G. Robinson
Swiss Family Robinson .......... Reissue
Thunder in the City .......... Reissue
Tom Brown's Schooldays .......... Reissue

COLUMBIA

Current 1945-46

7060 A Close Call for Boston Blackie (MIF) .......... C. Morris-R. Lane-L. Merrick
7064 Bandit of Sherwood Forest T (D) .......... R. W. Carter-M. A. D. Roberts
7068 Blonde's Lucky Day (C) .......... P. Singleton-A. Lake-L. Simms
7072 Doctor's Orders .......... J. Roegy-A. D. Roberts
7076 Dangerous Business (M) .......... L. Merrick-Forrest Tucker
7078 Dick's Mask, The (B) .......... A. C. Louis-Jan Bannen
7083 Gentleman Misbehaves, The .......... Robert Stanton-O. Massen
7085 Gilda (D) .......... Rita Hayworth-G. Ford
7089 Girl of the Lumberjacks .......... J. Canova-R. Hunter-L. Merrick
7093 Just Before Dawn (My)A .......... W. Baxter-Adelle Roberts
Sp. Kiss & Tell (C-D) .......... Shirley Temple-J. Roosevelt Courtland
7099 Life With Blondie (C) .......... P. Singleton-A. Lake-L. Simms
7104 Life With Blondie, The (Wa) .......... M. A. D. Roberts-E. Breon
7104 Meet Me on Broadway (M) .......... T. Reynolds-B. F. Palmer
7021 My Name Is Julia Ross (D) .......... N. Fisher-George Macready
7020 Night & Day .......... M. A. D. Roberts-J. Breckinridge
7023 Night Editor (D) .......... W. Gargan-J. Carter
7025 Night of the Long Wolf (C) .......... A. C. Louis-Jan Bannen
7026 One Way to Love (C) .......... W. Parker-Marguerite Chapman
7028 Out of the Depths (Wa) .......... J. Bannen-R. Hunter
7030 Paard My Past .......... A. C. Louis-Donal O'Grady
7030 Perilous Holiday (D) .......... P. O'Brien-Ruth Warrick
7033 Perfect Kid .......... E. H. Lee-D. McGuire Duane
7035 Phantom Thief, The (My)A .......... T. J. Jeff-Demond
7036 Prison Ship .......... B. Lowery-N. Foch
7037 Renegades (T) .......... E. Keye-Y. Keye
7039 Return of Rusty .......... J. L. McDonald-A. Lipton
7045 She Wouldn't Say Yes (C) .......... R. Russell-L. Bowman
7047 Sing While You Dance .......... Edna Drew-Robert Stalman
7048 Snafu (C) .......... R. Bixby-V. Vague
7049 Toddler About a Lady (My) .......... J. Talbot-J. Beeman
7052 Tars and Spars (C-D) .......... D. Drake-J. Blaine-M. Platt
7056 True Glory, The .......... J. Jenkins
7057 Unknown, The .......... J. Forsyth-M. Harris
7061 Voice of the Whistler (D) .......... R. Dick-L. Merrick
7061 Walks Came Tumbling Down, The (D) .......... L. Bowman-M. Chapman

COMING

Betty Co-Ki .......... J. Porter-W. Mason-S. Mills
Blondie Knows Best .......... P. Singleton-A. Lake-L. Louise
Blondie's Big Moment .......... P. Singleton-A. Lake-L. Louise
Boston Blackie and the Law .......... Chester Morris-Edna May
Boston Blackie and the Law .......... Chester Morris-Edna May
Boston Blackie's Rendezvous .......... Chester Morris-Edna May
Down to Earth T .......... R. Hayworth-L. Parks
Dead Reckoning .......... J. Breckinridge-H. Benge
Gallant Journey .......... J. Glenn Ford-J. Blair
Ghost Town .......... J. Canova-A. Jenkins
Giant of the Desert .......... J. Glenn Ford-J. Blair
Johnny O'Clock .......... D. Powell-Evelyn Keyes
Joe, District Clerk .......... J. Haywood-M. Short
My Empty Heart .......... N. Melba-J. Melba
Return of Monte Cristo .......... L. Haywood-G. Macready-U. O'Connor
Secret of the Whistler .......... J. Haywood-M. Short
Shadows .......... J. Haywood-R. Scott
Thrust of Bulla, The .......... E. Keye-Kanumawyn-A. Miller
Jolson Story T .......... J. Parks-E. Keye-W. Demarest
REPUBLIC

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<td>Wild Bill Westward (W)</td>
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SCREEN GUILD PRODUCTIONS

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20TH-FOX

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UNITED ARTISTS

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<td>Two Mrs. Carrols</td>
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### MISCELLANEOUS

**ADVENTURE FOR TWO D**
Laurence Olivier-Penelope Wad | 99. | b1/25/46
**BATTLE FOR MUSIC D**
ZaSu Pitts-E. Fay-Matthews Stannard | 94. | 12/29/45
**CUTTY W**
Fay Bainter-L. Johnson-J. Erskine | 83. | 7/20/46
**FABULOUS JOE**
Walter Abel-Margot Grahame | 81. | 7/13/46
**HERE COMES TROUBLE**
William Tracy-Patry Morgan | 80. | 7/13/46
**I KNOW WHERE I'M GOING D**
Wendy Hiller-Roger Livesey | 81. | 11/5/46
**JOURNEY TOGETHER D**
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Eric Portman-Phyllis Calver | 106. | 12/21/46
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Aldo Fabrizi-Anna Magnani | 109. | 1/28/46
**RESTAURANT D**
Lucien Coedel-Yvonne Gaudeau | 80. | VOG-7/6/46

### AUDIENCE CLASSIFICATIONS OF NATIONAL REVIEWING COMMITTEES

This is a new service feature which will be expanded. Its purpose is to supply theatremen with the classifications as an audience to suitably define by age groups, of national reviewing committees which are independent of the industry and parents should be held in order that in advertising as well as in response to requests of local groups or individual parents, the theatremen may state the facts about the children as determined not by himself or any industry agent, but by organizations maintained for the service of the public.

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### NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW: Founded in 1909 "to represent the interests of the motion picture public.

**SCHOOLS MOTION PICTURE COMMITTEE:** A committee of the National Board of Review which "represents groups of parents and teachers from public and private schools," whose purpose is to select pictures suitable for age groups 8-12 and 12-14.

**NATIONAL LEGION OF DECENCY:** Committee of the International Federation of Catholic Alumni reviews pictures and publishes its moral classifications for guidance of members of the Legion—composed of those members of the Catholic Church who join the Legion.

**GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS:** The motion picture committee is headed by Mrs. Abraham P. Burt, Chairman, of St. Louis. Two reviewing committees are maintained—Mrs. Harry Lilly, New York, Chairman Eastern Committees; Mrs. John Sears Thayer, Los Angeles, Chairman Western Committees.

**THE GLOVED HAND (Col.) Mystery, Principalis:** Anita Louise, Robert Scott: A mutiny among the seamen threatens their lives and property; they attack the police with his evidence. The gunman kidnap one of the girls and almost heat the seas; the police are trapped and handed over to the law.

**RETURN OF MONTE CRISTO (Col.) Drama, Principals:** Louis Hayward, Barbara Britton, George Macready, Director: Henry Levin Plot: Edmond Dantes, grand-nephew of the first Count of Monte Cristo, is elusively of his legacy by soundwells who declare that the will is a forgery and that her are their ward, a young girl, Dantes and his guardian are an island by the Minister of Police, who is in cahoots with the conspirators. After many hardships, they escape, return to Paris, and Dantes plans his revenge. When he has a young man who is the guilty parties, he learns the girl was innocent of the plot, and they plan to marry.

**THE HOME STRETCH (40th-Fox) History, Principalis:** John Drew, Beau O'Harra, Glenn Garian, Director, Bruce Humberstone, Plot: A horse owner, eager to spend a fortune with a love of horses marries a beautiful society girl after he buys a race horse from her, and they go to South America to enter the filly in a big race. When he promises he will win, then after the race, they will return to his Maryland farm and settle down. When his horse wins, he forgets his promise. An accident causes the loss of her child and she leaves him and returns to the States. They meet again when their horses race against each other and he loses. Heartbroken, he returns to the farm to find her waiting there for him.

**THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (30th-Fox) Comedy, Principalis:** Ronald Colman, Peggy Cummins, Richard Ney, Director, Joseph Man- kiewicz, Plot: A snobbish Boston father is amused when his son and daughter rebel by signs of rebellions against the old-fashioned traditions of the family. The girl falls in love with a young man who shocks the entire collection of relatives, and the son protests at being forced into a marriage. The daughter is sent abroad to forget her sweetheart and plans go ahead for the son's wedding, but at the last moment the father has a change of heart and helps the young folks find happiness.

**FLAME OF TRIPOLI (Univ.) Technicolor, Principalis:** George Brent, Yvonne De Carlo, Director, Charles Lamont, Plot: In the early 1800s is sent to Tripli with a chest of gold to buy the freedom of 10 Amerillans who are held captive by the Pasha. There he loses the gold and is thrown into jail with the sea- men, when he falls for the charms of a dancer who steals the gold to aid her lover. A slave girl frees the men. When the dancer finds her lover is willing to give her to another chieftain in exchange for military help, she brings the two forces into battle, compelling the Americans to escape.
Safeguard your Projection Investment!

PROTECT THE PRECISION of your

USE ONLY GENUINE PARTS

* Spiral bevel gear
* Synchronized front and rear shutters
* Quickly interchangeable intermittent
* Removable film gate

FIRST TO INTRODUCE

* Shock-proof gear
* Adjustable conical pressure pad springs
* Shutter timing device (while operating)
* Rotating sprocket framing device

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INTERNATIONAL PROJECTOR CORPORATION
A General Precision Equipment Corporation Subsidiary
90 GOLD STREET • NEW YORK 7, N.Y.

DISTRIBUTED BY
NATIONAL THEATRE SUPPLY
Division of National/Imagex Broadcast Inc.
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Vol. 45 No. 6

AUGUST 24, 1946

Entered as second class matter, February 20, 1946, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Published weekly by Showmen's Trade Review, Inc., 1501 Broadway, New York 18, N. Y., U. S. A. 10 cents a copy, $2 a year

CHARLES E. 'CHICK' LEWIS
Editor and Publisher
If ft in RED SKELTON in "THE SHOW-OFF"
with MARILYN MAXWELL

PREVIEWED at Loew’s Sheridan, New York.
It was a panic from start to finish. Preview cards filled in by patrons forecast that it will be one of the great boxoffice hits of the year!

THREE PAY-OFF PREVIEWS!

There's Money In Merriment And M-G-M Has the Big Comedy Hits!
It pays to keep them happy!

"NO LEAVE, NO LOVE"
Starring VAN JOHNSON
with KEENAN WYNN
PAT KIRKWOOD
XAVIER CUGAT  GUY LOMBARDO

PREVIEWED at Loew's 72nd St. Theatre, N.Y.
The most riotous Preview ever held in this house. Laughter so sustained that dialogue drowned out. Preview cards returned by patrons showed highest percentage ever recorded here. Proven sure-fire hit!

"THE COCKEYED MIRACLE"

FRANK MORGAN  KEENAN WYNN

PREVIEWED at Loew's 72nd St. Theatre, N.Y. It rocked the house with howls! Preview cards predicted it would be one of the most profitable "sleepers" in years. A tip-off to showmen to capitalize on its proven merits!
The talk of the town from coast to coast!

Rendezvous with Annie

starring EDDIE ALBERT
FAYE MARLOWE • GAIL PATRICK

PHILIP REED • SIR C. AUBREY SMITH

RAYMOND WALBURN • WILLIAM FRAWLEY
JAMES MILLICAN • WALLACE FORD

Screen Play — MARY LOOS and RICHARD SALE
Based on their Magazine Story

Associate Producer and Director — ALLAN DWAN
More, Or No Show-Selling?

Into the present widespread discussion of the need for more vigorous showmanship at the theatres, comes a circuit operator's opinion from out Indiana way which differs entirely with the general theme.

In the opinion of Billy Connors of Marion (as revealed in a story appearing elsewhere in this issue), the patrons automatically line up to purchase their tickets, so why do any exploitation? Moreover, he feels that newspaper advertising alone is sufficient because of his belief that the pictures are so effectively pre-sold by the distributors through newspaper, magazine and radio publicity and advertising, that the public knows, even before the picture's playdate is announced by the theatre, whether it is the kind of show they want to see.

Well, we can't agree with that prescription for any but perhaps a very unusual theatre situation. Surely, the average theatreman operating on that premise is inevitably further delivering himself into the hands of the producer and distributor—at whose mercy the theatreman finds himself when the situation is one that the picture alone counts and no matter where the producer or distributor plays it the same public favor and profit will be realized.

Surely, according to our training in show business, that philosophy is a denial of the fundamental that it is the man right at the theatre who best knows his public's tastes, best knows how to cater to them by booking the right kind of show, best knows how to please them with the "balance" of program which will appeal to the greatest number, best knows the kind of service and attention they like best from members of the house staff. It is on this latter premise that theatres have been established which could stand up to and beat the competition of touring attractions such as carnivals.

But further than this theory, if you please, is the more impressive current interest of many circuit executives as well as distributor executives, in the need, as they see it, for a greatly accelerated brand of showmanship and show selling at the theatres themselves. And it is worthy of noting that the distributor executives are not only aware of, but are, naturally, prone to greatly emphasize the "pre-selling" which is done for the pictures they are going to offer the exhibitor at the highest bid obtainable. The more people "pre-sold" on the distributor's picture, why, the more a picture is worth to the exhibitor.

An old time theatreman once said that crowds like to follow crowds. Wherever business was booming, there the crowds like to flock. If this is true, then it stands to reason that theatremen must employ smart public relations, outstanding show selling, fine newspaper advertising and all other means at their disposal to keep the community's attention focused on the local theatre.

By so doing they stand a far better chance of keeping the crowds flocking to the theatre than by waiting for business to fall off before merchandising their wares. This too is not one man's opinion but the very definite view of practically every important circuit and independent exhibitor in the country.

So we must disagree with this Indiana circuit operator. He is fair out-voted on every count.

The floor is now open for discussion. We would like to hear the views of other circuit executives and exhibitors on the subject. We would like to know how they feel about counting today's profits while gambling with tomorrow's possible losses. Perhaps we are not entirely correct in our opinion that there must be a return to smart and extensive showmanship. Perhaps there will be plenty of time to go out and fight for business when patronage starts to dwindle.

At any rate it is a subject that has been widely publicized all around the industry for the past six or eight months and it is high time that wide divergence of views were forthcoming so that theatremen everywhere could gain the reactions of the many rather than the few.

Who wants to take it from here?

Watch MGM

That's a very significant declaration which issued from Bill Rodgers to members of the MGM sales family in Chicago this week. You can watch MGM in these matters, and we find it most encouraging to have this thought-provoking statement.

MGM once again appears to be taking the leadership—this time with a very sane, rational "let's get on with the job" attitude which is tonic in these days of rumors, guesswork and hare-brained popping off about the form of the anticipated "decree." Perhaps Rodgers and his colleagues at MGM have found the silver lining in that "one picture" cloud which has loomed over the industry since rendition of the decision of the three judges in the anti-trust case. Because it's not unlikely that very many of the "little exhibitors" who would suffer most under one-picture selling are so located that their competitive situation may permit companies like MGM to find a way to sell a year's product in one lump—with cancellation privileges, of course.

"CHICK" LEWIS
Seeks to Restrict Run Length, Abolish Duals in Chicago Case

Jackson Park Attorney Draft for Decree Would Limit 1st and 2nd Runs

Plaintiff Attorney Thomas A. McConnell this week filed a proposed decree in the Jackson Park Theatre case in Chicago to the court which, if approved by the court, would, among other provisions, revise the theater's resale and maintenance policies. The case, pitting the theater's ownership against the owners of the town's 'picture palaces,' has in its successful run as the only theater in the city to be given the right to compete with the major chains in the city.

The Jackson Park Theatre has already received a grant of $30,000 damages and has filed suit for $60,000 additional damages for losses said to have been suffered from the time the suit was filed to the time the decision was finally upheld. Second suit for the damages is yet to be heard.

20th-Fox To Buy Full Control of Nat'l Theatres

Stockholders of 20th-Fox this week overwhelmingly approved a plan to acquire 100 per cent ownership of their subsidiary, National Theatres Corporation, through purchase of 40,000 shares of National Class B stock owned by Charles P. Koegel, Elmer C. Rhoden, Harold J. FitzGerald and F. H. Rickeston, Jr., for $7,410,000.

The move was made, the stockholders were told, to offset a similar purchase made by the Transamerica Corporation. Had Transamerica bought the stock, company general counsel Otto E. Koegel said, 20th-Fox's holding would have been reduced to 80 per cent, which presumably would have put it outside the federal court's opinion of what consists of a distributor-owned theatre.

KO Plagiarism Charge

Suit brought by Columbia against Norman Krasna charging that Krasna's 'Dear Ruth' had infringed on a Columbia-owned property called 'Dear Mr. Private,' was dismissed Tuesday by Judge Samuel Nul of the New York State Supreme Court.

CBA Approves Vet Theatres, Denies Others

Washington—The Civilian Production Authority Facilities Review Committee turned down 33 applications for authority to proceed with new theatre construction, or the rebuilding or altering of existing theatres, during the first week of August, it was learned at CPA. At the same time, 22 applications for new and expensive new theatres, were approved.

Granted, then held up for further consideration, was a $500,000 studio to be built in Yonkers, N. Y., by Colonial Pictures.

The appeals included a $60,000 project in Shenandoah, Pa., where Morris Oppenham is permitted to repair fire damage in a block containing a theatre, stores and apartments. New theatre on the site of the 2,500-seat one now in operation, in a building worth $500,000, would be in Bridgeport, Oklahoma; a $10,000 exhibition hall theatre for Santa Ana, Cal.; a $20,000 concrete block theatre for Cleveland, O. (apparently because the exhibitors are veterans with their life savings endangered by construction delay); a $12,000 building for Hawkins, Wisc.—a hardship case; an $18,000 theatre for Winona, Ill.—the applicant a war veteran.

Stock Costs Face Rise

Increased cost for raw stock was looked for in Washington following the removal of raw stock from CPA jurisdiction. The major factor in the anticipated rise is the tax, induced by the rise in the rising cost of silver, with labor and other costs also on the rise.

Edward (Ted) O'Shea

(The Man on the Cover)

General sales manager in charge of world-wide distribution of Liberty Films, a post he recently assumed from James A. Cron, General Manager; Ralph Coakle, Managing Editor; Harold Rendall, Advertising Manager; Carl B. Hallock, Assistant General Manager; and Lisu L. Bowers, Assistant Manager, was in charge of the company's operations in Canada; William A. Waterman, General Manager, and W. J. Morgan, Assistant General Manager, were in charge of the company's operations in Australia; and J. W. Sheehan, General Manager, was in charge of the company's operations in the United Kingdom, respectively.

'Shorts' Borrower' Bows

Noel Coward's "Brief Encounter," based on the producer's play, "Tonight at 8:30," was given a run of only a week at New York's Little Carnegie Theatre today, (Aug. 24). The film stars Celia Johnson and Trevor Howard and was written and produced by Noel Coward. David Lean directed.

NATIONAL NEWSREEL

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SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW August 24, 1946

SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW

Title and Trade Mark Registered U. S. Patent Office Published every Friday by Showmen's Trade Review Inc., 150 Broadway, New York 8, New York, Telephone Longines 3-291. Charles E. 'Chic' Lewis, Editor and Publisher; John Finn, Managing Editor; Thomas Kennedy, Associate Editor; James A. Cron, General Manager; Ralph Coakle, Managing Editor; Harold Rendall, Advertising Manager; Carl B. Hallock, Assistant General Manager; Lisu L. Bowers, Assistant Manager. Subscription price $2.00 per year in the United States and Canada; Foreign, $3.00. Single copies, ten cents.
Court Opinion Front Quiet; South Forms Confederacy

New Unit to Fight 'Auction' Selling Retains Law Firm; Justice Department Silent

The anti-trust suit court opinion front appeared unusually quiet this week with the Department of Justice denying that it had issued an order against exhibitor passivity in connection with the forthcoming decree is probably best illustrated by action taken last Friday in New Orleans where the hitherto disorganized south went "confederate" again and organized the Confederacy of Southern Theatre Owners Association.

This rambling, space taking title on the face of membership present, apparently unites the southern areas from Virginia to Texas, and was founded by showing all representing both large and small interests.

Its general purpose will be to act on trade practices as they affect southern exhibitors, but its specific purpose at the moment is to present a united front of the below the Mason and Dixon lines to certain features of the court opinion, especially "auction selling."

The organization supposedly was suggested at first as a meeting of exhibitors to discuss action on the court opinion, but after discussions it was decided to make it permanent. It will move against "auction selling" from the legal action and has retained the firm of Christian, Barton, Parker and Boyd of Richmond to act for it.

President of this 1946 "Confederacy" is Mack Jackson of Alexander City, Ala., with Morris Lowenstein of Oklahoma City, Okla., as secretary. An organizing committee consisting of Chairman Fred Keat, of Jacksonville; E. V. Richards of New Orleans and William Crockett of Virginia Beach was also set up. All these men are members of the ATA.

Organizations represented at the meeting which was held in the Roosevelt Hotel included Theatre Owners of Oklahoma, Inc.; Tri-State Theatre Owners; the Southeastern Theatre Owners Ass'n; the Florida Theatre Owners Ass'n; the Southern California Theatre Owners Ass'n; the Motion Picture Owners of North and South Carolina, and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Virginia. The last five are all ATA affiliates, while ATA is seeking to bring the first two into its fold.

Named on the interim committee which will serve until permanent organization is achieved were: Morton C. Thalheimer, Richmond, Va.; Robert V. Bursaw, N. C.; Ben Strozier, Rock Hill, S. C.; Oscar Lam, Rome, Ga.; Mitchell Wolfson, Miami, Fla.; Mack Jackson, Alexander City, Ala.; James A. West, Memphis, Tenn.; Claude C. Mundo, Little Rock, Ark.; Morris Lowenstein, Ominous City; Henry Revel, Menard, Texas; R. X. Williams, Oxford, Miss.; George Baillie, Lake Charles, La.

Time to Readjust

In a reply to a letter the Independent Theatre Owners Association, an organization with membership in New York and New Jersey, had written Attorney General Tom Clark asking for a postponement of six months after Oct. 8 before provision of the court opinion be made effective, Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge wrote:

"When decrees is finally entered, it will fix appropriate date for institution of method of (Continued on Page 10)
Announcing M-G-M

REPRINTS of MASTERPIECES

with gratitude for a suggestion from
our Friendly customers

Many of our accounts have told us of the constant queries of their patrons concerning M-G-M Masterpieces of All Time, great attractions which have never lost their power and significance.

There has been a growing interest among a new generation of picture-goers in many of the renowned Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer entertainments which have enabled this company to be acclaimed by more Academy Awards than all other companies.

Responsive as always to the showmanship guidance of our alert customers who express the public wish, we are therefore pleased to announce that from time to time we will issue Reprints of previously released M-G-M Masterpieces.

(Continued)
They will receive the promotion presentation which is their due; advertising and exploitation comparable to that which launches any new M-G-M release, with a full complement of new prints and fine new accessories.

We announce herewith the first Two M-G-M Reprints of Masterpieces and bear in mind that they are greater attractions than ever because their Stars are greater than ever.
**Country Goes to Town on Films As Holdovers Break Records**

Strong product continued to do strong business the nation's key runs this week, with holdovers and extended engagements being reported from many sections.

The RKO ban was found "Fill the End of Time" giving its sixth week at the New York Rivoli with business for the same picture reported heavy at the Chicago Palace, the Denver Orpheum and the Philadelphia Aitkine. These houses reported record first week gross.

"Make Mine Music," Walt Disney technicolor feature, which had an extended Broadway run, has completed 25 weeks of playing (time in RKO New York theatres, is to enter its fourth week at the Keith in Boston, and the Keith in Washington as well as the Uptown in Salt Lake City.

In Milwaukee the picture is a holdover, as it is also in Birmingham, Reading and Harrisburg.

"The Stranger" will enter its sixth week at the New York Palace where the average run is five weeks. It is doing a second week at the Newark Proctor's, usually a one-week run, a third week at the Boston, Boston and a holdover at the Baltimore Hippodrome.

**'Kid' in 19th Week**

Goldwyn's "The Kid from Brooklyn" is entering its 19th week at the New York Astor bids to get an 11th week at the Chicago Woods, went to four weeks at Ashbury Park and has done three weeks in St. Paul (where there is a polio scare). Long Beach, California; Buffalo, Oklahoma City and Providence, R. I., are among other holdovers for the Danny Kaye vehicle. "Without Reservations" has done five weeks in Seattle and four in St. Louis.

Warner Bros., is laying claim to some sort of a record with 350 spots playing "Night and Day" simultaneously and with all these spots holding the picture over.

In addition "Night and Day" has played simultaneous days and date bookings in such cities as Bridgeport, New Haven, Indianapolis, Charleston, W. Va., Providence, Denver, Los Angeles, San Diego, Sacramento. In some 40 localities where one week is the usual run, the picture went into a second week.

**5th Week of "Life"**

"Stolen Life" with Bette Davis is playing its fifth week in Oakland, Calif., starting in the T & O for two weeks and moving over to the RKO for the next two. Two weeks is reportedly the Oakland average. In addition it had a three-week run in Wilmington, Delaware, and after two weeks in Boston opens day and date in the Paramount and the Fenway. In Akron, Ohio, "Stolen Life" ran three weeks; in Minneapolis (where polio has cut business) it is doing a fourth, two in the Orpheum and two more as a moverover at the World; in Scranton on one week at the Strand it moved over to the Riviera, and in Lowell, Mass., it did a week at the Strand, then moved over to Merrimac Square.

"Two Guys from Milwaukee," which opened at the Warner at Milwaukee for 14 days, is now playing its second week at the Alliance and may get a third.

United Artists' "show window" openings for "Caesar and Cleopatra" in about 25 key situations seem to have caught a good play for the picture which is now in its second week at the Chicago Grand, the Cincinnati Capitol, the Washington, D. C., Palace, the Baltimore Century, Memphis Loew's State, Milwaukee, Del., Loew's Alldine, New Orleans Loew's State, Kansas City Midland, Indianapolis, Houston Loew's State, Toledo, Valentine, Boston State and Orpheum, Providence Loew's State, Atlanta Loew's Grand, San Francisco United Artists, Seattle Liberty, Oklahoma City Loew's State.

The picture moved over in Bridgeport Loew's Poli to the Globe; in Cleveland from the State to the Stillman; in Columbus from the Ohio to the Broad; in Buffalo from Shea's to the Hippodrome; in Syracuse from Loew's State to the Strand; in Worcester from Loew's Poli to the Elm; in St. Paul from the Orpheum to the World; in Salt Lake City from the Capitol to the Capitol in Las Vegas from Loew's Poli to the Elgin to the Brown, and in Atlantic City from the Hollywood to the Cinema.

In New York Alfred Hitchcock's "Notorious" broke all Radio City house records for Saturdays and Sundays, while 20th Century-Fox "Claudia and David" played to 50,000 or more at the Saturday and Sunday shows. Universal's "They Were Expendable" entered its fifth week at the Winter Garden, claiming an audience since opening of 76,289.

**South in Confederacy, Idaho Organizes Unit**

(Continued from Page 7)

selling, which will give opportunity for necessary readjustment.

This is practically a reiteration of the stand Berge took when he submitted a government suggestion of what the decree should contain when it was written. Then, a letter to the court, Berge had written:

"We believe that a substantial stay might well be granted as to the remaining paragraph of Section II (sales provisions) in order to give opening defendants time to adjust to the novel conditions which these provisions impose. However, we feel that they should become effective in any event, not later than Jan. 1, 1947. We do not think there should be any delay in enforcing the provision of Section III (pools, theatre acquisitions, etc.) . . ."

That the present government submitted draft to the court for the forthcoming decree would undergo modification before it was made permanent was a foregone conclusion week by week.

While the Department of Justice offered no comment, it reportedly already has made some changes which tend toward clarification of its plan and which would move to what it apparently thinks is a more open market in the film business.

The date for the hearing of both sides as also changed from Oct. 8 to Oct. 21. These changes were reported to have been made.

A prohibition from any defendant distributor owning theatres from booking product of another defendant distributor theatre owner into his theatres, which might have the effect of opening key spots to distributors who own no theatres.

A move to revise the clearance system sharply which would consider a move over as a run. A time limit of two years in which defendant distributors could either sell their theatre interests or acquire 95 per cent ownership.

**Idaho Organizes**

Idaho joined the states which have their own associations this week as the Idaho Theatre Association was formed with the following officers:

Mrs. Harry Wall of Lewiston, president; Hugo Jorgenson, Rigby, vice-president; J. R. Mendenhall, Boise, secretary; Irving Harris, Butte, treasurer.

Directors are: northern district—Fulton Cook, and W. L. Casey, Jr.; Central—Mrs. Wall, M. Kenworthy; southwest—Men- denden, M. Bouchier; South Central—Irvin Harris, Max Lloyd; south east—Lawrence Jones, Bob Anderson; northeast—Paul De- mordaunt, and Jorgenson.

The organization is the first in Idaho for theatres. In the past the north central owners were affiliated with Spokane and the southern owners were tied in with the Utah Association in Salt Lake City.

**24-Hour Schedule**

The New York Winter Garden will operate on a continuous all-day and all night schedule for the run of Mark Hellinger's "The Killers," when the picture opens next Wednesday, (28th).
PRC Announces 26 Features for 1946-47

A 1946-47 program of 26 features, six Eddie Dean outdoor musicals and eight Al La Ru hits ("Fuzzy") St. John westerns was announced in New York this week by PRC President Harry Thomas upon his return from Hollywood.

At least three of the features will be in Cinemascope and of the 26 scheduled 12 will be produced on a minimum budget of $500,000 each, Thomas declared. These will be produced at Eagle Lion studios in Hollywood but will be entirely separate from Eagle Lion productions which will be produced and sold separately.

Titles announced this week are: "Born to Speed"; "When the Devil Drives"; "Big Red," which goes into production in New Mexico on Sept. 15; "Her Sister's Secret" with Nancy Coleman, Margaret Lindsay and Philip Reed, set for national release on Sept. 23, and "Dritin' River" starring Eddie Dean, with Shirley Patterson, Roscoe Ates and the Sunshine Boys, to be released Oct. 1.

Schwalberg, Move to Eagle Lion Posts

Alfred W. Schwalberg, former vice-president and assistant general sales manager of the absorbed United World Pictures this week became vice-president and general sales manager of Eagle Lion Films in America, according to an announcement of President Arthur B. Krim.

Schwalberg, formerly a vice-president of Warner Bros. Pictures Distributing Company and later general sales manager of International Pictures, will assume his new post immediately.

According to reported plans, Schwalberg will not build up a staff of special salesmen for the Eagle Lion product, but will use the PRC staff as well as his physical facilities and keep a field force of supervisors who will work with PRC salesman in handling the American Eagle Lion product.

Krim also announced appointment of Ben Jacobson, former MGM talent scout and more recently Signal Corps captain in charge of motion picture production on Nazi atrocities, as eastern representative for Eagle Lion.

Income Booms Box Office

One basic explanation for the booming business at the nation’s box office during the past several years is the rise in individual income. The department of Commerce reported last week in Washington that the 1940 per capita income of $375 rose, by 1945, to an all-time high of $515. Despite the setback in war production, this represented a sizeable increase over the 1944 average of $1,113.

MGM Offers Year’s Product To Non-Competitive Areas

Temporary Sales Plan Announced by Rodgers At Chicago Sales Meeting

Pending handing down of the anti-trust suit decree establishing sales procedure, MGM this week announced a temporary, four-point sales plan which establishes single selling of features in competitive situations but allows exhibitors in non-competitive situations who may wish to do so to buy an entire season’s product in bulk with privileges of “elimination.”

The sales policy, announced by MGM Vice-President and General Sales Manager William F. Rodgers to the sales meet at the Drake Hotel in Chicago, provides that short subjects and the news in all situations may be sold either singly or in bulk, depending upon exhibitor wishes, and will establish competitive bidding in certain unnamed localities to test the procedure for this type of selling.

Rodgers, who warned that selling under the forthcoming decree might cause a “flight delay” in product availability, listed his four-point plan as follows:

1. Tradeshows—All features to be tradeshown.
2. Single selling—All feature will be sold singly in competitive situations, as well as in non-competitive areas, if the exhibitor wishes, with the sale of no feature being conditioned upon the sale of any other product distributed by MGM.
3. Bulk selling—In non-competitive areas where the exhibitor desires to buy in bulk a season of product, consisting of output for 12 months from Sept. 1, 1946 through Aug. 31, 1947, will be offered, “subject to as few conditions as possible but including the privilege of elimination.” If the exhibitor in such areas prefers to buy pictures individually, he may.
4. Shorts and the News—Unless the exhibitor prefers these will be sold in bulk with a “privilege of elimination.” If the exhibitor would rather buy each short and each news issue separately, he may.

Rodgers said MGM was entering the system which the court might impose in the future with the intent to make it work in the hope that the final decree would “result in substantial benefits to the industry as a whole rather than create chaotic conditions.”

"Loven’s Inc.” Rodgers said, “will to the best of its ability, make just as few changes in its sales policy as necessary.

"It must be obvious to everyone in the business that the court has not gone out of its way to make it difficult for the exhibitor to make changes in the industry’s structure," the court was informed.

Customers Want All

“Many of our customers have expressed the desire for product security as far as Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer is concerned that we are very happy to announce that in strictly non-competitive situations we will offer, subject to a few conditions as possible but including a privilege of elimination, all units of our regularly released output for the 12 month period commencing Sept. 1, 1946 and ending Aug. 31, 1947. Should any of our customers in these non-competitive situations prefer to buy at one time, they will, of course, be accorded this privilege.

In competitive situations, on the other hand, we regret that it is necessary for us to announce that while we are not now prepared... to put into effect a general policy of competitive bidding, we will, pending entry of a final decree, in a very limited number of emergency situations and on a purely experimental basis, attempt to work out an administrative procedure for the handling of competitive bids.”

Repulhlic Goes Confidential

Republic this week became a member of Confidential Reports by acquiring stock in the advertising corporation. Vice-President Walter L. Tijus announced Wednesday. The service is expected to start in the near future.

Virginia Morris Quits

Virginia Morris, 20th Century-Fox trade advertising staffer resigned this week according to an announcement by Charles Schlaiher, head of the company’s advertising publicity, exploitation and radio departments. She will take a two months vacation before announcing future plans.

Foxes Fight Fire

It has been a hot time in St. Louis town this week for the 46 odd 20th Century-Foxes who attended a sales meeting there.

The meeting itself was expected to be a cool discussion of selling plans. But things really got hot when fire broke out in a porter’s room of the Park Central Hotel, sending smoke upward through a service shaft and causing confusion among the guests.

Led by General Sales Manager D. Conner of the Foxes acted as guides to clear the hotel of guests, Connors along with Publicists Walter Hoffman and Seymour C. Freeman spent ten- ing up to carry out some elderly ladies who were exhausted.

No one was hurt; damage was placed at $20,000.
"Grand entertainment that holds the audience spellbound from opening to heart-throbbing finish . . . As sleek and romantic a thriller as the screen has seen in many months."
— Kate Cameron, N. Y. Daily News

"One of the most absorbing pictures of the year . . . A romantic melodrama which is just about as thrilling as they come . . . Check up another smash hit for a fine and experienced team."
— Bosley Crowther, N. Y. Times

"Movie fans won't have to cast the dream screen mystery. It's here in 'Notorious'. Ben Hecht, Alfred Hitchcock, Ingrid Bergman, Cary Grant . . . Try to top that list!"
— Lee Mortimer, N. Y. Daily Mirror

"From now on, RKO will have a hard time keeping Ingrid Bergman and Cary Grant apart. The movie-goers will be shouting for more."
— Joe Pihodna, N. Y. Herald-Tribune

"Will be giving Music Hall patrons their most exciting movie session of the year."
— Alton Cook, N. Y. World-Telegram

". . . That the old master should now crack out with a love scene to make all previous love scenes obsolete is—to drain the word of all its connotations—a sensation."
— Cecelia Ager, PM
"Tops in thrillers, sheer spell-binding entertainment... The suspense is nothing short of terrific... It's intrigue, romance and top-drawer melodrama all in one brilliant package."

— Rose Pelswick, N. Y. Journal-American

"Unmistakably a Hitchcock melodrama... a thriller."

— Eileen Creelman, N. Y. Sun

"... We elect 'Notorious' as most likely to stay at the Music Hall until the management tires of counting money and fighting off owners of pictures booked to follow."

— Archer Winsten, N. Y. Post
National Newsreel

Picture People

Sidney Deneau succeeds his former boss, Louis Lazar as director of the Schine Circuit Theatres, Gloversville. Deneau served in the army as a commissioned officer and prior to his Schine post under Lazar, who resigned to join Paramount as manager of its European houses, was a buyer for the Albany Division of Fabian Theatres.

John D. Spies is off to Paris on his latest RKO job as head of the foreign distribution of that company's 16-mm. film set up.

Warner Bros. Vice President and Executive Producer Jack L. Warner is planning a trip to Europe to make a general survey of conditions in foreign countries. He will tour the foreign branches and studios.

International Pictures Eastern Publicity Director Arthur Jeffrey is back in his Radio City offices after an exploitation trip to Milwaukee and Chicago in connection with "The Stranger."

There's no actual support to the rumor that MGM Publicity Manager Herb Crooker dances a mean hornpipe. That one probably got started when the story came back that Herb was vacationing by sailing his 25 foot sloop up and down Long Island Sound.

Beacon Production has hired Blake McVeigh to sound the trumpet and beat the drum for the United Artist release "Copacabana."

If Murphy McHenry, who is invading such austere precincts as the New York Times with pictures of minor people like mayors directing opening sequences of a picture named "Carnegie Hall," hates himself, he ought to be very unhappy. Mc's present offices are in what seems to be a ballet practice room at Carnegie and every time he looks around, he can see himself in the mirrors which line the walls so the corypheeus can study their stance.

Sam Shain, director of trade relations for 20th Century-Fox Film Corporation, has returned to the Mimeoograph machine after two weeks vacations. Also back is Rodney Bush, head of the exploitation department.

J. E. Perkins, managing director in Great Britain for Paramount International, rounded out a far east trip when he headed back for New York this week, where he is to confer with Paramount International President George Weimer before embarking for London.

Continental Circuit Adds Two Houses

Continental Circuit, a new circuit formed by Martin J. Lewis and Max Zimmerman this week, announced it had acquired the Grand Theatre at Hartford, Conn., and the Playhouse at Cedarhurst, L. I., and would seek nine more houses in key spots.

Continental operates the Thalia in New York and is associated with the Blumenthal Circuit in operation of the Peachtree Art Theatre in Atlanta and the Ellis Theatre in Durham, N. C., which is to be renamed the New World.

The Hartford Grand, to be renamed the Center, was to reopen Aug. 23, and the Cedarhurst Playhouse Aug. 30.

Avert Late Show Ban

What promised to be a test case over midnight shows in Ontario province, Canada, was averted this week when exhibitors of Sarnia, Ont., and the city council compromised over what had started to be a council ban on all late performances excepting New Year's eve.

The council withdrew its ban motion when the exhibitors agreed to list six midnight shows which they would present during the year in connection with legal holidays. Exhibitors involved were Joseph Bolinsky of the Imperial, Harvey Patterson of the Park, H. Bowes of the Capitol and George Alkens of the Odeon.
Trem Carr, Monogram Production Chief, Dead

Trem Carr, Monogram's 54-year-old director of production, died in San Diego Sunday where he was vacationing with his wife. Carr was born in Trenton, Ill., graduated from the University of Illinois and originally was head of a St. Louis construction firm. He entered the film business by way of a series of AI St. John shorts, became associated with W. Ray Johnston in Rayart Pictures and served as a vice-president in charge of production for Syndicate Pictures.

In 1931 with Johnson he helped form Monogram. Later he left to accept a vice-presidency in Republic, sold his interest in that firm to become a producer for Universal and rejoined Monogram as production head, the post he held at the time of his death.

He is survived by his widow, Margaret; a daughter, Mrs. Harry F. Perry, Jr.; a brother, Plack Carr, who is a Texas oil man; a sister, Mrs. Tonio Vogt, and a grandchild.

'Rags' Ragland Passes

John Morgan Lee ("Rags") Ragland, 41, MG1 contract comedian, died in the Cedars of Lebanon Hospital in Hollywood from uremic poisoning Tuesday. Among the features in which he appeared were "Panama Hattie" "Du-Berry Was a Lady," "The Hoodlum Saint," "Her Highness and the Bellboy." He is survived by a son, John M. L. Ragland, Jr. and an uncle, Harry Petty. Interment will be in Louisville, Ky.

John S. P. Glackin

John S. P. Glackin, partner in the Glackin and Lewitt circuit in New Britain and Plainville, Conn., died suddenly Monday at Lawrence Memorial Hospital, New London, Conn. Funeral services were held Wednesday in New Britain.

Al Blasko

Al Blasko, veteran Warner Theatres circuit manager, died in Chicago Monday. He is survived by his wife and two sons.

Linda Ann Rudolph

Linda Ann Rudolph, 18, daughter of Edward Rudolph, St. Louis exhibitor, died Monday at the Grady Hospital in Atlanta from infantile paralysis. Burial took place in St. Louis.

Conduct World Survey

A world survey of motion picture theaters will be launched shortly by the Motion Picture Association with the cooperation of the international departments of Loew's Columbia, Paramount, RKO, 20th Century-Fox, Universal and Warner Bros., as well as the Motion Picture Editors and Artists Association. MPAA President Eric Johnston announced Friday, Murray Silverstone, president of 20th Century-Fox is chairman of the committee, which will send out questionnaires throughout the world.

Sickness Socks Box Office

Disease continued to harass exhibitors over widespread areas this week, causing added theatre closings in three different sections.

Up in Anchorage, Alaska, Mayor Francis C. Bowden ordered all theatres closed when 50 cases of diptheria were discovered. The mayor also banned all other public gatherings.

At New Athens, Ill., which has also suffered a flood over 15 of its commercial area blocks, disrupting business, Mayor Henry Reuss ordered the exclusion of all children under 16 years of age to combat a reported spread of infantile paralysis.

Action against polio was also taken in Colorado where the Board of Health suggested that all public gatherings be closed to those under 18. This would probably cut off a third of business in that area where there were 420 cases of the disease, 155 of which were in Denver.

The voluntary bans on children admittance, put into effect by showmen, in certain sections of Minnesota continued.

New Theatres

Rangely, Colo.—The new 700-seat theatre being built here by Western Amusement Co., Los Angeles, will open about October 1, according to W. G. McKinney, who has been spending some time in Denver buying product. The theatre is costing about $50,000.

La Jara, Colo.—Herbert Gumper has opened his 230-seat La Jara, which replaces the hall in which he has been showing films.

Philmoha, Ore.—Construction of a $30,000 theatre building by owner Everett Mica is planned for the near future. It will have a seating capacity of 800 on the ground floor, and will provide for the installation of a balcony on a later date.

Portland, Ore.—Portland's new Drive-In theatre opens late in August at the New Meadows race track. The outdoor car theatre will have a capacity of 600 automobiles, each to be parked on a ramp, with a slight incline for better viewing of the gigantic screen. Individual speakers will be plugged into each car. The screen, four stories high, is reported to have cost $32,000, with an overall plant investment in the neighborhood of $100,000.

Cleveland—Associated Theatres, largest independent theatre circuit in this area, has closed a 20 year lease at a total rental of $200,000 for the new theatre to be incorporated in a $750,000 shopping and amusement center to be built at Avon Lake by William Freidlinghs, owner and operator of the Saddle Inn on Lake Road. The project will eventually include construction of several hundred homes.

Cincinnati—Work on a new drive-in theatre east of Charleston is about to be resumed, according to E. R. Caster, Charleston, W. Va., circuit operator. He is building the theatre in partnership with Floyd Price and Rube Shor.

Dallas—Bill Underwood and Claude Ecell opened their fourteenth theatre August 23 when The Captain at Capitol and Henderson Streets opened its doors with Oscar H. Ray as manager. The new theatre seats 1,400, with balcony and lower floor, designed by Pettigrew & Cook, features architecture and decorations carrying out pirate scenes suggested by its name. A vertical marquee is a pirate ship and the lobby murals are seascapes with Spanish galleons. The front is a combination of mirrors and stainless steel.

Dallas—Charles Brent, who is associated with Phil Isley in the ownership of a number of theatres in and around Dallas, has begun construction on a venture of his own at Port Arthur. It will be a 1,500 seat stadium-type theatre, which Brent says will be one of the largest suburban theatres in Texas.

Canadian Pioneers Set Up Big Benevolent Film Fund

The Canadian Picture Pioneers on Tuesday passed a resolution that put in motion the establishment of a benevolent fund for the entire film and theatre industry in the Dominion. The resolution was presented by J. E. Lawson, president of Odene Theatres of Canada, at a national meeting of the executive board at Toronto, and was adopted unanimously. With the Pioneers immediately raising $10,000 as a starting fund, will receive annual donations from circuits and film distributors to take care of emergency cases.

The national fund will be in charge of four trustees: Oscar R. Hanson, Ray Lewis, George H. Boetson, and C. J. Mavety, all of whom are Toronto officers of the Pioneers. A general gathering of the association is scheduled for Toronto in November, when the plan will be presented for ratification of members, while fund developments will be reviewed at an executive meeting called for the second week in February at Montreal.

Schulberg Joins Enterprise

B. P. Schulberg, pioneer film publicist, and former producer and studio executive, has joined Enterprise Productions as chief of exploitation, advertising and publicity. He will also execute special exhibitor relations assignments for David Loew and Charles Ernstl.

Jessel MC at Allied Dinner

George Jessel, will be toastmaster at the 1946 Allied States Convention, banquet at the Copley Plaza on Sept. 18.
LOOK!

This will make

**Reviews**

"The Time of Their Lives"

(Universal)  
_Hollywood, Aug. 13_

**ANY** resemblance between this and the last half dozen Abbott and Costello pictures is so slight and incidental as to be written off completely by the showmen whose customers used to raise the rafters with shouts and screams of laughter in the dawn of the A. and C. era. The audience present at the preview of "The Time of Their Lives" at the Forum Theatre in Los Angeles all but rolled in the aisles with merriment, exactly as in the good old days. The film is as different from the comedians' recent works as day is from night; and a challenge for gross records anywhere.

The excellent cast company provided the comedians this time includes Marjorie Reynolds, Binnie Barnes, Gale Sondergaard, Donald MacBride and Anne Gillis—to mention only those of marquee weight—but the off-screen talent rates much credit for the quality of the offering. To Walter De Leon and Bradford Ropes, who collaborated with Producer Val Burton on the script, and to John Grant for the additional dialogue which doubtless includes many of the sure-fire lines, much is done for maintaining a balance of humorous values seldom attained, and director Charles Barton rates a special kind of credit for timing dialogue and business with consummate precision.

The picture opens sedately in the closing year of the Revolutionary War, with George Washington and Benedict Arnold figuring in the story, and then switches to 1946, with Costello and Miss Reynolds still present as spirits and with Abbott portraying his own great grandson. The story concerns the efforts of the spirits to obtain their release from an old curse by so managing matters that the 1946 living will find an old letter clearing them of treason, and the way in which they accomplish this is, literally and figuratively, out of this world.

For comparison of this picture with anything else in the A. and C. record, you must go back to that early number about the haunted house, with which it has no more in common than a 1946 Cadillac has with a Model T. Ford. But comparisons are without importance when a hit comedy is under consideration, and that is what this is.

Running time, 82 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Aug. 16.

WILLIAM R. WEAVI

"Abbott & Costello go 'Topper-lish'

... will assure revenues that parallel the pair's previous best grosses."

—Boxoffice
Comedians Bud Abbott and Lou Costello are back in peak form in this startlingly different and extremely well produced comedy. It's by far the best A & C picture of the last two years, and quite possibly the best ever."
—Motion Picture Herald

"This one's a picnic for Abbott and Costello fans...all's well at the b.o."
—Variety

"By long odds, this is the best A & C show to date."
—Hollywood Reporter

UNIVERSAL PRESENTS

BUD ABBOTT  LOU COSTELLO

"The Time of Their Lives"

MARJORIE REYNOLDS  BINNIE BARNES  JOHN SHELTON  JESS BARKER  CALE SONDERGAARD  ROBERT H. BARRAT

Huge Illuminated Signs To Tell N. Y. About 'C & C'

Two huge illuminated signs built at a combined cost of more than $30,000 and covering a total of 4680 square feet of surface will be utilized to apprise the Times Square throngs of the opening of the $8200000 Technicolor screen spectacle, "Caesar and Cleopatra," the United Artists home office has announced. The production will arrive at the Astor Theatre September 5. Reportedly the largest electric signs ever used to advertise a Broadway screen production, one of them will be placed above the facade of the Winter Garden Theatre and the other on the upper front of the Astor Theatre.

The sign now being erected on the front of the Winter Garden Theatre occupies a space totalling 160 by 24 feet and presents a recumbent figure of Vivien Leigh, the picture's feminine star, outlined in multi-color neon lights and surrounded by a glittering array of illuminated channel letters.

The Astor sign, which will measure 70 by 42 feet in size, will be graced by a heroic head of Miss Leigh, together with huge letters which spell out the name of the production.

A 'First' for 'Duel in Sun'

For the first time in its history Viktor Red Seal records has made a complete album devoted exclusively to a motion picture score. The music is a concert version of the score of David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun." The album was recorded by Arthur Fielder and the Boston Pops Orchestra. Meanwhile, the studio itself has been recording the score with Dimitri Tiomkin and his 90-piece orchestra in Hollywood.

FUTURE ESTHER WILLIAMS, Albany's Juniors take over in the 4th Annual Junior Bathing Beauty Contest staged by manager Alex Sayles, of Fabian's Palace in a three way tieup with the theatre, the Albany Times Union and the swimming pool. Times Union ran a full page on the contest in a Sunday edition with prizes to winners donated by local merchants.

Six Singers Finalists in Dorsey Bros. Contest

Six finalists, culled from more than 10,000 contestants in an eight weeks, nation-wide search for a girl to sing in Tommy Dorsey's orchestra and appear in Charles R. Rogers' production, "The Fabulous Dorseys," have arrived in Hollywood for screen tests to select the one eventual winner.

The girl chosen as permanent singer for the Dorsey band will be given a featured part in "The Fabulous Dorseys" if her screen test proves favorable.

The fortunate six, selected through the cooperation of 300 Mutual Broadcasting stations on the basis of recorded voice and still photography are: Sherry Sherwood, 18, Washington, D. C.; Marilyn Daye, 19, Columbus, Ohio; Naomi Wright, 21, Miami Beach; Jerrie Mad- sen, 22, Oakland, Cal.; Peggy Jones, 23, Wichita, Kan.; and Roanne Threet, 23, Los Angeles.

The young singers were met in Hollywood by Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey and Chaperon Beh- lish Parkington, who accompanied them to the Hollywood Plaza Hotel, which will be their headquarters during the projected schedule of entertainment and business which will keep them busy for a considerable time with preliminary screen tests, auditions and final tests.

Extensive radio and other publicity already is rolling on "The Fabulous Dorseys," highlighted last Sunday (18th) on the Tommy Dor- sney NBC show on which Tommy and Jimmy played for the first time their Concerto for Trombone and Saxophone, which will be featured in the film. "Mou" Dorsey also was on the show.

SHOWMAN SAM SAYS: When you hear of those polio cases in the middlewest aren't you glad now you gave to the Infantile Paralysis Fund last winter?

Set $50,000 Ad Budget For 'Killers' N. Y. Bow

Universal has established a $50,000 advertising budget for the world premiere of Ernest Hemingway's "The Killers" at the New York Winter Garden Theatre, August 28th. The New York campaign will set a pattern for subsequent key city runs.

Highlights of the New York campaign include consecutive use of daily newspapers for 10 days (including full page, 4 color ads) complete coverage of subway stands, subway cards and other posting and radio spot announcements scheduled to be broadcast simultaneously with the appearance of the newspaper ads.

Universal already has constructed a spectacular sign on the Mayfair Theatre building.

Following the opening, large display advertising and sustained radio schedules will be continued.

SMOKY WINS! I. J. Schmerz (right)
20th-Fox Cleveland branch manager presents a blanket to trainer Walker, of winning horse, Tye Special, as owner Mrs. Crawford looks on at Thistle Downs track. Six usherettes from Cleveland's RKO Palace distributed heralds through the stands preceding the "Smoky" Handicap. Manager Harry Schreiber arranged the stunt.
Souvenir
A special issue of the Mindako News, house organ for the Minnesota Amuse-
ment circuit in Minneapolis, was published as a souvenir of the an-
nual convention held at Breezy Point, Minnesota’s famous summer resort, in
July.
Copies of the issue, featuring photo-
graphs made during the work and play
sessions at the convention as well as
text of addresses by various officials,
have been circulating to all members
of the Minnesota Amusement circuit.
The Mindako News is edited by
Charles Winchell, who says it is hoped
soon to issue the paper on a regular
monthly schedule—which was inter-
rupted during the war and the ensu-
ing paper shortages.

Set Big Time Premiere,
For ‘Gallant Journey’
Parades in the streets, Navy-Army participa-
tion with massed flights of planes, spectator
bleachers and a long list of visiting celebrities
are just a few of the exploitation highlights
planned for the big-time world premiere of
Columbia’s “Gallant Journey” at the Spreckels
Theatre, San Diego, September 4th.
Governor and Mrs. Warren are expected to
officiate at the ground-breaking ceremonies
at the monument to John J. Montgomery at near-
by Otay Mesa, site of man’s first controlled winged
flight in 1883. Montgomery flew 17 years before
the Wright Brothers.

Collie Dog as Prize
An essay contest with a collie dog as the
prize has been promoted from the Mem-
phis Commercial-Appeal by Cecil Vogel, man-
ger of Loew’s Palace, Memphis, as part of
his campaign on MGM’s “Courage of Lassie.”

IN THE MOOD. Manager George
Daranoll, Fabian W. V Granby, Nor-
folk, designed an effective front on “The
Dancing Years.” Arranging colored photo-
graphic enlargements of some of the tense
moments from the film.

‘Caesar & Cleopatra’ Hits
Publicity High in Chicago

The extensive exploitation campaign for the
midwest premiere of George Bernard Shaw’s
“Caesar & Cleopatra” at the newly re-opened
RKO Grand Theatre, Chicago, included one of
the most intensive newspaper publicity cam-
paings ever effected in that city. Full page color
photos and layouts in the Chicago Tribune, the
Herald-American and the Daily News, high-
lighted the campaign. Picture layouts in the
Times and the other newspapers were daily oc-
currences for ten days in advance of opening.

The campaign was conducted under the
supervision of Frank Smith, division manager,
assisted by Joe Goetz; press agent Milton
Woodward, manager Bill Briscoe and United
Artists field representative, Chick Evans.

Laura Wells, glamorous press agent recruited
from the ranks of the famous Powers models,
launched a publicity campaign in the picture by break-
ing other publicity in all Chicago newspapers.
By visiting city desks and presenting articles of
interest to editors, Miss Wells’ by-line ap-
peared over feature stories on “Caesar,”
with newspapers also featuring photos of Miss Wells
herself with scene stills from the Gabriel Pascal
production.

Radio Publicity
Miss Wells’ visit to Chicago also was the
basis for considerable publicity about
“C & C.” RKO publicists arranged for radio
appearances for her on WMAQ on the Bob
Elson show; WGN on the Ann Marsters pro-
gram; on WJJD with Rosemary Wayne; on
WIND with June Merritt; again on WGN on
the Famous Names program and a repeat on
WIND on the Celebrity Spotlight show.
In each program the novelty of Miss Wells’ job
as a press agent was the subject of the talks, in
which she discussed her job, particularly,
“Caesar & Cleopatra.”

The RKO crew also tied the picture in with
ads describing the Grand’s newly remodeled
and redecorated interior. Five hundred window
cards were ballyhooed, blanketing the theatre’s re-
opening. A full page of cooperative advertising
was planted in the Chicago Sun with 15 mer-
ants subscribing the cost of the ad. The Har-
vy Jewelry Company also bought advertising
space on jewelry, illustrated with photos of
Livien Leigh.

A one night premiere stunt was well received
by the newspapers when the Grand sought a
Chicago girl to play “Cleopatra for a Day.” The
contest winner served as official hostess on open-
ing night, introducing the many celebrities who
attended—among them Mayor Kelly, Basil
Rathborne, Mae West, Malcolm Kingsberg, Sol
A. Schwartz, William H. Howard, and Chicago
civic officials, all of whom took part in the lobby
radio broadcast, via WGN, preceding the film’s
showing. Photos of the celebrities broke news-
papers the following day.

Another stunt, which hit the publicity jack-
pot in Chicago and in other cities where “Caesar”
has opened, was arranged with TWA airline by
which planes dispatched from Egypt gather
jugs of water from the Nile River and then
beautify the locals in the city where
“Caesar & Cleopatra” is just about to open
(coincidence, no doubt). In Chicago, the “Miss

25 NEWSBOYS like these hawked news
about the “Caesar & Cleopatra” opening
at RKO Grand, Chicago, as part of the
extensive campaign for the film’s midwest
premiere.

Croop’s” who was to serve as hostess met
the plane on arrival and accepted the jug of
water for the Grand Theatre. The jug was made
part of the theatre’s lobby display and photos of
the airport reception made the daily papers. In
Hungary the same stunt made a two-colum-
num, front page photo in the Times!

The Madame Tewi national tiara on fashions
was an important part of the Chicago campaign
with Carson, Pirie and Scott’s store using eight
full windows on State Street, with special
displays carrying out the Egyptian motif. A
fashion show on the Tewi creations also was
conducted by the store in advance of the Grand
Theatre opening.

The Chicago Public Library accepted a pro-
motion on books with Egyptian backgrounds,
using 150 11x14 cards on “Caesar and Cleo-
patra” as the centerpiece of displays set up in
the various branches. Window displays on books
also were arranged with two Kroch’s Book
Stores and with the Mandel Department store.

A lively street ballyhoo consisted of 25 se-
lected newsboys on important street corners,
handing “Caesar & Cleopatra” extras. The
extras they carried and displayed to passersby
were heralds printed in the form and size of
newspapers, in big block letters. Anons the
boys wore were imprinted with screaming copy
about “Caesar.”

At Loew’s in Cleveland, “Caesar” got a build-
up by manager Howard Burbachardt with an
advance stunt which drew a 6 column banner
headed in the Sunday Plain Dealer: Critic Ward
Marsh was asked to contact George Bernard
Shaw, and the fact that he failed to do so didn’t
deter the newspaper from running the headline.
“Another critical attempt to get Bernard Shaw
on the ‘phone, if possible.” Wire services packed
up the story which was reprinted all over the
country.

Special window displays were an important
part of Burbachardt’s campaign with unusual one-
appearing in Halle Brothers, the Hibbee Com-
pany on jewelry; William Taylor & Sons on
cosmetics; perfume displays at Woolworth’s and
a dozen others blanketing downtown Cleveland.
ANOTHER
record-ringing 20th hit!

The NEW Love Adventures of

Claudia
and David

BIGGEST NON-HOLIDAY FIRST WEEK
IN 19 YEARS AT THE ROXY, N.Y.C.

DOROTHY McGUIRE • ROBERT YOUNG in "CLAUDIA AND DAVID" with Mary Astor • John Sutton • Gail
Patrick • Rose Hobart • Harry Davenport • Florence Bates • Jerome Cowan • Else Janssen • Frank Tweddell
Anthony Sydes • Directed by WALTER LANG • Produced by WILLIAM PERLBERG • Screen Play by Rose
Franken and William Brown Meloney • Adaptation by Vera Caspary • From Stories by Rose Franken
ANNA AND THE KING OF SIAM

Scoring new all-time highs! Hundreds of hold-overs! King-size everywhere!

JEROME KERN'S
CENTENNIAL SUMMER

The biggest of all 20th's big Technicolor musicals—by far!

SMOKY

Outpacing all grosses, outrunning all playing time of outdoor Technicolor hits!

No other company has ever had so many pictures breaking so many records in so many theatres as Century-Fox!
SELLING THE PICTURE

Plan Ambitious Campaign For
British Premiere of 'London Town'

A plan for what is believed to be the most ambitious advance publicity campaign yet devised for the London premiere of a British film has been organized by John Ware for the Eagle Lion-Welsh Xingol-Techicolor production, "London Town," which is to open day and date with the principal holiday resorts. John Dennett's Odeon group also is actively engaged in the campaign.

For weeks, film correspondents have been bombarded with stories about the production and its stars, and before the final print has been cut, the City and Suburbs have been posterized with an eye-catching, four-color photo-lithos showing one of the "Dozen-and-One" girls from the film and gaily colored posters of Sid Fields, heralded as a great comedy discovery. The posters dominate Piccadilly Circus and other important thoroughfares.

In addition to the five-figure advertising appropriation, a large scale exploitation budget has been sanctioned and exploiter Fred Pollitt is expanding his staff to aid theatres playing the film.

The biggest stunt features "The 'Ampsted Way' dance which plays an important part in the film and which will be launched in the leading dance halls to coincide with the premiere. This will be plugged in the newspapers and newsreels. (The Rank Organization controls Gaumont British News and the British edition of Universal Talking News.)

World premiere of the dance will be held at the Lyceum Dance Hall, London, when Sid Fields, Kay Kendall, Greta Gynt and the "Dozen-and-One" girls will be present. Fifteen thousand brochures, illustrated with 32 progressive scenes from the dance and planting the film are being supplied to dancing teachers throughout the country. The dance premiere will be repeated in the Provinces and starlet Kay Kendall will tour the principal Odeon theatres demonstrating the dance on the stage.

An elaborate manual of instruction and information covering everything to the minutest detail is being forwarded to all managers.

The National Federation of Hairdressers, through their 30,000 members will distribute a two-page folder on hair dressing styles used in the film. A competition will be run in connection with this stunt to find the best hair-do for 1947.

Tieups include the "London Town" scarf, the "London Town" jumper suit and the "London Town" hat, with local dealers to be informed on bookings six weeks in advance of playdates.

The music, which is being handled by a newly formed musical department, will provide a natural plug for the film on the air.

The day and date premiere will be followed by a quick London release on September 22 and in consequence all theatres are expected to benefit from the intensive campaign. It is believed that the "London Town" exploitation campaign is the first to be essayed in this country on such a scale.

"London Town" will be released in the United States by Universal-International.—J.M.

Sioux City, Ia., Is Looking For Its Sue Via Contest

Sioux City will really have its Sioux City Sue when the Republic picture, "Sioux City Sue," has its world premiere at Sioux City this fall. Newspapers and the radio station at Sioux City are having a Sioux City Sue contest to find the ideal Sue.

Dick Thomas, one of the co-authors of the song, has agreed to serve as the judge in the contest. Ray Freeman, the other co-author, will be unable to attend. Neither Thomas or Freeman has ever been in Sioux City, Ia.

Thomas will have some help, however, in that all the entrants will be genuine redheads. The contestants won't be able to get by with dyed hair, for the contest committee has guarded against this by having the competing tresses examined by a hairdressing expert.—DMO

Goldwyn Girls Mannequin For Stunt on 'Mitty'

Those Goldwyn Girls are busy all over again; now they are going to act as models for a series of fashion shows in Southern California. This series will be part of the advance exploitation for "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," Danny Kaye opus which is not even off the shooting schedule. As a matter of fact, the picture is not due for release until the fall of 1949, but the Goldwyn organization plans the fashion shows now.

The girls will act as mannequins for the John-Frederics show this week, for the Goldwyn Company on August 27, September 5 and 6, the Kenneth Hopkins charity fashion luncheon at the Beverly Wilshire on September 19, a press dinner at the Beverly Wilshire on September 19, and a fashion luncheon at the Arrowhead Springs Hotel on September 16. The girls taking part are Lorraine de Rome, Jackie Jordan, Mary Brewer, Mary Ellen Gleason, Georgia Lange, and Shirley Pickering.

Concentrating on Windows Pays Off in Philadelphia

The value of window tieups has always been admitted, but it is not always realized just how effective they are when done on a large scale. Take a city like Philadelphia, for instance, one of the largest, but whose business section is comparatively concentrated. Recently Jack Harris sewed up the city on window tieups for the engagement of a reissue, "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" at the Karlton Theatre.

A display in a nut shop at 13th and Market Streets, consisting of a large revolving cylinder carrying scenes in color from the film, simply stopped traffic. Weber's Art Supply Store had a $25,000 display of original paintings by Hurd, Blanche Shaw, smart Kiddie Shop, showed Tom Sawyer fishing. And to cap it Harris contracted for all empty windows on Vine Street from 12th to 18th Streets to display posters. The result was that the City of Brotherly Love really became Tom Sawyer-conscious.—PHL

RKO Golf Tieup

RKO Radio Pictures has effected a tie-up with the MacGregor Golf Equipment Company to help promote the RKO Pathé Sportscope "Ben Hogan" release. A broadside has been sent to every dealer handling the MacGregor line, totaling over one thousand, calling attention to the picture. In addition, four thousand copies are being sent to golf clubs throughout the country, with the request that it be placed on a bulletin board where all club members may see it.
SELLING THE PICTURE

Notes, Memos and Quotes

Horrors — Make 'Em Pay
You're lucky when you get to play a horror picture, if you want to do anything about it. This is where the freak stuff can run riot. "Most of the time it's a night stunt. Dress up a figure—either real or dummy—in flowing robes plus a frightening mask. Put figure on top the marquee and throw a green spot on it. The effect is guaranteed to entertain passersby and bring some of them in. More elaborate, but even striking is the use of phosphorescent paint on the costume. Then there are some old stunts that are always good, like "ghosts" running up and down the aisles while trailer is being screened, the use of a loudspeaker giving out groans and—if you can stand it—an occasional shriek.

Memo: The showman who establishes his theatre to its rightful position of dignity and prestige in the community will find cooperation of merchants, civic and social groups actually thrust upon him in the promotion of his attractions. Properly impressing local leaders is simply a means of paving the way to broad avenues for selling the show through cooperative effort.

Special Student Shows
Attractions of special interest to students are worthy of special arrangements with school officials whereby classes are dismissed at a certain time in the afternoon to permit students to attend a showing at reduced admissions. We know of one instance in which the principal readily agreed to such an arrangement, and the English teacher advised her pupils to see the picture to gain necessary knowledge. Before enlisting school cooperation, however, you must be sure that your attraction is morally suitable and, preferably, based on a book or character familiar to students.

Quote: "It pays to advertise—wisely and well. The job of a good ad is to advise or suggest; to excite curiosity or draw interest. To inform. And information is life. It is the life of your theatre. It is the bridge between your box-office and the public, which must be told who, what, where, when. Tell it wisely, and tell it well." Par, Fox West Coast Theatres and National Theatres publication, edited by Dean Hyskell.

You Can Do It, Too
Out in Glendale, Calif., Lew Harris and Abe Sonosky at the California and Capitol theatres promoted a cooperative merchants' theatre guide which netted a nice profit. Details of this specific promotion are lacking, but we rather think that it was some sort of a folder listing attractions at the theatres and carrying the merchants' ads. Surely you could promote something along the same lines, with distribution taking place not only at the theatre but also in the stores of the cooperating merchants.

DEMONSTRATES VERSATILITY OF MATS. Ernest Van Pelt, MGM's exploiter in Salt Lake City, explains (to whom, the picture does not identify) the use of mats in setting up newspaper advertising campaigns by ascertaining the rates of the local paper—the exhibitor's budget—then laying out the campaign according to the facts and figures. Mats can serve a double purpose, Van Pelt declares, in that the same newspaper ad can be used to imprint market bags or as stuffers.

Some Reasons Why Exploitation Lags and Short Subjects are Left on the Shelf
By Ralph Colakian
Managing Editor

Marion and Kokomo (Indiana) are typical average communities, with around 35,000 and 45,000 population, respectively. Business is unusually good in these two towns. In Marion, I asked Billy Connors, whose Connors Theatres operates the Indiana, Paramount and Lyric Theatres, whether or not pictures were being exploited. (For years, back in the '20s and early '30s Connors was known throughout the state for his outstanding exploitation campaigns.) His answer was that all advertising was confined to the two local newspapers. There was no need for exploitation, he added, because the theatres were doing very well. He cited grosses that were far higher than any since the late '20s on an average picture. Patrons practically break the doors down to get in, so why spend money on advertising when it is not necessary?

Fans Read All About 'Em; Can 'Smell' The Bad Ones
Connors also pointed out that because of advance publicity in newspapers, fan magazines and over the radio, the public knew more about forthcoming attractions than the theatremen did. If the picture is bad, according to their tastes, they can "smell it" long before its play date, and no amount of exploitation will bring them in. If the picture is good, they know about it, and they'll beat a path to the door.

Factories and industries are humming. I think the foregoing is typical of most average towns and explains well why exploitation is limited or not used at all.

A common complaint out this way is that pictures are too long. Every effort is made to give a two-hour show (feature, shorts and news) five times a day. In order to maintain that schedule with a feature under 120 minutes in length, nearly all of the shorts must be deleted. If the feature is over two hours, as many of them are, it means that the show must be extended to 2 1/2 hours, with four shows a day. This, of course, cuts down on the turnover. Single features predominate around here, but it is felt that these extremely long features are just as tiring as double features. Another thing: the distributors complain (they say) because exhibitors are not booking shorts even with single features. The answer is that the single features are so long there is simply no room for shorts on the program.

I thought Bank Nights were extinct, but they're still being used in Kokomo.

Knowing Local Angles Pay Dividends for McCarthy
A knowledge of his patrons' names, their occupations and other pertinent information about his town, and his newspaper's popularity for publishing news with local angles, paid off for manager Jim McCarthy, of the Strand, Hartford, when he arranged a newspaper interview with a brother of the late Warner Oland, and tied it directly with his showing of "Night and Day."

McCarthy knew that Warner Oland had played in Al Jolson's, "The Jazz Singer," and "Red Hot and Deadly," and "Night and Day." was the peg on which the Warner Sound Celebration was hung, he guided the interview with Oland's brother through Warner Oland's appearance in "The Jazz Singer," and got a nice feature story out of it.

McCarthy continued to play up the local angle by having a resident artist draw a caricature of Carey Grant and Alexis Smith which one of the Hartford newspapers published. He also invited 20 Hartford "talking picture babies," men and women born on August 6, 1926, to attend a special "Night and Day" screening—and the newspapers went for that, too. An opening night lobby radio broadcast was another highlight of the campaign.—HFD.

Revive Giveaways
The Biltmore Theatre, Kingston, Ont., revived the giveaway stunt, almost banned during the war by government decree and otherwise restricted because of merchandise shortages, when a small gift was offered for the first 500 juveniles for the Monday matinee of "Pride of the Blue Grass." The theatre entrance was stormed.—TOR.
For some months past I’ve been getting requests to dish out some patter on the subject of using personal endorsements as an aid to theatre advertising. Since this particular avenue of public approach is, in my estimation, the “obstacle course” of the exploitation and advertising field the matter is one that does not lend itself to discoursce of a general nature. Each instance demands specific study, minute attention to the possibility of backlash and “Caution” signs should be carefully observed by any and every manager contemplating use of a method to attract patronage. It’s kinda like slidin’ up to a friendly looking Texas cow pony. Unless you’re fully conversant with the inherent traits of the critter there’s no telling just what will happen.

**Fraught With Hazard**

Experience has proven that there are plenty of failure traps and loss pitfalls to be avoided by those who choose this means of getting profit peaches out of the customer orchard. The practice—as generally used—is fraught with the hazard of mass resentment as well as the extremely delicate feature of selecting endorsers whose opinion will be accepted, valued and followed by the MAJORITY of your customer potential. Remember, I'm speaking of the use of endorsements as an integral part of your general advertising scheme on any picture and not about its use as a part of the campaign directed to some select group or segment. In the latter category good common sense used in the selection of an endorser can—and usually does—result in added revenue at the box-office which brings us back to the original declaration that careful study is essential to success.

Despite the thunderous rumblings of patriotic orators and political speakers this democracy in which we live possesses very little of the “one for all and all for one” team spirit. The equality of which they rave is a privilege of attainment and not a national endorsement. Whether we like it or not we have to admit that the people of your town and mine live, think and move in stratas and those occupying one plane are reluctant to accept the views or follow the leadership of those occupying the level above or the level below. Maybe I’ve gone a little “heavy” on the idea but I hope the explanation makes clear the inadvisability of using personal endorsements in a general campaign unless the endorser is well known for his impartiality and proven competent as a judge of the kind of entertainment that will please the majority of your theatre patrons.

**Manager Best Judge**

That fellow—the man whose word the most of your patrons are willing to accept as a competent judge of their personal likes and dislikes in entertainment—is yourself, Mr. Manager. You, modest fellow, are one outstanding authority whose name can be used successfully throughout a campaign from house heralds to billboards as an endorser with definite certainty that no reader will be resentful or question in any way your right to assume the “wise man” role. A possible deviation is mass endorsement by the personnel of the theatre or individual endorsement of stage hand, operator, ushers, cashiers, etc., provided they are well known in the community. But don’t for an instant assume that the entertainment taste of the butcher, grocer and baker have any common meeting ground—and if they, by some chance, should agree it would be the height of folly to assume that their combined opinion would influence attendance from the lawyer, banker and broker. But let me admonish that you never abuse the confidence your customers have in your opinion. Be very cautious where you use your endorsement and don’t overdo the practice. You’re treading on thin ice when you exceed two a year—which gives you an idea of the need for care.

I’ve seen picture advertising that carried the endorsement of clergymen and judges and politicians and I’ve wondered what kind of rate-brained reasoning processes arrived at the conclusion that the method justified the expense. Any 4th grade schoolboy knows that willing compliance with the decision of judges is among the rarest of human acts. Ministers are, for the most part, viewed as idealists whose every word and deed refutes their interest in the kind of entertainment enjoyed by the layman. The political does not exist whose every utterance and act results in controversy.

In the humble opinion of this writer, personal endorsements from people in such walks of life is the surest way of keeping Mr. and Mrs. Average Citizen away from the theatre.

**The Good Side**

But there’s a good side to the personal endorsement which the astute manager who knows his customer pattern can channel right into the money drawer at the box-office. And he doesn’t have to wait for a super-special to make use of it. Every picture and every short subject is full to overflowing with factional appeal of the kind that can be quickly, inexpensively and offensively converted into theatre revenue.

**Know Your Customers**

In easy-to-remember capsule form the rule for success in using personal endorsements to attract factions or segments of available patrons is: know your customers and know your pictures. Acquaint yourself—not casually but personally—with the factional leaders of your community such as the officers of the various women’s clubs, the officials of ladies lodges, the heads of the various P.T.A.’s, and so on through the entire list of organizations of women whose residence or activities center in the vicinity of your theatre. Follow a similar and more elaborate pattern for men by knowing the heads of the civic organizations, the lodge leaders, the secretaries of labor organizations, bowling clubs, etc., etc. Make sure you are on good terms with the grade and high school executives and teachers of all classes. Be certain of the athletic directors, gymnasium organizations and by all means have a list of the vocal, music, dance and dramatic instructors. Don’t overlook the foreign segments of your community as these people are bound by birth ties that stick like sorgum molasses.

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THEATRE MANAGEMENT

Jackson Discusses Endorsement Advertising

(Continued from Page 24)

during their early years in this new country.

You're going to ask me how to make all these contacts and I'll give you the secret; just invite them all as your personal guests to some picture you are certain will prove interesting and entertaining. Write down their names, addresses and telephone numbers and file away for future reference. Take notice of when their regular meetings are held and send a greeting card or good will message in the mails every now and then that will be read to the assembled members.

Check the daily papers for information as to what women are entertaining at bridge, bridal or engagement parties, etc. and drop a form letter extending good wishes and include a couple of passes to be given as prizes at the bridge games.

Meet the coach and members of the athletic teams at the high schools and colleges and invite the whole team as your guest for a pre-season get-together and periodically thereafter.

Let the music, vocal and drama teachers know that you are interested in giving their recitals as wide an audience as possible and ask them to make use of the stage of your theatre whenever they decide to show off their prize pupils.

Contribute passes as door or attendance prizes to the weekly meetings of the Lions, Rotary, Kiwanis, etc. and don't quit after the first few weeks. Keep up the practice. It pays off at the ticket wicket.

Give prizes for the school kids in each grade for highest deportment, attendance, study record, etc. once a month.

Get yourself and your theatre in the forefront as a place of sale for tickets to the Police and Fireman's Ball and every other event of a nature that will indelibly impress your sincere desire to take active part in everything that happens of a social or civic nature in the vicinity of your operation.

Surest Way

Always remember that the surest way to make people take an interest in you and your business is to keep the fact constantly before them that you and your business are vitally interested in the people. And don't expect the crumbs you cast into the good will pool to be returned in the form of a deed to the bakery at the end of the first week or month. It takes time and consistency to make yourself and your institution the best known and best liked in town, so stay with all the general activities and keep seeking new avenues to the heart of your public.

At the risk of becoming tiresome I want to list a few recurring activities that were set up for a theatre 13 years ago and are still going strong. A ticket was made with a daily paper whereby indigent and lonely mothers were asked, through the columns of the paper starting ten days before the allotted day, to send in their names with the promise that they would be provided transportation and entertained as guests of the paper, the theatre and the taxicab company on Mother's Day. It was started as an annual event and has continued ever since. An Easter Egg Hunt for kiddies was treated similarly with goodly contributed by local merchants in return for the publicity given in the news columns and that too is still perking perfectly. Still another newspaper was tied in for Christmas parties for the aged and infirm with such pronounced success that no attempt has been made to date to dissolve the arrangement. All these bring results of publicity to your theatre and at the same time impresses every reader of the marvelous instrument for happiness their patronage supports.

You, and you, and you can easily place similar activities in effect which, once started, will result in practically all details being lifted off your shoulders by willing cooperators who are ready and anxious to help. If you keep on your toes there is no reason why you and your theatre

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THEATRE MANAGER'S NOTEBOOK

HOUSEKEEPING 2

Cleaning Methods 1

MOPPING FLOORS. The necessary tools to assure good mopping results are: a good soap cleaner or a detergent; 2 mops; 2 pails with wringers; a floor brush or broom, a clean wiping cloth for baseboards.

Experience has proven that the 2-mop, 2-pail method is best. One mop and pail must be used to apply the cleaner and the other mop and pail for rinsing.

Procedure:
1. Follow directions of the manufacturer in diluting and mixing the particular soap or detergent to be used.
2. Use one pail for cleaning solution, the other pail is to contain clean, hot water (mops are not to be interchanged, the mop used at the start for the cleaner should be used in that pail only throughout the process.)
3. Before mopping, the floor should be brushed or swept with broom to remove all loose dirt.
4. Mop immersed in the cleaning solution should be wrung out slightly. Mopping should be done by extending the mop in front and working it from side to side. The "push-pull" motion should be used only in corners or areas where there is insufficient room for the side-to-side method.
5. Wring the mop several times and rinse thoroughly in the cleaning solution, during the cleaning process.
6. Immerse the clean mop in hot water, wring out thoroughly, and go over the area just mopped, using the same method of mopping, until all soap film has been removed from the surface.
7. Repeat these operations until the whole floor has been cleaned, rinsed and dried.
8. Use a clean, damp cloth to wipe down all baseboards around the cleaned area.
9. Clean mops and pails thoroughly before storing them.

PORCELAIN ENAMEL & TILE SURFACES: Those are not easily harmed and most any good cleaning compound can be used. However, no cleaning compound containing an abrasive should be used as it might scratch the surface and thus promote deterioration.

If a soap cleaner is used, rub the surfaces briskly with a sponge dampened with the cleaning solution. After rubbed clean, the surfaces should be rinsed and dried.

Remember that any soap film that is left on a clean area will attract and hold dust, dirt, grease and grime. Thus, after any cleaning procedure always rinse thoroughly and dry thoroughly.

If a detergent powder is used, follow directions for the particular product as to application and cleaning processes.

WAXING FLOORS: All floors should be cleaned before attempting waxing. If the old wax is scaly and in poor condition it should be removed with a detergent. In cases where the wax is extremely heavy strong solutions of the detergent may be used without harm. Be sure to remove all traces of the cleaning agent before applying the wax. A good wax should contain a high percentage of Carnauba
THEATRE MANAGEMENT

Jackson Weighs Endorsements

(Continued from Page 25)

should not be in the public eye on every occasion where groups of your patrons get together.

With that kind of a reputation and that kind of publicity, obtaining endorsements that contain a count big with the groups headed by the endorsers is a cinch, moving your coming attractions will do the rest.

They'll Cooperate

Just figure out what faction will be interested in certain elements of the story or action and get on your telephone to tell the leaders of the groups selected what you want. In 99 cases out of 100 they'll take your word for whatever claims and authorize their names to be used on mailed or distributed recommendations for attendance. That kind of personal endorsement is full of possibilities and can be used week-to-week with one or more different factors being solicited and one or more groups being contacted each week. However, again let me admonish; don't fool 'em and don't short change 'em. Make sure your picture contains episodes or themes of interest and go the limit but don't ask for endorsement unless you feel certain it is deserved.

There is still another kind of endorsement that pays off extremely well and that is the indirect merchant endorsement such as was used by Columbia on the "Together Again" hit. It sorta puts the merchant in the position of asking readers of his ads to see your picture first and then visit his establishment for the merchandise displayed by the star.

I cite Columbia tieup because that instance happened to mind first. There have been no end of similar tieups by practically all other distributors. But—and here's the brass ring—you don't have to wait for national tieups. Study your pictures, study your merchant group and study your customer pattern. Then figure your own scheme of contact and cooperation. Try getting a new idea for every major attraction. Work like the devil getting your lines of contact set and then get ready to ask the bank for bigger and stronger money sacks.

Panic Avoided

Another case of fast thinking saved another audience from possible panic recently when Manager Bill Hartnett of the Embassy Theatre in Waltham, Mass., quoted 1600 patrons as smoke from a nearby fire got into the auditorium. No damage was done to the theatre.—BOS.

Aerosol for Denver House

Fred Zelhman and Sam Dunnervitz, owners of the Park Theatre in Denver, have contracted to give their house a three-yearly treatment by the Aerosol method of dispensing DDT.—DEN.

Wax which gives a high gloss and long, durable wearing qualities. Because of its high cost most all commercial waxes contain only a slight percentage of this material. Wax should be applied as directed on each container. The important thing to remember in waxing floors is to be sure that the floor is thoroughly clean and that all scaly and broken wax is removed before the floor is rewaxed.

POLISHED MARBLE. Acids, soaps, scouring bricks and other harsh abrasives never should be used on marble surfaces. Marble can be easily injured and discolored through neglect and improper cleaning. Polished marble should be cleaned frequently because oil or dust that is left on the surface will seep into the pores and stain the marble. Polished marble may be effectively cleaned by using Wyandotte Detergent. Dip a wet sponge into the detergent and rub the surfaces thoroughly until all dirt and grease has been removed; follow with good rinse with clear water and then polish with a clean, dry cloth or chamois.

Stained and discolored marble requires a special treatment and, for this reason, Wyandotte Detergent when used as a poultice is recommended. Polished and sand finished marble will be cleaned equally well with this type of cleaner.

Put about 10 pounds of Wyandotte Detergent in a gallon of hot water and stir vigorously. The more the mixture is stirred and beaten the more effective the poultice will be. The consistency should be that of ordinary building plaster. Apply to the marble surfaces with a trowel, having the poultice from 1/4 to 1/2 of an inch in thickness. After spreading the poultice on the marble surface, smooth it over carefully to be sure there are no air holes present. Leave the poultice on the marble surface for 48 hours or until the poultice has completely dried out and then remove it with a wooden paddle or scraper so that no injury is done to the surface.

After removing the poultice wash the marble thoroughly with a sponge and clean hot water. Dry thoroughly with a clean cloth or chamois and then buff with a soft clean cloth. Use a straight up and down motion when buffing to prevent scratching the polished surface. In severe cases, more than one application of this poultice may be necessary to bring out the original color of the marble.

Unless it is intended to re-polish, the use of the poultice is not recommended for dark marbles such as Belgian Black, Grand Antique, Verde Antique and other similar marbles, including Bottocino. The polish on dark marble often contains a filler that is drawn out by the poultice and Bottocino marble contains an excess of natural iron which causes rust if the poultice is steadily applied.

OUTSIDE WALLS: Terra cotta, marble, glazed or enamel brick may be effectively cleaned with Wyandotte Detergent. Put about two pounds of Wyandotte Detergent in a gallon of water and stir thoroughly. Apply this solution like whitewash with the use of a broad Kalsomine brush, stirring the solution occasionally throughout the cleaning operation. After the cleaner has dried out, wet a fiber scrub brush in the same solution and then dip it into Wyandotte Detergent powder and scrub the surfaces vigorously. Rinse the surfaces thoroughly with a hose or by other means after the cleaning is accomplished.

(All of the foregoing comprises verbatim quotation or paraphrase of a chapter in the book issued to members of classes in the School of Maintenance of Wilby-Kinney Theatres circuit. The book was made available to Showmen's Trade Review for such quotation by the company, which is headed by R. B. Wilby and H. F. Kinney, and is recognized as one of the most progressive and efficiently operated circuits in the motion-picture theatre business. The book, accordingly, is not a manual, but merely to serve members of the classes (which are conducted for managers of the circuit) as a notebook to spare those attending the classes the effort of making their own notes during the talks and demonstrations.)
You Never Know

In a recent cartoon a gag line appears throughout the film as a typewritten note, reading: "Will Mr. R. C. Jones please report to the box office?" It continues on three or four times. Well, after this cartoon was ended at the O'Fallon Theatre, St. Louis, a woman appeared at the box and said: "I'm Mr. R. C. Jones. Who was it wanted to speak to my husband?"—STL.

New 'Fire' Manual Prepared by Ryan

Warner Theatre Executive Details Care of Theatre Equipment as Preventative

The ever-threatening danger of Fire and Panic in theatres has been like a Sword of Damocles hanging over the head of every theatre manager from the time he first plans public shows. A letter announcing the plan of the new Theatre Management was circulated to the entire field, and the American Theatre Owners Association opened the first day. SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW has published many revealing articles on the subject in the Theatre Management section, culled from the experiences of its editors and from the experiences of veteran showmen and insurance company executives. What to do and how to train a theatre staff to do it in the right way and at the right time has been the subject of most of these articles.

Recently Assistant Zone Manager Charles H. Ryan, of Warner Bros. Theatres in the Chicago area, compiled a brochure on "Meeting the Danger of Fire." Dated August 1, 1946, it is one of the most worthwhile and comprehensive dissertations on the subject yet presented to theatremen.

Ryan's views and instructions to his managers will be published in these columns in their entirety. The first section, dealing with general instructions about physical properties, their care and use, is included in this issue. Other sections dealing with various types of emergencies and specific equipment will be handled to handle them will be printed in an early issue.

The manual on "Meeting the Danger of Fire" starts with a general discussion. Ryan states to his managers: "Warner theatre has a unique obligation to the community and his patrons. Nothing short of perfection is enough. Many new responsibilities have been placed upon the theatre manager in the theatre during the training of his staff to meet new emergencies. It is important that all Warner recognizes employ their duties. Remember, your patrons look to YOU for their SAFETY—you can obtain these results by maintaining a CLEAN and well cared-for theatre.

The manual continues with a formal breakdown, starting with the subject: "Responsibility of Management." Again Ryan states: "It is the duty of theatre management to make the following preparations for safe conduct of the enterprise under its control:"

1. Contact Fire and Police Departments for their advice on your drill program.
2. Prepare the property to minimize danger of fire and any other unusual circumstances.
3. Comply with all and any regulations concerning City Ordinances issued by the Fire Prevention Bureau of your city.
4. Secure such materials necessary for the protection of patrons, employees, equipment and buildings as may be required.
5. Appoint a responsible Fire Guard for each theatre under its control, and provide for his presence or an alternate at the theatre during the entire time the theatre is open. In most cases, this will be the house manager.
6. Train the theatre staff for any type of emergency.
7. Provide the proper authorities with the telephone number of one responsible person who can be reached immediately to handle the theatre in the event of a fire that strikes after closing time. It may be to the interest of management to make sure that all employees know where the meeting point is and at what time the theatre must be closed unguarded during this critical period.

PROPERTY EQUIPMENT. It shall be the duty of the Fire Guard of the theatre to thoroughly ac-

quist himself with the property and equipment under his control, so that he can provide for the safety of his patrons and the public in general. Furthermore, the theatre manager must be in a position to intimate with the theatre and the protective services of the general public. The theatre manager must provide information concerning his property so that the function of these agencies can be facilitated should they be needed.

ROOF. Examine your roof and roof conditions; proper. Examine the theatre signs carefully to determine condition of stucco and supports. Have all ladders leading to roof in good condition. Examine fire escapes. Ladders, rubbishes or other hazards must be removed. Locate all doors and repair. Keep all automatic and fire doors in order.

ATTIC SPACE. (Usually most inaccessible, as this is the area between the auditorium ceiling and the building roof. Sometimes known as the Air-Space.)
1. Keep this space absolutely free and clear of any combustible material.

PROJECTING ROOM. It is very important that the shutter be properly stored upon the floor and on the front wall. When operating properly and the openings are sealed off, the light released when the shutters are dropped. It is the idea of the directors to do all the shutters periodically, after a day's run, and to make a close and careful inspection as to just how well the ports are closed. Any shutters or tracks loose, warped or ill-fitting should be repaired immediately.

When the shutters are in the up position, and the projectors are in operation, never place an oil can, pliers, screw driver, etc., inside the port opening, even in a view of the Fire Guard's position in tumbling the opening. If in a case of fire they will prevent the shutter from dropping. These shutters must be put in place when a fire occurs, the shutters must drop instantly over all the port openings so that the audience will not see any flash of flame or puff of smoke—that might create a panic.

AUDITORIUM.
1. Maintain the proper level of illumination during normal operations.
2. Aisle and exit lights must be kept burning. All switches must be in the on position. If a switch is on, the switch must be off. If a switch is off, the switch must be on. This will prevent the shutter from dropping. These shutters must be put in place when a fire occurs, the shutters must drop instantly over all the port openings so that the audience will not see any flash of flame or puff of smoke—that might create a panic.

LIGHTING.
1. If you have an auxiliary lighting system: See that it is in good operating condition.
2. A sufficient quantity of emergency lanterns-floating should be on hand to provide for the safe evacuation of your patrons in the event of a power failure.

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS AND EQUIPMENT. 1. All extinguishers will be recharged periodically. Be sure to instruct all employees in the use of various types of fire extinguishers. 2. Carbon-tetra-chloride or "Fluree" extinguishers must be checked frequently, to see that they are filled. Do not use this type of extinguisher on incendiary fire.
3. Sand is useful in extinguishing magnesium, oil, paint, or gasoline fires and must be on hand to treat incendiary fires. 4. Flume extinguishers must be recharged periodically. Be sure that no inflammable liquid has been substituted.

An early issue of STR will contain additional information supplied by Ryan relating to the Preparation and Training of the Staff. The article also will include the definition of various types of emergencies and the procedure with which the staff is to be trained in order to meet them. The information is complete. Watch for it.
COLUMBUS

'WHITEY' EGBERTS PROMOTED BY LOEW INTERNATIONAL; 2 LOCAL YOUNGSTERS EYEING HOLLYWOOD

April 12, 1945, has been a busy day for the executive office of Loew's Theater Company, which has announced the promotion of Harry L. Egberts to Vice President and Managing Director of the company. Mr. Egberts will be succeeded in his position by his assistant, John B. Barcroft, who will assume the duties of Manager of the Loew's Theater in Columbus.

Ed Zayac, one of the young men who has been eyeing Hollywood for some time, is now in the city on business for the company.

SAN FRANCISCO

NASSAR PRESSES OF ASSOCIATION: EXHIBITORS PLAN BENEFIT FOR FIREMAN KILLED IN HOTEL BLAZE

New officers in the California Theatres Association include George Nassar, president; Richard Spier, vice-president; and Hulda McGinn, treasurer.

Local exhibitors are planning a special benefit performance at the Fox Theatre for four firemen who have recently died in the city.

WASHINGTON

W'ARIETY TENT NO. 11 SETS CARNIVAL COMMITTEE; JERRY PRICE TO BE HONORED BY TESTIMONIAL DINNER

Prominent Washington showmen are on the general committee set up by the Washington Tent No. 11 of the Variety Club to handle the All Star Boxing Carnival, August 16. Clark Davis and Bill Hoyle of District Theatres are co-chairmen with Carter T. Barron, Loew's Theatres, and A. E. Lichtman, Chairman of Variety's Welfare Committee, as co-ordinators. Among the committee chairmen are: Ringside Committee and Distinguished Guests: Floyd Akers, Chairman; Ex-Officio Committee: Hon. John Russell Young, Clyde Tolson, Admiral Ben Moreell, Major Harvey Callahan, Brig. Gen. Carlos Romulo, J. Edgar Hoover, John Jesse, Clark Griffith, Admiral Ellis Reed-Hill; Entertainment Committee, Gene Field; Publicity Committee, Kay Bell; Radio, Ben Belay; Newspapers, James Lyons, Anthony Muto, Allan Dibble, Bob Denton, George Dorsey, Art, Lou Janof; Photographers, John Di Joseph; Special Pro-

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DALLAS

THEATRE BURGLARS GET AWAY WITH CANDY, BUT NO CASH; 30TH YEAR FOR ROBB & ROWLEY

The La Mar Theatre at La Marque was recently burglarized when thieves broke through the box office and rifled the candy cabinet, but according to M. K. McDaniel, owner, were unsuccessful in obtaining money or other valuables.

Michael O'Shea stopped over here on his way to Galveston from Hollywood last week, where he has some judging to do in a bathing beauty contest.

Barton and McIlwain have opened their new Texan theatre at Atlanta, Texas, representing a $25,000 investment.

J. H. Seagrill has opened the Alfa in the Texas town of that name; first theatre for that community.

Work is set to go on remodeling the Convention which Interstate operates at Eastland. Some $50,000 will be spent.

J. W. Barker opened his Texan Theatre at Bowie, Texas, last week.

Gordon Clemmons is the new manager of the Texas Theatre at Houston. He is fresh out of Harvard.

Mrs. J. B. Roberts, owner of the Kitz at Richardson, is back from a Hollywood visit.

J. E. Mitchell, Manley salesman, okay after a short visit to a local hospital because of heat prostration; it has been terrific down this way lately.

August 21 marks the 30th anniversary for the Robb & Rowley circuit, which now has 113 theatres in Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas.

Ben A. Dyer, manager of the Wallace at Morton, has been named the most efficient manager of the Wallace Blankenship Theatres, with Jack Harvey of Petersburg placing second and Ted Waggoner of Thomas third.

WASHINoTON

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THANKS, District Manager Cliff Gieseman looks pleased (who wouldn't?) as Hedy Lamarr presents him with a birthday cake celebrating the first anniversary of the four Music Hall Theatres in Los Angeles.

to become secretary for Ben Fish, Esther Lopez, formerly bookers' stenographer, takes Mildred's place. Universal booker Bev Belding, of UA, and all his pals are wish ing her a speedy recovery. Head booker Harold Whitman drove to Seattle with his wife on a two-week vacation.


Gertrude Rogers is successor to Janet Latz as Screen Guild bookkeeper. Miss Rogers was hired by Bill Flenion, SG head, who employed her while holding the PRC franchise in Detroit. She came all the way from the Motor City to take the job.

Gerre Berger, secretary to Jack O'Loughlin, branch manager of UA, married Les Snyder on August 29, Miriam Cohn, smiling UA bookerette, goes to Catalina on her vacation.

Survivors to Martie Hartnek, secretary to Kroehler "Puckett, Seats" Red Wite, and Mrs. Edward W. Fox, who only recently came to California from Marion, Ohio.

Cooperative Theatres will book the new Lankershim Theatre, scheduled to open in September, under the aegis of H. J. Griffith and P. R. Isley. The house will have 1,000 seats.

New owners of the Rand Theatre in Randsburg is Robert T. Hubbard.

MILWAUKEE

MAN-FAWA CO-OP THEATRE UNIT ELECTS OFFICERS; CHARLES BRAUN HEADS ESKIN SALES

The Manawa Theatre Corporation, at Manawa, Wis., a cooperative public project, has elected the following officers: president, Karl Sturm; vice-president, Dr. R. L. Loughrin, and C. H. Hoffmeyer; secretary and manager, and all his pals are wishing her a speedy recovery. Head booker Harold Whitman drove to Seattle with his wife on a two-week vacation.


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area have returned from vacation Joe Milkos, Embassay, New Britain; Fred Raimo, Circle, Manchester.
Bill Sirica of the Lido Theatre, Waterbury, and Mrs. Sirica have returned from an Atlantic City honeymoon.
Milton Epstein, booker for Ponzner Theatres in New England, and Mrs. Epstein, are the parents of a boy. Epstein was formerly manager of the Victory Theatre, New London.
Bill Hutchins of the National Theatre Supply office at New Haven is back in the Connecticut territory again following a vacation.
Stanley Redmond, assistant to Manager Walter B. Lloyd at the M&P Allyn in Hartford, is back in Hartford from a New Haven vacation.
Continental Theatres Circuit of New York City has obtained from Al and Belle Dow a 20-year lease on the Grand Theatre Building, Main St., Hartford, and named Arnold Leopard, former theatre manager in New York, Newark, and South Carolina, as manager. The theatre was slated to reopen as the Center Theatre on Friday, Aug. 23.
Lou Cohen, manager of Loew's Poli Theatre, who recently became a grandfather for the first time, celebrated the event by taking a vacation, some of which was no doubt spent dandling his grandson on a proud knee.
Frank Morin, weary after looking after the details attendant upon the complete redecoration of the Royal Theatre, which he manages, off to Miami, Florida, for a well-earned two weeks holiday with Mrs. Morin.

CINCINNATI
CINCYNATI EXHIBITORS SEEK 100% MEMBERSHIP; VANDALLA AIRLINE THEATRE OPENS

One hundred per cent enrollment is the goal of the membership drive being conducted by the Greater Cincinnati Exhibitors Association. The organization's work in increasing admissions, reducing city license fees, negotiating union contracts and other activities, benefits members and exhibitors, the association reasons. Formal opening of Rauker's Airlines Theatre, Vandalia, Ohio, Aug. 8 was observed with ceremonies including a congratulatory address by the Mayor, a concert by the high school band and open house at Vende's Motel at which refreshments were served. The Airline Theatre, seating 480 persons, has been under construction for two years.

Some 50 members of the MGM Club held their annual picnic last week at Ross, Ky.
Fred Sweet, member of the Cincinnati-Tele-news Circuit from Detroit, is acting manager of the Strand during the vacation of Ben Cohen, who has been assistant manager of the Strand, has just returned from vacationing on the south shore of Lake Erie.
James Hess, head booker at 20th Century, is expected to return to his desk after a short illness.
Elizabeth Ingram is leaving RKO Sept. 6 to be married. RKO Cashier Helen Hoveritz, is vacationing at Cedar Point, Ohio.
Film Row visitors during the past week included James Weddle, Lawrenceburg, Ind.; Al Sugarman and Lee Hubberman, Columbus, O.; Mrs. Bertha Cammins, Sardinia, O.; Bert Hinkle, Huntington, W. Va.; David Brown, Cabin Crock, W. Va.; C. E. Harvey, Greenfield, O.; Nelson Bunnis, Lewisburg, O.; "Col." James Howe, Carrollton, Ky.; Mr. and Mrs. Fred Helwig, Charleston, W. Va.; Ray Frisz and Bill Libbey, Springfield, O.; Joe Lee, Covington, O.
Betty Thorne, secretary to Alan Moritz, branch manager of Columbia, is recuperating from an appendectomy.
Abe Fox, former operator of the Victor Theatre in Columbus, has bought the Freeman Theatre from William J. and Nell Burns. The house is to be closed for extensive remodeling. Fox, who has leased the Victor, is undecided whether he will operate or lease the Freeman when it is ready for reopening.
Frank Albara's Matewan Theatre, Matewan, W. Va., caught fire while he was away on a weekend fishing trip recently. Little damage was done due to quick action on the part of employees.

PHILADELPHIA
JACQUES KAHN TRANSFERRED TO PITTSBURGH AREA, MISS HEINER LEAVES PARAMOUNT

Jacques L. Kahn, assistant to Warner Bros. Field Man George Fishman in a temporary capacity, has been transferred to take over the Pittsburgh and Cleveland areas on a permanent basis.
Bill Brooker, Paramount exploiter, is beginning to get rested after the strenuous campaign in connection with the world premiere of "Monstre Beaurne" which opened the new Goldman Theatre. Sid Moshov, supervisor in charge of the Paramount exploitters, came to Philadelphia for the opening, and had a chance to say "hello" to a lot of his old friends from the time he worked in town for the Warner Circuit.
Twentieth Century-Fox's salesman Howard Smith, is mourning the death of his father.
Florence Weiner, with Paramount for many years, is now working for the A. M. Ellis circuit.
Larry Steelman, Columbia booker, has resigned to go back to his home town of Ocean City, N. J.
The Warner exchange building on 13th Street is coming along rapidly, the workmen now working on Saturdays to help speed completion.
Max Miller, Republic's new exploitation man in this area, is readying himself for the campaign on "I've Always Loved You" which is set to play the Aldine Theatre.
Dick Raesley, manager of the Oxford Theatre has become the father of a baby boy. His first child was a girl.
Bob Cooper, Arnold Pre-burger's representative was in town to work on "A Scandal in Paris."
Dave Stadler, who was injured in an automobile accident several weeks ago, has been released from the Franklin Hospital.
Another birthday has been passed by Stanley Smithers, Warners' short subject booker.
Wilt Young, Columbia's exploiter, celebrates his fifteenth wedding anniversary this week.

ATLANTA
Business is on the upgrade in theatres here because of better pictures. H. L. Dennman, Army veteran back from service, is now at the Variety Club temporarily pending a more important theatre assignment. Frank Bickerstaff, manager of the Paramount, and his wife are vacationing in Savannah; Fred Moon, film editor of the Atlanta Journal is also vacationing; Spence Pierce, 20th Century-Fox publicity head, is back from a trip to the Carolinas, where he looked over the Miami Sebastows who will play in the Variety Club's pro football game.
William Richardson, president of Astor Pictures, Atlanta, on a trip in Alabama; R. M. Simril, branch manager National Screen Service (Charlotte), was a visitor here attending the funeral of the late Randall Bryan; Mrs. Helen Hardy, secretary to W. K. Jenkins, president Georgia Theatres, back at her desk after several weeks of illness.
Shug Jordan, former Florida representative for PRC has resigned; R. Wilbanks, former Paramount salesman several years back will take over the same post. Bill Andrews, former office manager for RKO (Charlotte) transferred to the Atlanta branch in the same post. J. R. Partlow, branch manager Universal, back from a business trip to Miami, and by the way, Jim has a new baby son (Michael) born July 23 at Dayton, Ohio; mother and son just fine.
Z. H. Tuttle, will open new his theatre, the Toez, Brooklet, Georgia about Sept. 1. Harry Paul, branch manager Wil-Kin Theatre Supply Company, back from a business trip to New York; also John W. Maumgham, president Film...
PORTLAND

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA CLOSES THEATRES AFTER 60 DIPHTHERIA CASES IN CITY ARE DISCLOSED

All public gatherings in Anchorage, Alaska, including theatres, have been prohibited for at least a week from opening. A proclamation was issued by Mayor Francis C. Bowden, following discovery of 60 positive diptheria cases. Much of the travel in and out of the city has been restricted, according to the City Health Commissioner.

Construction of the Aurora Motor-In Theatre, which opened some two weeks ago featuring "Birth of the Blues," was confronted with a "Stop" sign when United States District Judge C. Bowen signed a temporary restraining order because the project did not receive authorization from the CPA. The outdoor theatre opened for business as soon as it had a frame for the screen. It is being built by two partners, Dwight L. Spracher and E. W. Johnson of Spokane. The court has set a show cause hearing on the restraining order. Authorization by the CPA has been necessary since March 24th, the date of Veterans Housing Program went into effect.

Winning high praise from Paramount Pictures, Inc. directors, nine Lewiston area造成 experts have returned to Ashton, Idaho, where they worked in river shots for a Technicolor film, "The Unconquered." The men also worked in "Come and Get It" on the Clearwater in 1933. They were led by B. H. Larson. Arthur Rossen was the director.

CLEVELAND

LEROV BRAUER JOINS COLUMBIA FOREIGN DEPT.; SAM GALANTY HOLDS SALES MEETING HERE

Film Row buzzed last week with the news that Leroy Brauer had resigned as Universal branch manager to join Columbia's foreign department. Plans call for his sailing August 24 for Bombay, India to take up his job as far eastern sales manager. Brauer, who is severing a 25-year association with Universal, was that company's representative in China and Japan prior to the war. His wife will join him in India later on.

Sam Galanty, Columbia midwest division manager, discussed the new season's sales policy at a meeting of his division branch managers held during the week at the Statler Hotel. Present were: Alan Moir (Cincinnati); Arthur Levy, Pittsburgh; Lester Zucker, Cleveland and Ben Caplon, Washington, D. C.

Hugh Braly, in his capacity as driver captain of the Paramount 34th and Greatest Year Drive, was in Cleveland over the week-end to hold a local exchange pep meeting.

Julius Lamm, manager of Warner's Uptown Theatre and Mrs. Lamm, leave the end of the month for a New York show shopping spree. Nat Barach, National Screen Service branch manager, Mrs. Barach and their son, Stanley are breaking in their new Dodge on a vacation trip through upper New York state with stop-over in the Big City. Dave Sandler of General Theatre Equipment Company and Mrs. Sandler are enjoying a Wisconsin vacation trip.

Local Bookers and Cashiers' Club held a summer party last week at Miller's Restaurant. President Herbert Horstheimer, Universal office manager and head booker, counted 25 members present.

Rita Schramberg of the Universal office staff, was guest of honor at a shower at the home of Evelyn Noble, another Universalite, in anticipation of her marriage on September 7 to Harvey McKenna.

The Dyer Company, headed by M. M. Jacobs, has arranged with National Theatre Supply Company for exclusive representation. 20 of the NTS's 32 offices are already supplied with stocks.

Leo Jones of Upper Sandusky back from his August vacation in Providence, R. I., was a Film Row visitor.

Joe Toth, new owner of the Gem Theatre, Akron, has turned his buying-buying problems over to Milt Mooney's Cooperative Theatres of Ohio.

Harry Weiss, 20th-Fox exploiter is relaxing at his summer home in the Adirondacks.

Sam Sepcowl, Republic district manager, held a district meeting in Detroit over the week-end attended by the following branch managers: Norman Levin, Cleveland; J. H. Pollard, Detroit; George Kirby, Cincinnati and Bill Feld, Pittsburgh.

William Black last week notified the exchanges that he is closing his Star Theatre, East Liverpool for the time being.

Margaret Macsay, Republic head booker, attended the wedding in Lansing, Michigan on Sunday of her assistant, Virginia Kransteiner, to Dean Buell of the shipping department.

BOSTON

JOSEPH P. KENNEDY GIVES $500,000 TO ARCHBISHOP RICHARD J. CUSHING FUND

Joe Di Pesa, veteran publicist for the Marcus Loew Theatres, is aiding in the establishment of the Archbishop Richard J. Cushing Fund and will serve as one of the officials heading the plans for the Wynnouth Horse Show, September 14 and 15, the proceeds of the show to go to this fund, Joseph P. Kennedy, former head of RKO and former Ambassador to Great Britain.

(Continued on Page 32)

Geared for Your Box-Office!

A strong picture that can lift grosses

CHARLES WINNINGER RICHARD CARLSON MARIA OUSPENSKAYA JEAN PARKER HELEN VINSON C. AUBREY SMITH HARRY CAREY

RELEASING THROUGH ASTOR PICTURES CORP.

Released thru Astor Pictures Corp.

Directed by A. EDWARD SUTHERLAND

BOOK IT NOW AT THESE ASTOR EXCHANGES

Atlanta, Astor
Baltimore, Embassy
Buffalo, Farn-O
Charlotte, Astor
Chicago, Capitol
Cleveland, Imperial
Dallas, Astor
Denver, Commercial
Des Moines, King, Enterprise

Detroit, Alcald
Kansas City, King, Enterprise
Los Angeles, Astor
Memphis, Astor-Dallas
Milwaukee; Astor
Minneapolis, Astor
New York, Astor
New York, Astor
New York, Astor

Oklahoma City, Astor-Dallas
Philadelphia, Astor
Pittsburgh, Crown
Portland, Star
St. Louis, Astor
San Francisco, Astor
Seattle, Star Film
Washington, Astor
Canada, Pantless Films, Ltd.
(Continued from Page 31)
gave $60,000 toward the fund this week in memory of his son Joseph, Jr., who was killed in World War II.
The Old South Theatre has been converted completely into a foreign picture theatre and is currently showing two operas—"La Traviata" and "La Boheme."
Preston Wilson, former motion picture publicist, has resigned from the industry to go into the brokerage business.
Sam Haas of the Variety Club is very much improved in health and is able to again be about greeting his friends.
Shepard Epstein has furnished his new offices on Film Row and they have become the rendezvous for all who want the latest information on films.
Jack Sael is currently vacationing on Cape Cod, returning now and then to his offices in the Paramount, high atop the theatre.
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Levi—he is the publicity director at the Metropolitan Theatre—are vacationing in New York.
By Fine of the M & P Theatres made a trip around his district in Connecticut and Western Massachusetts last week. Fine is district manager.
Martin E. Adamo has been named chairman for New England of the drive to raise funds for the Nurses World War Two Nursing Memorial. The memorial is to be located in Washington, D.C. and the committee nationally is headed by Mrs. Harry S. Truman, Rosalind Russell, and Major General Norman Kirk. Clayton Eastman, John Dervin, and Harry Saffer attended the United Artists convention at the Waldorf-Astoria, New York.
Harry Gold, general manager for Howard Hughes picture company, is visiting Boston in connection with pictures he is releasing. Gold was formerly United Artists Eastern sales manager.
The biggest surprise of the season for United Artists employees was when Jimmy Winn walked into the exchange to greet his friends. Winn had been ill for many months and now is on temporary leave of absence.

NEW YORK
Fifteen sentimental guys and a gal from the trade press entertained Madeline White of Monogram at a luncheon last week at Toots Shor's emporium on the occasion of Miss White's 25th year in the motion picture business. Madeline was dripping in orchids and the guys were just dripping.
Present to honor their guest were Paul Perez, box office; Bill Specht and Merlin Lewis, SHOWMEN's TRADE REVIEW; Bill Formby, Jimmy Ivers, George Spiers, George Fecke, Sherwin Kane and Charles Francke, Picture Publisher; Sam Berus and Al Steen, Film Daily; Tom Griese, Variety; Mel Konecno, The Exhibitor; Al Picoutt, Harrison's Reports and Miss Blanche Steinberg, The Independent.
Ben Levine, United Artists' cashier, walked off on the second chapter last week, headed for Pawtucket, R. I. He led off another brigade of vacationists from that spot, including Muriel Sterns of the auditing department who went to the brotherly love state of Pennsylvania and Elizabeth Miranda, secretary to assistant branch manager Ed Mullen, who headed for the White Monomans. Also out of the office, but for reasons of pain and not pleasure, was Doris Gropper, assistant to the Brooklyn booker, who suffered from an abscessed tooth.
Local theatres reported slightly better business in the neighborhood last week, but film row probably saw fewer exhibitors than at any time during the summer months. Vacations continued to be the main topic of conversation with the exchange staff either browned up, burned up, or about to be, from sun baking on the beaches.

HARRISBURG
PARTED BY PEACE, PALS OF FOX HOLE Meet AT Regent: 300 SEE 'PROBLEM DRINKERS' GUEST SHOW

"It's a small world after all" is true, but was proved true again as Bob Sokol, new assistant manager of Loew's, Regent, and Jim Shaffer, this film's Federal exhibition manager for more than three years in the Philippines met again in Loew's here. At the end of the war Sokol went back to Washington and Shaffer to Harrisburg, and it wasn't until Shaffer rushed into Loew's on a visit recently and shook Bob's hand that they met again.

About 300 persons interested in the problem of drinking attended a private screening of "Problem Drinkers' last Friday morning at the State, the guest list including ministers, doctors, court and probation officials, police and county heads. Gerry Wollaston, State manager, arranged the screening in cooperation with the local branch of "Alcoholics Anonymous," which issued 100 invitations, put on two special radio broadcasts, and generally aided in the film's promotion.

Bids are being received for contracts to remodel the Rialto and National theatres, neighborhoods, owned by Ira L. Schiffman, the renovation will include work on the projection booth and equipment, lobby, marquee, floor and inside. New carpeting and composition floors will be laid and the seating, (900 in the National and 900 in the Rialto), may be reduced in the new floor plan.

Local folk on vacation this week are Charles Crouse, doorman at the Colonial, and Mrs. Joseph Levine on their second honeymoon to Niagara Falls; Virginia Wilson, cashier, Loew's Regent; Roger Urlich, office staff; Josephine Raynor, cashier; and Viola Schreffer, secretary, all of the State; Ira L. Schiffman, owner of the National Amusement Company, which runs the National and Rialto, who with his family is in Atlantic City; and National projectionist, Charles W. Zinn.

Edgar Guth, director of publicity and advertising for the Fourteenth Circuit, and Mrs. Guth announce the birth of a son August 16. This is their third child, the other two being girls.

Visitors last week were Herman Nowitsky, Norfolk, Va., and Paul Morris, United Artists publicity man.

Genevieve Funk, secretary at the Colonial, is back after a two-week vacation visiting her sister, Mrs. Midge F. Brenner, former State cashier, now living in Wilkes-Barre.

KANSAS CITY
D. F. Riggle has purchased the Palace at Ridgeway from D. A. Liseny. It's a 250-seat theatre.

Lee Henry of Stuart, Iowa, has purchased the 425-seat Lyric at Plattsmouth from Jim Presly.
The old Jefferson Theatre at Springfield will be completely remodeled by Fox-Midwest, and made into a deluxe house seating 1200.

Ben and Charles Crocker have announced that they will build a new theatre, the Crocker, at Ulysses, Kansas, with materials availability determined when the permit will be ready.

Don Davis of RCA Photophone back from a vacation trip to Tennessee, the home state of his wife.
CHICAGO

ALLIED OF ILLINOIS PLANS BIG TREF TO BOSTON; MONROE OWNER SEEKS BETTER LOOP CLEARANCE

Members of Allied of Illinois are displaying considerable interest in Allied's forthcoming national convention, the first since the war, being held at the Copley Plaza Hotel in Boston, September 16, 17 and 18. Jack Kirsch, president of both the national and Illinois organizations, will leave a few days ahead of the Chicago contingent to attend the Allied national directors meeting being held September 14 and 15, and the Chicago delegation will follow on September 15 for Boston in a special car.

Included in the first list of exhibitors going from Chicago are: Mr. and Mrs. George Gollos, Gollos Bros. Theatres; Charles F. Cooper, Cooper Theatres; Howard and Robert Lubliner, Clark, Four Star and Palace theatres, Cicero; Win. J. Mueller, Mueller & Sass Theatres; Mr. and Mrs. Ben Banowitz, Banowitz Theatres; Mr. and Mrs. John Semedales, Milida, Milo and Ramova Theatres; Mr. and Mrs. George Topper, Haymarket Theatre; Leonard Bland, Oak and Roscoe Theatres; Samuel Abrahams, Crest Theatre; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Davidson, Calo Theatre; and Lou Abramson of the local Allied office.

Seymour Simon, attorney for the Monroe Theatre, and James Jovan, owner, are in New York this week to attend a series of conferences with distributors seeking improved Loop clearance.

Walter Immerman, Balaban & Katz general manager, has been named a director of the Variety Club of Illinois and has also been made a director of the LaRabida sanitarium.

Joe E. Brown, currently in Chicago, was presented with a plaque by the American Legion, Illinois Department, for his war work.

Gus Kostakis has been made manager of the Villas Theatre, Cicero. The Villas, a Van Nomis house, recently added a new Simplex projector to the booth equipment and supplied new carpets.

Al Blasko, manager of the Symphony Theatre of the Warner circuit, is back at St. Luke's Hospital for medical attention.

Ray Dunn, formerly of the Paramount Theatre, Hammond, Ind., has gone to Oklahoma City to manage the Warner Midwest Theatre, while Cornelius Skattis has been transferred from Warners' Chicago division to the Liberty theatre in Oklahoma City.

Francisco Pena of San Jose, Costa Rica, was a business visitor to the Ampex Company factory. He says the Central American business outlook is good.

The Alliance Theatre circuit has started rebuilding the Pickwick Theatre in Syracuse, and, which was recently destroyed by fire. The circuit expects to have the house ready for late fall opening.

Jack Kirsch, president of Allied of Illinois, announces that the Dale Theatre, Riverdale, Ill., is the latest to join the association and the Allied buying and booking organization.

Are lights and the grinding of cameras, as well as a broadcast from the lobby, will mark the benefit show which Variety Club will stage at the Star and Carvin, Aug. 29, when entire proceeds go to the Variety Foundation which La Cina is establishing at its pet charity, La Rabida sanitarium in Jackson Park.

OMAHA

Tony Tedesco, who resigned as branch manager of Monogram here, says he hopes to remain in this territory and is staying in the film business. No successor has been named.

Robert Wolheim, Columbia salesman, who went to Hot Springs, Ark., to recoup from a recent illness, has returned to his work.

Hazel Anderson, MGM office manager, found 45 gladiolas on her desk on the day she celebrated her 25th anniversary with the company.

In the afternoon there was coffee, cake and ice cream in the office, followed by a screening for employees.

Norma Nelson, MGM stenographer, is vacationing at Burwell.

E. C. Lund, exhibitor at Viborg, S. D., is back at the theatre following a Black Hills trip.

FRC office's here had a short visit from Harry Thomas, company president.

W. A. Johansen, Paulina (Ia.) exhibitor, vacationed in Minnesota.

Sol Francis, Monogram district manager, spent several days here.

George Bonacci, shipping clerk at United Artists, is vacationing.

Shippers, poster clerks and film truck drivers will tackle the Film Row bookers, salesmen and managers in a softball game August 24.

Bill Laird is handling arrangements for the former group and issued the challenge. Ted Mendelson will captain the "white collar boys."

Peggy Butell, of Columbia exchange recently married secretary will resign Aug. 30. Her successor is Dorothy Pratt, biller.

Paul Fine, Columbia salesman, and Mrs. Fine have returned from a vacation in Colorado.

B. C. Marcus, Columbia divisional manager from Kansas City, was in town.

Julia Leathy, Paramount cashier, is on vacation.

Phil Monsky, Universal salesman, will spend a week in California and a week in Denver with his brother.

Donald Monroe, Colonel Theatre at Lincoln, has returned after a month in Canada.

C. E.Bradshaw has temporarily closed the Clay Theatre at Clay Center and is thoroughly remodeling the house. It will reopen as the Center Theatre.

F. A. Von Hosen, Western Theatre Supply Company owner, and Mrs. Von Hosen are back in town after a month in Indiana.

Tom Kenyon, the former Paramount sales-
man who built a fine, new theatre at Genoa, Neb., has sold out to Cliff Sherroff. Sherroff formerly had a theatre at Sutherland, Ia.

Harold Smith, exhibitor at Carson, Ia., took his vacation at Lake Okoboji.

Margaret Smith of Universal is in Mexico on her vacation.

BENJAMIN W. SEGAL SUCCEEDS LEONARD SANG AT NEW HAVEN; LEDERER SPEAKS AT 'C AND C'

Benjamin W. Segal, at one time assistant to Edgar Lynch, formerly manager of the Warner, has been named to succeed Leonard B. Sang, who recently resigned as managing director of the Shubert Theatre, New Haven. After being discharged from the Army he came to the Warner. While in the Pacific he ran six outdoor motion picture theatres.

Francis Lederer, appearing currently at the Westport Country Playhouse, made a visit last week to see the new Technicolor production, "Caesar and Cleopatra." At Loew's Poli, as it starred two of his personal friends, Vivien Leigh and Claude Raines, Mr. Lederer was introduced from the stage and spoke briefly to an after show audience.

Another Bridgeport neighborhood house is scheduled to change hands around the first of the year, STR learned.

June Stevens, for the past three years usherette at the West End, has quit to enter the School of Nursing at Hartford Hospital.

Edgar Lynch is back in town for two weeks supervising the management of the Warner Theatre, while Manager James Tobin enjoys his annual vacation in Massachusetts.

Michael J. Carroll, manager of the American, has been entertaining his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. John Carroll, of Louisville, Ky.

Jack Schwartz, manager of the West End, had a bumper crop in his vegetable garden and Mrs. Schwartz has been combing local stores for enough jars to preserve the harvest.

(Continued from Page 33)

BRIDGEPORT

PITTSBURGH

L. HAYES GARBARINO TO BOOK FOR DIPSON-GIBSON THEATRES; 20TH-FOX BUSY AT MEETINGS

L. Hayes Garbarino, who operated a theatre in Clarion, Pa., before entering the service, where he spent four years, and upon his return was appointed manager of the New Bradford Theatre, Bradford, Pa., will take over the booking for the Dipson-Gibson Theatrical Enterprises, Inc., who operate six theatres in Western Pennsylvania; he will succeed Andy Gibson, who will continue his time to executive duties.

The local 20th Century-Fox exchange was a busy place last week, with Branch Manager H. R. Bolandford; Office Manager Betty Miller, Sales Manager C. C. Kellenberg, the entire sales staff and two bookers attending a regional meeting in Washington, D. C., the first three days, returning to Pittsburgh just in time to attend a meeting at the local branch with A. W. Smith, Jr., eastern sales manager, his assistant, C. A. Hill and District Manager C. E. Peppiatt.

The marriage of Evelyn Soita, daughter of Jake Soita, who operates the Rumba Theatre, to Bernard Perlovitz, at place on September 18, at the William Penn Hotel, followed by a reception and wedding supper.

Other Film Row marriages scheduled during the next few weeks are: Edna Herr of 20th Century-Fox to Elmer Judd, ex-GI, on September 1; that of Martin Rotenstein, son of the veteran exhibitor, Samuel Rotenstein and brother of Abe and Louis Rotenstein, all of whom operate the Western Pennsylvania area, to Francine Gross, on Sunday, September 8, at Concourse Paradise, Bronx, New York.

INDIANAPOLIS

TWO INDIANA THEATRES HIT BY FIRE SCOURGE; UNIVERSAL BUILDS NEW SCREENING ROOM

The Princeton Theatre, Princeton, Ind., was destroyed by fire Aug. 16 at an approximate loss of $150,000. The fire broke out after an explosion in the air-conditioning system. There were no injuries. Edward Thress, manager, said the interior of the house was virtually ruined. Hill's Indiana Theatre here was damaged by fire last Friday night when film caught fire in the projection booth. The fire was the second at the theatre in the last month from the same cause. No one was injured.

Twelve of the twenty-one wading pools throughout the city were closed as a defense against the spread of infantile paralysis.

Universal Pictures is converting the lower floor of its building into a screening room, with all the latest equipment.

Milton Cohen, RKO district manager in Cleveland, visited the local branch last Thursday on business.

Russell Bleeker, Republic's office manager is away on a two-week vacation.

Timothy Cleary, formerly of the United Artists sales organization, has joined the Remus Circuit as manager of the Wabash, Ind. theatres of the circuit.

Harvey Cocks, general manager, Quimby Enterprises, Ft. Wayne, Ind., has returned to his desk after an extended vacation at Glen Cove, L. I.

George T. Landis, manager, 20th-Fox branch, accompanied by his sales organization, T. O. McCleaster, H. L. Hancock, Frank Warren and K. L. Dotterer, will leave Tuesday for Cleveland to attend the regional sales convention there.

NEW RUN OPENS. Gus Eyssell, managing director of Radio City Music Hall, New York, is seen chatting with Madame Konstantin, featured in RKO's "Notorious" on the opening day of the new Hitchcock pictures run at the big showcase.

NEW ORLEANS

D. S. Edenfield of Little Rock, Arkansas is holding down the post here at Altec Theatre Service Corp. for two weeks while Harold J. Ballam is vacationing.

The state of Mississippi has its own Town Talkies Co. with headquarters at Jackson, Miss., which is under the supervision of two ex servicemen, Robert M. Wiegand and James F. McKillops, Jr., Walter F. Smith, Jr., also a recent G. I. is their salesman, Town Talkies, a new medium of screen advertising, is a branch of Commerce Pictures Corp. here.

Harold Bailey, half owner of the Gentilly Theatre here, is off on a long anticipated rest. His destination is Canada where he will spend a month hunting and fishing. Roy Calamia, his partner, will have full charge during his absence.

Margie Rusch of Joy Theatres, Inc. is so happy. Her vacation starts on August 23. Margie says that right here at home in New Orleans and its Pocheatin Beach is the ideal place to spend it.

Frank Francois of Kay Films spent the week-end on a business trip to Morgan City and Houlum.

Audrey Syrett, stenographer at Dixie Films has been vacationing at Look Out Mountain, Tenn., and Valley Head, Ala.

Out of town exhibitors who exchanged greetings were Ernest Delahaye from Maringouin, La., Roy Pfeiffer from Baton Rouge, La., R. V. Sheffield, Poplarville, Miss., Tracey Barnett, De Kalb, Miss., Chas. Waterfill, Frichard, Ala. Milton Godry, Abbeville, La., Gilbert Romero, Lafayette, La., Mrs. J. Burns, Walkerton, La.

Bob Kelly, the old colonel of film row, bade farewell to his fellow workers at Republic as he shuffled off on a two-week vacation.

Babe Cohn, southern district manager of Monogram and acting branch manager of the Atlanta exchange, is back home in New Orleans recuperating from a recent illness.

GOOD TROOPER. Francis Lederer, who was playing a star role at the nearby Westport Playhouse, made a personal appearance for Matt Saunders at the premiere of "Caesar & Cleopatra" at Loew's Poli Theatre, Bridgeport, Connecticut. Above, the star is greeted by Saunders on his arrival at Bridgeport.
REMODELING PROGRAMS HOLD INTEREST IN MIDWEST AREA: PARA. OFFICE 100% BOOKED

The Capitol Theatre at Davenport, la., which is undergoing a remodeling, will have an escalator to carry patrons to and from the new zanine floor. It is believed to be the first escalator installed in a midwestern theatre.

J. M. Rostrold former owner of the Jen Theatre at Harmony, Minn., has purchased the State Theatre, Calhoun, Minn., from John Ward and will take possession Sept. 1. The house is to be redecorated at once and plans are being made to build a new house as soon as materials are available.

The Strand Theatre at Des Moines, completely renovated from sidewalk to screen, has held a formal grand opening, although the house was made over without shutting down a day.

The sales personnel of the Des Moines branch of Paramount Pictures met with district representative Ralph C. LiBeau of Kansas City and Al Kane, New England district manager, also in Des Moines. The Des Moines office was announced as the first branch 100 per cent booked for Paramount week.

John Warnock has closed his Luna Theatre at Battle Creek, la., for a complete remodeling. The new Roxy Theatre at Mabton, la., has been opened by Dick Brown, who recently purchased the house.

Joanne Kelly is the new office manager at PRG. Richard Shields is the new booker at National Screen Service.

George Donald and Robert Stewart, operators of the Star Theatre at Lynnville, are having trouble collecting on their fire insurance policy and have filed suit for $1,280 judgment against National Fire Insurance Company. The men allege the sum represents settlement of a loss adjusted following a fire last March 26.

ST. LOUIS
FOX MIDWEST CHAIN APPOINTS B. M. MONTIE MANAGER IN JACKSONVILLE, ILL. AREA

B. M. Montie has been appointed city manager in Jacksonville, Ill., for the Fox Midwest Circuit, succeeding Johnny Meinardi, who has been transferred to assume an important post in the circuit’s film buying division at its headquarters in New York City, Kansas City, Mo. The circuit includes about 120 theatres in Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska.

Herman Schwarz, a newcomer to the motion picture business, has joined the St. Louis sales staff of PRG. Bill Sherman, PRG manager, said that Schwarz will be assigned to the Southern Illinois territory, where Johnny Walsh was located. The Des Moines, Iowa, branch is the St. Louis city salesman. All four, with George Phillips, booker, will attend the PRG sales convention at the Ambassador Hotel, Atlantic City, commencing Sept. 4.

Bill Sherman, PRG manager, plans to take a plane from Lambert-St. Louis Municipal Airpot on Aug. 30 so that he can visit his family in New Haven, Conn., prior to going to Atlantic City for the PRG convention. Phillips, Schwarz, Montie and Weis will leave St. Louis by train on Sept. 2.

Hall Walsh, Prairie district manager for Warner Bros., and Lester Bona returned several days ago from the Warner Bros. sales conference in the Waldorf, New York City.

The Florissant Theatre, Grand Boulevard at Florissant Avenue, St. Louis, an important unit in the St. Louis Amusement Company Circuit, has been closed. While the Florissant is dark it will undergo an extensive modernization program that will cost upwards of $50,000. The building program will include a 2-story addition, a modern new entrance and front.

TORONTO
QUEBEC PRODUCTIONS OPEN NEW STUDIO; THOMAS J. BRAGG SERIOUSLY ILL IN HOSPITAL

Quebec Productions Limited, headed by Paul L’Anglais, has announced the opening of its own studio in the former naval barracks at St. Hyacinthe, and that shooting will be made Sept. 9 on “The Stronghold” in English and “La Fortresse” its French counterpart. It had previously been announced that use would be made for interior sequences of Queensway Studios, Arthur Rank’s plant at Toronto.

Thomas J. Bragg, veteran Toronto theatre executive who is vice-president and treasurer of Odem Theatres of Canada, became seriously ill during a trip in the Maritime Provinces and was removed to the hospital in Charlottetown. P. E. I. according to information received at the circuit’s headoffice. He had recovered from illness last spring.

A meeting of the board of directors of Famous Players Canadian Corp. was held Aug. 19 at Toronto when plans for the new season were considered. Plans were also made for the annual convention of partners and associates in the fall, which had previously been arranged for the first week in September at Jasper Park in the Canadian Rockies.

Friday the 13th of September is the date fixed for the third annual Canadian golf championship tournament for the film industry and the selection will undoubtedly provide full opportunity for blame by the luckless divot-diggers. The competitions will take place on the course of the Oakdale Golf and Country Club under the direct sponsorship of Canadian Film Weeek. The winner of the event honors is the handsome trophy donated by the late N. L. Nathanson seven years ago, other permanent awards including the Famous Players and Film Weekly trophies.

The annual picnic of the headoffice employees of Famous Players Canadian Corp. was resumed after a war lass sale with an outing to Charlie Mavety’s Ranch at Kleinburg, Ont., where a program of such events was offered including a country-style dinner.

DENVER
300 AT ROCKY MT. SCREEN CLUB ANNUAL OUTING: ASST. MANAGER THOMA’S ATTEMPTED HOLD-UP

More than 300 attended the annual picnic and golf tournament of the Rocky Mountain Screen Club at the Park Hill County Club. The exhibitors trimmed the distributors for the first time in 13 years at softball, the score being 16-8. The distributor women, however, beat the exhibitor women 24-16. Charles Plocher had the low gross score in the golf tournament, 75, followed closely by William Ageron with 76.
SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, August 24, 1946

Heading West

Col. Western (with music) 54 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Below the average of this excellent series.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Strong reputation of the series should work in its favor.


Plot: Once again, Charles Starrett plays a dual role, that of Steve, an honest cowboy, and the masked rider who Robin Hood it every time there's a bunch of outlaws around. Said Robin Hood, called "The Durango Kid," saves an old farmer and his daughter. The kid darts back and forth, causing the ring leader and his cohorts to split ranks, and eventually shoots the outlaw boss and his chief alibi when they try to loll him.

Comment: This below-par "Durango Kid" offering seems to suffer from carelessness all the way around. The script seems thrown together. Dialogue is repetitious, and the Durango Kid becomes too much of a superman. It appears that every time this lone avenger so much as shows his head, a horde of tough badmen, supposedly afraid of nothing, turn tail without so much as a good fight. Smiley Burnette, who usually shows well, suffers from material, too. His songs and comic business falling way short of the mark. Doris Hock is prettier than the average cowgirl heroine, and shows promise of better things. Reckon as how they can't hit every time.

Spook Busters

Mono. Comedy-Drama 68 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Another Bowery Boys film for the entertainment of their many followers. Here they move out of their usual neighborhood to find trouble and excitement in a haunted house.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Strong prove acceptable in its customary spots.


Plot: The Bowery Boys set up an Exterminator Business and their first assignment is a supposedly haunted house. A mad doctor carries on crazy experiments in the house, and his henchmen try to frighten the boys away. They capture one of the boys and plan to transplant his brain into a gorilla. Before the operation, he is rescued and the doctor and his accomplices are taken by the police.

Comment: Here again we have the Bowery Boys getting mixed up in a peck of trouble. Once this time they range away from their own neighborhood and do their mess-uping in a haunted house. As one might expect, there are the mysterious goings-on to contend with. Such eerie, exciting happenings as somber music, lights that go on and off without rhyme or reason and a large frightening gorilla. There is plenty of action involved in all this and, for their followers' enjoyment, the same brand of clowning by the boys. Leo Gorcey in his customary role of the leader of the gang turns in the kind of performance expected of him, as do Huntz Hall, Bobby Jordan, Gabriel Dell and Billy Benedict, the other members of this well-known troupe. In the supporting cast are Tania Chandler as an attractive French bride, Douglas Dumbrille as the villain and Charles Middleton and Richard Alexander as his two henchmen. Direction was by William Beaudine; production by Jan Grippo.

Secrets of a Sorority Girl

PRC Drama 58 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Adult) A weak story that places too much weight on the imagination. Suitable for average audiences.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Obviously intended for the double feature situations and will do for the lower halves.


Plot: Mary Ware, president of her college sorority believes that she has a short time to live and embarks on a program of pleasures for the moment. She is subject to fainting spells. When she wakes up in the driver's seat of a car and discovers that a motorcycle policeman has crashed into the rear and been killed, she is not sure of her guilt. Her trial, at which her district-attorney father's assistant is prosecutor, brings out the guilt of her escort, Rick Vail, and is the basis on which the story is told in flashback.

Comment: This is a loosely woven story, directed not too carefully, in which the players are not convincing. The tenuous thread of the story, that is broken completely at times. While the players strive valiantly to overcome the difficulties of script they just don't reach the bounds of credibility. Audiences who do not have the opportunity to find some entertainment in it. The more sophisticated probably will find very little.

Picture Reporting

Our staff picture reporters are given very definite outlines in what to look for, how to find their findings and, what is important, what not to say.

They are not critics, the publisher tells our picture reporters to the exhibitor and, as such, look at a picture from the standpoint of the number of people it will attract to the box-office.

The exhibitor is interested, of course, in the fine nuances of acting, but is more interested in the fine nourishment for the till. Our reviewers must be alert to box-office allurement. They must show the exhibitor how to magnify the factor he can sell—illusion—and report those facts. From them on it is up to the exhibitor.

High School Hero

Mono. Comedy 69 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) The Teen-Agers combine football with music and other shenanigans for the amusement and entertainment of most juveniles and some adults.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: On a par with the two previous offerings in the Teen-Ager series.


Plot: A crisis faces the High School, with defeat by the rival football team almost certain, circulation of the school paper so low that it will have to cease publication, and an order to replace students at the school bazaar with professional performers. The kids solve their problems.

Comment: A girl playing on the football team, and a lot of other shenanigans built around high school doings, makes this third picture in the series just as good a vehicle for the entertainment of juvenile audiences as the first two. Dreifuss also has a satisfactory factory offering for the average audience in most situations for there are several original ideas in the story and the music of the Freddie Slack and Jan Savitt orchestras. Same cast as in the two previous pictures—June Preissner, Freddie Stewart, Noel Nell, Jack Moran and Frankie Darro—are in there doing their best. Three songs are presented, one by Isabella in her South American way, and the other two by Stewart. Credit for the direction goes to Arthur Dreifuss who is also responsible, with Hal Collins, for the original screenplay. Sam Katzman produced.

The Invisible Informer

Rep. Mystery 57 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Adult) Mysterious goings-on in the Bayou have been made into a film that the less discriminating followers of mystery fare may find entertaining.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Minor program offering.


Plot: A detective agency takes over a large emerald theft case. The jewels belonged to an aristocratic Southern family, now nearly destitute, and the agency believes the robber was hired by the family to get insurance money. Investigators uncover hatred, murder and the impoverished family, and eventually come up with a solution to the mystery and the jewels as well.

Comment: Back to the Bayou we go for a minor program offering that has some sinster
Two Years Before the Mast

Paramount Drama 98 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Adult) Vigorous, stark realism and an outstanding example of effective remote-reel motion picture for graphic narrative. Splendidly acted, most effectively photographed and produced, it is a picture that all who see it will be glad they did.—However, it is not light entertainment, is not the “women’s” picture and must be well sold for what it is to prove a real success from the audience standpoint.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Strong on the basis of “name” value and its efficiency for the subsequent runs will be offset by good reaction in key engagements.

Cast: Ahn Ludd, Brian Donlevy, William Bendix, Barry Fitzgerald, Howard da Silva, Esther Fernandez, Allan Devlin, Leni Van Horn, Barry Hickman, Roman Bohnen, Ray Collins, Theodore Newman, Tom Brown, George Okie, Dorothy Peterson, Lilli St. Cyr, Letta Joy, Helen Young, Lord Kenyon, Frank Lacke, Rosa Roy, Pedro de Cordoba, and others. Credits: Associate produce, Selon I. Miller. Directed by John Farrow. Associate producer: John C. Lyons and George Bruce. Based on the novel by Richard Henry Dana, Jr. Director of photography: Lorne. Plot: A voyage on the brig Pilgrim, sailing in 1834 from Boston for California with a record time goal is the aim of the ruthless Captain Francis Thompson. Witness to the Fitzgerald, Alan Ladd and Albert Dvoors. The master of the ships are Charles Stewart, son of the vessel’s owner, who has been shanghaied by mistake, and a writer, Richard Henry Dana, who signed aboard to observe the voyage. They are to record them in a diary. There is a love interest when a young girl boards the ship at a Brazilian port. The vicious discipline, with its resultant stabbings and beatings, are seen in a series of stark drama which Dana records in his journal, and which the captain objects to. The ship owner’s son finally urges the crew to mutiny. Their lives are at stake for piracy, but the crew Reliable and the Pilgrim back to its home port, Boston, and is vindicated before a U. S. Senate Committee.

Comment: Sincere, almost devotional effort, for which the film turns out to be a picture of great scope and of a nature reaching the heights realized by the classic book upon which it is based, is this motion picture, writing, direction and acting of a very high order. The result is a production that can well find a place of almost permanent substance in the literature of the screen. Violent, potent and incisive, it is, however, picture fare for the devotee of fine technical achievement rather than for the average entertainment seeker. Surely, this is no show for those who turn to the theatre for “escapist” adventure. The subject matter had a potential for that result, but it has not been realized—largely, we imagine, because of an intense effort to produce a picture of significance. “Two Years Before the Mast,” in other words, works too hard to drive home a message. Even so, the sheer vigor of the narrative—it’s not a “story” actually—plugs the excellent performances of such great trouper as William Bendix, Brian Donlevy, Barry Fitzgerald, and Albert Dvors. An aging episode, effect a finished work that is bound to be most impressive to the rank and file of the picturegoers. The narrative is a grim, even brutal, tale, but well and expertly treatment is exhibited upon scene before the act of Congress which ended what constituted sheer serfdom for men who sailed the seas as common sailors. The Boggins, the suffering from hunger, illnes and overwork all pile up into a mountain of human torture which could be become insupportable—and would have had there not been an element of the interest produced through the injection of a love interest and some over-playing of the dramatic elements. The photography is outstanding, the direction good. This is an impressive picture and an attraction of considerable box-office strength. Your audiences will be more impressed but less entertained by “Two Years Before the Mast” than by most good pictures.

Newsreel Synopses

RELEASED SATURDAY, AUGUST 24

MOVIE TONE (Vol. 28, No. 192)—Jewish extremists heightened tension in Haifa; Italians and Yugoslavs in conflict over Italian peace treaty, while in Paris Italian prime minister pleads for lenient terms; Molotov grants many concessions to Japanese on condition of oil; President Truman on vacation; Churchill as Lord Warden at Dover, England; Miss Texas of 1946 chosen; Leif Larssen discovers pigs can swim; Speed-boat race in New Jersey; Helicopter to judge horse-racing; Soapbox derby at Akron, Ohio; Bicycle championships.

NEWS OF THE DAY (Vol. 17, No. 399)—Crisis mounted in Palestine; 39 wounded in Tristete riot; Tristete riots caused by alarm over the census; scene of beauty contest; Margaret O’Brien places foot-print in cement at the Capitol; Underwood wins San Diego youth with soapbox derby; Pigs in Washing- ton carrying a campaign poster; Americans take a seat in helicopter at Rockefeller Park, N. H.

PARAMOUNT (No. 103)—President Truman on vacation,Scale model of USS Intrepid, New York; scene of recent; film, in London; scene of beauty contest; Italian war crimes on trial; Russians rebuild Dnieper Dam; British tight grip in Palestine; First postwar running of soapbox derby.

REO PATHE (Vol. 18, No. 1)—14-year-old wins soapbox derby race through Akron, Ohio; biggest youth audience; Publicity stunt; Churchill gets ancient honor; National invention regatta; Opalene race at Akron; DPs kept from Palestine due to terrorist action.

UNIVERSAL (Vol. 19, No. 530)—Truman on vaca- tion; College girls compete in beauty pageant in Arizona; Orphans have big day at Long Beach, N. Y.; Soapbox derby at Akron; Speedboat race at Red Bank, N. J.; Air relief to judge horse- racing at Salisbury, N. H.

RELEASED WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21

MOVIE TONE (Vol. 28, No. 191)—S.S. American Fairchild, largest American freighter to sail in naval dispute; Russia objects to voting procedure at Paris Peace Conference; Soviet-grants from Palestine to Cyprus; Army tests XB-36, world’s largest landboated bomber; President Truman takes riding walk; California racing; President Truman’s thirty-minute constitutional lawenforcement hearing begins; Preparations for the big show for Eisenhower; Aquaplane races at Hermosa Beach, Calif.; Texas girl wins “Modern Venus” title at Coney Island; Fort Worth scene of test hop of world’s biggest bomber.

PARAMOUNT (No. 102)—Thrills and spills in national submarine regatta; Pull military honors for General Ike in Rio; At Paris peace conference, new pictures show tension in Tehran; Resonant cameras accompany President Truman on pre-bicentennial walk; U. S. Britain clash over ship rescue; World’s largest bomber given test flight at Fort Worth, Texas.

REO PATHE (Vol. 17, No. 104)—President Truman on vacation; S.S. America, second largest American freighter; Big Four decision; Biggest bomber in first air test; Moonsh starts rebuilding historic Cassino Abbey; U. S. occupation troops teach democracy to German youths; Brazilian crypts for General Eisenhower; Hula dancer dam nears completion.

UNIVERSAL (Vol. 19, No. 529)—Presidential promenade tires photographers; U. S. Britain dis- pute S.S. America; S.S. America display ship in Yankee Stadium; G.I.’s host German girl; G.I.’s host Italian girl at “Miss Venus” title at Coney Island; Test flight of giant bomber; new picture of anticipated national soapbox race; Eisenhower reviews Brazilian codfish.

ALL-AMERICAN (Vol. 4, No. 200)—Chicago bat- ting boasts parade; Thousand-dollar scholarship awarded Detroit girl; Minnesota cadet group seeking to raise funds for blind vet; Interstate rivalry key in Pennsylvania truck show; Knights of St. Peter Claver hold convention; Kids have wild time at first post-war Bud Billiken celebration.
Lots Doing on the Hollywood Movie Lots; Monogram Hitting New High for That Studio; Musicals Fill The Air With Tunes at MGM; Stage Plays Prominent

The so-called "little fellows" are kicking up a lot of dust in the production field. Monogram has three films before the cameras and another for which backgrounds have just been made in the mountain ranges of Switzerland. One of their films is a million-dollar effort, being produced at Samuel Goldwyn studios by veteran producer Roy Del Ruth. In addition, there are a large number of pictures in preparation. Then, there's PRC, which was rumored at one time by many sources to be a thing of the past because of the emergence of Eagle Lion. PRC has two films rolling and only finished another just this week. Latest newcomer, Screen Guild, has one going and just added still another producer, Ed Finney, to its sizable number of affiliates.

Monogram Really Rolling

Monogram is busier than ever in its history. Eleven producers are rendering 15 films right now for the 46-47 program. Jan Grippo just completed his latest "Bowery Boys" film, "Mr. Hex," with Bill Beaudine directing. Huntz Hall and Gabriel Dell, who were featured in the picture, start a one-week p. a. at the Paholom Theatre in Seattle on August 26. Roy Del Ruth is producing and directing the studio's "It Happened On Fifth Avenue." Opening scenes were shot on a huge, lavish set depicting a millionaire's mansion, with Victor Moore, Ann Harding, Don DeFore and Gale Storm.

"High Conquest" company, headed by producer-director Irving Allen, is on its way back, after getting backgrounds in Switzerland for the mountain climbing scenes. Lindsley Parsons started his independent venture, "Ginger," on August 21, with Oliver Drake directing the dog story. Ace Herman is serving as associate producer. Johnny Mack Brown drew Evelyn Brent for his "Draw When You're Ready," now in production. Shooting started August 19 at the Monogram ranch in San Fernando.

Jimmy Wakely finished "Rainbow Over the Rockies," second of two pictures he made on the most ambitious location jaunt yet attempted by his troppe.

"Dear Ruth" Starts

"Dear Ruth," picketization of the long-run Broadway stage play, started at Paramount August 19. Williams Russell is directing the picture, which co-stars William Holden and Joan Caulfield with Edward Arnold. The Hal Wallis production, "Desert Town," psychological drama in an outdoor setting is being filmed in Technicolor on location in Arizona. Wallis has been shooting around Elizabeth Scott, still at work at Columbia.

Cecil B. DeMille spent a week shooting one of the biggest sequences in his "Unconquered," in Technicolor, also, on a five-acre set representing a Pennsylvania fair in 1763. Co-stars vary; cooper and Frances Godard, with Mike Mazurki, Howard Da Silva and over 300 atmosphere players, stunt men and extras participated.

Elliott Nugent, director of the Bob Hope-Dorothy Lamour starer, "My Favorite Brunette," was out for several days because of a strep throat. Daniel Dare, producer, assumed the directorial reins in Nugent's absence. Director Billy Wilder used Bing Crosby's Beverly Hills home for Technicolor location shots on the crooner's tennis court for "Emperor Waltz." Sequence was a 1901 net match.

Main production on "Golden Earrings" was shut down for a week to allow director Mitchell Leisen time to replace Macle V. Dietrich, Ray Milland and other principals. However, a second unit spent several days on location at Big Bear shooting exteriors.

Roach's Six Million

Hal Roach plans a budget of six million dollars for 12 feature comedies to be made for 1946-47 release, according to a studio announcement. Two have already been completed, and a third, "The fabulous Joe," is now in production. Clarence Kolb is the latest addition to the cast, being directed by Harry Foster.

No distribution plans have been revealed, and the studio denied officially any deal set, such as rumored, between Roach and Columbia.

Columbia Rolls Seven

Columbia has seven films rolling. Ken Curtis started another action musical August 19, "Over the Santa Fe Trail," with Ray Nazarro directing. Jennifer Holt, has the feminine lead. Others in the cast are Big Boy Williams and Guy Kibbee.

Producer Don Hartman built a ballet sequence, production finale of "Down to Earth," before the Technicolor cameras August 19, with Rita Hayworth, Mabel Platt and a chorus working. The book of the musical has been finished. Director Arthur Dreifuss wound up "Betty Co-Ed" with Jean Porter and William Mason starred in the collegiate musical.

Virginia Van Upp, writer-producer of "My Empty Heart," collapsed on the set and was ordered to take an extended vacation. The picture is being continued under the supervision of Helen Deutsch. Allan Rivkin and Devery are working on the unfinished script portion of the Rosalind Russell-Melvyn Douglas starer.

"Boston Blackie and the Law" has been finished, latest addition to the Chester Morris series. "Johnny O' Clock" went to the Columbia Ranch for several days of exterior scenes and is back, working on what the studio claims to be the largest gambling set ever made in Hollywood. The Borgart-Lizbeth Scott film, "Dead Reckoning," has a while to go, as has "Blondie's Big Moment." Sam Bischoff's "Mr. District Attorney" is winding up at General Service studios.

Republic Drops to One

Republic, usually very active, is unusually inactive just now, with only one film before the camera, Louis B. Mayer is "Oregon Trail Scouts," a Red Ryder with Allan Lane, Martha Wentworth and Bobby Blake. However, several films were scheduled to start very soon, including Roy Roger's first Trucolor western, "Apache Rose."

"That's My Gal" has been finished and Gene Autry wrapped up "Trail to San Antonio." On August 26, the high-budget musical, "Hit Parade," will be started. No date, as in the past, has been agreed to this issue of Republic's "Hit Parades." Featured thus far are Joan Edwards, Gil Lamb, Bill Goodwin and Woody Herman and his orchestra. The film will mark Frank MacDonald's return as a producer; he will also direct. Set to start the same day is "Web of Danger," to be produced by Donald H. Brown.

S. G. Busy with "Sheep"

Producer Bill David of the Golden Gate unit for Screen Guild has amassed a considerable cast of players for his "My Dog Shep," which finally got under way last week after a number of false starts. One of the latest additions is child star Lanny Rees. Also just announced is Al St. John, who has been doing Westerns for PRC, with Buck Crabbe. Two other old-time stars, William Farnum and J. Farrell MacDonald were recently added. Tom Neal has the male lead. Other players previously signed include Craig Reynolds and Sarah Padden. Barney Sarecky is acting as associate producer and Ford Beebe is directing.

PRC Very Much Alive

PRC, at one time rumored to be finished, is very active these days. Sig Neufeld started "Lady Killers" at the Sutherland studio on August 16, co-starring Ann Savage and Robert Lowery. James S. Burton this week finished "Johnny Riptide," co-starring Linda Darnell and curtis. Robert Tansey began his latest; Eddie Dean musical Western, this time in black and white (Continued on Page 48)
Lazar Takes Over Part of Espy's EL Duties

The duties of Irving Lazar, executive assistant to Bryan Foy at Eagle-Lion, will be greatly augmented in a reshuffle of assignments following the resignation of Ed Espy last week.

In addition to his other chores, Lazar will clear all contracts involving major personalities and story properties, set up package deals and direct the talent department's finding and developing new players. Lazar will work directly under Aubrey Schenck, executive producer, in the new set-up.

Other functions heretofore handled by Espy as a production executive will be taken over by Schenck. Espy, whose resignation becomes effective at the end of the month, is set to branch out as an independent producer. He has a releasing tie-up with Eagle-Lion for two major features.

United States Pictures Preparing 3 New Stories

United States Pictures, Inc., the Joseph Bernhard-Milton Sperling unit producing for Warner Bros., release, has writers at work on three new stories, in addition to "Pursued," which is now before the cameras, and "Chalk and Daggers," which will be released next month.

Francis Spencer and Dana Burnett are completing the screenplay of their original, "The Gentle Sin," in which Lilli Palmer and a top male star will appear. Louis Aranson and Bill Block are preparing the screenplay of "This Freedom," an original, and Dan Totheroh is writing the screenplay of his Broadway play, "Distant Drums."

Meteoric Hollywood Rise For Deutsch, New Producer

Helen Deutsch, who joined Columbia as a producer-writer last week, is the third woman producer for that lot—only the other two being Virginia Van Upp and Frances Manson.

Miss Deutsch, once a Theatre Guild press agent and later a top-notch popular magazine writer whose pen name was Sylvia Delune, has skyrocketed to the top during her comparatively brief career in Hollywood. She turned out the screenplays for "National Velvet" and "The Seventh Cross," "Golden Earrings," now in production, and "Ethel Frome," and "Robinson Crusoé," which are to go before the cameras soon.

Goldwyn Stars Vera-Ellen In 'Billion Dollar Baby'

Samuel Goldwyn has closed a deal for the purchase of "Billion Dollar Baby," the George Abbott musical of last season, and announces that he will elevate Vera-Ellen to stardom when it reaches the screen in Technicolor.

"Discovered" in the "Connecticut Yankee" cast when it was revived on Broadway several years ago, the petite blonde dancer has been seen in Goldwyn's "Wonder Man" and "The Kid from Brooklyn." Recently she was loaned to 20th-Century-Fox for "Three Little Girls in Blue" and "Carnival in Costa Rica."
instead of the former Cinecolor used. Roscoe Arbuckle and Shirley Patterson are featured in the film, which started August 16. Tansy is producing and directing. Title is "Tumbledown Trail."

George Brockstron and York Coplan returned to Hollywood August 15 after three months in the Brazilian jungles filming a feature film called "Two Yanks on the Amazon." Picture will feature a tribe of Urubu Indians, filmed for the first time.

**STUDIO ROUNUP**

(Continued from Page 38)

**U-I Starts Durbin Show**

For the first time in more than a year, Deanna Durbin is back on the sound stages. Her new musical, started August 14, is being produced by Miss Durbin's husband, Felix Jackson. Tom Drake, on loan-out from MGM, gets a fat part of the male lead; and William Bendix is co-starring as comedy relief. William Seiter is directing.

Mark Hellingier, who has a way of getting things done, finished another independently produced feature, "Swell Guy." However, other units for U-I are going strong, with Walter Wanger moving into the fourth month of shooting on "Smash-Up," and Enterprise, filming "Arch of Triumph." Enterprise's $1,750,000 glorified western, "Ramrod," was completed. The European unit of "Arch of Triumph" is on the French Riviera, shooting footage for the three-million-dollar filming of Erich Maria Remarque's novel. Nate Walt is supervising the French shooting and returns to Paris in several days.

Ten Universal-International executives and technicians, headed by producers-workers Chester Erskine and Fred Flankhoff, flew to Wash-ington state to scout location sites for the Claudette Colbert-Fred MacMurray starrer, "The Egg and I." U-I's Technicolor special, "Flame of Triopol," continues on schedule into its second month.

**Action on the RKO Lot**

At RKO, Samuel Goldwyn has Danny Kaye's "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty" going. The Hakin's, this time minus Sam Wood, were set to start "A Time to Kill" on Aug. 26, with Henry Fonda playing a Pittsburgh laborer, and Barbara Bel Geddes enacting her first screen role.

The second unit of "Katie for Congress" has been getting backgrounds in Washington, D. C., and is due back this week. The "They Won't Believe Me" company started location work in the high Sierras, with a company of 75. Robert Young is co-starring with Susan Hayward.

Guy Beach was added to the cast of "Trail Street" to play "Doc" Evans, one of the colorful Western characters in the period piece. Disney's "How Dear to My Heart," "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer," and "San Quentin" round out a full schedule for the RKO lot.

**Musical Time at MGM**

Emphasis is almost entirely on music these days at Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, with five out of its six pictures filled with song or dance routines. Johnnie Johnston and Dorothy Porter recorded "Un Poco de Amor" for the Joe Pasternak production, "This Time for Keeps," with Georgie Stoll directing the orchestra. The company just returned from its third location, a skating rink sequence in the Los Angeles Shrine Auditorium. On its return, it had been at Mackinac Island, Mich., and the swank Bel Air Hotel in Bel Air.

Metro has completed "Eligh Barharae," allowing Van Johnson a chance to rest a bit before starting "Romance of Roxy Ridge." Marshall Thompson has been ticketed to play Van's pal in this post-Civil War story.

Usually a screenplay is shot without regard for sequence, however, director Gregory LaCava is handling "Life's the Loving" in sequence of events as they occur in the story for this Gene Kelly-Marie McDonald musical. Miss McDonald is getting her first chance at ballet, with a special routine written into the script by LaCava, following a dance test.

Wilson Wood, ex-orchestra leader under the name of Woody Wilson, was signed to play a newspaper photographer in "The Unfinished Dance," now also producing this one. Erin O'Kelly was give a major role in the only non-musical going, "The Arnoel Affair." MGM broke precedent when it started a chorus of 80 voices recording August 15 for musical background (for "Lady in the Lake." It's the first time Leo the Lion has used chorale voices instead of the customary instrumental background music. Shooting on the film, starring and directed by Robert Montgomery, was finished today.

**Levey Starts at UA**

After an absence from the production front for a spell, Jules Levey returned for United Artists to start "New Orleans," formerly called "Conspiracy in Jazz." Starring are Arturo De Cordova and Louis Armstrong. Arthur Lubin is directing and Herbert Ebberman is associate producer. Armstrong arrived from New York for his featured role in the picture, which is being filmed at Hal Roach studios. Shooting got under way August 21.

UA is making a specialty of jazz these days, what with Charles R. Rogers just signing Art Tatum, famous pianist, for "The Fabulous Dorsey's." Tatum joins such musical lights as Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey, Paul Whiteman, Charlie Barnet, Henry Busse, Woody Herman, Bob Eberle and Helen O'Connell.

William Boyd has started his new Hopalong Cassidy, "Whispering Walls," on location at Lake Tahoe.

**Shoots Around the Clock**

Director Ray Enright has put "The Trail Street," the RKO Radio spectacle, on a 24-hour-a-day shooting schedule. This is believed unique in Hollywood annals.

Two units are at work on the outdoor set at the RKO Ranch, near En-cino, where Enright created the city of Liberal, Kansas, as it looked in the eighties.

Enright is shooting the day sequence with Randolph Scott, Anne Jeffreys, Robert Ryan, George "Gabby" Hayes and Madge Meredith.

At sunset, Eddie Kelly, heading the second unit, takes over to shoot the night sequences.

**20th Completes "13 Rue M"**

Winding up with a four-night location schedule, director Henry Hathaway finished "13 Rue Madeleine" with a secret landing field sequence in the O.S.S. drama. Louis de Rochemont produced the film with Jimmy Cagney and Anna-bella as stars.

Lenore Aubert, Viennese actress, started her first American musical role by singing a number in George Jessel's "I Wonder Who's Kiss-ing Her Now." Lloyd Bacon directs a cast headed by Jack Warner and Mark Stevens. Marvin Miller has been given an important role, that of a big-time gambler, in "The Brasher Doubloon."

The "Bob, Son of Battle" company returned from a month's location work in Paris to complete shooting at the studio. The picture is based on a dog story concerning Scottish sheep raisers and their canines. Henry Stephens checked in for his role in "The Home Stretch," which cost Corn Wilde and Maureen O'Hara. Wilde's wife, Patricia Knight, had her contract option picked up by 20th-Century.

"The late George Apley," is nearing the end of its second month, and Ronald Colman and Peggy Cummins are co-starring, with Richard Ney.

**"Life With Father" Finishes**

Warner Bros. completed its Technicolor filming of "Life With Father," Joan Crawford renewed work on "Possessed," with cameraman Joe Valentine filming the film instead of Sid Hیدon, Dean Jagger and Alan Hale were added to the cast of U. S. Pictures' "Pursued."

Scheduled to start next at the Burbank studio is "Love and Learn," which ought to roll around August 25. Jack Carson is set to star in the comedrama, with Robert Flutton, Williams Jacobs will produce and Fred De Cordova will direct.

"Deception," with Deanna Durbin playing a musical role, gives Warners three pictures going, all with one-word titles. Joan Loring was given a release from her contract with the studio.

**Eagle-Lion Starts Another**

Eagle-Lion added a third picture to its rapidly expanding program, with the start of "The Devil Drives" on August 20. Set so far in the picture are James Cardwell, Noreen Nash, Darryl Hickman, and Don Wilson. Crane Wilbur is directing. The picture is being made in conjunction with the National Safety Council as a precaution against dangerous driving. Other EL features rolling are "It's a Joke, Son" and "Born to Speed."

**Benedict Leaves Universal**

Howard Benedict has announced his resigna-tion from his producer's post at Universal International. Benedict, who had occupied a key position in the Universal studio set-up for a number of years, reportedly did "This Love of Ours" and the yet unreleased "White Tie And Tails." As an executive producer he had supervised top productions including "Frontier Gal," "The Sniper," "Lover Come Back" and the Sherlock Holmes series.
Joan Crawford Starts New S-M Contract in December

Joan Crawford has signed with Jack H. Skirball and Bruce Manning to make a picture a year for three years, starting next December as the star of "Portrait in Black" which will be directed by the English director, Carol Reed, and will be released by International.

Miss Crawford's second Skirball-Manning film will be "The Barren Heart," an original story which, like "Portrait in Black" will be a drama. The third film in the three-piece deal is as yet unitled but also will be a drama.

Set for Curtis Musical

Jean Barton, who recently completed her first Western feminine lead in "Romance of the West," will appear opposite Ken Curtis in "Lone Star Moonlight," Columbia action musical, in which he will appear with Martha Scott and John Mills, who are co-starred. Mills is the British star who first won recognition here in "In Which We Serve." "So Well Remembered" is Carlson's first since leaving service.

Kelly Signs Glazer

"Half Gaste," adapted from the Eric Baume novel, will be produced by Barney Glazer for Arthur Kelly, it was announced at the United Artists sales conference in New York last week. The film is on the UA release list for next year. "The Ryki Girl" is scheduled as Kelly's second film commitment for UA release.

Fairbanks Completing Editing Commercial Reels

Jerry Fairbanks, Inc., is completing final cutting of two Kodachrome productions for the Sherwin-Williams Co., manufacturer of paint and insecticide. It is estimated that these commercials will be seen by approximately 4,000,000 people during the next year. Distribution will be handled through 40 regional sales organizations.

Lady of the Lake to Have Vocal Accompaniment

Having finished "Lady in the Lake," his first directorial effort at MGM, Robert Montgomery is scheduled to leave for New York about Sept. 1 to produce a new play, "The Big Two." An innovation of "Lady in the Lake" will be that the entire musical background will be furnished by a chorus of 12 voices, replacing the customary instrumental music.

Chaplin Jr. Fims Company

Charles Chaplin, Jr., 21-year-old son of the comedian, has formed an independent production company to be known as Charles Chaplin, Jr., Productions. Associated with young Chaplin in the company, whose first picture is to be titled "Buddy Co-el.," are H. Robert Angus, Daniel Calon and Alvin Greenwood. All received service in World War II and plan to make the company's personnel strictly ex-G.I.

Stoky, Taylor Team Up

A feature length cartoon version of "Alice in Wonderland" and "Through the Looking Glass" using the three Moomins known in MGM's "Ziegfeld Follies," was announced this week as the first venture of Lou Stoy Productions, by his associate Albert Margolies in New York. Margolies said the music would be taken from Tchaikov's "Through the Looking Glass Suite" and that Leopold Stokowski would direct.

Fontaine, Dozier Form Rampart Productions

Formation of Rampart Production, Inc., with Willian Dozier, vice-president of Universal-International as president, and his wife Joan Fontaine as vice-president, was announced this week.

The new firm which reportedly is controlled by Dozier and Fontaine, will have its services in the future, with the exception of one picture a year for which she is under contract with RKO. The company did not announce a production schedule.

Lift Kelly-Flothow Options

Options in the term contracts of producers Burt Kelly and Rudolph Flothow were picked up by Columbia. Kelly has "No Place for a Lady" and two other scripts in preparation. He is also preparing three productions, two of them "Crime Doctor" pictures and the other a "Whistler.

Zanuck Buys 'Snake Pit'

"The Snake Pit," Mary Jane Ward "Book-of-the-Month" novel, was purchased this week by D. F. Zanuck and Anatole Litvak, who had earlier acquired film rights and will put into production soon, it was announced by 20th Century-Fox. Litvak goes along with the transaction as director.

Joseph Gershenson Resigns

Joseph Gershenson has resigned from his producer's position at Universal-International and checked off the lot. He had been with the Universal Studios for the past eight years and at the time of his resignation held the position of executive producer.

Form New Company

Robert Cummings, Philip Yordan and Eugene Frenke this week announced from Hollywood the formation of a new corporation to be known as United World Productions.

ADVANCE DATA ON FORTHCOMING PRODUCT

HERE COMES TROUBLE (Hal Roach) Mystery. Principal: Will- liam Tracy, Joe Sawyer, Beverly Loyd. Director, Fred Guiol. Plot: A young man returns from the service to resume his old job on a newspaper, and is assigned to the reporter's beat. The publisher is conducting a campaign to stand out vice in the town, and is black-mailed by a burlesque queen, who is mysteriously murdered. Suspec- tion points to the publisher, the reporter, and the publisher's daugh- ter, with whom the young man is in love. In the mad scramble back- stage after the murder, the true culprit is tracked down.

NORTH OF THE BORDER (Screen Guild) Mystery. Principal: Russell Hayden, Inez Cooper, Yale Talbot. Director, Sam Newfield. Plot: A mave lawyer head of a ruthless band of bandits in Mexico, is brought to justice with his henchmen by a cowboy from Utah, who has gone across the border to meet his partner. He finds his partner, who, mysteriously missing, and the heroine finds his murdered body. Although he himself is sus- pected by the Royal Mounted Po- lice, the cowboy succeeds in solv- ing the mystery and wreaking personal vengeance on the villain and his henchmen. His name cleared with the Mounties, he is free to win the girl.

BEAT THE BAND (RKO) Musical. Principal: Frances Langford, Gene Krupa, Ralph Brentano, John Auer. Plot: A band leader is forced to pose as a music teacher when he "borrowes" a large amount of money paid another music teacher for a young girl's voice lessons. The girl is deceived by the pug and falls in love with the band leader. When she learns the truth, her ac- tions nearly result in the band's bankruptcy, but she then sheds her guile and is not to blame, so she joins them as a singer. The band succeeds, and the girl wins her true love.

BRINGING UP FATHER (Param.) Comedy. Principal: Joe Yule, Benno Riana. Director, Eddie Cline. Plot: A man turns to crime by George McManus, this story rev- olves around the efforts of a so- cial matron to keep the prop- erty occupied by Dinty Moore's sa- loon. Jiggs gets Dinty and has his paws to sign the petition, but when they discover it includes a pledge to stop drinking, Jiggs becomes an outcast. Maggie falls for the scheme, too, but comes to her senses in time and the plot is squelched.

WIFE WANTED (Mono.) Drama. Principal: Nancy Davis, Paul Cava- naugh, Robert Shayne. Director, Phil Karlson. Plot: An actress whose career is slipping buys in as a partner of a real estate broker. Unknown to her, he operates a matrimonial bureau and uses her as bait for one of his victims, who apparently commits suicide. A newspaper reporter, in an effort to get the inside case, contacts the actress and together they uncover other innocent victims of the bu- reau's practices. The role of the reporter and the actress fall in love.

MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE (Para.) Comedy. Principal: Bob Hope, Dor- othy Lamour, Peter Lorre. Director, Elliott Nugent. Plot: A baby photog- rapher with a suppressed desire to be a private detective gets more than he bargained for when a girl leaves a mysterious map in his care. Before he solves his first and last case, he tangled with a gang of sinister foreign agents on the trail of a secret uranium mine, is framed with a murder rap and sentenced to death. He is cleared a minute before execution time.

GUNMAN'S CODE (Univ.) Western. Principal: Kirby Grant, Fuzzy Ristitch, Jane Adams. Director, Wallace Fox. Plot: A Wells Fargo agent and his comic companion are assigned the dangerous task of eliminating a gang of stage robbers. They suspect a saloon operator of being the ring leader. When the agent gets the evidence on him, they settle their grudge with a pistol duel. The agent thereby wins the love of his girl.

TRAIL STREET (RKO) Western. Principal: Randolph Scott, Robert Ryan, Anne Jeffreys. Director, Ray Enright. Plot: A western town is being run by cattle trains and lawless cowboys until a new town marshal arrives. The head of the cattlemen is then brought to justice and the first wheat planted. (More Advanced Data on Page 49)
ASTOR PICTURES

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Features and western series pictures are listed alphabetically under title under distributor title index. Each title listed by distributor. For data as to running time, stars, etc., refer to title under distributor company listing.
COLUMBIA (Continued)

Fighting Frontierman

Westerns (Comig)

Landruth

Charles Starrett-Smiley Burnette.

Long Star Moonlight

K. Curtis-J. Barton-G. Kibbee.

Over the Santa Fe Trail

Charles Starrett-Hoot-Shoote.

Singing on the Trail

Ken Curtis-Jeff Donnell.

Sons of the Chisholm Trail

Charles Starrett-Johnny Mack.

Terror Trail

Charles Starrett-Smiley Burnette.

EAGLE LION

Bedelia (D.A)

Margaret Lockwood-Ian Hunter

Dare (D.A)

Lilly Palmer-Albert Lieven

Born to Speed

Johnny Sands-Terry Austin

Captive Heart (D.A)

Michael Redgrave-Rachel Kempson

Devil Drives The

J. Cardwell-Nash-D. Hickman

I See a Dark Stranger (D.F)

Deborah Kerr-Trevor Howard

It's a Joke Son

Kenny Dalmat-Unis Morkel

FILM CLASSICS

CURRENT 1945-1946

A Boy, a Girl, and a Dog (D.F)

Jenny Hunter-Sharyn Moffett

Beloved Enemy

Merle Oberon-Brian Aherne

Bonnie with the Bad Left Foot

Rita Hayworth-Howard Duff

Come and Get It

E. Arnold-J. McCrea-F. Farmer

Condemned to Devil's Island

Ronald Colman-Am. Harding

Dodo

Dickie Moore-Frances Dade

Hurricane

Dorothy Lamour-John Hall

Kitty

E. Garstin-K. Katch-Hein仰

Lady of Fortune*

Miriam Hopkins

(Formerly "Becky Sharpe")

Sp. Estrella

E. Cantor-R. Merman-B. Donley

These Three

Joel McCrea-Merle Oberon

Wedding Night

G. Cooper-R. Bellamy-A. Sten

Reigning Group

MG

CURRENT 1945-46

13 Abbott & Costello in Hollywood (C.F)

Abbott & Costello

81. Oct b6/35/46

20 Adventure (D.F)

J. Garfinkel-L. C. Gavino

19. Oct b13/2/46

16 Bad Biscumb (W.F)

Wallace Berry-Margaret O'Brien

13. Apr-May b2/8/46

17 Behind the Mask (D.F)

Allen - Gordon-J. Green

28. Aug b6/1/46

17 Courage of Lassie (T.D.F)

Elizabeth Taylor "Lassie"

93. Aug b6/11/46

13 Dangerous Partners (My.F)

James Craig-Signe Hasso

76. Oct b6/11/46

Sp. The Grinding Wheel (D.F)

Lana Turner-Jack Oakie

26. Jul b17/8/46

Sp. Green Years, The (D.F)

C. Coburn-T. Drake-S. Boyle

127. July b8/16/46

14 Harvey Girls (T.M.F)

J. Garfield-A. Sotner-J. Hodiak

161. Jan-Feb b13/20/46

19 Her Hightness and the Bellboy (C.F)

H. Lamarr-R. Walker-J. Allwyn

111. Oct b17/14/46

13 Hoodlum Saint (D.A)

William Powell-Bethell Williams

3. Apr-May b2/9/46

13 The Hour Glass, The (D.F)

D. Malan-P. Nagle

2. Mar b2/9/46

15 Portrait of Maria (D.F)

D. Del Rio-P. Amador

76. Jan-Feb b12/15/45

13 Postman Always Rings Twice (D.A)

Lana Turner-John Garfield

113. Apr-May b5/16/46

14 She Went to the Races (C.F)

Cary Grant-S. Williams

17. Feb b11/29/45

16 She Wore Three Faces (D.A)

James Craig-Frances Gifford

96. Nov b10/20/45

17 B-Room Boy (D.F)

Howard E. Smith

17. Dec b7/24/45

13 Three Wise Fools (C.F.D)

M. O'Brien-L. Barrymore-E. Arnold

92. Aug b6/15/46

16 Two Sisters From Boston (CM.F)

Kathy Grayson-June Allyson

112. Apr-May b3/9/46

14 Vacation from Marriage (C.D.F)

Robert Donat-Dorothy Kerr

104. Dec b2/22/45

Sp. The Cat Walks at the Waldorf (D.F)

Rogers-Turner-Pidgeon-V. Johnson

57. Oct b10/14/45

14 When the Next, Corporal Hargrove (C.F)

86. Nov b16/16/46

16 Yolanda and the Thief (T.M.A)

F. Astaire-P. Morgan-L. Bremser

106. Dec b10/20/45

Ziegfeld Follies of 1946 "T.M.A"

Cyd Charisse-Margie O'Brien

118. Mar b1/16/46

COMING

Arnold Affair, The

John Hodiak-Frances Gifford

Beginning or the End

J. Barrymore-R. Walker-B. Donley

Captains Courageous

Spencer Tracy-Nickie Rooney

Cockeyed Miracle (C.A)

K. Wynn-F. Morgan

Celtic in My Passion (C.O)

K. Clore-J. Drake

Cresta "T"

Ratner-Williams-Drake

Gallant Bess "C"

Marshall Thompson-Jim Davis

High Noon

Andy Devine-Johnson-Debra Paget

Holiday in Mexico "T.M.F"

W. Pidgeon-I. Massey-J. Powell

It Happened at the Inn

Fernald-Lecoultre-Véron

Lady in the Lake

Robert Montgomery-Audrey Totter

Little Miss Broadway

K. K. Larsen-Marie Dressler

Little Mister Jim (C.F)

James Craig-Frances Gifford

Mighty McGurk, The

Wallace Beery-Alice Mahon

Myrna Brandt-John Hodiak

V. Johnson-Kirkwood-K. Wynn

Rage in Heaven

Ingrid Bergman-Robert Montgomery

Sacred and Profane (C.F)

Greer Garson-Richard C. Hart

Sea of Grass

C. Hepburn-S. Douglas

Second Chambray

George Walcott-P. Devereaux

Show-Off, The (C.F)

Red Skelton-Marilyn Maxwell

Summer Holiday "T"

Mickey Rooney-Giordi Delhaven

This Time For Keeps "T"

E. Williams-L. Moleroh

The Big前沿-W. National-J. Straza

Two Smart People (C.D.A)

J. Hodiak-L. Ball-L. Nolan

Uncle Andy Hardy

M. Rooney-B. Granville-D. Ford

Unfinished Dance, The

K. Hepburn-R. Taylor

Yearling, The "T"

G. Peck-J. White-J. Craig

Title

Company

Caldonia

Astor

California

Para.

Canyon Passage

Uns.

Captain Tugboat Anne

RKO

Captive Heart

Uns.

Caravan Trails

RKO

Carnegie Hill

UA

Carnival in Paris, the

20th-Fox

Cat Creeps

Uns.

Cattanooga

Uns.

Centennial Summer

20th-Fox

Chief, The

Para.

Choral Splash

Para.

Cocktail Girls

Uns.

Cocky Girls

Mono.

City of Comets

WB

Sauds and Sheikhs

Uns.

Cock and Daggar

WB

Cub Havana

Para.

Clown Boys

20th-Fox

Code of the Lawless

Uns.

Coke of the West

20th-Fox

Col. Effingham's Ralid

20th-Fox

Col. Longstreet

20th-Fox

Colorado Serenade

RKO

Come and Get It

UA

Condemned to Devil's Island

MGM

Confidential Agent

WB

Coupes of the Century

Uns.

Cornered

RKO

Crack-Up (W.F)

RKO

Crude Oil

Uns.

Crime Doctor's Warning

Col.

Crimson Court

RKO

Cross My Heart

Para.

Crimson Caesar (W.F)

W.B.

Cry Wolf

WB

Dead Man's Heat

MGM

Dearest

MGM

Deadlier Than the Male

RKO

Deadline at Dawn

Uns.

Deadline for Love

UA

Dead of Night

Uns.

Death of a Scoundrel

MGM

Death Valley

SBP

Deception

MGM

Desert Dust

Uns.

Desert Horse

20th-Fox

Devil's Daughter

RKO

Devil's Mask

UA

Devil's Playground

UA

Died in the Moonlight

RKO

Devotion

WB

Dick Tracy

RKO

Ding Dong Women

RKO

Dishonored

RKO

Divorce Bell

20th-Fox

Dolly Sisters (W.F)

20th-Fox

Don't Gamble With Strangers

MGM

Down in Mississippi

20th-Fox

Down to Earth

Uns.

Do You Love Me

20th-Fox

Dr. K. Grainger-J. Sargent

MGM

Draw When You're Ready

MGM

Drunken Angel

Uns.

Drifting Along

MGM

Dulcita River

MGM

Duel in the Sun

UA

Duck Amuck

RKO

Ducks Over Fighting

RKO

Easy Come, Easy Go

Para.

Easy to Wed

Uns.

Emperor Waltz, The

Uns.

Encased Voyage

20th-Fox

Eisenhower, the

Uns.

Experiment Perilous

RKO

Fabulous Dorseys

UA

Fabulous Joe

MGM

Face of Marble

MGM

Faithful In My Passion

MGM

Fallen Angel

Para.

Fabled City

UA

Fairy Tale

Uns.

False Face

Para.

False Face

MGM

False Face

MGM

Fallen Angel

Para.

Fabled City

UA

False Face

Uns.

False Face

MGM

Fallen Angel

Para.

Fabled City

UA

False Face

MGM

Fallen Angel

Para.

Fabled City

UA

False Face

MGM

Fallen Angel

Para.
## MONOGRAPH

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<td>Follow That Woman</td>
<td>1/11/46</td>
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<td>6/23/46</td>
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### COMING

- **Westerns (Coming)**

  **When You're Ready**
  - J. M. Brown-Raymond Hatton
  - Season Four

- **Rainbow Over the Rockies**
  - J. M. Brown-Raymond Hatton
  - Season Four

- **Song of the Sierras**
  - J. M. Brown-Raymond Hatton
  - Season Four

### Trigger Fingers

- J. M. Brown-Raymond Hatton
  - Season Four

### PARAMOUNT BLOCK

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#### COMING

- **Big Town**
  - J. M. Brown-Raymond Hatton
  - Season Four

- **California T**
  - J. M. Brown-Raymond Hatton
  - Season Four

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<td>L. Andrews-M. Loy-F. March</td>
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<td>Lawrence Tierney</td>
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<td>342 Inner Circle</td>
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<td>352 One Exciting Week (C) F</td>
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<td>353 Palmy Recovery (D) F</td>
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<td>348 Rainbow Over Texas (W) F</td>
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<td>355 Rendezvous With Annie (C) (F)</td>
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<td>356 Song of Mexico (M) F</td>
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<td>357 Traffic in Crime</td>
<td>James Ed), * Proctor-Clinton Stiles</td>
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<td>358 Undercover Woman</td>
<td>S. Bachelor-R. Livingston</td>
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| 359 Woman From Beverly Hills | Mary Healy-Taft-

### COMING

| Affairs of Geraldine | Jane Withers-Jimmy Lydon |
| Angel and the Outlaw | J. Wayne-G. Russell-I. Rich |
| Calendar Girl | James Ellison-A. Jeffreys |
| Earl Carroll Sketchbook (M) F | C. Moore-W. Marshall |
| Ghost Goes Wild | 
| Heldorado | Roy Rogers-D. Evans-Gabby Hayes |
| Bill in Del Rio | Barbara Britton-R. Kuzya |
| I've Always Loved You | Catherine McLeod-Phil Dorn |
| Last Frontier Uprising (T) | Monte Hale-Amid Cooks |
| Mysterious Mr. Valentine | William Henry-Linda Sterling |
| Pilgrim Bird | Warren Douglas-Lyne Roberts |
| Pilgrim Lady | W. Elliott-V. Rohan-G. Patrick |
| Plainsman and the Lady | Evelyn Ankers-Paul Kelly |
| Spiders of the North | James Dunn-Mona Freeman |
| Tara | June Carter-K. Carter |
| Under Nevada Skies | B. Rogers-D. Evans |
| Will Tomorrow Be His Day? | A. Kelly-J. Leder |
| Winter Wonderland | L. Roberts-C. Drake |

### COMING

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<td>California Gold Rush (W) F</td>
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REPUBLIC

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SCREEN GUILD PRODUCTIONS

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<td>My Dog Shop</td>
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<td>236</td>
<td>North of the Border</td>
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<td>237</td>
<td>Rolling Home</td>
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<td>238</td>
<td>Scared to Death</td>
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20TH-FOX

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<td>And Then There Were None (My F)</td>
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<td>Behind Green Lights (D/A)</td>
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<td>Centennial Summer (*M F)</td>
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<td>Col. Edgington's Rail (C/F)</td>
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<td>Dark Corner (D/A)</td>
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<td>Do You Love Me * (MC/F)</td>
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<td>It Shouldn't Happen to a Dog (C/D)</td>
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<td>Jesse James</td>
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<td>Johnny Comes Flying Home (D/F)</td>
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<td>Margie * T</td>
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<td>My Darling Clementine</td>
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<td>Rector's Edge</td>
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<td>Shocking Mrs Pilgrim * T</td>
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<td>13 Rue Madeleine</td>
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<td>That Certain Gentleman, A * T</td>
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<td>Wanted for Murder (D/A)</td>
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UNITED ARTISTS

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<td>All My Irish Rose</td>
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<td>Affair of Passion</td>
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<td>Captain Kidd (D/F)</td>
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<td>Whistle Stop (D/A)</td>
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<td>Young Widow (D/A)</td>
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<td>Adventures of Don Coyote</td>
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Tale | Company |
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<td>Song for My Heart</td>
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<td>What Next, Corporal Harrigan</td>
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<td>Who Stop</td>
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ADVANCE DATA
On Forthcoming Product

HIGH BARBAREE (MGM) Drama. Principals: Van Johnson, June Allyson, Donald O'Connor. Director: Michael Curtiz. Based on the novel "The Violets of Spring," by Walter van Tilburg Clark; about the conquest of the Pacific during World War II of an American family who became stranded on a Japanese-held island and had to fight to stay alive. Released July 1.

PLAINSMAN AND THE LADY (Rep). Western. Principals: William Elliott, Vera Bannin, Gail Patrick. Director, Joseph Kane. Plot: When a group of enterprising men form the Pony Express to carry mail from the owners of the old Southern Stage Lines. They hire a young man, who has a fighting ability, to take charge of the riders, and all bets are off when he looks at the challenge. Released July 2.

THE DEVIL THUMBS A RIDE (RKO) Drama. Principals: Lawrence Tierney, Ted North, Nan Leslie. Director, Felix Feige. Plot: A Mountie witnesses the slaying of a prospector and he also slays the gang as they go to the town. Released July 3.

NEATH CANADIAN SKIES (Screen Guild) Western. Principals: Russell Hayden, Inez Cooper, Cliff Nazarro. Director, Ray Enright. Plot: A young girl, greedy for power, drives a cowhand and a rancher in a rough cow-town in the 1870s. She joins the band and becomes the madam. She is taken in by a wealthy man who falls in love with her. Released July 4.

RAMROD (Univ). Western Drama. Principals: Glenn Ford, Maria Montez, Walter Brennan, James Cagney. Director, George Seaton. Plot: A young girl, greedy for power, drives a cowhand and a rancher in a rough cow-town in the 1870s. She joins the band and becomes the madam. She is taken in by a wealthy man who falls in love with her. Released July 5.
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Original screenplay by Byron Morgan and William A. Wellman
Produced and Directed by WILLIAM A. WELLMAN
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Vol. 45 No. 7
AUGUST 31, 1946

Entered as second class matter February 20, 1940, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Published weekly by Showmen's Trade Review, Inc., 1501 Broadway, New York 18, N. Y., U. S. A. 10 cents a copy, $2 a year.

CHARLES E. 'CHICK' LEWIS
Editor and Publisher

JACKSON TELLS HOW TO SELL TICKETS THROUGH ADVERTISING
(See Page 15)
TO M-G-M's THOUSANDS OF CUSTOMERS WHO ARE NOT IN COMPETITIVE SITUATIONS

Compliance with the June 11th opinion of the Federal Court in the government suit will require changes in the conduct of our affairs. Pending the entry of a final decree, we find it advisable and in some cases necessary to modify some of the policies under which we have been operating. Loew's Inc. will, to the best of its ability, make just as few changes in its sales policy as is necessary. Above all, we will approach the future in that same friendly spirit which has earned for us your magnificent support, consideration, and loyalty.

So many of our customers have expressed the desire for product security that we are very happy to announce the following plan in strictly non-competitive situations. We will offer, subject to as few conditions as possible but including a privilege of elimination, all units of our regularly released output for the twelve month period commencing September 1, 1946 and ending August 31, 1947. Should any of our customers in these non-competitive situations prefer to buy our pictures one at a time, they will of course, be accorded this privilege.

We regret that we are not yet prepared in competitive situations to put into effect a general policy of competitive bidding due to the uncertainties inherent in the present status and the need for working out administrative details. However, pending entry of a final decree, in a very limited number of emergency situations and on a purely experimental basis we will attempt to work out an administrative procedure for the handling of competitive bids. We hope that those of our customers, or prospective customers, to whom this procedure cannot be applied will understand our position and bear with us with patience.

Our policy, until final disposition is made of the government suit, will among other things, include the following points:

1. Our pictures will be tradeshown.

2. In competitive situations or localities, each feature picture will be offered individually and its acquisition by license by any theatre will not be made conditional upon the licensing of any other picture or unit distributed by us.

3. In strictly non-competitive situations we will offer, subject to certain conditions including the privi-
4. In respect to Short Subjects and News, to those of our customers who prefer that they be offered individually we will comply with such desire and will license each issue independent of any other. If on the other hand, any of our customers prefer to license Short Subjects or News in bulk, they may do so and a privilege of elimination will be granted.

It must be obvious to everyone in the business that if, as, and when the opinions of the Court are incorporated into a decree, there will come about a drastic change in the general order of conducting many phases of our distribution business and the possibility of some changes in our production plans. This may result in a slight delay in product availability or other unforeseen inconveniences occasioned by the time required to make the necessary adjustments to comply with the decree of the Court. If such results should be brought about, we earnestly solicit the patience and consideration of our customers. One of the first considerations in our distribution policy has been and will continue to be the welfare of our customers and our efforts will be earnestly directed to the accomplishment of any necessary changes as expeditiously and as practically as they can be worked out.

Our job in the motion picture industry is to make and distribute great entertainments and we feel confident that our customers are just as anxious to demonstrate the virtues of good showmanship in the exhibition of such product. We therefore expect to continue, as far as we may be permitted by law, to pursue the policies which have earned for us from our exhibitor customers the name of which we are so humbly proud—The Friendly Company.

**HERE IS PRODUCT-SECURITY!**

Look ahead with M-G-M to the Big Ones Coming!

**THE YEARLING** (Technicolor)
GREGORY PECK, JANE WYMAN, Claude Jarman, Jr.

**A WOMAN OF MY OWN**
GREER GARSON, Robert Mitchum, Richard Hart

**THE SEA OF GRASS**
SPENCER TRACY, KATHARINE HEPBURN, MELVYN DOUGLAS, ROBERT WALKER

**UNDERCURRENT**
KATHARINE HEPBURN, ROBERT TAYLOR, ROBERT MITCHUM

**FIESTA** (Technicolor)
ESTHER WILLIAMS, Akim Tamiroff, Ricardo Montalban, John Carroll, Marc Astar, Cdv Charise

**UNCLE ANDY HARDY**
Mickey Rooney, Lewis Stone, Sara Haden, Lina Romay

**HIGH BARBAREE**
VAN JOHNSON, JUNE ALLYSON, Thomas Mitchell, Marilyn Maxwell

**THE UNFINISHED DANCE**
MARGARET O'BRIEN, Cdv Charise, Karen Booth, Danny Thomas

**IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN**
FRANK SINATRA, KATHRYN GRAYSON, Jimmy Durante, Peter Lawford

**MY BROTHER TALKS TO HORSES**
"BUTCH" JENKINS, PETER LAWFORD, BEVERLY TYLER

**TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY** (Technicolor)
(Cast alphabetically) JUNE ALLYSON, LUCILLE BREMER, JUDY GARLAND, KATHRYN GRAYSON, VAN HELFIN, LENA HJORNE, VAN JOHNSON, TONY MARTIN, DINAH SHORE, FRANK SINATRA, ROBERT WALKER

**SUMMER HOLIDAY**
MICKEY ROONEY, WALTER HUSTON, GLORIA DE HAVEN, "BUTCH" JENKINS, Frank Morgan, Marilyn Maxwell, Agnes Moorehead, Selena Royle

**THE SECRET HEART**
CLAUDETTE COLBERT, WALTER PIDGEON, JUNE ALLYSON

**THE BEGINNING OR THE END**
BRIAN DONLEVY, ROBERT WALKER, Tom Drake, Beverly Tyler, Audrey Totter

**TENTH AVENUE ANGEL**
MARGARET O'BRIEN, Angela Lansbury, George Murphy, Phyllis Thaxter

**THE MIGHTY MCGURK**
WALLACE BEERY, Dean Stockwell, Edward Arnold, Aline MacMahon

**LIFE'S FOR THE LOVING**
GENE KELLY, Marie MacDonald, Charles Winninger

**THIS TIME FOR KEEPS**
ESTHER WILLIAMS, Lauritz Melchior, Jimmy Durante, Johnnie Johnston, Xavier Cugat

**LADY IN THE LAKE**
ROBERT MONTGOMERY, Audrey Totter, Lloyd Nolan
RKO's "NO BREAKS ALL RADIO CITY" for NON-HOLIDAY
TORIOUS RECORDS OF MUSIC HALL DAY WEEK!
YOUR BIG LAUGH DATE!

Rendezvous with Annie

starring EDDIE ALBERT • FAYE MARLOWE • GAIL PATRICK

with

PHILIP REED • SIR C. AUBREY SMITH
RAYMOND WALBURN • WILLIAM FRAWLEY
JAMES MILLICAN • WALLACE FORD

Screen Play—Mary Loos and Richard Sale
Based on Their Magazine Story

Associate Producer and Director—ALLAN DWAN

A REPUBLIC PICTURE
A Wise Decision

ATA, finally, but definitely has decided to get into the anti-trust suit decision and make an intelligent effort to protect the exhibitor’s interests insofar as competent legal handling indicates.

The retention of Thurman Arnold, former assistant U. S. Attorney General, to handle this important phase of the Association’s work is considered by many to be a particularly smart move. Few men are as well qualified to represent the exhibitor angles on the court decision as Arnold and if there are any ways or means of bringing the exhibitor’s status and handicaps under that decision to the proper attention of the court, and to gain some measure of relief, it is our honest opinion that Thurman Arnold will do it.

It should be interesting to watch the progress of this excursion by ATA into the legal mazes and to see how they handle themselves. We feel confident that their widespread membership in particular and exhibitors in general will be pleased with what is attempted and accomplished.

Picture Schedules

An outgrowth of the uncertainties of the court decision has forced most of the sales managers to postpone the scheduling of releases for the fall and early winter.

However, this hold-up of pictures cannot be put off very much longer and according to several of the sales executives contacted by this writer, they will have to start assigning pictures without waiting for the final determination of the court decision.

One of the top sales managers told us that the key city first runs for his company’s product had only one picture scheduled to follow current attractions, whereas they generally have five to six following pictures penciled-in in advance.

Situations that have been pinched for advance bookings of product would be the ones to suffer most by any hold-up of pictures in the first runs. But it is expected that with those runs getting set in advance again, the subsequent situations will benefit accordingly.

While the distributors could not be blamed for proceeding with extreme caution in the face of so many opinions on the court decision, they certainly must realize that the industry cannot shut down while waiting for the lawyers and the court to finish up their fight on the final decree.

Checker Front Quiet

A visiting exhibitor asked us what’s happened since the recent hot controversy about local checkers. All of a sudden, he finds, there is an abundance of silence on the subject.

Could it be that Confidential Reports, Inc. has seen the light and is making an honest attempt to satisfy the exhibitor objections to this practice? Or have the exhibitors found that it wasn’t important enough to waste further time on?

A Deserving Tribute

Like a lot of other people in this industry we, too, develop a pain in the neck at the many sales drives dedicated to some individual of the company for any one of a hundred different reasons. Some of the guys so honored really rate it while others do not.

But we kind of liked Tom Connors’ current announcement of the President’s Drive being launched by 20th-Fox as a tribute to Spyros Skouras.

Here is a man who has given unstintingly of his time and money to help anybody and everybody whether it be through the medium of a drive or a personal matter on his own. It has been said of Spyros Skouras that no one ever went to him for help or advice without getting it a hundred-fold.

We have been associated with him through many drives for the relief of people in stricken lands and it has always been an inspiration to note the enthusiasm and the spirit with which he tackled every job.

This industry is richer for its Spyros Skouras and we should all consider it a privilege to join in honoring a really great man and an outstanding leader.

Kingsberg Agrees

After what this page had to say about the importance of stimulating box-office attendance through the medium of aggressive showmanship it was good to know that Malcolm Kingsberg of RKO felt pretty much the same way.

His comment closely paralleled our views that the building of patronage now is insurance for the future. Coming from a top executive with a wealth of knowledge and experience in the exhibition branch of the business, theatremen everywhere can well afford to pay close attention to what he says on this vitally important subject.

—"CHICK" LEWIS
ATA to Fight Auction Sales; Retains Thurman Arnold

Action Reversing Initial Stand Result of Poll of Organization's Directors

The American Theatres Association will enter the fight against “auction selling” and will carry its action to the Supreme Court, if necessary, it was announced this week at New York headquarters of the organization. The decision to act in the writing of a decree covering trade practices as ordered by the statutory court in the New York anti-trust case reverses ATA's previous stand and is the result of a telegraphic poll of members of the organization’s Board of Directors.

The fight by ATA already has been launched with the retention of Thurman Arnold, former Assistant Attorney General, to intervene in the case.

Present when the announcement of ATA’s decision was made were SI Fabian, president; Robert Coyle, executive director, and Sam Finanski, treasurer. Fabian stated that ATA’s endeavor to intervene in the case would not be as a friend of the court but as part of the action and that its efforts would be carried to the U. S. Supreme Court, if necessary.

Explaining ATA’s position, Ted Gamble, Chairman of the Board, in a prepared statement issued when the announcement was made to the trade press, declared: “The portion of the decree dictating auction methods of sales seeks to accomplish without legislation a legislative function. Since this provision is tantamount to legislation and since the ATA is constitutionally authorized to work for the best interests of the theatre industry in legislative matters, our Board of Directors have felt that the ATA would be neglecting one of its prime functions if it did not act.”

Court action by Arnold on behalf of the ATA will be confined exclusively to the auction selling controversy according to Gamble’s statement.

Decision to reconsider the organization’s initial stand that its constitution barred action of the kind was made by officials of ATA some time last week. This was voted by a poll of the membership of the Board, which resulted in the program to act in the decree ordered by the Court and the ultimate provisions of which now agitate all three branches of the industry.

Some tentative opposition by some members of the Board was based on technical grounds and not on the merits of the case, those opposing believing that ATA’s constitutional provisions regarding non-activity in trade practices would not permit such action. Legal opinion that the auction selling controversy transcends trade practices brought unanimous agreement that the ATA should attempt to intervene.

PCCITO to Urge Minimum Price, No Percentage to Protect Bidder

Following a four-day meeting, Aug. 20-23, of its board of trustees, the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners announced that it will present to the Department of Justice recommendations for altering the proposed court decree.

Among the PCCITO’s suggestions is that some method be devised that will be in accordance with the court rules and will protect the exhibitors and the public.

“The licensing of films for exhibition in theatres as prescribed by the court may not only permit, but encourage procuring of exorbitant film rentals by distributors from exhibitors, the result of which would tend to make it necessary that admission prices be increased,” the PCCITO statement asserted.

The PCCITO trustees, acting for the body politic, maintained that under the provisions of the federal court decree as it is now, it is possible for distributors to offer for licensing a picture or pictures at a minimum price together with a percentage participation clause. The Conference demanded elimination of this, asserting it would make it impossible to determine the highest bidder for each picture.

“We recommend,” the PCCITO said, “to the Department of Justice that any distributor be required to offer a picture or pictures for licensing with a minimum price and no percentage provisions, so that no possibility will exist of a picture or pictures not being awarded to the highest bidder.”

So. Calif. Theatremen to Test Decree in N. Y. Court

Legal intervention will be tried by the Southern California Theatre Owners Association to test the New York anti-trust suit for “the purpose of presenting to the court the reasons why the proposed decree is objectionable from the standpoint of exhibitors.” The decision to attempt direct court action was taken at a meeting of the SCTOA board of directors last Friday.

The SCTOA further resolved that in intervening the association should cooperate with all other exhibitor organizations that plan to take similar action. Paul Williams, general counsel for SCTOA, is due in New York this week to present his case, LAN.

... Including the Portuguese

“Ramrod,”' first picture of Enterprise Productions, is being dubbed in Portuguese, Spanish, Italian and French.

Ban on Cross-Licensing May Prove Unworkable

Speculation was rife in Washington this week over the possibility that the ban on cross-licensing which the Big Five proposed at week-earlier by the Department of Justice might prove unworkable even if the New York court elects to include it in the forthcoming decree. The attitude of the court cannot definitely be ascertained, but it is recognized that any attempt to block the sale of pictures by one of the Big Five defendants to non-defendant distributors thereby making it possible for the distributor to book the film into an affiliated circuit, is bound to be a difficult, if not an impossible task.

The proposed cross-licensing ban would prevent 20th-Fox, for instance, from booking films into Warner houses—and is seen by many exhibitors as a means either for these majors to sell their products or to turn out more product. But its effect would be nullified if it were not possible to block 20th-Fox from turning its product over to Monogram, for instance, to look into Warner theatres.

If such a move could be blocked, prospect of serious damage to the Big Five looms, since in many cities through the country first-run facilities are entirely owned by one, two or three of the Big Five. A ban on cross-licensing could block Big Five product from many smaller towns entirely, and from first-run areas in many major cities.

National Showings Loom For U. S. 'Message' Films

National showing of government "message" films seemed likely in Washington as OWMP picture chief Arch A. Mersey was notified Monday that the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners groups has voted to review government offerings with a view to recommending them to members that they be screened for the public.

Meanwhile, distribution details were being worked out for the handling of the first government film, "Message on Famine," prints for which will be paid for by the President’s Emergency Food Board.

It was understood that ATA, MPtoA and National Allied had all agreed to recommend the film to their members, with word still expected from PCCITO.

Herman PRC Dist. Mgr.

Al Herman has been named New England district manager for PRC Pictures, with headquarters at the Boston exchange. Herman was formerly district manager for Universal.
Reeve Calls for Closed Ranks to Meet 'Crisis'

Calling for a closing of ranks among exhibitors for their own protection in the face of the threat to independent theatre owners in the proposed decree, Henry Reeve, President of the Texas Theatre Owners, from his headquarters in Menard Wednesday night issued a statement declaring that 500 Texas exhibitors have filed protests with his office against the stand that the "independent should have no voice in the writing of a decree."

'Referee' Trend Grows

Exhibitor opinion favoring theatre divorce is mounting, the third week's results of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America poll, made public in New York Monday, show.

The trend in favor of divorce is the only change in the poll to date, with exhibitor opinion on the other subjects—"auction selling," "clearance-run arbitration," and non-industry arbitrators—showing that exhibitors are still voting for a "no-changed" position.

The latest results, covering 382 theatres in 37 states and the District of Columbia follow:

-Auction selling—15 in favor, 158 against.
-Arbitration for "bids, clearances, runs"—44 in favor, 121 against, nine not voting.
-Non-industry arbitrators—27 in favor, 144 against, four not voting.
-Divorce—112 in favor, 63 against, four not voting.

Reeve's statement follows: "While lawyers and organization leaders expanded 10,000 individual independent theatres suffer increasingly from ever rising rental demands day by day, among some 500 signed protests filed in this office by Texas theatres, I quote: 'If the government had set out purposely to try to hurt the independents they could not have done a better job.' This from a woman, an ex-school teacher now operating in a Texas town of less than 1,000 population. Thousands voice this same truth. Is there not something here for the Department of Justice and the Court to consider, regardless of the prime motive of the government suit. Also, organizational leaders should not forget this element of our industry. "The government says the independent should have no voice in the pending debate. What price American justice and why divided exhibitor ranks in this crisis."

Spokane Seeks Tax

The threat of an amusement tax arose for theatres in Spokane, Wash., when the County Plan Commission this week decided to ask county commissioners for an amusement tax and an appropriation of $7,000 for a building inspector to supervise amusement plants.

John E. McCauley

John E. McCauley, head of the J. E. McCauley Manufacturing Company, died last week at St. Luke's Hospital, Chicago, after an extended illness. He is survived by his wife and three daughters. C. A. Hahn continues as general manager of the McCauley company.—CHI.

Toby Stewart, Exhibitor, Dies

Funeral services were held Wednesday in Shenandoah, Iowa, for C. V. (Toby) Stewart, 48, Shenandoah theatre owner who died Monday.

Construction Cut 20%

With new theatre construction already cut to the bone, CPA administrator Jack Small Tuesday announced Washington a further cut of 20 per cent in authorizations for non-residential housing. Effect of the new cut will be to limit new theatre projects almost exclusively to war veterans who can show that their families suffer serious hardships if their applications are rejected.

6 Memphis Independent Owners Sue Lightman and Majors for $2,910,000

Charging conspiracy to restrain trade in motion pictures in violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, one of six independent Memphis Theatres last week filed suit for $2,910,000 damages against M. A. Lightman, president of Malco Theatres, his associates, and eight of the major film distributing companies. The complaint was filed under the Clayton Act, which provides that violators of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act can collect triple damages.

The complaint was brought by Chalmers Cullins, Nate Evans and Edward O. Collins, owners of the Edmond Theatre; R. C. Wilson, Mrs. Ruby L. Wilson and Louis A. Weaver, owners of the Airways Theatre; Augustine J. Giancola and Agnes M. Giancola, owners of the Lucian Theatre; James West, owner of the Hollywood Theatre; E. R. Gillette of the Bristol Theatre; Mrs. Lebora Giancola, of the Rosemary Theatre, and Chalmers Collins and Mr. Evans personally.

Major Distributors Named

Named as defendants were M. A. Lightman and his associates, Paul Zarilla, Moses J. McCord, William Phillip Zarilla, Joseph Maceri, Edward P. Squires, Herbert Kohn, Paramount Pictures, Inc.; Warner Bros. Pictures Distributing Corp.; Universal Film Exchanges, Inc.; Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corp.; RKO Radio Pictures, Inc.; Loew's, Inc.; Columbia Pictures, Inc.; Malco Theatres, Inc.; L. & L. Theatres and Capitol Realty Co.

Owners of the six independent theatres declare they have been damaged a total of $970,000, and that under the Clayton act they are entitled to $2,910,000 to be divided as follows: Idlewild Theatre, $312,000; Airways Theatre, $210,000; Lucian Theatre, $280,000; Hollywood Theatre, $280,000; Bristol Theatre, $374,400; Mrs. Giancola, executor of the estate of M. Giancola, $491,400; Rosemary Theatre, $210,600 and Chalmers Cullins and Mr. Evans, $750,000.

Charge Neighborhood Monopoly

Owners of the six independent houses charge that the operation and control of six of 18 Memphis neighborhood theatres by the Malco-Majors organisation violates the Clayton anti-competitive act.

Filmack All Set to Start 'Prevue Trailer' Service

The Filmack Corporation of Chicago, producers of special announcement trailers, has announced that it is entering the prevue trailer field.

The Filmack preveu trailers will be a little over a half-minute long, will not contain actual scenes from the pictures, but will consist of stills and special artwork, synchronized with music and off-stage voice.

Although no definite date has been set for releasing the new service, Filmack expects to start production early in September.
Broydi Takes Over Carr's Monogram Production Job

The question of who would take the post of production head at Monogram following the death of Trem Carr was answered this week when a company announcement stated that Steve Broydi, president, would assume Carr's tasks in addition to his present duties. Broydi, although thought of in trade circles chiefly in connection with sales matters, for the past six years has been closely allied with Carr in the latter's work at Monogram's coast studio, and his added production responsibilities not considered a major change in Hollywood.

Broydi entered the motion picture industry in 1924 as a salesman for the Franklin Film Company, and later covered the same eastern territory for Universal for five years. Following this, Warner Bros. engaged him for a similar assignment in Mexico, where he remained the following year and then returned to New York. In 1933, when he joined the staff of the Boston office to become a salesman operating in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Two years later, when Monogram merged with Republic, he continued with the new organization in the same territory.

In 1937, when the new Monogram company was formed, he obtained the distribution franchise for New England and became head of the Boston exchange. In 1940 Broydi was elected to the Monogram board of directors, and by the end of that year had become vice-president and general sales manager with headquarters at the office in Hollywood. As the Chicago convention of the company in 1945, he was elected vice-president in charge of operations and in November of the same year was elevated to the office of president. Shortly afterward, he was also made president of Monogram's various subsidiary companies.

Monogram in Shorts Field

Monogram Pictures, through its president, Steve Broydi, this week announced its entrance into the short-subject field with a one-reeler called "Mexican Baseball." The company has never before released a short, "Mexican Baseball," as the title implies, deals with the league formed by the Pasquel brothers which has lured away so many star baseball players from the major leagues. It will be made in color by Producer-Director Eugene H. Levy.

200 Automatics for Mexico

Plans for building 200 Natco automatic theaters in the coming winter were announced this week by Willard Gitwitz, vice president of Natco, on his return from Mexico City. The new chain will be operated by Natco International.

St. L. Acts on Fires

A St. Louis ordinance establishing a revolving fund for the installation of fire alarm boxes in front of the city's 122 theatres was approved on Aug. 22 by the Board of Estimate and Appraisement, which controls the finances of the city. The Fire Department will install the alarm boxes and the cost will be charged to the theatre owners.

Shortage of Boots

The advertising department of Tri-State theatres found themselves in an embarrassed spot when the Des Moines Register came out with an ad for the Strand Theatre announcing Barbara Stanwyck in "The Bride Wore Pants" plus a co-feature of "Blondie's Lucky Day."

Research by the bosses showed the error had been made by the newspaper, not the Tri-State advertising department and one conclusion offered was that a current shortage of boots in the area may have been working on the sub-conscious of typographers and proofreaders.

Vets Seeking Theatre Sites In Tough Spot

Veterans who wish to enter the theatre business are comparatively few in the Gulf States area but those who do chose to enter the field uniformly have picked locations where it would take a miracle to make the operation a success. Exchange managers in New Orleans declared this week.

"You can't blame the veterans," one old-time booker declared. "What other spots are open excepting those where no one else is operating a theatre—usually for the reason that the spot has proved it isn't worth anything over a long period of experience."

The chief complaint of the exchange men is that the vets seem to want to sink their money in any type of construction, get pictures and start up in show business only to find out the facts the hard way. One location cited is where a vet entered a town against advice, got pictures and now is running three days a week only and is facing almost certain failure because the community cannot support a theatre.

Columbus Theatres Face Burlesque Competition

Competition in the form of burlesque appears to be coming back to central Ohio. Long quiescent, the half-and-thigh shows are getting a start at the Knickerbocker Theatre, Columbus, which will reopen about Sept. 27 with a burlesque-film policy under the management of William A. Pancake. Pancake already owns a night club in the same building and expects to shuttle his performers between the two shows.

Ohio Tax Returns Up

The Ohio three-per-cent admission tax yielded $179,757 more in the first seven months of 1946 than in a similar period in 1945, it was reported by State Auditor Joseph T. Ferguson. All records for general revenue will be broken in Ohio in 1946, the auditor said. Total increase from all state tax sources in the seven-month period was $35,898,517.

B & K Short Kid Shows

Balaban & Katz, largest Chicago theatre circuit, is going to feature Saturday morning cartoon shows for the children in the chain's neighborhood theatres. It was announced this week. Tickets for the shows will be sold in advance on a reserved seat basis.

Allied Meeting Set for Sept. 16-18 in Boston

Marking what its founder and leader, Nathan Yamin, terms a new era in the history of the organization in that it represents a milestone from which leaders can look back on accomplishments and forward to new goals and achievements, the annual convention of national Allied will be held September 16-18 at the Copely-Plaza Hotel in Boston, with Yamin as chairman.

A series of constructive developments for the exhibitors since Allied's founding 17 years ago were cited by Yamin, who credited the association with bringing about "interchangeability," whereby pictures recorded by one sound system could be reproduced by another.

While the consent decree and the recent court decision in the anti-trust case were not entirely favored by Allied members, Yamin said that at least Allied's influence was used in abolishing compulsory block-booking.

"Ambitious plans that will help the independent exhibitor to stay in business and to simplify his operations" will be developed at the convention, according to Yamin, who said that Allied would seek a "mutuality of contract" which he termed "an endeavor to formulate a contract drawn up by both exhibitors and distributors so that the provisions will be fair to both sides."

Meanwhile, Allied is laying plans to sponsor production on its own through projects now being formulated. Revelation of these plans is expected at the convention.

WB Quarterly Dividend

A quarterly dividend of 3½ cents per share was declared on the common stock, payable October 4 to stock of record September 9, at a meeting of the board of directors of Warner Bros. Pictures this week. This is the equivalent of 7½ cents per share on the old stock before giving effect to the two-for-one split.

RKO Dividend Declared

The Board of Directors of Radio-Keith-Orpheum Corporation at a meeting held this week declared the quarterly dividend of 30 cents per share on the Common Stock.

MGM Tradeshow Shorts

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer will tradeshow all of its short subjects until at least a clarification of terms under the decision of the New York statutory court becomes available and definitely states that such shorts trade shows will be unnecessary, it was stated this week by an interested MGM source.

First short on the new program is Pete Smith's "Football Thrills of 1945" which was shown in New York and Los Angeles Thursday (29). It will be shown in Indianapolis September 3, in Chicago September 6, and elsewhere September 5.
**SMPE Demands Technical Film Courses in Colleges**

At least 100 courses in various phases of motion pictures were given by American colleges and universities in the past year, with indications that the number will be augmented in the new term, it is shown in a survey made by the Society of Motion Picture Engineers' Committee on Motion Picture Instruction. The committee includes John G. Frayne, chairman; John W. Boyle, C. R. Keith and E. A. Bertram, and its findings will be published in the next issue of the SMPE Journal. The subject also will be discussed at the 6th Semi-Annual Convention of the Society to be held October 21-25 at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, Hollywood.

Although the teaching of film subjects is on the increase, the committee points out that few, if any, of the courses to date can be construed as offering technical information on a level corresponding to that of other well-established curricula. Most of the courses come under the broad heading of "visual education."

One of the Society's important future projects, as set forth by President Don E. Hyndman, is to institute genuine basic courses embracing the technology of motion picture making in our institutions of higher learning. It is felt by the Society that the film industry has advanced to a point where training for this field should be recognized as calling for special instruction in schools and colleges. Specific courses leading to a degree in the important field of sound recording are recommended by the Committee on Instruction.

**Film Dividends Steady, Commerce Dept. Says**

Film company dividends remained at top levels during June, with a boom total of $5,629,000 reported by the Department of Commerce in Washington. This compared favorably with the June, 1945, figure of $4,923,000. The official-organized gross total for the second quarter of 1946 to $9,043,000, compared with only $5,638,000 for the second quarter of 1945.

The June figures topped those of the previous two months, when they were only $2,333,000 and $1,061,000. Heavy Warner and RKO dividend declarations accounted for the greater volume in June.

**SPG to Hold Sept. Election**

As a result of winning the recent National Labor Relations Board election, the Screen Publicists Guild will hold a special election on Sept. 17. John Baker, Chip Cleary and Paul Anthony have been nominated for president, Milton Gottlieb is unopposed for business representative. IAN.

**P. A. Tour for Kaye**

Danny Kaye has completed arrangements for a two-months personal appearance tour immediately following the completion of his current Goldwyn production for "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty."

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**Polio Hits St. Louis Theatres**

Five new polo cases were reported in the Greater St. Louis area on August 25, bringing the total to 294, including 17 fatalities, and attendance at all children marines in the metropolitan area has fallen off very sharply. The sharpest declines have taken place in theatres adjacent to the homes of boys and girls who have died of the dread disease. Attendance at the Youth Cinema Club at the Cinderella Theatre has fallen off decidedly in the past few weeks.

In Minneapolis this week, local theatremen who are members of North-Central Allied at a meeting in the Nicollet Hotel authorized Ben Berger, president, to propose an adjustment of film rentals for theatres in all situations where attendance has been hit by infantile paralysis.

Theatre attendance has dropped severely in the Denver area due to the polio epidemic, which has caused a postponement of two weeks in the scheduled opening of schools. Several theatres in the area have closed and more are expected to do so as a result of the fear which has spread because of the prevalence of polio.

**Current Attractions Maintaining Grosses, Holdovers at Key Runs**

Sustained high attendance in many key spots of the country on current pictures is taken as an indicator that the near-record June admission tax returns announced this week by the Bureau of Internal Revenue may be even bettered for the current month. Except in individual areas where special conditions may account for drops in business, the key-run houses showing the current crop of bigger features are reporting heavy box-office takes and extended playing time.

Among the pictures in the limelight for performance at these key situations are Paramount's "To Each His Own" and "Monique Beauche"; RKO's "Notorious" and "The Kid From Brooklyn"; 20th-Fox's "Claudia and David"; Monogram's "Suspense"; United Artists' "Caesar and Cleopatra"; Warner's "Night and Day" and "The Big Sleep"; Universal's "Canyon Passage."

WARNERS announced early in the week that "Night and Day" had held over in more than 12 cities for a fourth week or longer and that the attraction has gone into the all-time top place among Warner releases from a standpoint of holdovers in first key city showings. In New York, the new Warner Bogart-Bacall co-star offering, "The Big Sleep," ran up new high grosses at the Strand for a non-holiday opening day's business.

New York's first run houses appear to be dominated by RKO at present. The lineup is as follows: "Notorious" at the Music Hall; "The Stranger" at the Palace; "Till the End of Time" at the Rivoli; "The Kid from Brooklyn" at the Astor; "Step by Step" at the Rialto. Goldwyn's "The Kid from Brooklyn" this week started its twentieth and final week at the Astor, where it will make way for "Caesar and Cleopatra" after Labor Day despite the fact that Goldwyn's office claims the picture has not come within 25 per cent of its closing control figure. The Music Hall is currently playing "Notorious" for its third week to tremendous attendance at all performances. Monogram's "Suspense" closed its Broadway run of nine weeks at the Victoria on Thursday, and this week completed its two-week run at the Orpheum, Vogue and El Ray Theatres in Los Angeles.

Los Angeles also was the scene of a mark for Paramount's "Monique Beauche" when the Bob Hope vehicle playing at the Paramount Hollywood and Downtown theatres registered the biggest Monday's gross in two years.

The gross for the two weeks of "Claudia and David" at the Rosy, New York, as announced by 20th-Fox home offices was over the quarter million dollar mark. The picture is in its third week, with the big theatre continuing to open its doors at 10 a.m. daily.

**Mass. Sunday Censors Give OK to Outlaw**

Finding nothing objectionable in the film, the Massachusetts State Police Bureau of Sunday Censorship announced that the Howard Hughes production "The Outlaw" had received unqualified approval for showing in theatres in the state.

The announcement in Boston by the Sunday Censorship board brought a counter blast from the Boston Catholic Archdiocese, which in an editorial noted that the picture was piqued in Chicago by men of the Holy Name Society and said that "possibly the Holy Name men will picket it here as they did in Chicago—we don't know."

The storm of protest which has built "The Outlaw" into one of the biggest grossing pictures currently playing limited playdates, arose in Omaha where three organizations made last-minute protests against the showing of the picture at the Paramount Theatre. However the protests seemed of little avail, Mrs. J. C. Tighe, chairman of the Legion of Decency; Archbishop James Hickey; and Mrs. J. C. Schmidt, president of the Omaha Council of Parent Teacher Associations all made public statements. Archbishop Ryan asked Omahans to stay away. Mrs. Tighe contended the picture glorified the triumph of the outlaw over law and Mrs. Schmidt attempted to see the Mayor. Mayor Leeman, City Councilmen and other civic leaders had seen a special screening of the picture a month ago. The council decided to take no action. During its week at the Paramount, "The Outlaw" drew outstandingly.

**And Still They Rise!**

Admission amusement taxes over the nation continued to rise during July with the 1946 total for that month reaching $40,248,042.68 in comparison to the July, 1945 of $33,322,578.83.
Melodrama with that RKO
The crackling drama of a man's frenzied, fighting determination to re-live one blanked-out hour... to unlock the secret of what had happened to him—and of what he was accused of doing to others!

PAT O'BRIEN • TREVOR CLAIRE
HERBERT MARSHALL

with RAY COLLINS WALLACE FORD DEAN HARENS

Directed by IRVING REIS
Written by John Paxton, Ben Bengal and Ray Spencer

NATIONALLY ADVERTISED
in 30,610,384 CIRCULATION
PICTURE PEOPLE

Ben Serkowitch, Columbia's director of advertising, publicity and exploitation, who checked out of Mt. Sinai Hospital Wednesday following an operation which hospitalized him for more than a week, is expected back at his desk soon.

Stuart H. Aarons has returned to his post on the legal staff of Warner Bros. after three years in the Army. He was associated with Warners for 14 years before entering service, in which he spent two years overseas and was mustered out with the rank of First Lieutenant. He participated in three campaigns in the Asiatic Pacific theatre, including the invasion of Leyte.

H. M. Richey, head of MGM exhibitor relations and one of the industry's most habitual travelers, arrived in New York from Chicago Thursday.

A search for talent and story possibilities will take Warner Director Irving Rapper to London on a junket that will begin immediately; he completes his current picture, "Deception."

Major John Zanf of the MGM studio arrived in New York from the coast Monday.

William F. Rodgers, MGM vice-president and general sales manager, arrived in Hollywood from Chicago on Monday.

Edward Manson has rejoined the Samuel Goldwyn organization to arrange itineraries and all transportation details for the forthcoming tours of the Goldwyn Girls to England and South America.

E. O. Wilschke, Altec's assistant to the vice-president, returned to the home offices in New York this week after an absence of six weeks during which he attended the I.A.T.S.E. convention in Chicago and visited branches in Hollywood, San Francisco, Portland and Seattle.

Milton E. Cohen, recently appointed Eastern Central district manager for RKO was guest of honor at a testimonial dinner tendered by the Detroit Variety Club, Monday night at the Book Cadillac Hotel.

Jules Lapidus, Warner eastern and Canadian sales manager, left his New York headquarters Tuesday for Toronto to conduct the first meeting of Dominion sales personnel since Canada was added to the territory under his supervision.

William M. (Bill) Levy, UA division manager for Europe and the Near East, left New York for Paris by plane over last (last, that is) week-end.

David Golding, former staffer for The Film Daily, and more recently editor of the former servicemen's magazine Salute, has joined Samuel Goldwyn Productions as a press agent for the Goldwyn office in England, where he will work on "The Kid from Brooklyn." During the war Golding was a master sergeant in the Army, serving as managing editor of the Mediterranean edition of Stars and Stripes.

Seymour M. Pefser, of the law firm of Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin and Krim, has been appointed general counsel for National Screen Service, replacing his partner Arthur B. Krim who has been elected Eagle Lion President. Pefser did time in the army as a major on General Sommerville's staff and later with United States Supreme Court Justice Jackson at the Nuremberg war crimes trials.

Set Honorary Sponsors for Jolson Testimonial

Leaders of all branches of the amusement world have formed an honorary industry sponsoring committee to pay tribute to Al Jolson on October 1 when the singing star will be honored with a testimonial dinner by the American Veterans Committee at the Hotel Astor.

Motion picture executives serving as honorary sponsors include C. C. Moskowitz, Jack Cohn, Tom Conners, Ned Depinet, Hal Horne, Howard Dietz, Harry Brandt, Gus Eyssell, Matthew Fox, A. J. Balaban, S. Barret McCormick, Abe Montague, Curtis Mitchell, Edward Raitt, Gradwell Sears, Bob Wetten, Harry Thomas and Herman Robbins. The theatre, music, radio, restaurant and hotel fields, as well as the film industry trade papers, are also represented by sponsoring leaders.

Honoring Al Avery

RKO Radio branch manager Al Avery of Memphis is to be honored on his silver anniversary in the business. Salesmen, bookers and other branch personnel have designated October as "Al Avery Silver Anniversary Month" and will put forth every effort to break all records. Most of Avery's 25 years in the business have been under the RKO and Pathé banner.

Weill Tours for Prestige

Jules B. Weill left New York this week for a swing around the Southern territory in his capacity as special executive office sales representative for Prestige Pictures, the post to which he was appointed by William J. Hine- man, general sales manager of the J. Arthur Rank Division of Universal.

Al Capp in Big Deal

Al Capp, creator of the "Lil Abner" comic strip, has been offered a $200,000 contract by David O. Selznick for a picture film based on the characters of his cartoon community. The deal, according to information gleaned from Bridgeport, Capp's home town, has not as yet been closed—BRT.

SHOWMEN'S SILHOUETTES by Dick Kirschbaum

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Urges Clean Rest Rooms
In Fight Against Polio

Citing the current widespread infantile paralysis epidemic "that is striking fear and hysteria into the entire populace," Maurice M. Rubens, Publix Great-States Theatres executive and Illinois State Chairman in the recent 1946 March of Dimes, has circulated a letter to theatre managers urging clean rest rooms as one of the important methods of preventing the disease from spreading.

"While very little is known regarding the manner in which this dread disease is spread," Rubens writes, "all medical authorities are in agreement that nearly every form of human excretion is apt to contain the unfilterable virus that causes it. Every patron, without exception, uses the rest rooms, and once he finds them in an untidy, ill-smelling condition, that theatre is oftentimes removed from his list forever. A manager whose theatre is operated with neither clean, spick-and-span rest rooms can rightfully be subjected to severe criticism."

Favorably Impressed

Rubens points out that a patron observing ushers, maids or porters frequently spraying urinals and toilets with a good disinfectant in a well-kept rest room where good housekeeping prevails cannot help but be favorably impressed. Recalling that widespread publicity followed a recent inspection of theatre, department store and public building rest rooms by the Chamber of Commerce in several localities, Rubens poses the question: "Can your rest rooms stand inspection?" His epilogue: "Let's have our rest rooms super-clean!"

Is This Your Cashier?

They tell of a theatre cashier who, when a patron applied for admission, requested the patron to wait until the polish on the cashier's fingernails dried. One could not have blamed the patron if she never returned to the theatre again. Managers should make their box-office girls understand that manicuring, sewing, knitting, reading and unnecessary talking will not be tolerated.

Keep Your Eye on Him

Keep your eye on the patron who changes his seat more than once. He's probably up to no good.

Spank the Parent

During a performance at one of Bridgeport's downtown theatres the other evening a baby began to cry. To the rest room with her offspring went the mother where, from the screams heard, a sound spanking was apparently administered. Then she dragged the child back, whimpering, so she could enjoy the rest of the picture. A few moments later Junior's wailing began anew. The episode was repeated. Finally, a patron remarked to an usherette: "It's the mother—not the child—who needs the spanking for keeping the boy out so late."-BRT.

The Brass Tacks of Efficient
Picture Theatre Management*

**HOW TO SELL TICKETS BY ADVERTISING**

By Jack Jackson

The complete blue print for this article, together with a goodly share of the verbal planking that will be used in its chronicling, comes to you second hand. I got the material the other day direct from the seasoned and expertly culled piles of know-how that is stored under the balding pate of my good friend Porter K. Johnston of the Interstate Circuit in Dallas, Texas.

The prospect of my constructing a house of words that will do justice to the excellence of the astute observations and sagacious calculations supplied by "PK" are extremely remote but I'm going to make a stab at it. And, it is my sincere hope that, as you gander along these passages you are jabbed, jarred and jolted by each and every one of the precision-beveled directional arrows which Johnston has fashioned so expertly.

I value highly—as should every reader of this series—the theatre advertising recommendations advanced by Johnston, a film buyer of many years experience with larger circuits whose "buys" hit into the coveted million dollar bracket year after year. The day-to-day and theatre-to-theatre receipts of every engagement on every picture hold top rating among the factors for precision calculation which Johnston applies to determine playing time, terms, exhibition spots, etc., etc.

I believe you will agree that intensive study along these lines qualifies my friend "PK" as a fellow worth listening to when he discusses theatre advertising. And from here on in this chapter you will have to take Johnston and myself in salutary form because I believe some of his arguments require tempering and elucidation, even if that results in diluting their strength.

It goes without saying that the ultimate goal of every advertising effort is to "make a sale." It is generally conceded that any advertising maneuver, calculated to attain the "sale" goal must lead the prospective customer through four frames of mind or moods before the "sale" is finally consummated. The recognized formula of successful advertising consists of four steps in the following sequence: attention, interest, desire and action.

Carry Through Attention to Interest to Desire

Now I paraphrase from Johnston. "So, we start with attention and work toward the second step, interest. It is easy to merge these steps almost imperceptibly because attention is temporary interest and interest is sustained attention. If you stop selling after attaining attention and interest, do not expect results. If you can carry through attention to interest to desire you are on the way home from third base. For the theatre the fourth and final step (action!) is almost automatic because the price of the sale is so thrilling that once the desire is created there is little hesitancy on the part of the prospect.

In this respect, the theatreman is far more fortunate than dealers in higher priced commodities. However, the theatre can do many things that aid in telescoping the steps leading to the point where "laying the money on the marble slab" is almost a mechanical act. The last atom of resistance can be totally eliminated by a good job of public relations and the institutionalizing of your theatre.

Here, again, one job merges with another. But the steps to accomplishment are distinctly different in each department. A good job of housekeeping plus excellence in the service department is the prime essential of institutional rating. If you keep your theatre clean—and that means booth, seats, carpets, store rooms, drapes, ledges, curtains, glass, doors, equipment, rest rooms, uniforms and all other units of the lobby (Continued on Page 21)

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SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, August 31, 1946
THEATRE MANAGEMENT

R yan Instructs Theatres on Fire Prevention


Ryan sets out in a series of departments relating to the care of equipment and the responsibility of management to its patrons, and it is the part relating to Safety that has been selected for reprinting in this issue.

The second, and concluding part of the manual is contained in this issue.

Mr. Ryan writes:

PREPARATION AND TRAINING OF THE STAFF.

It is necessary that each employee of every theatre be made aware of the importance of his or her part in safety, and each employee must be in a position to carry out his or her responsibilities.

Some theatre operators have a general idea of what is necessary, but, when specific duties are assigned, the problems of the entire theatre are made manifest.

The purpose of this department is to acquaint the staff of the theatre with the necessity of fire prevention, and to familiarize each employee with his responsibilities in the event of a fire.

FILL CANDY MACHINES

Since many theatres are using candy vending machines as a source of extra revenue, the satisfaction of patrons on this score is very important. In many cases, the prevention of disgruntled patrons is an hourly check of the machines to see that they are well filled and operating satisfactorily.

Available in either of the above described emergencies, the SIGIOT of a person speaking to the audience is entirely satisfactory in controlling a group of people and forestalling panic.

It is stated that the word “fire” be strictly forbidden to use of the staff. The mere mention of the word by an employee may be sufficient to panic an audience. Use some such predetermined phrase as “Get out of the building” or “Mr. Blodgreen is in the booth” to designate the type and location of the trouble. Theatre employees should be trained never to run or appear excited while performing their duties.

EMERGENCIES:

There are two types of emergencies that are of the greatest importance to the theatre; fires, and Fire and Panic is most liable to occur during these hours.

Emergency No. 1. Immediate danger, show must be stopped.

(a) Local. Any type of disturbance which may be unnoticed by the audience, or which may be perceived by only a portion of the audience, in which no general danger is involved.

(b) Local. Any type of disturbance which may be unnoticed by the audience, or which may be perceived by only a portion of the audience, in which no general danger is involved.

Disposition: These procedures are almost simultaneous, and will depend upon the individual situation.

1. The staff must be notified at once once.

2. Performance must continue. Permit no break in the show.

3. Prevent panic. Attempts to conceal knowledge of the emergency from the audience.

If audience becomes aware of disturbance, personal assurance that the situation is under control from police and efficient staff members will prevent panic.

Eliminate the source of trouble.

Proper advance training will ensure that your staff will be able to carry out the above suggested procedure with a minimum of wasted effort. Points 1-2, and 4 will be executed simultaneously and promptly.

EMERGENCY NO. 1—GENERAL. Smoke introduced through ventilating system; outcries of disorderly persons loud enough to disturb entire audience; falling ceiling, falling auditorium, ceiling, or other object; fire or explosion in adjacent section of theatre where there is no danger or threat to audience; accident to performers in view of audience.

(a) General. Any type of emergency that may disturb the entire audience. In the above described cases, there is no immediate danger, and the performance must continue.

Emergency No. 1 (b) where the entire audience may be disturbed, requires the staff to go through the entire routine of handling a local emergency. With the exception that outside assistance may be required to elimi- nation of the trouble. In this circumstance, it shall be necessary for the manager and his staff to be alert to prevent panic occasioned by this type of emergency. The special officers, policemen and other necessary officials.

A public address system, with which every theatre should be equipped, should be readily

available in either of the above described emergencies. The SIGIOT of a person speaking to the audience is entirely satisfactory in controlling a group of people and forestalling panic.

It is stated that the word “fire” be strictly forbidden to use of the staff. The mere mention of the word by an employee may be sufficient to panic an audience. Use some such predetermined phrase as “Get out of the building” or “Mr. Blodgreen is in the booth” to designate the type and location of the trouble. Theatre employees should be trained never to run or appear excited while performing their duties.

EMERGENCY No. 2—Evacuate the theatre.

1. The staff, at the designated point in the alarm box to direct the apparatus to the location.

2. The balance of the staff notified to put into execution Emergency No. 2—Evacuate the theatre.

3. Each employee proceeds to his designated post, to facilitate the exiting of the audience and prevent the spread of panic. Exit and fire doors should be opened, fire escapes lowered, and the audience directed through the nearest openings to avoid con- gestion at the lobby doors.

4. Standards should lower the steel curtain and spring the stage vent. If there should be none on duty, this task must be assigned to another member.

5. The engineer, in case of emergency, should shut off intake and exhaust fans. If there is no engineer, someone should be given this task. Generally speaking, this is the proper procedure, although under certain circumstances the fire department may wish to alter it. Be sure to inform them of the exact status of the equipment and that you have shut off the vent.

6. Fire pumps should be checked to determine that they are operating properly.

7. If musicians are employed, they should be summoned to remain in the pit and play during the evacuation.

8. The Manager or Assistant should stand in place of general responsibility and be on hand reasonable evacuation procedure is being carried out. If the P.A. system is alive, he should continuously calm the audience and assure them that “Everything is under control—please don’t panic.”

9. The projectionists should keep the show going until the evacuation order is given. They should then shut down their equipment, store all film in cabinets, drop ports, close booth and leave the theatre.

10. Where talent has been engaged, the stage firemen should direct clearing of the dressing rooms, and then remain at his post for protection against fire and to render aid to the city firemen.

11. The Theatre should be secured for any persons who may have been left behind! (It is again proper to advise you that the above procedures are to be carried out in order, but the execution of them should be simultaneous. Your staff will be able to carry out an orderly evacuation only if they have been trained thoroughly in advance! If your staff does not have all types of employees listed herein, do the best you can with what you have. All police should be covered to effect a complete evacuation, and certain employees may have multiple duties.)

Upon completion of the evacuation, the staff should accompany you to the fire chief where they will either be given further duties as fire watchers or be dismissed.

CASHIER: As soon as the Manager has been notifi- fied of the fire, the cashier should make preparations to leave the box office. Lights in cashier's cage should be turned off immediately. The theater should be escorted to the lobby, where temporary arrangements for protecting the business is to be made. While the fire is under control, over, no tickets should be sold and no additions made to the possession list. As soon as Emergency No. 2 may be put into effect (during the panic) calling for evacuation of the entire audience including all standees in the foyer.

He Helped Safety Drive; Safety Drive Helped Him

There's no getting away from it—cooperation from and with your city officials is one of the best methods of getting both attention and good will for your theatre. H. K. Martin of the Butlerfield theatres in Greenville, Mich., found that out when he suggested running a safety campaign featured by the issuance of theatre tickets for good driving along with traffic tickets for bad driving.

The gimmick in the thing was to obtain full cooperation from the city departments. In the case of Martin's idea, he said he tried the stunt several times in the city, and worked it only fairly well, but this year a new Chief of Police, Jerry Sage, became very enthusiastic and passed out the tickets himself each day. By the end of a month he had presented more than 60 tickets to drivers noticed being careful and considerate of others.

Sage enjoyed himself very much too. He said that invariably when he stopped cars to reward the drivers the latter looked distrustful and inquired: "What did I do?" When he told them he was awarding them theatre tickets for GOOD driving they nearly fainted.

In Greenville the safety campaign became first page news. The local paper, the Daily News, ran a story each day on the progress of the campaign and printed the names of all those who received the theatre tickets, as well as those who were given traffic tickets. Naturally, the two Butlerfield theatres, the Silver and the Gibson, plus Manager Martin came in for publicity, with the whole trip pointing to the laudable activity of the circuit in backing the city traffic laws. This is not something that the good will, and Martin is mighty glad he kept on suggesting the gag each year. In this instance the Chief of Police and the newspaper editor both cooperated beautifully with Martin, and he's mighty happy that the plan's success was assured even before it was put into operation.
“Pardon my back...

but those BOB HOPE
boudoir scenes in
‘MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE’
are just too
screamingly funny”...
Coming...
To Make America Gay On Labor Day...

In Scores And Scores Of Holiday-Weekend Premieres To Launch Paramount Week

—after "playing to standing room only at virtually every performance and grossing nearly 50% more than any other deluxer at the new Goldman in Philly," says Boxoffice Magazine.

Screen Play by Melvin Frank and Norman Panama
Based on the Novel by Booth Tarkington

A WAG IN A WIG

AS THE KING'S BARBER
Bob Hope
and Joan Caulfield
in
Monsieur Beaucaire

with
Patric Knowles • Marjorie Reynolds
Joseph Schildkraut • Cecil Kellaway
Reginald Owen • Constance Collier • Hillary Brooke
Produced by Paul Jones • Directed by Frank Marshall

WHO BECAME A DUKE AND STARTED DUCKING!
Bouquets for 'Beaucaire'!

"If it isn't sure-fire box office, it'll suffice very well until some genius invents something that is."—M. P. Herald

"Candidate for overpowering grosses everywhere."—M. P. Daily

"Calculated to send grosses sky-rocketing."—Film Daily

"Should be one of season's big grossers."—Showmen's Trade Review

"Cannot fail to be a top boxoffice smash."—Hollywood Reporter

"Hilarious entertainment threat which cannot miss being an important coin snatcher."—Boxoffice
Theatrical Management

How to Sell Tickets Through Advertising

(Continued from Page 13)

and auditorium as well as the marquee, box-office and front displays—you make the first and most important step—which is the creation of confidence in the safety and sanitation of your theatre. Of next importance is the selection of product.

There are literally dozens of other activities that help give your establishment the status of a local institution. To name but a few, let me suggest occasional parties for the aged, for children’s orphans, etc.

Be on the Alert

Even the larger amusement palaces can do a lot toward creating the impression of personal interest in the patrons by training the cashiers, doormen and ushers to be on the alert for the regular patrons and to show them little extra attentions. I know that the labor turnover has been burdensome but the fact remains that a careful manager can do the trick by properly educating his staff members and taking the lead himself during the crowded hours. Institutional selling, as described by Johnston, is the anchor that steadies the ship in the ebb and flow of fluctuating grosses. Johnston cites Hayes Office figures showing that the average theatre on a ten-hour day operating basis does 75 per cent of its business in one hour, usually between 7:30 and 8:30, and believes this proved fact should enter into all theatre sales plans.

Selling of any kind—and particularly theatre selling—is composed of a number of forces and the tenor and tempo of these forces are vitally influenced by environment and circumstances. What may prove a successful method of selling under certain conditions in one type of theatre may have to be completely reversed to enjoy success in another.

Since kinetic selling effort far outweighs static selling, too much emphasis cannot be placed on the proper presentation of trailers, animated displays, “floaters” or “flyers” as under marquee displays, street ballyks, etc.

Praises Fan Magazines

My Pal “PK” is also quite a booster for the fan magazines and points to Van Johnson and other newcomers as celebrities owing their popularity to the fan “mags.” I’ll go along with him there and suggest that any theatre manager is smart who watches the movie magazines for articles about pictures or stars coming to his theatre and arranges for cooperative ads on the stands and counters of new dealers or better still for the insertion of heralds to mark the place of the particular story in the book.

Johnston compares the average theatre newspaper advertisement to the efforts of a farmer selling excess honey by putting a sign near the mailbox reading: “honey for sale.”

Use Care in Ad Makeup

Johnston’s premise is 100 per cent sound in that most theatremen pay very little attention to the copy, illustration or layout of their newspaper advertising. Admitted that the method is indexical and can only be depended upon to attract the amusement shopper, there is always the possibility of besting the competition by using care in selecting illustration and catch lines. Attractive layout will make a small advertisement stand out and exert more customer appeal than will larger space carelessly handled.

I repeat what I’ve said often before: newspaper ads are like women. If they don’t have nice shapes, nobody bothers to look twice. Display space is among your most expensive selling efforts. Make every word and every line register as your positive best. And remember that you use the newspaper to sell the masses, so be sure to direct the copy to the masses and take care of exclusive factors and

(Continued on Next Page)

Theatre Manager’s Notebook

Housekeeping 3

(Closet Bowls and Urinals. The unpleasant odors coming from closet bowls and urinals are due to the incrustations of uric acid forming on the under side of the flushing rings. Deodorants should never be used to cover up this odor, but the incrustations of acid removed as they form. Suitable cleaners will effectively and economically remove these incrustations. Just any” cleaner will not do, and those used should be carefully handled according to instructions and warnings of the manufacturer. Some of the most effective compounds are suited to vitreous surfaces only; they will damage painted or varnished surfaces and fabrics.

Procedure:

Follow instructions of the manufacturer in mixing and diluting the compound used. Pour the specified amount of the mixture around the edge of the bowl. Follow this by thorough brushing of the incrustations, and rinse thoroughly.

In urinals the source of odor usually is located in the drain pipe. Remove the screen; pour in the specified quantity of the mixture and let it stand for several minutes. Follow with a very thorough rinse.

Disinfectants and Deodorants. All disinfectants should have definite germicide qualities. Substances containing sodium hypochlorite will release free chlorine, which not only kills germs but chemically destroys foul compounds, leaving the area treated sanitary and odorless. Such agents, however, will also bleach dyed fabrics and attack metal. They should be used only as recommended. Deodorants do not remove odors, but only cover them up; in a properly cleaned theatre any need for them will be greatly minimized.

Glass Surfaces. These are readily cleaned by compounds that are either sprayed on or rubbed on. Apply the cleaner in whichever way is necessary, rinse off and polish well.

Metal Surfaces. Rub vigorously with a clean cloth saturated with good metal polish. Never use a circular motion on a flat area as circles will be formed—use a vertical or horizontal motion. On door knobs or other surfaces of rounded nature, circular motion is recommended. After polishing, be sure to let the polish dry thoroughly, then wipe it off thoroughly with a soft cloth.

Fabrics. Upholstery fabrics are either “pile”—as velour or plush—or “flat”—as canvas or damask.

Cleaning agents may be inflammable, and therefore dangerous; while the non-flammable types often contain carbon tetrachloride which is not healthy when taken into the lungs. Follow manufacturer’s instructions carefully with reference to doing the cleaning in a well-ventilated room or out-of-doors, and with reference to fire precautions.

In general, for removing spots or stains use a clean cloth and small amounts of the cleaning agent. Ring formations

Cleaning Methods 2

(From an Outline of Talks Presented to the Classes in the Wilby-Kincey School of Maintenance)
Skoureas Birthday Fun Club Builds Goodwill and Patrons of Tomorrow

The practice of running children's clubs as an adjunct to theatre operation, which of late has been gaining more and more headway, continues to appear not only more general than imagined, but also has taken on a wider scope than has been realized. We have heard much of the cartoon shows, which gained publicity through the Odeon clubs in Canada and which have been put on in many theatres of the U. S. as cartoon carnivals for adults as well as children. But the other forms of children's theatre activities have not enjoyed so much spotlight.

Or Just Get-Togethers

There are juvenile shows, for instance, or Boy Scout trips, or beautiful baby contests (in this case mostly for exploitation purposes), or just get-togethers. If you have not some activity for the children at your theatre we'd like to tell you today about what the Skoureas Roosevelt Theatre in Flashing, L. I., is doing.

This theatre on Sept. 7 celebrates the first anniversary of its Birthday Fun Club, which has a membership of 5,000 boys and girls, and is now reaching 7,000.

The Birthday Fun Club, it seems to us, is one of the most fool-proof schemes to get good will and patronage that we have yet come across. It was organized by Miss Mildred A. Fitzgibbons, manager of the theatre, who after a year's operation of the club finds it to be worth the while. "The club is held open to the first birthday of the week's birthday members, and is guaranteed to be a good birthday party for the children." The club is simply and entirely workable.

Each child up to sixteen years who enters the theatre is invited to join. While the parents look on the youngsters are enrolled at a permanence registration desk, and have their cards made. The registration clerk makes out the application card from particulars—name, address, and birthdate—supplied by the children or their parents. The children are then given membership cards, are shown how to keep them in wallets, and see the cards rather ostentatiously filed in a cabinet.

The file, arranged according to dates of course, digests a number of names each day. Each child is mailed a birthday card from the club. Then, the following Saturday the child presents the card at the theatre and receives free admittance to the Fun Club matinee show. That is not all. Every week after the show a birthday party is held, when the week's birthday members are guests of honor.

Birthday Cake Featured

One of the features of the party is a large birthday cake—or rather, cakes—which are decorated with pink candles and are specially made to order. They are displayed every Saturday in the lobby, and you may be sure they draw admiring looks, not only from children, but from adults. "Happy Birthday to You" is the theme song for these occasions.

The effect of this personal pipeline from the theatre to the patrons can best be summed up by Miss FitzGibbons herself, who says:

"The club has proved the theatre's most effective medium in bringing the children of the community together in friendship. To the children it has made the (Continued on Page 25)

Jack Jackson...

(Continued from preceding page)

segments through some other medium.

The discussion as set forth in the preceding paragraphs merits study by every theatreman, because it presents the reasoning of a chap of long years of experience in the film business—and most of them spent in resisting all phases of salesmanship as advanced by the top-run executives of the large distributing companies. Don't just head it. Study it and try to make your future efforts conform.

I know of no better way to close this week's session than with Johnston's own words:

"To those who happen to know the big moments of deep sea fishing, of hunting, or of driving a fast car, or of raking in a super jackpot, it can be definitely guaranteed that there is no greater thrill, no more soul-satisfying pleasure, no keener sense of satisfaction than that of a salesmail who has made two sales grow where but one grew before."

You're all selling theatre tickets, fellows, and the future of your business depends on the vitality of your sales plans at Johnston's music will bring some swell music out of your cash register.

Repair When Possible

With a shortage of materials still existing, repairs on damaged seat cushions may prove difficult or well nigh impossible. Even so, every effort should be made to have repairs done as soon as possible. Even the necessaries are available.

Can sometimes be avoided by starting outside the apted area and working in toward the center with a slow circular motion; but with flat fabrics it may prove necessary to clean the entire panel to avoid forming a greasy ring.

For grease and oil stains rub with a circular motion from outward toward the center, continually pressing the cleaned area with a clean blotter or other absorbing material until all trace of both stain and cleaning agent have been taken up. If the grease or oil is not taken up in this way, the cleaning agent will merely spread it without removing it.

For blood, rub out the spot with a clean cloth soaked in cold water; if this fails soak the spot for a minute with cold ammonia and then rub briskly with a clean wet cloth. (Some dyes may be injured by the ammonia changing color.)

Never use hot water or soap on a bloodstain; they will "set" it, making its removal substantially impossible.

Ice cream, liquor and wine can be taken up with a recommended cleaner. It may be well to follow this, when the fabric is dry, by sponging with carbon tetrachloride.

For fruit, scrape off excess with a blunt knife, and proceed as for ice cream stain.

For candy, apply hot-water poultice, wait a few minutes, and rub briskly.

Chewing gum should be moistened with carbon tetrachloride or other agent and carefully worked out of the fabric with a blunt knife. Then saturate a clean cloth with carbon tetrachloride or other agent and rub out the rest of the chewing gum with a circular inward movement.

Lipstick can be treated by moistening it with carbon tetrachloride or other agent, and then taking it up with a clean blotter or other absorbing material until all trace of it disappears.

Shoe polish, black or tan, can be rubbed out with a clean cloth saturated in carbon tetrachloride or similar agent. White polish should be moistened with cold water and allowed to dry thoroughly, then brushed off with a stiff brush; this process being repeated as often as necessary.

For general renovation, fabrics should first be lightly beaten with switch or carpet beater to loosen dirt; then vacuumed. A suitable cleaning agent is then applied in accordance with instructions and worked briskly with a stiff brush or sponge until imbedded dirt is removed. Pile fabric is then brushed with a whisk broom—with the pile while still damp; and again, after it is dry, against the pile to restore the nap or surface fuzz.

Flattened or shiny pile fabrics can be restored by covering the surface with a damp cloth and passing a hot iron lightly over it. Repeat several times if necessary. After the pile has been raised, and while it is still damp, briskly whisk broom the fabric against the pile; then, after it is dry, with the pile.

LEATHER AND IMITATION LEATHER. Remove loose dust and dirt with a damp rag. Sponge lightly with a recommended cleaner (saddle soap in the case of genuine leather) and wipe dry with a soft cloth. Be careful to remove suds or soap from all creases, seams or folds. (Avoid all cleaning agents except strictly neutral soaps.)
MARK HELLINGER'S first FOR UNIVERSAL IS DYNAMITE ON FILM!

Ernest Hemingway's

THE KILLERS

From the Story by
ERNEST HEMINGWAY
...who gave the screen three of its greatest entertainment triumphs...
"To Have and Have Not", "For Whom the Bell Tolls", "A Farewell to Arms".

Produced by Broadway's Master Story Teller
MARK HELLINGER
...maker of "High Sierra", "Thank Your Lucky Stars", "They Drive By Night" and so many other Box-Office greats!

Directed by
ROBERT SIODMAK
whose "The Spiral Staircase" "Christmas Holiday"...and "Phantom Lady" have pyramid to top-ranking fame!
MARK HELLINGER presents

Ernest Hemingway's

THE KILLERS

We predict.... his first screen role will be the movie rave of the nation!

The eye-stopping sensation of "Whistle Stop" as the girl men couldn't leave alone!

The star of "Winged Victory" in his first picture since returning from the Armed Forces

Directed by ROBERT SIODMAK

Screenplay by ANTHONY VEILLER - From the story by ERNEST HEMINGWAY - Produced by MARK HELLINGER
6 Windows Used for N. Y. 'End of Time' Playdate

RKO Radio's home office advertising and publicity department, under S. Barrett McCornick, put on an ace campaign for the New York opening of "Till the End of Time" in cooperation with Sid Gross, publicity manager for the Rivoli Theatre, of which Monty Salmon is managing director.

Six prominent windows were set a week in advance of opening. These consisted of the G. Schirmer music store and the Liggett and Whalen drug stores in the vicinity of the theatre. The latter consisted of scene stills from the picture and the popular dollar edition of "They Dream of Home" by Niven Busch, on which the picture is based. The music store window consisted of scene stills in addition of song sheets on Till the End of Time and the Chopin Polonaise, on which it is based.

A special evening performance was dedicated to Ted Mossman, composer of the song, who appeared on the stage playing some original compositions.

A striking display covered the entire facade of the theatre on the Seventh Avenue side while the Broadway entrance was enhanced by a silhouette effect. Cutouts of Dorothy McGuire and Guy Madison in the lobby also attracted attention.

The above, plus extra newspaper advertising and radio plugs, had the effect of attracting capacity business to the Rivoli during the entire run of the picture.

SHOWMAN SAM SAYS: That feller who said he understood all about the workings of the new convertible decree was a feller by the name of Paul Bunyan.

40 Years a Showman

A. F. (Peck) Baker, who operates the Electric Theatre, Kansas City, Mo., will celebrate his fortieth year as an exhibitor on Oct. 6; meantime he waxes reminiscent about his first essay into sound from the screen—long before the Warners ever did anything about it. Baker claims to be one of the first to think of sound possibilities for the screen. One time he had a film in which was depicted an accident. He and his staff decided to make it more realistic by turning over a large tub of stones, glass, and other refuse. The ensuing crash was so impressive that the audience started rushing for the exits, believing the building was falling down. Although the stunt did not have the expected effect, it proved to Baker that sound should be a part of motion pictures.

Mee Ties-In with USES On 'From Day Forward'

For the showing of RKO Radio's "From This Day Forward" at the State Theatre in Harrisonburg, Va., Manager Cyril Mee arranged a tieup with the local U. S. Employment Office whereby the manager, Everett Wilfong, announced through a story in the News-Record, local newspaper, "that workers and employers in this community now have an opportunity to see some of the services and facilities offered employers and workers by seeing 'From This Day Forward' . . . ."

The story commanded a favorable position in the newspaper and went into detail to cite facts and figures on the work done by the local office during the past six months.

Magazine to Feature Studio Fashion Layout

The October issue of Harper's Bazaar will devote a special feature to the creations of three studio costume designers, Irene Sharaff, of Samuel Goldwyn, Joan Louis, of Columbia; and Rene Hubert, of 20th Century-Fox.

The designs have been photographed on Harper's own models as well as on Goldwyn star Virginia Mayo.

Look Magazine is covering the event with a layout to coincide with Harper's October issue.

Milkmen's Matinee

As part of the campaign for the scheduling of Samuel Goldwyn's "The Kid From Brooklyn" at the RKO Grand in Columbus, Ohio, a 5 a.m. showing of the RKO Radio release was held for 100 milkmen who parked their vehicles in State and High Streets and attended the break-of-dawn performance, arranged by Manager Larry Caplane. Bob Clark was selected as the city's most handsome milkman.—CO.

Apartment Offered in Stunt on PRC Musical

What won't they think of next to advertise a motion picture. Now it's a four-room apartment, newly decorated and with its face neatly washed—and just to top the feeling of getting something straight from Heaven, the first month's rent is on the house.

The apartment in overcrowded Norfolk, Va., is the brainwave of George Daronsall, manager of Fabian's Grandy Theatre of that city, who is using it to promote PRC's "Down Missouri Way." In the film, one of the songs sung by Eddie Dean, who co-stars with Martha O'Driscoll, John Carradine and William Wright, is a little ditty called "No Vacancy," dealing with the housing shortage, which is exactly as acute in Norfolk as in any other city in these overcrowded United States.

Being a very enterprising gent, Daronsall located a lovely four-room apartment in the most desirable section of town, and rented it in his own name, with the option to turn over the lease to anyone of his own choosing. Then he tied in with the Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch, which had not run a contest of any sort since many years before the war, to publicize his offer to turn the apartment over to the veteran writing the best letter stating why he—or she—should get the flat.

The paper went to town on news space featuring "Down Missouri Way" and the offer. So everybody's happy—some veteran will get an apartment; the newspaper has a wonderful human-interest feature, and Brother Daronsall gets free front-page space to advertise the picture.

Scooters for the Kids

Ten kiddie scooters and other free prizes were given away by Manager Frank Ferguson of the Whalley Theatre, New Haven, during a special feature and cartoon program arranged for the kids.—HFD.

MUSIC DISPLAY on RKO Radio's "Till the End of Time" was set with the G. Schirmer music store in New York to publicize the film's campaign at the PRC Display features scene stills and sheet music covers. Arranged by RKO Radio's publicity department.

NIGHT AND DAY this window in Manchester, Conn. was visible to passersby. It is a music tieup on records and sheet music for Warners' "Night and Day" and was set by Rudolph Haupt, State Theatre, assistant manager.
**SELLING THE PICTURE**

**MGM Advertising Dirigible Is Launched at Lakehurst**

**Ship Christened by Star Elizabeth Taylor Before Naval Dignitaries, Press**

More than 50 people, including various naval dignitaries, New York newspaper reporters and photographers, New York newspaper advertising columnists, syndicate and New York aviation writers, syndicate news reporters and columnists, syndicate photographers and representatives of motion picture trade papers, national advertising, aviation and science magazines were invited to attend the launching of the new advertising dirigible, the Metro-Goldwyn-Mairsthip, at Lakehurst, N. J., Thursday afternoon.

Elizabeth Taylor, was chosen to christen the ship with a bottle of water from swamps near Ocala, Fla., where much of MGM's forthcoming Technicolor release, "The Yearling," was filmed. Arriving in New York on Wednesday, Miss Taylor was flown to the Naval Air Station in a Seabee plane for the ceremonies.

**Daylight Test Flight**

Following the launching, the MGMairship made its first daylight test flight, after which it was open for inspection by the press. Early in the evening the press representatives and others were the guests of MGM at cocktails and dinner at Shadowbrook Inn, then witnessed a night test flight of the advertising dirigible.

The 250-foot MGMairship marks the first time the sky has been used for motion picture advertising on anything approaching the present scale. Carrying panels of 10,000 bulbs with running sign more than a city block long, the ship will flash announcements of latest Hollywood pictures over a population area of 22 million along the Atlantic seaboard, and will also feature weather reports and occasional spot news. Latest technical developments permit the running sign to be read at a distance of two and one-half miles. It is visible at five miles.

**Covers Large Area**

Flying at an average height of 1,000 feet, the dirigible will operate over New York City as far south as Washington, D. C.; north to New Haven and Hartford; west to Scranton and Reading. Cities covered include, besides those mentioned, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Wilmingon, Trenton, Newark, Jersey City, Bridgeport, Jersey coast resorts and other points.

The MGMairship is 265 feet long, 60 feet in diameter. The MGM letters on its sides are 30 feet high. The lights of the running sign are connected by 131,000 feet of wire. What appear from the ground to be single lights are actually groups of ten lights, arranged in clusters 18 inches in diameter and scientifically calculated to pin-point at 1,000 feet. The ship will operate from 4:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. each day.

**Plan Mapped Last April**

The new advertising venture was mapped out last April by Howard Dietz, vice-president of MGM, and Douglas Leigh, pioneer in the field of electric display advertising. The ship, which will be operated for MGM by the Douglas Leigh Sky Advertising Corporation, was designed by Fred Kerow, vice-president and chief engineer for Douglas Leigh, Inc. The entire operation of the Navy K-type craft, used for transatlantic passage during the war, is under the executive direction of Captain Karl L. Lange, USN (ret.) former Chief of Staff to Admiral Charles E. Rosendahl. Ground and air staffs are all Navy personnel. The ship is subject to call by the Navy at all times.

**FINISHING TOUCHES.** The Metro-Goldwyn-Mairsthip, launched this week in special ceremonies at Lakehurst, N. J., is shown here receiving finishing touches before its release as the world's largest advertising dirigible. The company initials are 39 feet high, while the ship itself is 265 feet long, 60 feet in diameter. At night the running sign—27 feet high and 170 feet long—will carry information about MGM product. The ship will operate over New York as far south as Washington, D. C.; north to New Haven and Hartford; west to Scranton and Reading.

**Cleo For a Day?**

The prospects of acting as Cleopatra for a day, wearing all the trappings the gorgeous Cleo wore in "Caesar and Cleopatra" evidently appealed to Chicago's gala, because plenty of them applied for the job when the RKO Grand let it be known that they could use a new Cleo to introduce visiting celebrities and as official hostess on opening night.

Newspapers liked the gag, too, and told Chicago about it.

**Fraser, Brien Elevated To New Posts at PRC**

George Fraser, who has been serving as PRC newspaper and tradepaper writer and contact, was this week named publicity manager by Arnold Stoltz, national director of advertising and publicity. At the same time Stoltz also announced the appointment of Lige Brien as the company's exploitation manager. Brien will shortly begin to set up a national exploitation department.

Fraser, who assumes his new duties immediately, has been a film publicist for the past 11 years, having joined Paramount's home office publicity department in 1935 as feature writer and newspaper contact. In 1939 he was promoted to the position of director of foreign publicity and advertising, in charge of world-wide promotions. Since leaving Paramount, he has been associated with 20th Century-Fox and Columbia Pictures in New York, and with the RKO Radio studio in Hollywood.

With the addition of Belle Kammer, feature writer formerly with Universal and United Artists, Fraser has begun an expansion of his department and will shortly announce new additions to the staff.

Brien has been with PRC as exploiter since November, 1941, following an eight-year term of service as manager of Warner Bros. Theatres in Pittsburgh and other Pennsylvania cities. During his theatre management career, he received many awards for his exploitation campaigns.

**Movie Club Promotes Kid Business Via Air Sponsor**

Claude Hunter of the Odeon Theatre, Kingston, Ontario has established a successful Saturday morning Movie Club on the Air for the youngsters of his town, with the cooperation and sponsorship of Doyle's Bakery, which has had its own children's half hour program on the air for four years. Owner of the Doyle program readily saw the benefit of transferring his show to be part of the theatre's program.

The club at present has an average of 1500 active members with the youngsters anxious to sing, dance, play a musical instrument or even read the program's commercial announcements over the air.

Hunter distributes about 5000 numbered cards each week to the kids for participation in lucky number drawings for prizes which are promoted from the town's merchants. Passes go as consolation prizes.

Window displays, displays in the public parks, lobby displays and trailers all are used to build up the Movie Club.—TOR.

**Jewel Tieup for 'C & C'**

Manager George E. Freeman of Loc's Poly, Springfield, Mass., and the Kay Jewelry store of that city collaborated on a special display of jewels by the store, stated to be replicas of those worn by Vivian Leigh in "Caesar & Cleopatra." Local newspapers liked the stunt and carried the story.—HPD.

**SHOWMAN SAM SAYS:** The parking problem gets worse as the cars get bigger; I'm going to start a campaign with this slogan: "When you go to the movies, take a jeep."
Birthday Fun Shows As Patronage Builders

(Continued from Page 22)

theatre more particularly 'our theatre,' while the club members are to the staff 'our children,' many of whom they know by name. The parents, through the theatre's close touch with their children, have also become increasingly attached to the theatre.

'Club members are of all ages up to 16 years. Many babies are enrolled, and there are even out-of-town members. Many of the children are highly individual and talented, and some are personalities in their own right. The club is proud of a girl who has sung at Carnegie Hall, and of Scott Hogan, who has appeared with his father and brother in the family juggling act: 'The Merry Berries.' Others, like Linda Sunner and Mildred Christie, aid the world food situation by cultivating Victory gardens in a vacant lot opposite their apartment house; while a popular boy member has attended the Edison Aircraft Camp in New York State to learn the groundwork rudiments of flying from model planes.

'Captain Irving Davies of the 100th Precinct, Police Department, and Lieut. Frank Timmons of the Public Assembly have complimented the club on the part it plays in the safety program of the children of the community. The children's membership cards serve as a reliable means of identification.'

Newsweek to Publish 20-Page Sound Booklet

A 20-page booklet entitled 'Sound Motion Pictures: 1926-46' will be brought out shortly by Newsweek Magazine for distribution by the publication's educational bureau to schools, colleges, educators, civic leaders, libraries and other organizations throughout the country. In addition to summarizing the history, technical development, content, scope and significance of talking motion pictures, the booklet contains the comments of leading educators and scientists on the art of the sound film, which has just celebrated its Twentieth Anniversary as commercial entertainment.

Among prominent contributors of special articles are Dr. John W. Studebaker, U. S. Commissioner of Education; Dr. Vannevar Bush, president of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, D. C.; Dr. Willard E. Givens, National Education Association of the U. S.; Dr. Guy E. Snively, Association of American Colleges; Dr. E. B. Condon, National Bureau of Standards; Dr. L. H. Demus, American Vocational Association, and others.

Old and New Gags Liven Hartford's Exploitation

Newspaper in Hartford liked the idea of having a local dog owner's collie pose for photos in front of a railway Express truck bearing a poster on MGM's 'Courage of Lassie' and printed photos of the event in their news columns. Manager Lou Cohen and assistant Sam Horwitz arranged the stunt and also presented the animal and his trainer on the stage during the run of the picture. Cohen and Horwitz also set up a timetrick contest with a Hartford newspaper on RKO's "Till the End of Time" and tied it in with a department store, a station sponsor and the newspaper's book reviewer who plugged the event via her air program, giving the stunt double coverage.

OUTDOOR SPIRIT. A colorful front that emphasized the outdoor spirit of the film was used by Gertrude Tracy, manager of Loew's Ohio Theatre, Cleveland, as part of her campaign on the Film Classics release, 'God's Country.' A section of the front is shown above.

Cake to Applicants For Marriage Licenses

Through a stunt arranged by Nate Wise, RKO Theatres publicity director in Cincinnati, and Harry Keller, Universal's midwest field representative, slices of a wedding cake presented by Susan Hayward, one of the stars in "Canyon Passage," were given to the first 25 couples who applied for wedding licenses at the Probate Court, whose marriage license deputy is Charles B. Dolman.

The cake was soon disposed of, and the stunt, which received space in the Cincinnati newspaper, provided added patronage for the showing of the film at the RKO Albee Theatre.

'God's Country' in Fine Campaign by Mrs. Tracy

Gertrude Tracy, manager of Loew's Ohio Theatre, Cleveland, and the only woman manager of a downtown house in that city, is well known in exploitation circles for her outstanding campaigns. Recently she demonstrated her ability for dramatic exploitation when she played "God's Country," released through Film Classics. A spectacular front from which she personally designed to emphasize the outdoor spirit of the picture covered the theatre facade.

Through a tieup with Woolworth's five-and-dime store, Mrs. Tracy had all lunch counter napkins imprinted with advertising copy and 14-20 cards affixed to the store ports. On the scales outside the store certain numbers were posted, and if these corresponded to those on cards "coughed up" from the scales when pedestrians weighed themselves, those fortunate weighees received guest tickets.

A song identification contest ran for seven days over radio station WJW. The first six days' winners received color photos of the dog Ace, while the winner on the last day became the proud owner of a pedigreed German shepherd puppy.

As a result of Mrs. Tracy's selling efforts, 'God's Country' finished with a gross 15 per cent better than average.—CL.

Key City RKO Houses Honor Bergman Birthday

RKO Out-of-Town Theatres in Cedar Rapids, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Davenport, Dayton, Denver, Des Moines, Dubuque, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Lowell, Rochester, San Francisco, Sioux City, Syracuse, Trenton and Watertown paid tribute to Ingrid Bergman this week by opening her latest film, "Notorius," on August 26, the star's birthday.

STRIKING DISPLAY ON 'YOUNG WIDOW.' The principal selling point of United Artists' "Young Widow" is Jane Russell, and the campaign for the film's showing at the Globe Theatre, New York, played her up to the hilt. Shown above is the striking front for the picture—or should we say, Jane Russell.
The most spectacular electrical on Broadway... 160 feet long, 24 feet high, 3500 bulbs, 1350 feet of neon tubing... announces the Astor Theatre opening! Now being erected is another "Caesar and Cleopatra" sign — the largest motion picture display in New York City.
CAESAR AND LEOPATRA
COMING TO ASTOR THEATRE
SEPT. 5th
Selling the Picture

Beaucaire' Opens Goldman Theatre in Philadelphia, Gets Coast Campaign

The super-deluxe Goldman Theatre, Philadelphia's first postwar showhouse, was opened to the general public recently with the world premiere of Paramount's newest Bob Hope picture, "Monsieur Beaucaire.

The dual opening was a civic event that brought together many persons prominent in the city's life. Heading the notables was Mayor Bernard Samuel, who dedicated the theatre as the official representative of the city of Philadelphia. The occasion, regarded as one of the most important in the city's theatrical history, served as a tribute to William Goldman, operator of the house, the first to be constructed in the central city area in 20 years.

Paramount was represented at the dedication exercises by a party led by Charles M. Reagan, the company's vice-president in charge of sales. Among others in the party were Earle Sveigert, eastern division sales manager; Ulrik F. Smith, Philadelphia branch manager, and William Brooker, the company's local advertising and exploitation representative.

After the dedication, Goldman entertained the Philadelphia notables and the Paramount representatives at a luncheon on the roof of the Ritz-Carlton Hotel.

A feature of the world premiere was a five-minute trailer especially prepared at the Paramount studios for the occasion. Serving to introduce "Monsieur Beaucaire," the trailer had a cast made up of Bob Hope; Joan Caulfield, who is co-starred with him in the picture, Dorothy Lamour and Elliott Nugent.

Meanwhile, the west coast opening of "Monsieur Beaucaire" took place last week at the Paramount Hollywood and Downtown theatres, backed by an extensive and well-rounded exploitation campaign.

To offset newspaper space rationing, various outlets providing huge coverage were used. Posted including 50 24-sheet boards, of which 26 are illuminated; 175 six-sheets and two 24-sheet painted panels in San Fernando Valley. Five hundred street car cards were posted on Los Angeles Railway and Motor Coach Co., vehicles, with 75 street car banners on Pacific Electric trolleys.

The radio campaign includes 44 spots weekly on the seven top stations through the engagement. The Bob Hope recorded spots are being carried on KFI, KNX, KHJ, KECA, KFWB, KMPC, KLAC.

Among exploitation features were the posting of 1,000 cards in all barber shops in Greater Los Angeles; credit lines under Bob Hope's "It Says Here" syndicated daily column in the Los Angeles Examiner, in exchange for a trailer cross-plug at the theatres; a dozen beauty shops on a "Monsieur Beaucaire" hair-do; six leading music record shops in a tieup with Capitol Records on the Bob Hope album, and menu stickers at leading restaurants and chain drugstore fountains.

Acquires 'Paintings'

The American Federation of Arts has acquired 11 canvases of the painting, Temptation of St. Anthony, submitted by leading artists in the recent competition to publicize "Bel-Ami," the Loew-Lewin picture for United Artists release, and will exhibit them during the next two years in the principal art galleries of United States and Europe. Winner of the competition was Max Ernst, whose painting will be seen in the film.

This Was a Natural

When Ernie Greco, advertising and publicity director for Hartford Theatres circuit, noticed quite a few people looking over his new car, which was parked in front of the Colonial Theatre in Hartford, he suddenly got an idea. He came out a few minutes later with a window card and placed it on the front seat of the car. Result: More people looking over the car—and the window card.—HPD.

Selznick-Movietime Ad Contract Announced

An exclusive arrangement between Vanguard Films, Inc., and Movietime, Inc., by which the David O. Selznick organization has contracted for use of the patron telephone service facilities of Movietime for advertising purposes has been announced by Paul MacNamara, advertising and publicity director for Vanguard Films, Inc., and the Selznick enterprises.

Under the terms of the agreement no other product may be mentioned except those specified by the Selznick organization and starting October 1st, answers to each of the 100,000 daily telephone calls to Movietime for information about motion picture showings in the New York Metropolitan area will include an announcement for "Duel in the Sun."

Book Tie in to Aid in Exploiting of 'Ramrod'

With Popular Library set to bring out 300,000 copies of "Ramrod" in a reprint edition early in 1947, theatrenmen will have a strong book tie-in when they play the Enterprise screen version of the Lure Short novel.

However, just how long 300,000 copies will remain available is a moot question. The story first gained a circulation of 3,250,000 when it was published serially in the Saturday Evening Post. Subsequently, it was brought out in book form by the MacMillan Company, with the first printing involving 100,000 copies.

So great has been the demand for the book that Enterprise, where production of the film by Harry Sherman is in high gear, could not obtain enough copies to present to a list of 300 newspaper and magazine writers. The studio was able to buy only 250 copies.

Newspaper Ad Breaks For 'The Big Sleep'

The first color ads used by Barrington Hall Coffee in a tiemp with a motion picture will be 360-line layouts featuring Lauren Bacall in "The Big Sleep" to be published September 22 in the magazine section of the New York Times and September 28 in the New York Herald-Tribune.

Similar ads in full color are being supplied by Barrington Hall to its distributors from coast to coast for use in local papers coincident with the engagement of "The Big Sleep."

Lauren Bacall in "The Big Sleep" also is being featured in Lux Soap ads which started appearing in New York papers recently.

Co-op Ad on 'C & C'

J. G. Samartano, manager of Loew’s State, Providence, obtained a three column by 12 inch cooperative ad on "Caesar and Cleopatra" simply by offering a department store the line, "If Cleopatra Lived in Providence . . . She would look to us for added Loveliness!" The store tied the line into its perfume and cosmetic departments, dominated the ad with a photograph of Mrs. Wallis, the beauteous Cleo and both the store and Samartano were more than delighted.

SHOWMAN SAM SAYS: Think I'll run for office this fall. My platform will be: Lowered budgets for pictures, lower prices for exhibitors, and lower taxes on admissions. I'll get the exhibitors’ votes, anyway.
OKLAHOMA CITY

GI OPENS NEW TULSA HOUSE; CONSTRUCTION STARTED ON 1,800-SEAT, $500,000 STATER’S CENTER

Jim Noble, ex-GI and former manager of the Majestic, has opened the Cove, Tulsa, with 600 seats, air conditioning and a cry room.

Dee Fuller, retired veteran, has been named manager of the newly opened Plaza. Fuller was manager at several Standard houses before entering the service.

Griffith Consolidated Theatres, Inc., have secured an authorized capital stock increase from 3,000 shares no par value to 4,000 shares no par value and the Griffith Realty Company, Inc., has had an authorized capital stock increase from 2,501 to 3,000 shares, each no par value.

R. D. Shahe, former manager of the Griffith at Hominy has been named manager of the Kiowa, Holtsap, replacing C. J. Oliver, manager of the Chisholm, who moves to Clinton to manage two houses there for Griffith.

Construction has been started on the new Center Theatre by State Theatres, Inc., T. B. Noble, president. Cost of the new 1,800-seat theatre is estimated at half a million dollars. It will have a 75-foot stage, a 45-foot proscenium, an orchestra pit, dressing rooms and other stage accessories. One of the features will be a fluorescent carpet to guarantee visibility even in the dark. There will be unrolled walls, electric eye self-operating doors, and a nursery and toyland for children. The projection room and stage have been designed to care for television developments. Theatre is set for opening during the fall of 1947.

Start of construction on the long-awaited Griffith at Ponca City also is expected to get under way during early September. The new theatre will be built on the site of the Rosy Application has been made to the Civilian Production Administration for authority to go ahead with the building. Jack Corga, Dallas, is drawing the plans.

TORONTO

EMPIRE-UNIVERSAL CHANGES LEAVE REPUBLIC, EAGLE-LION UNAFFECTED; BALABAN IN TORONTO

A personnel re-organization in the higher levels of Empire-Universal Films Limited, Toronto, has featured Canadian trade activities in preparation for the 1946-47 season, the changes being of importance to distribution of Universal, United World and Enterprise releases but not affecting, it is said, Republic Pictures and Eagle-Lion Films of Canada. M. Isman continues as assistant general manager to A. W. Perry. Mark Plottel has resigned as Ontario branch manager of RKO Distributing Corp. of Canada to direct sales of Universal, United World and Enterprise, while Joe Pulansky, who has been transferred from Calgary to become Toronto district sales manager. Frank L. Vaughan has stepped from the position of Toronto manager of Empire-Universal to become assistant general sales manager of Monegram Pictures of Canada Limited, succeeding Joe Plottel.

Cecil Black, recently with the armed services, is promoted to manager of the head office booking department of Empire-Universal, while Perry Wright, who was also with the armed forces, is officially announced as office manager of the Ontario branch. Succeeding Pulansky as Calgary branch manager is Joseph Garfin, former salesman there.

It is pointed out that developments in the United States with respect to Universal World, Enterprise, Eagle-Lion and Universal distribution arrangements do not exactly apply in Canada where a somewhat different set-up is being established following lengthy discussions both in Toronto and New York.

Barney Balaban, president of Paramount Pictures, attended the directors meeting in Toronto of Famous Players-Canadian Corp. The only announcement emanating from the session was that the next dividend on common shares had been fixed at 15c as before, thus terminating a rumor the rate would be boosted. The dividend, which is payable Sept. 21, is equivalent to 4c per year on the stock which is currently trading at $19.50 on the Toronto and Montreal markets. A further block of common was recently issued for which the company officers had first opportunity of purchase.

There has been clarification of the studio situation for Quebec Productions Limited, of which Paul L’Anglais is president. First it had been announced the company would use Rauck’s Queenway Studios, Toronto, for interior scenes of “TheStronghold,” then it was stated that Quebec Productions had acquired the former naval barracks at St. Hyacinthe, Que., for its studio. It appeared there had been a break with the Rank company explaining the confusion was forthcoming that the selection of St. Hyacinthe is a matter of convenience and that studio equipment is being transferred there from the Queensway plant. Production is scheduled to start Sept. 9. L’Anglais has received bids for distribution rights from both Alexander Korda and Arthur Rank representatives, it is said.

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MILWAUKEE

JEFFRIS THEATRE MANAGER RESIGNS; OLD MILLER THEATRE TO BE FIRST-RUN SITUATION

At the Jeffris Theatre, Janesville, Wis, Manager W. N. Ozenga announced his resignation the first week in August. There had been no indication prior to his announcement of the position for more than a year. No reason for the resignation has been given out up to this writing, but it is said that Ozenga may go into the automobile business. A farewell party was given Ozenga before he left and he was presented with a watch by 14 of the staff.

Niagara, Wis, is to have a new theatre, according to the prospective owner, A. Meritz of Cuba, Ill., who applied to the Niagara village board for permission to build. The site was bought by Meritz from the village at a price of $4,500. According to plans, the theatre is to seat about 400 and will be modern throughout.

The Majestic Theatre at Algoma, Wis., managed by Roger Reinert, has had a new front installed, with modern box-office. The front is in black and peach glass.

The 29-year-old Miller Theatre in downtown Milwaukee (Fox-Wisconsin operated) is being remodeled and will open as a theatre by the new owners—Specer Brothers. The theatre will be ready for re-opening by October 1, according to Andrew Specer, one of the owners, who also stated that it will be showing first-run films from the United Artists studios. The house has 1,800 seats. It is claimed that United Artists has been trying to get a first run outlet in Milwaukee for some time. Until recently its films have been released through the Warner and Riverside theatres, among Milwaukee’s largest. The latter two houses are to show Warner, Universal, RKO and Republic films.

LOS ANGELES

L.A. SALES CONTINGENT HEADS FOR RIC CONVENTION IN EAST; FIRE CLOSES P.A.L.OMAR THEATRE

Norma Mulhman, secretary to Blumac-United’s Cliff Gieseman, is on a vacation in San Francisco, visiting relatives.

Paul Willmarth, general counsel of the Southern California Theatre Owners Association, is in New York, looking over the situation in regard to the consent decree.

Cliff Chellew, manager of the Downtown Music Hall, is vacationing in San Diego. Matthew Trotter is substituting for Cliff. The Downtown’s treasurer, S. Thompson, is back from his vacation.

John DeCosta, Columbia office manager, was named city salesman, Art Kalen, booker, became office manager and Fred Wise took Art’s place on the desk. Wise, former head shipper, was succeeded by Fred Slatten, ex-assistant head shipper.

The PRC contingent is at the national convention in Atlantic City. Harry Stern, Western district manager, headed the local group, which included Syd Lehman, branch manager; Peter Greg, office manager; and Melly Lewis and Bruce Miller, salesmen. The meeting starts Sept.

(Continued on Page 32)
Proclamation

wherein 20th Century-Fox launches its

PRESIDENT'S DRIVE

August 25th—December 28th

to honor you, SPYROS P. SKOURAS, whose leadership we of 20th so affectionately esteem, whose friendship the exhibitors of America so highly prize, whose service our industry so gratefully acknowledges.

During the next 4 months, the most impressive product ever released by our company will implement this tribute to you... from our own 20th Century-Fox family... thru thousands of screens across our land... to bring entertainment of unprecedented quality to unprecedented millions of boxoffice customers.

Tom Broadfoot
Vice-President in Charge of Distribution
ANNA AND THE KING OF SIAM
SMOKY in Technicolor
Jerome Kern’s CENTENNIAL SUMMER in Technicolor
CLAUDIA AND DAVID
THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE in Technicolor
HOME SWEET HOMICIDE
MY DARLING CLEMENTINE
MARGIE in Technicolor
THE BRASHER DOUBLOON
THE SHOCKING MISS PILGRIM in Technicolor
... and climaxing all these
THE RAZOR’S EDGE
(Continued from Page 29)

September 3, with the boys returning to L.A. on September 9. Stern returned from Seattle just in time to take off for the big conclaves.

Cliff Gieseman was a casualty of a vinegar bottle last week. He went for the bottle, but somehow it eluded Cliff on his toe, breaking said digit. Cliff is managing to hobble around.

Repairs are being made on the Palomar Theatre in Oceanside, following a fire that closed the house on August 19. Fred Siegel, who operates the Palomar, also runs the Maego in Oceanside. Damages have not been revealed, but they were sufficient to cause the theatre to cease operating.

Columbia's Wayne Ball, local branch manager, is happy over the discharge of his son, Dave O. Ball, from the Army after three years' service. Young Ball was released as a first lieutenant.

Lee Ross, Los Angeles district No. 1, topped the list in bonuses given Fox West Coast employees. George Bowser, general district manager, made the distribution of checks, which added up to $1,355 to district, city and theatre managers and bookers. It was the greatest amount dield out in the organization's history.

PRC's Peter Gray is the proud pappy of an eight-pound, eight-ounce baby girl, Julia May.

CHICAGO

AUDIENCE FILES OUT QUIETLY AT LA SALLE THEATRE FIRE;
JACKSON PARK LEAVES ALLIED

When fire broke out in the LaSalle Theatre last week the audience on its own initiative filed out quietly before any kind of panic could develop. The damage was small, and the show went on almost immediately.

Conducting reports around Film Row, the Jackson Park Theatre, center of much litigation during the past three years, has withdrawn from membership in Allied of Illinois.

Theatre men will be well represented at the national conference on juvenile delinquency at Washington when the meeting is called to order by Attorney General Tom Clark on Oct. 21.

Mrs. Joseph Chessar, president of the Chicago Film Council, has gone to England for a visit. While there she will meet J. Arthur Rank and make a tour of the Rank studios.

Dan Goldman has sold his Jeff Theatre to

PRIME MINISTER AT PREMIERE.
The premiere of Paramount's "The Searching Wind" in London was a gala event—proceeds went to a fund to aid Queen Elizabeth's Training College for the Disabled. Among the notables present for the first showing in England of the Hal B. Wallis picture were Prime Minister Attlee, photographed above with F. E. Hutchinson, general sales manager of Paramount Film Service.

Edward Matuga through the Silvertella Agency, Goldman is joining the Capital Film Exchange sales department.

Eddie Zorn, president of United Theatrew Owners, has set Sept. 17-18 as tentative dates for the organization's next meeting at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel in Springfield. Plans are being developed for a state-wide booking service.

The Chicago chapter of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers will meet Sept. 12 at the Western Engineers Club. Because of the recent membership drive it is expected that a number of new members will be admitted at that time.

Roy Cuskey, 20th Century-Fox attorney, is here from New York for a series of conferences regarding Chicago film clearances.


Gene Atkinson, business agent for the Chicago Operators Union, has been elected to the Chicago Federation of Labor committee, which is preparing for the annual AF of L convention here starting Oct. 7.

Saul Goldman, head of Variety Pictures, has renewed his Sack Enterprises franchise for the central states. The deal covers eight new features, eight one-reel musicals starring Louis Jordan, and eight negro cast reissues. Goldman says there are now 100 theatres in the Chicago area that play negro films.

The Reel Fellows Club starts its fall season with a meeting set for Sept. 15 at the Variety Club.

Bernard Goodman, Warner exchange supervisor, went on an inspection trip last week to Milwaukee, Indianapolis and Cincinnati.

John Balaban and Nate Platt are summering up in Mason, Wis.

Maurice Feldman, director of the Studio Theatre, and Lorraine Beck were married last week. K. W. Rought has repaired and redecorated his Heart Theatre in Effingham, Ill.

A breakdown in the refrigeration plant of the Palace Theatre caused a one-day closing, but smart use of the washed air system gave patrons already in the house a complete show with no retakes.

The 3000-piece music library of the Majestic Theatre, Houston, has been presented to the city's Symphony Orchestra.

New Krochler push-back seats will be installed in Houston's Tower as soon as deliveries can be made. Al Hover, Interstate manager, states that this will be one of the first of such installations in the southwest.

Navy veteran R. V. Weatherall's new 600-seat Town, Huntsville, is rapidly nearing completion.

W. E. Guest has sold the Parkway, Iowa Park, to J. B. Boyce, who has been associated with the Interstate Cotton Oil Company. Sherman Guest will continue to operate his art and gift shop in Fort Worth.

H. J. Griffith, Harold Harris and Al Lohman, executives of the H. J. Griffith Theatres, Inc.,

ON HAND FOR MGM EXHIBITOR LUNCHEON IN CHICAGO. Theatremen of the Chicago district were on hand recently when MGM held an exhibitor luncheon in the Windy City. In the happy group above are (left to right) John E. Flynn, MGM midwestern sales manager; Walter Immerman, Balaban & Katz executive; William Devaney, MGM assistant branch manager, Chicago; Harry Lustgarten, B & K; Dave Wallerstein, district manager of B & K Great States Theatres; and Sam Shirley, MGM district manager, Chicago.
REGIONAL NEWSREEL

last week moved to Dallas from Kansas City to join R. J. Griffith Theatres. Booking offices will remain in Kansas City under Frank Plun- kee.

City Building Inspector Mel A. Hames recently condemned the Paris Theatre, Santa Fe, in its entirety. The theatre, oldest in Santa Fe, has been closed since it was damaged by fire two months ago.

Kelly Beall of the Iris was robbed of $422 by a fast-working bandit, who quickly disappeared.

MGM has signed Pat Emanuell, Dallas Academy of Speech and Drama student, to a seven-year contract.

Tom Connors, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of distribution, and Atlanta district sales manager H. G. Ballance, conducted a two-day sales meeting with the local sales force.

Interstate fellow workers, the press and her close friends paid tribute to Bess Short at a cocktail party and dinner at the Texas Room of the Baker Hotel. Mrs. Short resigned recently to join her husband, Paul Short, Paramount producer, in Hollywood. R. J. O'Donnell, Interstate executive who gave Mrs. Short her first job in the film business and who has been her boss ever since, was the principal speaker. Kay Beall read telegrams from leading short subject producers in Hollywood, who acknowledged Mrs. Short's role in making short features a vital part in film entertainment. Telegrams from Walt Disney, Carey Wilson, Pete Smith and others were among the laudatory messages. William McCraw, Variety Clubs co-ordinator; William O'Donnell, Interstate executive; Mrs. Clarence Beall, president of Dallas's Motion Picture Board of Review; Charles J. Freeman, Interstate's road show booking department head and Debs Reynolds, who succeeds Mrs. Short as head of the company's shorts department, also spoke in tribute to the retiring department head.

Burton, who was chosen drum major of the All-Ohio Boys Band which appeared at the fair. Claude Helfnall, doorman at the Southern, returned last week from a two-week vacation.

Hollywood, was among the first to be asked by the leading producers to accept a position in the insurance department of the regional office of the Veterans Administration with headquarters in Columbus. B. L. McGranner remains assistant at the office.

State Fair week, traditional opening week of the fall theatre season in prewar years, attracted large patronage at all downtown houses. This was the first State Fair since before the war. Something unusual in the routine of Academy circuit theatres was staged by John Hardgrove, Academy supervisor, last week. Two-hour cartoon shows were held at the Boulevard, Beech- wold and Westmont.

PHILADELPHIA

$5,000,000 THEATRE-COMMERCIAL PROJECT SET FOR PHILADELPHIA; ZWERLING QUITS N. Y. LOEW'S

Herbert Greenberg of the Columbia foreign department is in Philadelphia learning the meth- ics of exchange booking overseas. Melvin Fox's new 850 seat Devon Theatre is scheduled to open September 15.

The Board of Commissioners of Haverford Township, in the Philadelphia suburbs, has unanimously passed a resolution permitting the construction of a theatre, 17 stores, and homes on a tract of land in Manor, formerly owned by Grover C. Bergdoll. Plans of the Suburban Counties Realty Company called for the construc- tion of commercial buildings, homes, theatre, and parking space for about 800 cars. The enterprise calls for the expenditure of approximately $3,000,000.

Maxwell Gillis, Republic district manager, held a sales meeting here attended by Joe Engel of Philadelphia; Jake Flax of Washington, and William P. Murphy of New York.

Louis Basil, orchestra leader at the Carmen Theatre, has moved from Loew's State, in New York on September 5, succeeding Ruby Zwerling, who is resigning.

Back from vacation along Vine Street this week are Bill Solomon and Mike Weiss of 20th Century-Fox, and Johnnie Sloan, Colum- bia's veteran head shipper.

Jimmy Dormond of the Warner publicity department has had a rough time since he came out of the Navy due to the housing shortage. The home in which he lived was sold and he had to turn around and buy another home. However, when the tenants who lived in the house wouldn't move, and Jim was threatened by eviction proceedings by the man who bought his house, things looked pretty black. The situa- tion extended over many months; but finally straightened out this week when Jim just had to move his family into his own home.

Unluckiest man of the week is Jack Goldman, manager of the Center Theatre, who was taken down with the grippe two days before his vaca- tion started, and was flat on his back when his long-due vacation arrived.

Johnny Nirenberg, manager of the Richmond Theatre, switches theatres with George Glass, manager of the Northeastern, over this week-end.

Neal Coogan, Warner field audit supervisor, is filling in at Dave Stadler's desk while Dave, who was injured in an automobile accident several weeks ago, is recuperating.

Herman Goldberg, Warner exchange super- visor, was a Philadelphia visitor.

Everett Callow, head of the Warner Theatre publicity department, has returned from his Ocean City vacation.

A fire in the basement of the Seville Thea- tre two weeks ago caused more smoke than damage. Two alarums were sounded and one fireman was cut by glass. Bernard Fried, son of owner Harry Fried, discovered the fire just before a matinee. There was no interruption to the theatre's schedule of shows.

CLEVELAND

MAJOR SALES HEADS GATHER IN CLEVELAND; E. P. MOTT MARKS 34 YEARS AS EXHIBITOR

Top-flight industry men took over Cleve- land last week in a series of sales meetings.

Tom J. Connors, 20th-Fox general sales man- ager, with four other home office officials, conducted a three-day district meeting at the Stadler Hotel with the Cleveland, Cincinnati, and In- dianapolis branch personnel here in force. Hugh Braly, Paramount 34th Anniversary Drive co- captain, and Division Manager Earl Sweigert held a two-day pep meeting. UA's Edward Schmitter, eastern division sales manager, and Abe Dickstein headed a gathering of the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh and Detroit ex- change managers and salesmen. And Louis W. Schine was here to meet with the Schine Ohio zone managers to talk about plans for the 25th Jubilee Anniversary.

E. P. Mott, a Schine partner in the Wooster Theatre, Wooster, is doing a bit of celebrating on his own. He has owned and operated the past two years the Wooster Theatre and two previous Wooster Theatres on the same site for the past 34 years.

Leroy Braun, who recently resigned as local Universal branch manager to join Columbia's foreign department as far east sales representa- tive with headquarters in Bombay, India, will take with him happy memories of the farewell luncheon staged by his friends last week, and (Continued on Page 34)

IMFRESSED. Producer-director Alfred Hitchcock, currently in New York, is shown above in the Radio City Music Hall office of Gus Eysell, managing director, where he appears properly impressed as Eysell (seated) shows him figures on RKO Radio's "Notorius," which is prov- ing one of the biggest business-getters in Music Hall history.
REGIONAL NEWSREEL

(Coined from Page 33)
also a fine pig-skin brief case as a memento of his work in Cleveland.

M. B. Horwitz of Washington Circuit; Meyer Fine of Associated, and Henry Greenberger of Community Circuit have signaled their intention of attending the National Allied convention in Boston.

Bernard Kranze’s testimonial banquet, twice postponed, will definitely be held in Cleveland on Sept. 23. Al Koliz, RKO branch manager and chairman of the committee on arrangements, is taking reservations. His aids are Lester Zucker, M. B. Horwitz, Joe Lissauer, Oscar Kantor and Tony Stern.

Gwen Waddington, secretary to Bernard Kranze in Cleveland, has joined him in New York in the same capacity. Terry Barno succeeds her as district manager’s secretary. And Doris Anjell, secretary to RKO Branch Manager Al Koliz, is on a New York vacation.

Emery Foffrich, owner of the new Indian Lake Theatre at Russell’s Point, and Mrs. Foffrich, were in town calling on the exchanges.

Jack Sogg, MGM branch manager, was in Chicago all week getting the lowdown on the new Loew sales policy. Mrs. Mary Sabat, mother of RKO Head Booker John Sabat, died suddenly last week. F. Arthur Simon of the Universal South American sales force, writes that the housing situation in RKO is just the same as in the States. Gertrude Tracy, manager of Loew’s Ohio Theatre, is back from a week’s vacation. Walter Kessler of Loew’s has settled down as manager of Loew’s in Ohio in Columbus.

LITTLE ROCK

An unused theatre building at De Witt, owned by Mrs. R. M. Davis, in which a large amount of theatre equipment was stored, was destroyed in a fire there which did $200,000 damage to the business district of De Witt.

Sam B. and Marie O. Kirby have announced that their new neighborhood theatre in Little Rock will be open before September 1. The modern new Nabor has been under construction for nine months.

INDIANAPOLIS

Bernard R. Goodman, supervisor of Warner Bros. branch offices, spent Thursday at the local branch on business.

Claude McKean, Warner Bros. branch manager, spent Saturday in Evansville, Ind., on important business.

Jack Eward, booker at RKO, has resigned.

Harry Hays, United Artists office manager, succeeds Timothy Cleary as city salesman and northern Indiana representative.

Salesmen Carl Kemp, Max Page and Joseph Bohn, office manager for PRC Pictures, will leave Indianapolis Sept. 2 for Atlantic City to attend the national sales convention. Manager Sam Abrams will stop off in New York on business and arrive at the convention Sept. 4 and remain through 5 and 6.

Film Row visitors included: Tremain Remin伊斯, and his brother Tremain Detrick, William Passen, Jasonville; Earl Payne, Switow Circuit, Louisville, Ky.; Maurice Ranking, Terre Haute; Sam Weinberg, Louisville, Ky.; Isaac Sollers, Washington; Charles Bowles, Vine Grove; and W. T. Studdaker, Logansport.

The Liberty Theatre, Washington, Ind., was closed Aug. 28, and the Temple Court Theatre was re-opened. Both houses are operated by the Switow Theatrical Enterprises.

The Ritz and Indiana theatres, Richmond, Ind., installed new Simplex equipment. Robert Hudson operates the houses.

Gary and Alexander, Lebanon, Ind., has purchased the Messner Theatre, Attica, Ind., destroyed by fire several months ago. The new owners will rebuild the house.

BRIDGEPORT

Many Bridgeport young women have entered the model contest sponsored by Loew’s-Poli and Howard’s Department Store in the Loew-Poli-Harry Conover Model Contest of Loew-Poli theatres throughout New England, which will end in the fall with one commencing Sept. 5. Girls between the ages of 17 to 26 are eligible. Applications, which must be accompanied by a photograph, may be obtained at Loew’s-Poli or Howard’s. On Monday night, Sept. 9, entrants will appear on the stage of Loew’s-Poli. From this initial group girls will be selected to appear on the stage the following Monday night, Sept. 16. Winners will have an opportunity to compete with other city winners from New Haven, Waterbury, Hartford, Meriden, Springfield, Worcester, Mass. and Norwich in the grand finals Sept. 23. Harry Conover, head of the model agency bearing his name, and Cindy Jones, one of the nation’s foremost models, will act as judges. The grand winner will be offered a seven-year managerial contract by Conover. The Bridgeport winner also will receive an all-expense trip to New York City, where the national grand finals will be held at a date to be selected later.

One Bridgeport resident is happy to learn that MGM is preparing to re-issue a few selected pictures which it believes to be the best that have come from its studios in recent years. He is Sidney Tracy, who was in the making of “Captains Courageous,” first of the re-releases. Tracy, a consulting editor, worked for MGM and was on hand throughout the filming as technical adviser for the sea episodes. He performed similar service for the same studio during the making of “Mutiny on the Bounty.” The re-issue will be shown in New Haven screening room next week.

Gene Tierney, who makes her home at Greens Farms, has been visiting in New York City, making her headquarters at the Waldorf-Astoria.

Ernest Gilbert, projectionist at Loew’s Majestic, is spending his vacation visiting his daughter in Saratoga, N. Y. His friends are commenting that he is a lucky man to have a daughter there to visit during the racing season when hotel accommodations are almost impossible to obtain.

Harry A. Rose, manager of the Majestic, spent his night off last week taking his wife, Anita, to the rival Warner Theatre, to see “Night and Day.”

Vincent Palmer, formerly manager of the Warner, is out of the Marines. Next month he flies to South America to resume his film work. His wife and family will follow by boat.

JERSEY CITY

NORTH JERSEY SKOUARAS MEN SET FOR 1946 FALL DRIVE: VICATIONISTS STILL AT IT

Notts A. Konnenos, North Jersey district manager for Skouaras, will host to a group of his friends on a fishing trip on Shark River, Belmar, N. J., shortly after Labor Day.

Al Unger, manager of the Fulton, is back after his vacation at Belle Harbor, L. L. Mrs. Unger and the children will remain there until after Labor Day.

Skouaras North Jersey managers attended a meeting at the St. Moritz Hotel, New York City, last Thursday at which all were happy to receive bonus checks and heard plans for getting into full gear for the coming Skouaras Theatre fall campaign for increased patronage.

Joseph Cassell, assistant manager of the Stanley, is the proud father of a new baby girl, christened Darlene Patricia, and who made her world debut at the Margaret Hague Maternity Hospital.

D. F. Barreca, manager of the Orpheum, is in receipt of several interesting picture postcards and letters from Frank Freundenthal, former relief manager for the Rosenblatt & Welt Circuit, who is now an official U. S. Government German interpreter at the trials of the Nazi
war criminals in Nurenberg, Germany. Jack Holter, manager of the Orient, is back from his vacation looking in tip-top shape for the opening of his Fall season.

George Berenson is the new manager of the Montello, succeeding Jack McCoy, who has taken an extended leave of absence.

For the first time in North Jersey all Skouras projectionists, electricians and engineers belonging in that area, received a full week's vacation with full pay.

Three members of the staff of the State are back from their vacations: Gene Santamero, house manager; Jack Turley and Sam Ferguson, assistant managers.

Arthur J. Manfredonia, managing director of the Stanley, is back from his vacation.

Martin J. Mah, former assistant manager of the State has been promoted to relief manager for the Warner North Jersey theatres. Mrs. Ardelle Hedges, assistant manager at the Fulton, is back from her vacation.

The State is co-operating with the U. S. Marine Corps in its current recruiting drive by having a pictorial display of Marine Corps history and enlistment literature in the lobby. Previously the State gave similar cooperation to the drives of the Army, Navy and Coast Guard.

HARRISBURG

"Rage in Heaven," originally produced in 1941 with small success, was previewed at Loew's Regent here last week for the press and the trade prior to its run which starts September 5, Harrisburg, with Reading, Pa., Indianapolis, Ind., and Dayton, O., were chosen by Metro for test engagements of the re-issue. The City Police Department has requested Loew's Regent to borrow the two-tonned chariot which Maurice Drucker sent out on the streets to publicize "Caesar and Cleopatra." The local mounted police will use the chariot for a stunt in their rodeo to be given in September. Due south will be given the theatre.

Returned from vacations at the State are Josephine Raynor, cashier; Viola Schrifter, secretary to Gerry Wollaston; and Roger Uriel, elevator operator.

BIG DINNER FOR BILL EBBR;
BRINGS OUT PARAMOUNT FOLK;
MAURICE WOLF'S KIWIANS TALK

Paramount salesmen and executives gave Bill Erbr a going-away dinner at the Coleman Plaza recently. Erbr is going to London to set up office and handle Palamnick and Vanguard affairs in all foreign offices of Great Britain's possessions.

Ed Hosmer of Independent Theatre Supply Company is back from a week's motor and fishing trip through Maine and Nova Scotia.

Ann Rossi and Frances White, both of Republic, vacationed together at Walter Young's Birch Inn at Alton Bay, New Hampshire.

Maurice Wolf of MGM recently addressed the Rotary Club in Newburyport and the Kiwanis Club in Lawrence.

The local branch meetings to inaugurate Paramount's "34th and Greatest Year Celebration" are being held here this week. Those attending are Hugh Braly, co-captain with Al Kane, and Division Manager Hugh Owen and Branch Manager E. Ruff. A meeting is also planned for Henry Germaine's New Haven exchange.

The manager of the altered Cameo Theatre in West Haven, Conn., will be Dr. Aaron Roffman. The reopening date has not yet been definitely set.

Joseph Murphy of Allston has recently joined Paramount's forces as a broker.

Barbara Walsh of Paramount is on vacation, while Marie Leitch and Miriam Murphy are spending their holidays together in the New Hampshire mountains.

Congratulations to Harry Schlur of Paramount, who was married last week.

Harry Browning of M & P Theatres was in New York recently to see an 16-mm. print.

Herb Philbrick, of M & P, is spending a vacation at Rye Beach, New Hampshire.

Irving Baron, home office executive of J. J. Mage Circuit, recently visited local Exploitation Manager Don Martin and Eddie Allen, manager of the Majestic, Tremont, Lafoinmovie, and Old South theatres.

NEW ORLEANS

THEATRE DESTROYED BY FIRE;
HAS SHOW GOING IN 2 DAYS;
MCNAMIR & DEYITT OPEN SHOP

L. C. Montgomery of Ritz Theatres, did some quick thinking recently. When he discovered after the fire that his theatre, the Joy, the only theatre in that city, was a complete loss, he obtained the gymn reused of St. Joseph's Academy, had a provisional projection booth and screen set up, and Ray Gremillion of Delta Theatre Supply Company installed the necessary equipment for opening two days later.

K. A. McNair, formerly with the Delta Theatre Supply Company here, and Henry De Witt, business agent of the operators union in Hattiesburg, Miss., recently opened the Southern Theatre Equipment Co. in Hattiesburg, Miss.

Activities of the two film delivery services here are humming. Trans-way Inc. the newest of the two operating out of New Orleans, announces the erection of a new fire-proof, air-conditioned garage and film depot. The location will be adjacent to Film Row, Lighting Film Delivery Service, which recently purchased the Schaffer and Gulf States services, also announces that, they too will soon start on the construction of a fireproof and air-conditioned building. Milton Guidry, head of the concern, and General Manager, says that when it is completed they will add more modern trucks and trailers.

Leo Seichnaydre, local manager of Republic Pictures, made a flying trip to Atlanta recently for a special two-day conference with their district manager and other southern exchange managers.

Wyno Dureaux, manager of PRC, is back at his desk after a two-week trip in the Mississippi and Alabama territories.

New Orleanians who will attend the PRC national convention in Atlantic City the first week in September are Milton Dureaux, Manager, Spindler and Crossley, salesmen and Milton White, Booker.


DENVER

RICKETSON, GAMBLE APPLY
FOR RADIO STATION PERMIT;
POLIO CLOSES 3 THEATRES

Frank H. Ricketson, Jr., president of Fox Intermountain Theatres; his son, Frank H. Ricketson III; his assistant, Robert Seig, Henry Van Schaack, Denver real estate man; Albert J. Gould, Denver attorney; Ted Gamble, Portland, Ore., theatre owner, and Elroy McCaw, owner of station KFEL, Centralia, Washington, have formed the Denver Broadcasting Company and have applied for a permit to build a sixth Denver radio station.

Because of the polio epidemic five theatres in the Denver exchange area have closed. They are the Mission; Denver; Cactus, Limon, Colo.; Plains, Rushville, Neb.; Peerless, Holyoke, Colo.; and the Eaton, Eaton, Colo. With all public and parochial school openings delayed two weeks, theatres expect to feel the present 50 to 60 per cent slash in business for about a month yet. More closings are looked for. The state board of health has issued a demand that all children under 18 be kept out of public gatherings.

The southern district meeting of Fox Intermountain Theatres will be held in Denver Sept. 4-5, at the division headquarters, with Harold Rice, manager, in charge. The northern district meeting will be held in Cheyenne, Wyo., with Ray Davis in charge.

Vacationers at Fox Intermountain Theatres division offices include Isaac Weiner, supervisor; William Dollison, northern district booker; William Zint, auditor, and Davette Hamlett and Marjorie Dix, secretaries.

The Atomic Theatre, Cody, Wyo., has been closed for the summer.

Richard Klein, assistant general manager of the Black Hills Amusement Co. headquartered at Rapid City, S. D., and family, are spending part of their vacation in Denver.

Quintin Horn, RKO office manager, is on vacation.

J. K. Powell, Wray, Colo., theatre owner, brought back from Minnesota a 12-pound northern pickerel. He and a friend had made an air-launched tour of several states, and when the Minnesota (Continued on Page 36)
SHOWMEN'S $15,000 Fred Mack week
Harold J. used to restore Bugie, Ray Thomas Guy C.
John Charles Max Bud
Frank Willard Mr. Oregon charge

(continued from Page 35)
lakes caught their eye they set the plane down and went fishing.
Columbia Pictures is doing some remodeling at the theatre, tearing out an old projection room and getting space for a salesmen's office.

Chet Bell, Paramount branch manager, is recovering satisfactorily from an operation.

Lon Fuller, Monogram franchise holder, is spending a week at his Salt Lake City exchange.


CINCINNATI

SCHINE EXECUTIVES HOLD ANNUAL KENTUCKY ZONE MEETING; BUGIE BACK FROM CLEVELAND CONF-1B

Executives of the Schine Theatre Circuit were in Cincinnati last week to greet managers of the Kentucky zone for their work during the past year and to distribute bonuses. The annual Kentucky zone meeting was held in the Hotel Netherlands Plaza, L. W. Schine, vice-president, outlined plans for the coming Silver Jubilee. Subsequent business dealt mainly with local plans for the Jubilee, but the Kentucky theatre managers who were present were Fred Barthel, J. T. Roberson, John Hutchins, Robert Dean and George Pugh, Lexington; Bud Sommer and Ken Carter, Richmond; Joseph E. Isbell, and Holley Campbell, Zaneville; S. Thomas Whitley; Arnold Feldman, Middlesboro; Lew Merehbool, Corbin; Melvin Gaukenskilling, Paris, and Weldon Bristow, Maysville.

Leavitt J. Bugle, branch manager of 20th Century-Fox, and his sales staff returned last week from a meeting at the Statler Hotel in Cleveland. The primary purpose of the meeting was to iron out details of the company's selling policy under the consent decree.

Donald R. Duff, salesman for Popular Pictures, was in the Wellington lake. Mrs. Sylvia Gerteman, former booker for Popular Pictures, has just become the mothers of a first son.

Maurice White of the Libson-White Circuit was absent from his office during the past week due to illness.

Elston Dodge announced that he was planning to remodel his Mt. Washington theatre as soon building restrictions are lifted. Plans call for an increase in seating capacity from 300 to 400, plus other new equipment.

Elwood Jones, manager of the RKO Capitol, is vacationing in Canada, Erwin Bock, manager of the RKO Palace, has just returned from his vacation. Latest reports on Col. Arthur Friedenthal, head of Cincinnati RKO theatres, is that he is well on the road to recovery after undergoing several operations.

Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Crist (he is manager of the Colonial Theatre, Dayton, O.) were in town in the past week. Other visitors on Film Row included William Settles, Springfield, O.; Charles Behlen, Lexington, Ky.; Frank Mandros, Charleston, W. Va.; Dale Tysinger, manager of the Shea Circuit; Newark, O.; Floyd Price, also of Newark; Price Commer, Harlan, Ky.; Guy Greathead, Aurora, Ind., George Turluck Hamilton, O.; Tom Larkin, New Bremen, O.; Ray Law, Lebanon, O.; Chris Pisten, Troy, O.; Frank Allara, Matewan, W. Va.; W. R. Schaefer, Olive Hill, Ky.; John Powell, Matoaka, W. Va.

Harry Goldstein, Cleveland, Paramount district manager, and Hugh Braly, Denver district manager, co-managers of Paramount's 34th and Greatest Year Contest, were in Cincinnati on August 14 and 15 for the purpose of checking up on progress of plans for the drive. Arnold Scully, of the Ohio Theatre, Zeno, put the drive ahead by booking up a solid week of Paramount features and shorts for the week of September 1-7.

Mrs. Cora Johns Molitieri, secretary to Jim Keefe, 20th Century-Fox exploiter, was in Philadelphia during the past week visiting her husband's family.

HARTFORD

HARRY SHAW HEADS FRESH AIR FUND BENEFIT AT NEW HAVEN; JERRY FINNEGAN MOVES TO N.H.

Harry F. Shaw, division manager for Loew's Poli-New England Theatres, was chairman of a committee in charge of the New Haven Register Family Service Fresh Air Fund benefit showing of "The Texans," at Loew's Poli, New Haven, last week.

Henry L. Needles, Hartford district manager for Warner Theatres, has been appointed manager of the Hartford theatre division of a local group interested in starting a $15,000 public subscription campaign to restore the Corning Foundation in Bushnell Park, Hartford.

Jerry Finegan, who has managed a number of theatres through the New England states for E. M. Loew's Theatres, has been named manager of the Civic Theatre, Portsmouth, N. H., which has been acquired by the E. M. Loew circuit on a lease. Previously handling the theatre was the Maine and New Hampshire Circuit.

A Ross Grant of Loew's Theatres home office publicity staff and Penny Tragakiss of Hartford are now Mr. and Mrs. The ceremony took place last week at White Plains, N. Y. Grant was formerly with the Loew-Poli theatres in Hartford.

Bill O'Sullivan, manager of the Rialto, Hartford, and Jean DeVico, cashier, Strand, Waterbury, will be married Sept. 7 in the latter city.

A November 3 wedding is slated for Muriel Silverman of the 20th-Fox New Haven exchange and Mac Berman of Bridgeport.

PORTLAND

JACK MATLACK RECEIVES AWARD IN MGM MANAGERS' CONTEST; BUILDING OF DRIVE-IN DELAYED

Many congratulations came this week to Jack Matlack of the J. J. Parker Theatres because he was one of three theatre managers in the U.S. to win the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Photo- of-the-Month award for 1946. He received a gold pen and pencil set as a prize. The award is given to the three men who, during a year's time, submit to the home office the best set of monthly photos showing their promotion activities. Matlack is used to such honors. He has been chosen as Portland's Junior Citizen because of civic leadership and was designated as a stand-out in the promotion of patriotic campaigns.

A Civilian Production Administration order stops further construction on the new Aurora Motor-In Theatre, Seattle, according to W. W. Johnson and Dewey Spracher, owners.

Well into its second month, "Canyon Passage" at the Mayfair continues to gain in popularity, following its month run at Parker's Broadway.

Predictions of Willard Coglan of United Artists of an extended run for "Caeasar & Cleopatra" proved correct, as steadily growing crowds at Seattle's Liberty in the second week show no slackening.

The Northwest Film Club's annual picnic at Edgewater Beach proved a huge success, according to the committee in charge of events.

Ken Murray is making a stopover in Seattle en route for his annual fishing trip to Canadian waters.

Beverly Lord, Republic starlet, is vacationing in Oregon and visiting her parents at Estacada.

Leonard Goldstein, Chester Erskine, James Pratt and the technical staff of International Pictures are en route to the Olympic Peninsula to shoot "The Egg and I."

SAN FRANCISCO

LOCAL THEATRE MEN WORK ON FIREMAN BENEFIT SHOW: NATHANSON BACK FROM EAST

A contingent of local theatre executives left last week for Los Angeles to arrange for the appearance of screen stars at the Fox Theatres' benefit show for four San Francisco firemen who were killed at a recent hotel fire. The party included Joseph Blumenfeld, Robert A. McNell, George Nassar, Richard Spier, Ben Levin, Roy Cooper, Herman Kersken and Robert Corbin.

Nat Nathanson, branch manager of the United Artists exchange, has returned from the com-

(continued on Page 38)
“JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED”

-N.Y. DAILY MIRROR

Dennis Morgan
Jack Carson
Two Guys From Milwaukee

Joan Leslie, Janis Paige, S.Z. Sakall, Patti Brady
Directed by David Butler
Produced by Alex Gottlieb

Warner Picture!

“HILARIOUS COMEDY THAT RATES PREFERRED PLAYING TIME EVERYWHERE!”—BOXOFFICE
“CROWDED WITH THE KIND OF COMEDY TO WHICH AUDIENCES REACT WARMLY. A HEART QUALITY THAT IS INFECTIOUS. WILL DRAW HANDSOMELY!”—FILM DAILY
“SURE BET TO RATE IN THE SHECKLES.”
—SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW
“FAST MOVING AND HILARIOUS! LUSTY COMEDY AimED RIGHT AT THE RIB-TICKLING SECTION!”—M. P. DAILY
“JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED! A DIZZY DELIGHT AND A LOT OF LAUGHS!”—N. Y. DAILY MIRROR
“VERY, VERY FUNNY!”—N. Y. TIMES
“ONE LAUGH AFTER ANOTHER!”
—JOURNAL AMERICAN
“HIGHLY ENTERTAINING. A HILARIOUS HOUR-AND-A-QUARTER!”—WORLD-TELEGRAM
REGIONAL NEWSREEL

(Continued from Page 36)

company's sales convention in New York, Mel Klein, assistant manager at Columbia, and Edna Geier, inspectress at Warner Brothers, back from vacations.

Francis Bateman, general sales manager for Screen Guild Productions, was in town.

New film row employs include Margaret Mulhern, Republic biller, replacing Mary Davison, resigned; John Kerdus, PRC clerk, Charlotte Cash and Anne Guildbrandsen at Metro, and Connie Tuck, RKO Radio inspectress, who has just left the Navy film exchange.

Returning from their vacations are Ruth Fox, contract clerk, and Emelia Bertini, box office statement clerk, at Metro; Charles J. Maestri, assistant general manager for Robert L. Lippert Theatres, and James Stainton, assistant general manager for T. & D. Jr. Enterprises.

Johne Coyne, Metro office manager, celebrated his birthday with an office party.


Jerry Saffron, western district manager for Columbia, and Abe Montague, general sales manager, visited the local exchange.

Walter G. Preddey, of the theatre supply house, is visiting in New York with his wife.

Metro inspectress Ethel Devine recently entertained several friends.

Visiting on the row were Henry Heber, Mission Theatre in Sacramento; Lew Marks, Rialto Theatre,Sacramento; J. K. Loomis, Fall River Theatre; B. Angel, Camp Theatre; Leo Rose, Orpheum Theatre, Lakewood; August Panero, Panero Circuit, and Irving Arnold, Pittsburg Theatre, Pittsburg.

Warner Brothers shippers William Dort and Eugene Bryan are expecting additions to their families.

CHARLOTTE

JACK SIMS LEAVES MGM TO MANAGE MIDWAY PARK HOUSE: 5 NEW EMPLOYES AT PARAMOUNT

Jack Sims. Metro booker, has resigned so that he can take over the duties of managing Harry Cook's Midway Park Theatre at Midway Park. N. C. Bill Baynard, Metro shipper, will take over the booking department duties.

Mary Virginia Zieverink, 20th Century-Fox contract clerk, has resigned. Hugh McDonald, 20th Century-Fox booker, has returned from a vacation spent at Daytona Beach, Florida.

A number of new employees have checked in at the local Paramount office in the past few weeks: Jane DeOvies is the new ledger clerk; Barbara Ann Beatty is the new office manager's secretary; Robert Bush has taken over as contract clerk; Francis Woolen is the new utility clerk and S. L. Collins is the new assistant cashier.

Louise Deese, secretary to H. D. Hearn of Exhibitor's Service, has been confined to the hospital for the past few weeks.

A. G. Painter, exhibitor operating the Center Theatre at Oak Ridge, Tenn. and former operator of the West End Theatre in High Point, N. C., was a recent visitor on Charlotte's Film Row.

Jackie Toddlock, for many years booker and secretary at the local PRC branch, has resigned.

ART FOR CAMPAIGN. A painting of Rosalind Russell as "Sister Kenny" will be the central theme of much of the advertising for the RKO picture of that title. Above, James Montgomery Flagg (left) artist who made the painting, N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, and Jackie Rus- sell view the picture at the company's Hollywood studio.

to take over the duties of office manager at the new Kay Film Exchange, operated by the Katz Brothers.

Grace Michael and Winifred Rodgers of the local Locoe office, were recent visitors in New York, during which time they visited their company's home office.

Mrs. Jean Lennons of the cashier's department of the local Columbia branch, resigned recently.

Jim Wallace, RKO booker, is recuperating from a recent operation at the Duke Hospital in Durham, N. C. and reports are that he is coming along very satisfactorily.

Pauline Griffin, secretary to the Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina, together with H. H. Everett of Everett Enterprises, H. F. Kinney of Wilby-Kinney Theatres, and Roy Rowe, exhibitor, have returned from a theatre convention in New Orleans.

L. L. Overton, exhibitor operating the Leven Theatre in Enfield, N. C., has recently opened his new Leven Theatre in Aulander, N. C.

J. E. Holston, Twentieth Century-Fox branch manager, has returned from a recent trip.

Salesmen George Ebersol, Olin Mock, and Frank Lowery have been attending a convention in New Orleans.

OMAHA

FRANK HENSLER TRANSFERRED TO MGM DETROIT OFFICE: WARNER PICNIC TO BE SEPT. 8

Columbia now has the first post-war male secretary along the Row. He is Bernard Adams, recently discharged from the Army.

Ben Marcus, district manager for Columbia at Kansas City, stopped here, then was accompanied on by plane to Des Moines by Omaha Manager Joe Jacobs.

Mary Dorland, a former MGM Brandies secretary-treasurer, spent her vacation in Minnesota.

Summer picnic for the Warner Brothers personnel was held at Ralston.

Frank Hensler, formerly with Metro here, has been transferred from Kansas City, where he was a branch manager, to Detroit.

Jean Winn, Fox contracting clerk, is vacationing at home.

Dan Ziegler, manager of the Auditorium Theatre, Monroe, is back on the job, a west coast trip behind him.

Film Row personnel had a chance to visit with Tommy Thompson, former Omahan and now Walt Disney representative at Kansas City, during his last stop here.

Elizabeth Roberts, Warner's secretary, is back from a Black Hills vacation.

Allan Kohn, tub thumper for Warners in this area, left for his district office in New York.

Warner employees will hold for Linoma Beach on their annual picnic September 8.

Micky Doherty, MGM shipper, is vacationing.

Ann Shackleford, the former Nan Engelet

(Continued on Page 40)
"line-up" for sound...

NATURAL choices of the industry... known for their fine grain, high resolving power, and excellent image characteristics... these two films provide sound recordings of highest quality...

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Film Type</th>
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<tr>
<td>1372</td>
<td>Eastman Fine Grain Sound Recording Film, Type 1372 — for variable area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1373</td>
<td>Eastman Fine Grain Sound Recording Film, Type 1373 — for variable density.</td>
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And for use with either... for sound reproduction of equally high quality...
Eastman Fine Grain Release Positive Film, Type 1302.

EASTMAN KODAK CO.
Rochester 4, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., DISTRIBUTORS
FORT LEE, CHICAGO, HOLLYWOOD
KANSAS CITY
E. A. Prine of St. Joseph has returned from his annual visit with his sons LesRoy and E. A. Jr., who work with Warners in Hollywood, and machine Operator. This new contract becomes effective September 1, 1946 and runs for a period of three years. The Independent Exhibitors of the City of Pittsburgh announce that they have just completed arrangements and signed a new contract with the Pittsburgh Local 171, Motion Picture Machine Operators. This new contract becomes effective September 1, 1946 and runs for a period of three years. The Independent Exhibitors were represented by Harry Hendel, William J. Walker and Morris M. Finkel, and the Motion Picture Machine Operators were represented by Paul Perry, president; Paul P. Mach, secretary-treasurer; William H. Thompson and John A. Urban.

PITTSBURGH
INDEPENDENT EXHIBITORS IN NEW Pact WITH OPERATORS; PARK THEATRE RE-OPENS
The Independent Exhibitors of the City of Pittsburgh announce that they have just completed arrangements and signed a new contract with the Pittsburgh Local 171, Motion Picture Machine Operators. This new contract becomes effective September 1, 1946 and runs for a period of three years. The Independent Exhibitors were represented by Harry Hendel, William J. Walker and Morris M. Finkel, and the Motion Picture Machine Operators were represented by Paul Perry, president; Paul P. Mach, secretary-treasurer; William H. Thompson and John A. Urban.

ALBANY

VARIE TRY CLUB MEMBERS HOLD ANNUAL OUTING: 'SHAKESPEARE BUSINESS RIG'
James P. Faulkner, contact manager for Warner Bros. Theatres, has bought a summer home in the Grafton Mts., on Taconic Lake.

Announcement has been made of the engagement of Edith Katz to Bob Green, nephew of George Green. Wedding will take place in the fall.

MGM employees tendered an impromptu birthday party to district manager H. L. Kipps.

Doris Curtis, telephone operator at MGM, has resigned and will return to her hometown, Chester, Pa. Marie James will replace Miss Curtis.

Charlie Goldsmith, executive of the MGM foreign department, telephoned the Albany office to say hello when his plane stopped over for a few moments.

Bob Carroll, son of MGM booker Frank Carroll, is in the Memorial Hospital recuperating after a recent fall in which he suffered a broken arm.

Joseph Minsky, International Pictures representative, visiting MGM office for several days.

Rocco Memele has just been appointed new assistant manager at the RKO exchange.

Max Westerbeke, RKO branch manager, is back on the job again after his recent automobile accident.

Arthur Newman, Republic branch manager, just moved into his home, recently purchased from Joseph Green, on Manning Boulevard. Mr. Newman is also secretary for the branch manager.

Bill Benton of Saratoga says that theatre business there is the biggest in the history of the city.

Variety Club members held their annual outing at the Variety Boys Club Camp Thacher on Thompson Lake, Aug. 23. Movies were taken of the day's events. A buffet supper was served after which the children of the camp entertained the guests.

Visitors along Film Row included: John Rossi of Schroon Lake; Walter Becker of Long Lake; Walter Wertheim of Chestertown; Sam Davis of Phoenicia; H. Bearden of Sene烩etady; Sam Rosenblatt of Watervliet and Lake George; David Snyder of Downsville; Henry Tobias of Totem Lodge; J. Perfurmer of Schenectady.

Saul Ullman, Fabian Theatre head, is vacationing along the Finger Lakes.

Margaret Buckely, RKO assistant booker, vacations in New York City; Mary Amamater, inspector, auto-vacationing; Ray Powers, Warner Bros. farmer, to Buffalo and Canada; Cornella Sullivan, Paramount contract clerk, traveling; Oscar Perrin, Madison Theatre manager, to New York.

Hugh Brady, Paramount district manager, is in Albany for a sales meeting.

PROJECTED NEW THEATRE WOULD PROVIDE MATINEES IN 'MATINEELESS' DISTRICT
Theatre matines will be a feature of entertainment in North Vancouver if the present plans for a motion picture house in Lonsdale are carried through. The proposed theatre will be constructed near the shopping section by three local businessmen who expect it to be operating in about three months. Daylight shows will be offered, partly as an attraction to keep shoppers in North Vancouver, a ferry ride from Vancouver City. The sponsors report that Famous Players Circuit will assume control of the house. Odeon Circuit has two theatres, the Odeon and the Plateau in this section, neither of which run matinees.

British National Film Company of Elstree, along with Hollywood interests, are planning to "found a British Hollywood at Vancouver." The plan is to buy the large Boeing aircraft factory here from the Canadian War Assets Corporation and equip it as a first class modern studio. Under the scheme, the British company would guarantee half the cost, David Siegel, Canadian-born Hollywood film importer, has been making a survey of the property for the interests.

North American Productions of Vancouver has completed a two-reel subject, "Dopes on the Slopes," a skiing picture photographed on the mountains of West Vancouver, and are now busy on a teen-age subject, "The Changeling Princess," which features Carol Thomma, eight-year-old, and local juveniles. N.A.P. is aiming at the 16-mm. field.

Stanley Dunn, war veteran and rehabilitation art student well known in local theatrical circles, is now a member of the Watervliet Theatre staff.

Bill Werner, old-time Vancouver projectionist, who has been down in Hollywood for many years working at the studios, is here with his wife and family.

Doug Gordon, after three years in the RCAF, is operating the Community theatre at Zeballos.

SHOWWEN'S TRADE REVIEW, August 31, 1946
A Short Story for theatre managers who are too busy sprucing up the house to read A LONG ONE

While you are booking the new pictures, laying new carpets, and cleaning the house inside and out; give some sober thought to your SOUND EQUIPMENT, the real heart of the show. Brand new systems and old ones, too need constant service to:

DETECT AND GUARD AGAINST SUBLIME WEAR AND TEAR
KEEP SOUND MECHANISMS CLEAN FOR HIGH QUALITY REPRODUCTION
TUNE UP YOUR SOUND SYSTEM FOR BETTER DISTRIBUTION TO THE “POOR SEAT” SECTIONS
MAKE EXPENSIVE BILLINGS SOUND THEIR MONEY’S WORTH
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HEADQUARTERS
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Playground—What Next?

Sidney Sayette, manager of the Drive-In Theatre on Pendleton Pike, Indianapolis, announces the opening of a free playground for children. The playground includes swings, slides, rocking horses and a merry-go-round.

The project, according to the manager, is the only theatre in the world with a playground.

(Hiickory, Miss.—The Irish Theatre was recently opened here by John Catlett. Equipment was purchased and installed by the Southern Theatre Equipment Company of Hattiesburg, Miss.—NOR.

Portland, Ore.—The Midstate Amusement Company announces plans for a 900-seat house at Sunnyside, Wash., to be erected at a cost of $125,000. The new Marlin Theatre in Sunnyside opened Aug. 20.—PRT.

Picayune, Miss.—W. L. "Fix" Mosley's new, modern $100,000 theatre here is expected to be ready to open its doors on Oct. 1.—NOR.

Vivian, La.—A modern 850-seat theatre is under construction here by the W & K circuit.—NOR.

Springfield, Mo.—The old Jefferson Theatre, closed for several years, is to be completely remodeled and modernized to make it a de-luxer seating 1,200, according to an announcement by George Hunter, city manager here for the Fox Midwest Circuit. New seats and complete modern projection and sound equipment are on the program. The Landers, a 1000-seater unit of the Fox-Midwest circuit, is also undergoing a modernization process. New drapes, new booth equipment, including the latest in Simplex projectors, high intensity lamps and generators, and a modern marquee are among the things planned for the Landers. Some of the work has already been completed.—STL.

Clifton, Ill.—F. K. Kraft will open the new Alda Theatre here next month, according to present plans. The house is of concrete block construction.—CHI.

Flora, Ill.—Plans have been completed for the construction of a new theatre here by the Flora Amusement Company.—CHI.

Edgerton, O.—Three local business men, Herman Kruse, R. T. Priest, and Carl Brady, have built the 800-seat Simplex Theatre as a community project. The new house, only theatre in Edgerton, is scheduled to open in September. The Simplex projection and sound equipment is being installed by National Theatre Supply.—CLE.

Walden, Colo.—R. D. Ervin expects to open his new $25,000 theatre, the Park, in about two weeks. The house seats 364. Ross Gant will be manager.—DEN.

Beloit, Wis.—Architect Edward P. Lewin is completing plans for the new Ellis Theatre here, to be erected by Thomas W. Ellis, general theatre owner. The new house will seat 1500 and will be the first new theatre in Beloit in many years.—CHI.

Dallas—The Phil Isley Theatres, Inc. have announced plans for a new suburban theatre with 5,000 seating capacity here. The plans are in the formative stage at present, contingent upon the construction of a new bank which Raymond Smith is to be the architect. While the site is as yet undesignated, the theatre will be located in a new real estate development, with a car parking capacity of 2,000.—DAL.

Toronto—Theatre Amusement Co., operating theatres in smaller centers across Ontario, has announced start of construction of another house at Midland, Ont., where the company already has the Capitol, which was purchased some years ago from Henry L. Nathanson, brother of the late N. L. Nathanson. The new theatre will have 850 seats.—TOR.

Edmonton, Alta.—A. E. Stuimuld has purchased property from the city on which he proposes to build an up-to-date theatre at an estimated cost of not less than $40,000. The site is in a residential district of Edmonton.—VAN.
Missouri for the plaintiffs in the suit of the St. Louis Amusement Company vs. Paramount Pictures Film Distributing Company. The higher court recently reversed the lower court's technical grounds that it has been prematurely taken. That legal flaw has now been removed.

The Southeast Development Company has awarded the general contract for a 900-seat theatre building to the Chapman & Bremer Construction Company of Springfield. The building, to be erected at the junction of Highways 106 and 65, in the southeastern section of Springfield, is to be one-story, 56 by 140-foot and of reinforced concrete, brick, steel and stone. Robert C. Boller of Kansas City is the architect.

NEW YORK

20TH CENTURY-FOX FAMILY HAPPY WITH SALES BONUS IN PROSPECT; BRANDT TAKES OVER IN B’KLYN

Twentieth Century-Fox’s New York exchange is in the money as a result of its buffeting and puffing for the sales manager’s drive, and all the help from porter to manager will get three weeks’ pay, which isn’t exactly making them unhappy. And right on the heels of that job well done, comes another—the president’s drive, in honor of Spyros Skouras.

The Fox Family Club, incidentally, has a big shindig all set for Sept. 20 when they throw a dance at the Hotel Henry Hudson.

Harry Brandt has taken over three houses in Brooklyn—the Atlantic, the Terminal and the National. The Atlantic, which is located in a mixed population neighborhood, will go into a foreign film policy playing Russian, Italian and French product.

Antoniette Paglianti of 20th-Fox celebrated a birthday last week; Chief Booker Seymour Florin of the same office is on vacation at Long Beach, while Biller Harriet Horowitz left her job to retire to private life. She is replaced by Jeanne Kusman.

Four Brooklyn theatres—the Gold, Heights, Tivoli and Town—will be razed “some of these days,” when work to clear the highway for the new East River tunnel gets under way.

Kain last week proved a sound week-end for New York neighborhood houses, with folks staying in town and taking to the movies for amusement instead of visiting the theaters’ personal summer competitor, some 25 beaches around the city.

New York’s newest cinema theatre, the Avenue Playhouse, on the Avenue of the Americas near 47th Street, is rapidly nearing completion. Scheduled to have its opening early in September, the Avenue Playhouse, under the same direction as the 5th Avenue and 55th St. playhouses, will be dedicated to a policy of showing first-run imported films. The seating capacity will be 530.

Julius Lamm of the Uptown Theatre in Cleveland has been in New York all this week. He leaves for home on Saturday.

Robert Ungerfeld, associated in the past with the RKO and Fox-Metropolitan circuits, has been named managing director of the Winter Garden Theatre following the resignation of Al Rosen last week.

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United Artists Drama 82 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Adult) A timely story of a woman in politics. Should please adult audiences, although the situations probably will not interest the youngsters.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Wherever George Raft is listed, this should do well. Sylvia Sidney's absence from the screen may have detracted from her drawing power, but word-of-mouth advertising might build this in some situations.


Plot: Congresswoman Sylvia Sidney decides it's time to get down to the business of her life and tries to enlist the aid of politician George Raft who, believing that women and politics don't mix, refuses his aid. Stanley Ridges, Raft's rival in the political organization, doubles over the nomination for Sylvia, whose husband then announces he will divorce her, naming Raft as correspondent. She resigns from the campaign, goes to Reno for her divorce, Raft arranges for her re-nomination with the aid of a political economy professor Rohman Bohrén. Sylvia is elected, and she and Raft seem headed for the altar.

Comment: As such, the story is thin and not entirely convincing in its unfolding, it is the dialogue, the acting of the principals and the smooth direction, backed by impressive production values, that make this satisfying entertainment for adult audiences. The situations and the lack of swift pace probably will not entertain the youngsters. Miss Sidney's performance is an exceptionally good one and Raft's political leader is much better than anything he has done in the recent past. Wherever Raft has been a drawing card, this should do fairly well at the box-office. Miss Sidney's absence from the screen may have detracted from her drawing power, but word-of-mouth advertising might build this in some situations. The film is timely and it is good entertainment. High powered exploitation among the women will aid it.

If I'm Lucky

20th Century-Fox Musical 76 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Unpretentious musical with a weak story. May please audiences whose sense of discrimination has not been too well developed.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Perry Como, Vivian Blaine and Harry James for the marques will most likely bring audiences into theatres in some situations. The picture is not strong enough to play alone, however.

Cast: Vivian Blaine, Perry Como, Harry James, Carmen Miranda, Phil Silvers, Edgar Buchanan, Reid Hadley, Harry Hayden, Harry CheAth, William Halligan, Frank Fenton, Lewis Rusg, Charles Tannen, Charles Wilson, Harry James' Music Makers. Credits: Directed by Lewis Seiler. Produced by Bryan Hoy. Screening by Sauw. Robert Ellis, Helen Legrand. Music by George Tabori. Music by Joel Myrow and Edgar DeLane. Dancing by Keny Wil- liams. Photography, Glen MacWilliam. Plot: Barry, director of the orchestra, Vivian Blaine, Phil Silvers, Carmen Miranda and the rest of a musical aggregation are reunited by an opportunity to tour the state in an election campaign with Edgar Buchanan, candidate for governor. Perry Como, song writer and singer, also joins the group. When Buchanan gets religion and returns to play over from the state political machine, he is sidetracked for Como who, believing he has no chance to be elected, willingly plays stooe for the political machine to obtain radio auditions for his gang via air time bought by the politicians. He too, is told off by the political leaders. In a final speech he exposes the corrupt machine and is reunited with his friends.

Comment: If real political leaders, including one present state governor, had not used musical aggregations to attract audiences to listen to their political palaver and had not actually used musical talent, one would be led to believe that the story contained in "If I'm Lucky" was a sily, improbable one. But the fact remains that the voters of our body politic go for this stuff and the film was written and directed by 20th Century-Fox to write and produce it. That it is based on fact, however, does not make it good entertainment and in this, regardless of how the actors try and the director uses every artifice, it just doesn't jell—and it doesn't entertain too well. It has its moments, as for instance when Como sings and when Harry James and his gang play. But as a whole it is a valiant effort that doesn't come off. The names of the leading players will serve well enough for initial draw, but the picture is not likely to stand up too well. It will need the support of another feature.

No Leave, No Love

MGM Comedy with music 119 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) There is something here to entertain everyone in the family. Altogether a satisfying, delightful light comedy.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Van Johnson and Keenan Wynn should start the box-office trek. And if the marquee is a big one there are plenty of others in the cast whose names mean much. Business should be good everywhere on this one.


Plot: Van Johnson and Keenan Wynn, about to be discharged from the Marine Corps, appear on a radio program where Wynn impersonates Medal of Honor winner Johnson. Pat Kirkwood, star of the program, learns this and is outraged until his absence overseas and plots to defame him. But his mother can arrive to break the news to him. Van and Wynn are ordered to reappraise the program the next week to straighten out the situation and the two are set up in a hotel, with all expenses paid by the radio sponsor. It is during the week of waiting that parties galore are given by Wynn to his Marine buddies, and during which most of the musical stars do their stuff.

Comment: This film is long and is slow in getting started, but when the action gets under a head of steam, audiences will be more than satisfied with its entertainment values. Johnson is just about the usual Van thing, but Keenan Wynn was never better in a fat part, and he makes the most of it. An outstanding comedy singing part has been handed to a newcomer, Marina Koshetz, and her glorious singing voice has seldom been surpassed on the screen. She's a looker, too, and one from which much will be heard in the future. Seven-year-old Frank "Sugarich" Lombardo Robinson plays his famous boogie woogie piano specialty and is just as amusing as his press notices. Pat Kirkwood is pleasant to listen to and to listen to, and the others in the impressive cast also find themselves in presenting an excellent production. This is the first work of Joe Pasternak and is excellent and the direction is well handled. Exhibitors should welcome a setting of this one—it is certainly to do well at the box-office. An impressive and entertaining musical & is used to let the customers know it's coming.

Brief Encounter

Prestige-Universal Drama 85 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Adult) Middle-aged and older women—and some men—will get a terrific kick out of this tragic romance, but some will be bored stiff.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Principally for the art theatres, but should get good returns in any situation where there are mature audiences if advertised on the "middle-aged love" angle—plus Noel Coward's name.


Plot: This brief encounter takes place in the space of about six weeks, in which time a middle-aged housewife with husband and two children falls in love with a physician—who also married and a father. The two know their love is impossible from the first, but can not cut it off. Then he receives a chance for a big advance if he goes to Africa. They decide he will, and their parting is broken into by a garrulous woman friend, so that he leaves her forever with a light pressing of his hand on her shoulder. She thinks of throwing herself under a passing train, but instead goes home to her husband, and in the final scene realizes she will be happy with him as of now.

Comment: Here is a piercing study of emotions—emotions that can lie hidden in the breasts of all middle-aged folks, and Noel Coward and his stuff have done a handsome job in particularly an extension cast that has a special appeal for women of maturity (who, if the truth be told, might have had some such idea themselves at one time or another). There is a starkness in the telling that carries tremendous impress, and the ending is
**BO-OFFICE SLANTS**

Sure to bring out the handkerchiefs, not that it is all tragedy by any means. Coward's witty lines are telling in the comedy relief supplied by Stanley Holloway and Joyce Carey as the station master and the proprietary of the lunch counter. Dorn is an idealizing talkative friend, Evlynn Golia. Celia Johnson and Trevor Howard give searching performances as the lovers—especially Miss Johnson, who gets every last bit of meaning out of a role that is far from a leading one; however, with its sharp, harsh lines it works beautifully for the scenic and train shots, but this comes out badly for Miss Johnson in close-ups. It does seem they could have softened the focus and lighting on her a bit. If played outside the art houses a campaign should be in order that points out "middle-aged love," but not salaciously—"the love is never actually consummated. And then there is Noel Coward, who has managed to make his name known pretty much all over just by mere repetition.

**I've Always Loved You**

*Republic* Drama With Music 117 mins.

**AUDIENCE SLANT:** (Family) Production is top-notch. Music plays an important role and is as well as the typical Frank Borzage "heart interest" moments make this a show to impress the average patron while, perhaps, reaching out for a fair share of the non-attending groups that areunerested for music as played by Artur Rubinstein.

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** Will have to sell on the strength of a director's name in the star department and upon the amount of interest that can be built up for the music. Attraction values from the box-office standpoint may be enhanced by key situation results, depending upon reaction in the first run.

**Cast:** Philip Dorn, Catherine McLeod, William Carter, Marie Ouspensky, Fiji Bresnant, Fritz Feld, Elizabeth Patterson, Vanessa Brown, Lewis Howard, Credita, Directed by Frank Borzage, Screenplay by Borden Chase. Adapted from the magazine story "Girl and a Million" by Harry Plott. Recorded by Artur Rubinstein. Director of Photography, Tony Gaudio. Technicolor color director, Natalie Kalmar; associate, Francisco Cagas. Musical director, Walter Scharf.

**Plot:** Philip Dorn is the ruling virtuoso of the piano and a great conductor who agrees to take as his pupil the daughter of a former teacher and concert artist. The girl has been brought up on a Pennsylvania farm, but her father's instruction as well as her inheritance of his talent make her a potential great of the music world. After traveling to Europe and South America with Dorn and his mother, the girl returns to New York to make her debut as solo artist playing a concerto with an orchestra conducted by Dorn. During the concerto he becomes jealous of her, deliberately mars her performance and later orders her to leave him. Though she believes herself still in love. The film is a story of a problem of the boyish, sweetly and they live on the farm, where her own daughter is brought up. When the young girl is persuaded to appear in concerto by her piano teacher, the father, wishing to be certain of his girl's ability to make good before the public as well as to dispel the illusory of Dorn (which continually has come between him and his wife), persuades her to take the daughter for an audition. The result is that the mother agrees to substitute for the girl, and with Dorn conduct-

there is a triumphant rendition of the Rachmaninoff concerto, but also there is final realization that she loves her husband, not Dorn.

**Comment:** Frank Borzage essays a difficult task here—that of pitting a rather frail love story against the beautiful music of the immortals for interest of the audience. In view of the odds against him, the director has come off mighty well and he succeeds in making his music and lines reach out in a manner that will grip the average theateregoer. This is the most ambitious production so far attempted by Republic. The "class" and impressive quality of the picture without doubt are its greatest assets both from the standpoint of box-office attraction and audience satisfaction. Never before in a photoplay have there been such magnificent music so magnificently played, and the name of Artur Rubinstein should prove a valuable factor in the exploitation for "I've Always Loved You." Philip Dorn has the leading male role, that of the eccentric but presumably (to the female audience) overwhelmingly romantically artist. He does his part well. In the leading feminine role is a newcomer, Catherine McLeod, who has been given a very difficult assignment and handled it splendidly in every respect of sincerity, grace and personal appeal. Others in this cast play their parts effectively. "I've Always Loved You" is a picture that can be turned to account for money at the box-office of the average theatre. It should be vigorously exploited for all its several angles of ticket-selling appeal.

**Piccadilly Incident**

(Reviewed in London)

*Pathé* 100 mins.

**AUDIENCE SLANT:** (Adult) Powerful human drama with exceptionally strong feminine appeal.

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** The title should prove intriguing both in England and the United States, and Anna Neagle is no newcomer for the overwhelmingly romantic art. Her star drawing power in the U. S. has not been too impressive. Word-of-mouth comment should help.

**Cast:** Anna Neagle, Michael Wilding, Michael Lawrence, Frances Mercer, Coral Browne, A. E. Matthews, Edward Rigby, Brenda Bruce, Leslie Dwyer, Maire O'Neill and others. Credits: Story by Florence Tranter. Scenario by Nicholas Philp. An Associated British Picture produced and directed by Herbert Wilcox at Welwyn.

**Plot:** Anna, a Wren, and Wilding, a captain, accidentally meet during the blitz, and after a whirlwind romance, marry. She is posted overseas and during the evacuation from Singapore her ship is sunk. With four sailors and another Wren, she reaches an uncharted isle. They are officially reported as dead and Wilding is heartbroken. Three years later they are rescued but Anna's happiness is shattered when she discovers that he, having given up hope, has married again and has a child.

**Comment:** Briefly synopsised, the plot may seem melodramatic, yet it has been skillfully worked out. This is not a war film in the accepted sense, but an enthralling human drama with exceptionally strong feminine appeal. Herbert Wilcox has directed excellently, and the East Anglia of the surroundings and comedy with the highly emotional passages. Anna Neagle gives a beautifully sincere perform-

ance as the girl who remained true to her husband despite the uncertainty and boredom of existence on the isle. She is no newcomer to American audiences who are likely to take equally to Michael Wilding, a good looking and talented young actor. Frances Mercer appears as the second wife. There should be no difficulty over the accents. Word-of-mouth comment and publicity should be exceptional, since the film may well cause a change in the English law. Under present conditions, the child in the film will always be illegitimate, since one of the parents was married to another person at its birth. In Britain, the film's success is assured, but for America judicial trimming would help. A ballet sequence could be removed to advantage, because it is not very impressive, holds up the story and has no dramatic value.

**Under Nevada Skies**

*Republic* Western 69 mins.

**AUDIENCE SLANT:** (Family) Roy Rogers again supplies plenty of thrills and excitement in a picture embracing the usual amount of hard-riding, shooting and villainy.

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** On a par with other Rogers offerings.


**Plot:** A return to his hometown involves Rogers in a mystery when one of his old friends is found murdered. With the help of the sheriff, Rogers sets out to track down the criminal. Via a series of clues, they finally uncover the mystery of a stolen heirloom, and in following its trail uncover the kind of villainy that makes a man turn traitor to his country.

**Comment:** This follows, what is now, the regular formula used for all Roy Rogers pictures, and like the others in this series, is good, thrilling excitement for his many followers. With the exception of the addition of a tribe of Indians, it has the same cast, the same amount of cussedness by the villains, the same amount of song numbers by Rogers and the Sons of the Pioneers and the same amount of hard-riding, shooting and general all around thrills. Performances by the principals, Roy Rogers, Dale Evans and George "Gabby" Hayes are up to their usual high quality and the work of the supporting players is very good throughout.

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**JOE HORNSTEIN has it!**
Production in Hollywood has dropped from the unusually high standard of previous weeks. Whereas more than 60 pictures have been before the cameras, the number is currently considerably less. Explanation for the drop is simple, what with the making of pictures subject to any number of contributing circumstances, such as star availability, studio space and being ahead of schedules. However, despite the drop in quantity of films shooting, it is significant that every lot is represented in the line-up. There is a greater variety of production being concluded than in previous history.

Six in Work at UA

United Artists has six films going, including Jules Levey's "New Orleans," which started in about Aug. 15. Shooting is scheduled to resume in Hollywood at the Hal Roach lot after two weeks in the Crescent City. Levey is cooperating with the National Jazz Foundation in assembling a "dream band" of old bluesmasters. Most recent addition is Edward "Kid" Ory, 58-year-old trombone pioneer.

Co-producers Benjamin Begeaus and Burgess Meredith are shooting "A Miracle Can Happen" in sections. Camera activity resumed on a sequence involving Meredith and his wife, Paulette Goddard, at the General Service lot.

Charles R. Rogers garnered plenty of publicity for his "The Fabulous Dorsseys" by staging a contest to select a girl to sing with Tommy Dorsey's band and appear in the picture. Six finalists were chosen from a group of 10,000 entrants.

Enterprise Rouches For

Andre de Toth's camera unit returned from Utah location, where it filmed main titles for Harry Sherman's recently completed "Ramrod." Mike Romanoff, once famous or infamous (as you choose) as a bogus member of royalty was added to David Lewis' "Arch of Triumph." He joins a cast including Ingrid Bergman, Charles Boyer, Louis Calhern and Ruth Warrick. Far-off Paris is also serving as a location for the multi-million-dollar production.

Four in Work at WB

Warner Bros., with the start of "Love and Learn," now have a quartet of films going. The comedy-feature started Aug. 26, with Martha Vickers and Janis Paige being added for feminine appeal to a cast already including Jack Carson and Robert Hutton. The picture concerns the adventures of a music-plugger and is being directed by Fred de Cordova. This breaks up the one-word title group routine. Included also is "Let It Go," "Priscilla" and "Deception.

Del Ruth Busy

Roy Del Ruth, producer-director of "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," is really covering territory in filming the sophisticated comedy. After dispatching a special unit to Lake Arrowhead to obtain 15-foot evergreen trees, Del Ruth screened a Christmas Eve sequence at the Goldwyn lot. Next week he moves his company to 20th Century-Fox for seven days' shooting and then returns to the home base, Monogram, where sets claimed to be the most elaborate ever made by the studio are being constructed.

"Draw When You're Ready," Johnny Mack Brown's latest, with Evelyn Brent, Raymond Hatton and René Blitz, has just finished, "Ginger," Lindsay Parson's independent film for Monogram release, is being filmed at the studio after locationing at Mount Wilson and the San Fernando Valley. In the cast are Frank Albertson, Barbara Reed and a trio of children, Johnny Callina, Janet Burston and Gene Collins.

 Pace Slow at UJ

Only two pictures are going at Universal-International, but both are extra-budget deals. One is "I'll Be Yours," marking Deanna Durbin's return to the screen after having her baby. Other flicker before the lensmen in "Flame of Tripoli," Technicolor costume epic, starring Yvonne DeCarlo and George Brent.

Ray Crockett, U.J.'s newly appointed story department head, signed William Bowers to a term deal as a writer. Crockett expects to build the writing staff to 25 to 30 established scribes within the next several months.

'Apley' Ahead at 20th

"The Late George Apley" finished last week, 10 days ahead of time, leaving 20th Century-Fox with four films rolling, Ed Gargan, brother of Bill, and FOUR were cast in "The Brasher Doubloon," which Robert Bassler is producing. Bassler, incidentally, is also supervising production on "The Home Stretch" and "Bob, Son of Battle," both being made in Technicolor.

MGM Starts Skeleton Film

Rod Steleton started his latest picture for MGM on Aug. 19, doing the most recent version of the Greco-Persian wars. "Merton of the Movies," Robert Alton is directing from George Wells' script, taken from the novel by Harry L. Wilson. Featured are Virginia "dead-pain" O'Brien, Connie Gilchrist, Buster Keaton (another "dead-pain"), Gloria Grahame and John Emory. Al Lewis is producing. Another film began for Metro on Aug. 26 when Roy Rowland started the cameras rolling on "Romance of Rosy Ridge." Van Johnson, star of the film version of the Mackinlay Kantor story, pre-recorded eight Earl Robinson-Lewis Allen folk songs. Johnson also plays the guitar and harmonica in the picture. Rowland prepared outdoor scenes in Santa Cruz, Cal., where most of the action will be shot. Jack Cummings produces.

Leon Belasco was placed in "Life for the (Continued on Page 48)

$500,00 Story Bank Is Owned by King Bros.

With the recent property purchases of "Believe Me" and "Walsh of the Blues," the King Bros., Maurice and Frank, now have a story bank valued at more than $500,000.

In addition to above-mentioned stories, the brothers, who release through Monogram, have "Focus," novel by Arthur Miller; "The Hunted," Steve Fisher best seller; "KC.K.K.", topical yarn dealing with the Ku Klux Klan problem; and an untitled original which Steve Fisher is preparing for them.

The Kings are planning to leave early next month for New York, where they will scout Broadway plays with an eye toward purchasing them for future film production.

Norma Shearer Signs Enterprise Contract

Norma Shearer, for many years an MGM star, has entered into a long-term, exclusive starring contract with Enterprise, where she joins an aggregation of stars comprising Ingrid Bergman, Ginger Rogers, Barbara Stanwyck, Charles Boyer, John Garfield and Joel McCrea.

The star will meet this week with her long-time friend, David Selznick, and produce her first picture. Lewis was associated at MGM with the star's late husband, Irving Thalberg, and is now completing the filming of the Erich Maria Remarque novel, "Arch of Triumph.

Top Role for Andrews

Dana Andrews has been assigned the top role of the attorney in "Boomerang," based on the Roeder's "Dieppe" story, "The Perfect Case," by Anthony Abbot, the 20th-Fox picture will be produced by Louis de Rochemont with Ella Kazan directing. Production is scheduled for September, with filming on location at Stamford, Conn.

Milhaud Scores Bel Ami

Darius Milhaud, French composer, has signed by Loew-Lewin to write the score for their production of De Maupassant's "The Private Affairs of Bel Ami," which stars George Sanders, Angela Lansbury and Ann Dorvak for United Artists release.

Mankiewicz to Direct

Joseph Mankiewicz has been assigned 20th-Fox to direct the picturization of the R. A. Dick novel, "The Ghost and Mrs. Muir," which will star Gene Tierney and Rex Harrison. Fred Kohlmair will produce and Philip Dunne wrote the screenplay.

Norris in 'San Quentin'

STUDIO NEWS & PROGRAM NOTES

Maureen O'Hara Opposite Fonda in 20th's 'Chicken Every Sunday'; Robinson Gets Columbia Assignment

Caryn Robinson has been signed by Columbia to write and produce studio's next big True Blue picture, "No Sad Songs for Me," based on the novel by Ruth Soutard.

Frank Albertson and Barbara Reed have leading roles in "Ginger," Monogram dog story which Lindsay Parsons will produce. Oliver Drake will direct, and initial scenes will be filmed in the Sierra Madre Mountains.

Harry Davenport has been given an important role in RKO's "Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer," playing the peppy old uncle of Myrna Loy and Shirley Temple in the Dore Schary film.

Maureen O'Hara has been cast for the lead role opposite Henry Fonda in 20th-Fox's production of "Chicken Every Sunday." Vanessa Brown has been assigned the ingenue lead in the William Bergh production which will roll in November with George Seaton directing.

With the signing of Percy Kilbride for the role of Pa Kettle, the top four spots in Universal-International's "The Egg and I" have been filled. Fred MacMurray and Claudette Colbert costar in the screen version of Betty MacDonald's best seller and Marjorie Main will play Ma Kettle. Chester Erskine will direct as well as co-produce with Fred Finklehoffe.

Una O'Connor has been signed by producer Lewis Rachmil for a top character role in "Whispering Walls," fourth in the new series of Hopalong Cassidy westerns. George Archainbaud directs the film which stars William Boyd in his original role of Hopalong.

Alexis Smith, Eleanor Parker, Zachary Scott, Sydney Greenstreet and Gig Young have been set for starring roles in Warners' "The Woman in White." Based on the mystery story by Wilkie Collins, the picture will be directed by Peter Godfrey, with Henry Blanke producing.

Chester Morris was signed by Columbia to star in "Inside Story," a new mystery thriller which Ted Richmond will produce.

Pierce Worthin, veteran character actor, steps out of his usual role in MGM's "Life for the Living." He will play a wily lawyer instead of a judge or banker, in the Gene Kelly-Marie McDonald starrer directed by Gregory La Cava and produced by Pandro S. Berman.

Jack Gifford will produce "Brooklyn Buckaroo," which will present Monogram's Bowery Boys in a western locale for the first time. Start of the picture is scheduled for late September.

Eddie Albert and Constance Moore were set for the romantic leads in Republic's musical, "Hit Parade," which Frank MacDonald will produce and direct and which goes before the cameras this week. This marks Albert's second picture for Republic under his contract of four pictures in three years.

Paulette Goddard was signed by co-producers Benedict Bogeans and Burgess Meredith for a feminine starring role with Meredith in their sectional picture, "A Miracle Can Happen." This section of the film is the second of four episodes to be shot separately. James Stewart, Henry Fonda, Fred MacMurray and Charles Laughton are starred in other sequences.

Peggy Ann Garner and Connie Marshall will play the daughters of Betty Grable in 20th-Fox's "Mother Wore Tights," which Norman Taurog will produce.

Don Seigel has been given the directorial assignment of "Night Unto Night," Ronald Reagan-Vivian Lindfors starrer which Owen J. Pugh will produce for Warners.

Set Quintet for 'Noon'

Sterling Hayden, Sunny Tufts, William Holden, John Lund and William Bendix have been announced by Paramount for the stellar cast of "Blaze of Noon." The studio plans to start the big-scale production on October 3. John Farrow, who recently completed "California," will direct, and Harry Tugend produce.

Fenton to Paramount

Leslie Fenton has been signed by Paramount to direct a number of pictures over a period of years. He reports to the studio for his first assignment on October 1.

Sigmund Neufeld has signed Nolan Leary and Fay Holderness for roles in "Lady Killer,"

Allied States Association of Motion Picture Exhibitors

Office of the President

Jack Kirsch
1325 So. Wabash Ave.
Chicago, Ill.

Mr. Independent Exhibitor:

Allied States Association invites you to its first National Convention since the war, which is being held at the Copley Plaza Hotel in Boston, Massachusetts, September 16-17-18.

At an exhibitors' forum being conducted all day Wednesday, September 18, learn first-hand all about the new method of picture selling as provided by the recent Federal Court decision in the anti-trust case and join in the important discussions that will take place. Here you will find out just how this phase of the decision will effect the future operation of your theatre and have a voice in the policies to be formulated by Allied.

This is too important for independent exhibitors to miss, so plan now to join the parade to Allied's 1946 Convention—Boston, Massachusetts, September 16-17-18. For reservations and other details write: Nate Yamin, General Chairman, Allied Convention Committee, 20 Shawmut Street, Boston, Mass.

Cordially,

JACK KIRSCH, President

New Ideal Theatre Chairs

JOE HORNSTEIN HAS IT!
Loving," to play the comedy role of a temperamental orchestra leader. Gregory La Cava is directing the comedy-drama with the postwar theme. Charles Bradstreet, young MGM actor, went into "The Unfinished Dance" as Cyd Charisette's boy friend.

PRC Completes Several
PRC finished several films, but started another, Eddie Dean film, "Stars Over Texas" on Aug. 24. Lee Bennett was signed for the heavy role, and the picture is being produced and directed by Robert E. Tansey. Also in the cast are Shirley Patterson and Roscoe "Stuttering" Ates. Dean just finished another, "Tumbleweed Trail." Also completed for PRC was Sig Neufeld's "Lady Killer."

Roch Add's to 'Joe'
Hal Roach added three seasoned actors to "The Fabulous Joe." Trio is Donald Meek, Lucien Littlefield and Donald McBride. Another star of yesteryear, Bebe Daniels, is producing the Cinemar color-features, which has been rolling more than a month.

SG Finishes 'Shop'
A last-minute revision was made in the cast of "My Dog Shop" by the Golden Gate unit of Samuel Goldwyn. Ralph Littlefield replaced J. Farrell MacDonald because of MacDonald's previous commitment. The canine story was completed Aug. 26 and is now being given a going-over in the cutting room prior to release. The picture, which stars Lanny Rees, Tom Neel and William Farnum, wound up on location at Corrigan Ranch. Tale concerns a young boy and his dog, portrayed by "Flame," trained and owned by Jayne Rees, Farnum's son, in the role of an old man who befriends the youngster and his animal pal.

Columbia in High Gear
Columbia is in high gear, with eight pictures in front of the lenses. Two units worked on Sam Bischoff's independent venture, "Mr. District Attorney." Second unit filmed police car chase sequences at the Columbia Ranch, while principals continued shooting interiors at General Service studios.

Director Al Hall sent all the way to Edmonton, Canada, for real maple leaves, colored by early frosts. He wanted realism for a Gramercy Park sequence in "Down to Earth," Technicolor musical. The leaves were used in Rita Hayworth's dance, with a Fall background.

Two new songs will be heard in Ken Curtis' action musical, "Over the Santa Fe Trail." Titles are Over the Santa Fe Trail and Dr. Henderson's Compound.

Para. Sets Up 'Town'
The production of Sedona, Arizona, is currently being doubled by a 120-person troupe from Paramount shooting "Hail Wallis." "Desert Town." From Sedona the company will branch out to a dozen individual shooting sites, the most distant of which is 105 miles north of the hamlet. The Sedona natives are happy these days because nearly all of them are working as extras for director Lewis Allen.

Marisella Fuentes, big-screen character actress, was signed to portray a maid in "Dear Ruth," now in production. Mona Freeman, cast as the younger sister, was re-opinioned by Paramount for one a year. Billy De Wolfe has been added as the stuffy suitor of Joan Caulfield, who co-stars with William Holden.

Shooting on "Golden Earrings" resumed Aug. 21, following a shutdown caused by extended rehearsals. The picture features Ray Milland as an escaped American flyer and Marlene Dietrich as a gypsy woman who aids Milland.

Production Active at RKO
Vincent Price was signed by Hal-Livak Productions, on loan-out from Fox, to co-star with Henry Fonda and Barbara Bel Geddes in "A Time to Kill." Picture started Aug. 26 under Anatole Litvak's direction. Price plays the part of a nautical, if not a love story, role. In one scene, Wesley did the screenplay for this RKO release. Irving Pichel brought his "They Won't Believe Me" company back from filming outdoor sequences on High Sierra locations. Susan Hayward finally finished "Smash-Up" for Ulmer in time to move over to RKO for her co-starring role opposite Robert Young. "Katie For Congress left its RKO Pathe shooting in Culver City to move the line to MGM for several days' camera work.

The "Trail Street" troupe returned from location.

Republic Starts Two
Republic is spending more money than customary on Roy Rogers' current opus, "Apache Rose," because it is the cowboy crooner's first Trucolor film. Olin Howland is taking the comedy relief duties in this one, customarily portrayed by George "Gabby" Hayes. However, the other regulars are on hand, including Dale Evans, the Sons of the Pioneers and Trigger. William Witney is directing. The film starts october 21.

"Hit Parade," musical co-starring Eddie Albert and Constance Moore, went before the cameras Aug. 27, with Frank MacDonald handling his first production chores, as well as directing. Jimmy McHugh and Harold Adamson are penning three songs for the film. Albert will sing for the initial time on the screen. "Web of Danger," originally set to start the same day, has been postponed until mid-September. The Red Ryder, "Oregon Trail Scouts," has been completed.

End Two Films at E-L
Eagle Lion has completed its first two pictures "It's a Joke Son" and "Born to Speed," and is now busy editing them. Former starred Kenny "Senator Claghorn" Delmar, while latter was a midget-racing action piece. Delmar returns to the air shortly and the studio hopes to bring out his first screen appearance to take advantage of his ascending ether popularity. E-L has one going, "The Devil Drives," a drama purporting to show how tragedy strikes a family through reckless driving. Latest additions to the cast include cover girls Jan Ford and Sue England.

"Voice of Theatre Speakers"
JOE HORNSTEIN has it!

Stahl, Baker to Make 20th's 'Walls of Jericho'
John Stahl will direct and Bill Baker produce the 20th-Fox film version of Paul Wellman's novel, "The Walls of Jericho." Scheduled for fall publication by Lipincott, the novel by the author of "Jubal Troop" already has been chosen by the Dollar Book Club as a late fall selection. The Club has already placed an order of 500,000 copies for their use alone. Twentieth-Fox paid $100,000 for the film rights.

Due to the importance and timeliness of the story, its preparation is being rushed, and it should be ready for production within two months. A large all-star cast and lavish production are part of the plans for the story.

Coburn in 'Little Women'
Charles Coburn will play role of the grandfather in David O. Selznick's forthcoming Technicolor production of "Little Women," which Mervyn LeRoy will direct. With the addition of Coburn, the cast now includes Jennifer Jones, Bambi Lynn, Diana Lynn, Anne Revere and the new English actor, Philip Friend, who will play Jo. Coburn's 20th-Fox film debut in the Louis A. Mallett classic.

Two Marquand Novels
MGM has purchased an option on the screen rights of John P. Marquand's forthcoming novel, "P's Daughter," with indications that the company will film it, along with another Marquand novel, "So pristine Time," published in 1943. The latter story was acquired from David O. Selznick in exchange for "The Paradise Case," which MGM turned over to Selznick early this year.

Voted 'V. C. Award'
George Marshall, who will soon start directing Paramount's "V. A. Girl," all-star romantic musical comedy with the story of the Variety Clubs of America, has been voted the "V. C. Award" and honorary memberships in the Variety Clubs of London, Paris, Mexico City and Toronto, which make up the international contingent of the great showmen's organization.

Cinderella Girl Cast
Dorothy Hart has been signed to a starring contract by Columbia Pictures and cast as Randolph Scott's feminine lead in "Twin Sombreros." A Cleveland newspaperman entered the broun-haired, emerald-eyed beauty in Canada's national Cinderella Cover Girl contest two years ago, which she won over 20,000 other contestants.

Himself, Abel Green
Abel Green, editor of Variety, will don greasepaint, playing himself, in "Copacabana," the production which Selznick will produce for United Artists release, with Carmen Miranda, Gloria Jean and Steve Cochran playing leading roles.

To Design 'Women' Sets
George Jenkins, who designed the sets for Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives," has been borrowed by David O. Selznick to serve in the capacity on "Little Women."
Shorts Reviews

Here Comes the Circus  
(Lehrish)  
20th-Fox (6901) Dribble-Puss-Parade 8 mins.  
Lew Lehr takes his customers on a personally-conducted tour to the Sarasota winter quarters of the Barnum & Bailey and Ringling Bros. Circus and he is into everything—including the hippopotamus' mouth. In the process of the screwy tour, such familiar objects are seen as clowns, lions, bears, equestrian families, and high trapeze acts. Very entertaining.

Beach Days  
(Zoftig)  
WB (2511) Sports Parade 10 mins.  
Well sir, there are a troop of pretty girls undeccked in scanty bathing suits and presented in bright Technicolor. They are seen—and how—while sun-bathing, swimming, surf-boarding, playing shuffleboard, and just looking nice. Pleasant to look at.
Features and western series pictures are listed alphabetically by title under name of distributor. (Consult the Index for distributor of pictures known by title.) Numerals at left of title indicate Production or Block Number, (SP in this column indicates Special). Reissues sold separately. At publication date of Advance Data: a) or Box-Office A: Amount. b) Asterisk following title indicates color photography with or without listing given name of type of color thus: *T: Technicolor, *C: Color, *M: Magnacolor, *U: Universal Color.

**Trucolor. Audience Classification is indicated by letters following titles: A—Adult; P—Family. Letters and combinations of letters indicate type of story in accordance with following key:**

**T: (B) Biographical **(D) Comedy **(G) Drama **(H) Documentary **(M) Epic **(W) Western

**COLUMBIA

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<td>C. Morris-K. Lanz-L. Merrick</td>
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<td>7004 Bandit of Sherwood Forest *T (D)</td>
<td>Cornwell-Edna Louise</td>
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<td>7020 Blonde’s Lucky Day (C)</td>
<td>P. Singleton-A. Lamo- L. Simms</td>
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<td>7017 Dangerous Business (N)</td>
<td>Lynn Merrick-Frank T. Tucker</td>
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<td>7026 Devil’s Mask, The (H) A</td>
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<td>7016 Gentlemen Prefer Blondes, The,</td>
<td>Una O’Toole-Mae Clarke</td>
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<td>7021 Gilda (D)</td>
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<td>7021 Just Before Dawn (M) A</td>
<td>Warner Bixler-Adelle Roberts</td>
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<td>7019 Life With Blonde (C)</td>
<td>P. Singleton-A. Lamo- L. Simms</td>
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<td>7064 Losing You, The (M)</td>
<td>John McCabe-Mae Clarke</td>
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<td>7014 Meet Me on Broadway (M)</td>
<td>Reynolds-Brady-Falkenberg</td>
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<td>7023 My Name Is Julia Ross (D)</td>
<td>Nina Foch-G. Macready</td>
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<td>7032 Night Rider (D)</td>
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<td>7021 One Way to Love (C)</td>
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<td>7009 Perilous Holiday (D)</td>
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<td>7026 Prison Ship</td>
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<td>7033 Remember *T (W)</td>
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<td>7027 Stop the Band</td>
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<td>A. Drake-J. Bly-M. Flatt</td>
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<td>7031 Wails Came Tumbling Down, The (D)</td>
<td>E. Keyes-Keanan Wynn-A. Miller</td>
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<td>Ronald Maclean-M. Dwyer</td>
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<td>Secret of the Whistler</td>
<td>Richard Dix-Leslie Brooks</td>
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<td>Sing In the Sun</td>
<td>Judy Canova-Ava Jenkins</td>
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<td>Thrill of Brazil, The</td>
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**Westerns (Current 1945-46)**

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<td>Cowboy Blues</td>
<td>Ken Sterling-Jeff Donnell</td>
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<td>Desert Horseman (W)</td>
<td>Charles Starrett-Smiley Burnette</td>
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<td>Frontier Gunlaw (W)</td>
<td>Charles Starrett-Tex Harding</td>
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**RKO RADIO (Continued)**

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<td>508 A Guy Could Change (D)</td>
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<td>513 A Strange Impersonation (D)</td>
<td>Brenda Marshall-William Garzan</td>
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<td>514 Catman of Paris (T)</td>
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<td>516 Crime of the Century (M)</td>
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<td>517 French Key (M)</td>
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<td>518 G. I. War Bride's (C)</td>
<td>Anna Lee-Jesús \nEstlton</td>
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<td>520 Girls of the Big House (D)</td>
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<td>D. Harry-A. Savage-Powers</td>
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<td>\nKane Richmond-Adele \nMarshall</td>
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<td>533 Of the Rose (D)</td>
<td>R. Royston-Dale Evans</td>
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<td>534 Valley of the Zombies (H)</td>
<td>R. Royston-Dale \nEvans</td>
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| Affairs of Geraldine | \nJane Withers-Jimmy \nLydon | \n| 535 Always Yours (D) | Roy Rogers-Dale Evans | \n| 536 Apache Rose, Calendar Girl | \nJ. Frane-W. \nMarshall | \n| 537 Barrow Sketchbook | \nMichael Gniff-Judith \nAnderson | \n| 538 Fabulous Suzanne | \nBarbara Britton-Stella \nVallee | \n| 540 Ghost Goes \nWilling | \nJames Allen-Iron \nGwynne | \n| 541 Home in Oklahoma | \nRoy Rogers-Dale Evans | \n| 542 Last Frontier Uprising (T) | \nEdward Albert- \nGlad | \n| 543 Magnificent Ronge | \nL. Robert | \n| 544 Mysterious Mississippi | \nWilliam Henry \nLindsley | \n| 545 Out California Way (T) | \nMonte Hale-Adrian Booth | \n| 546 Pilot Lady | \nMary \nShore | \n| 547 Plamman and the Lady | \nW. Elliott-V. Ralston-G. \nPatrick | \n| 548 Roll on Texas Moon | \nR. Rogers-C. \nEvlans | \n| 549 That Brennan Girl | \nJames Dunn-Mona \nFremantle | \n| 550 That's Life | \nEdward Albert- \nGlad | \n| 551 Will Tomorrow Ever Come | \nNelson Eddy-Irma \nMassey | \n
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COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

RIDIN' HIGH ALONG A GRAND NEW ACTION MUSICAL TRAIL!

SINGING ON THE TRAIL

THE HOOSIER HOTSHOTS from THE NATIONAL BARN DANCE
KEN CURTIS - JEFF DONNELL
GUY KIBBEE - DUSTY ANDERSON
GUINN (BIG BOY) WILLIAMS
FOUR CHICKS AND CHUCK DEUCE SPRIGGENS AND HIS BAND
with THE PLAINSMEN and CAROLINA COTTON

Stars of the Range...
Stars of Radio...Rhythm...Romance!

Original screenplay by J. Benton Cheney
Produced by COLBERT CLARK - Directed by RAY NAZARRO
REVIEWED IN THIS ISSUE

Cloak and Dagger 35
Gallant Bess 30
Gallant Journey 35
God's Country 30
Little Miss Big 30
London Town 31
Red River Renegades 31
South of Monterey 30
Swing, Cowboy, Swing 30
Three Little Girls in Blue 35

PRODUCT GUIDES

Begins on Page 42

SEPTEMBER 7, 1946

Walter E. Green (See Page 8)

THE SHOW BUILDER

(See Page 39)
RUNAWAY!
WHAT THIS DOG DID AT KEITH'S CINCINNATI SHOULD HAPPEN TO YOU!

The sensational business of M-G-M's "COURAGE OF LASSIE" continues to amaze the industry! At Keith's Cincinnati it is doing 2½ times the house average of the past five years—and held over! Nationally it tops previous Lassie hits by thousands! Tag on to M-G-M's new TECHNICOLLIE Adventure "COURAGE OF LASSIE" for a box-office runaway!

M-G-M presents LASSIE in a New Adventure "COURAGE OF LASSIE" in Technicolor. ELIZABETH TAYLOR, FRANK MORGAN, TOM DRAKE. Original Screen Play by Lionel Houser. Directed by FRED M. WILCOX. Produced by ROBERT SISK
COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

Glenn FORD • Janet BLAIR

straight from the arms of Gilda...

revealing a new heart-warming personality...

IN

GALLANT

WITH

CHARLIE RUGGLES • HENRY TRAVERS • JIMMY LLOYD

Original screenplay by Byron Morgan and William A. Wellman

Produced and Directed by WILLIAM A. WELLMAN
Journey
Rendezvous with Annie

starring EDDIE ALBERT
FAYE MARLOWE • GAIL PATRICK

PHILIP REED • SIR C. AUBREY SMITH
RAYMOND WALBURN • WILLIAM FRAWLEY
JAMES MILLICAN • WALLACE FORD

Screen Play—Mary Loos and Richard Sale
Based on Their Magazine Story

Associate Producer and Director—ALLAN DWAN
What's Cooking?

During the past week Enterprise Productions and Universal cancelled out their distribution deal. The apparently high quality of the first two Enterprise pictures leaves little doubt that another deal will be consummated with some other major distributor to handle the physical distribution of these pictures. The only angle not fully explained was the "loan-out" reference to Peck Gomersall, who recently took over the sales managership of this new production outfit. It had been our impression that "Peck" left Universal to take on that post. Now it develops that he was only on "loan" and returns to Bill Scully's executive sales staff at Universal.

Sooooo... who takes over for Enterprise the Gomersall and Universal functions... remains to be announced.

Something New....

"Anna & the King of Siam" received an odd but valuable break this past week when the Rector of a church in Philadelphia used a portion of their newspaper ad space to pay tribute to this picture. We thought it so good that we convey the text of the church ad here in full:

"The Rector of this Church, one evening this week, saw a soul refreshing motion picture—"Anna & the King of Siam."

"This Sunday morning he wishes to share with you a deeply religious experience which grew out of this most commendable movie."

Who said there is nothing new....

Add Showmanship

From S. J. Gregory, head of the important Alliance Circuit, comes this comment on our recent discussion of more and better showselling:

"Chick, I feel that exploitation and showmanship are the life blood of our industry, and any time a theatre manager or theatre operator fails to use exploitation stunts his theatre will suffer as a result. All stunts do not click at the box-office but I firmly believe in plenty of activity and exploitation in our theatres.

"... our organization is having a manager's meeting in Indianapolis next week and your articles have presented me with plenty of 'food for thought' and I intend to use considerable material in addressing the men in my organization."

Thus far the reaction to the current discussion on showselling is not a hundred per cent, although the vast majority seem to agree with our attitude on the subject. Comment from another mid-western theatre operator is on the other side and as soon as we receive his permission to reprint it we will let you have his views.

What Is a Showman?

An Indiana exhibitor has this to say:

"Let's agree on what is a showman. Here's my idea:

"He's a guy who keeps his theatre spotlessly clean and attractive-looking at all times. He advertises his merchandise on the front of the house to the very best advantage. He trains his staff to make the patron feel welcome, to give him expert service. His sound and projection are always perfect. He keeps his house cool in summer and warm in winter. His picture are spotted on that change during the week where they'll draw best. He balances his program with entertaining shorts. He doesn't tire out his audience with too many trailers. He spots posters on coming attractions in advantageous places throughout the theatre. His newspaper ads are carefully prepared to sell the angles of the picture he knows his patrons go for. He plants stills and publicity stories as often as he can. He puts out his posters and window cards where the most traffic can see them. He runs ads in the weekly newspapers in small towns within a radius of 20 miles. He keeps his books and makes his reports and stands on the floor while the box-office is open. He takes part in civic activities and is a community leader. He is a sober, sincere, wide-awake businessman that is probably doing the best job of merchandising in the entire town."

(Editors' Note: We agree, one hundred per cent.)

Right as Rain!

Bill Scully's declaration at the meeting of his Universal-International sales forces in Denver Wednesday that theatres and the public want pictures and Universal will sell them (confusion, obstacles, etc., of the anti-trust decision to the contrary notwithstanding) is the kind of thinking—and talking—that will help to dispel the fog of guesswork, speculation and cockeyed rumor-factory baloney which has bedeviled this business ever since the anti-trust action started.

"CHICK" LEWIS
Cross-Selling Ban Not Divorce Substitute

Even if a ban on cross-selling is granted, the Department of Justice "probably" will press for divorce, Washington officials said, while admitting no final decision on the question has been made.

Officials insisted the Government's cross-selling proposal was not precedent-setting, even though it was not included in the court's decision. They admitted, however, that the Department would "agreeably surprised" if the court grants this relief in its final decision.

Under present plans the Department will appeal, at least on divorce grounds, to the U. S. Supreme Court. Inclusion of a ban on cross-selling in the court's decision would be viewed by the Government as an acceptable substitute for the interim period until a Supreme Court opinion, it was said.

However, officials stressed that there has been no top level decision on whether to abandon the fight for divorce in the event a ban on cross-selling is included.

Department officials, admitting the Government is still at cross purposes with the defendants over auction selling features of the opinion, stress that the ban on cross selling is "by no means" substitute for auction selling.

CSA Promises Cooperation To ATA in Decree Fight

Further cooperation from individual exhibitor organizations with the American Theatre Association in its fight against auction selling and other phases of the decree developed on Wednesday when the newly-formed Confederacy of Southern Associations announced a policy of close cooperation with the ATA. The decision was reached at a meeting held in Atlanta.

U-I Tieup Rank's Contact With Green's Code Office

Although the British Film Producers Association is not taking up the suggestion of having their own Hollywood agent, as advanced by Joe Rank for his Universal-International, the J. Arthur Rank Organization will operate the code through their Universal-International tieup. Meanwhile forty close-ups are being shot to make the Margaret Lockwood-James Mason co-starring film, "The Wicked Lady," conform to the production code and make the picture available for distribution in the U. S.

$25,000 Plagiarism Award

For the first time in many suits tried, judgment was given to the plaintiff in a plagiarism suit in Hollywood; this one against RKO Radio studios and producer Val Lewton, no longer connected with the company. Samuel R. Golding and Norbert Falsteine were awarded $25,000 on Aug. 30 by a jury in Los Angeles superior court.

Face Higher Express Rates

The Railway Express has notified film shippers that half rates on returned film cans will be discontinued and is asking an increased minimum charge, with the rate going from 35 cents per hundred weight to 65 cents, or an increase of 80 cents. The final hearing will be held in Washington on Sept. 15—CHI.

Ohio May Reduce Taxes

State Tax Commissioner Glander and L. Edwin Smith, chief of the research division in the Ohio department of taxation, will have charge of the tax study designed to present tax data to the Ohio Legislature when it convenes in January. Possibility of reductions in the tax rates to three per cent sales tax, including the admissions tax, will be studied by Glander and Smith.

Conn. Theatre Taxes Slip

Connecticut's amusement taxes went down from $10,870.38 in July of 1945 to $5,034.45 in July of this year, State Tax Commissioner Walsh said in Hartford last week—HFD.

Walter E. Green

(The Man on the Cover) President of National-Simpers-Blockworth, Inc., subsidiary of General Precision Equipment Corporation, of which he is a vice-president, who at head of National Theatre Supply this week addressed members of that organization on the occasion of its twentieth anniversary. Mr. Green ranks among the youngest of the managing directors of the firm for he has guided the affairs of National Theatre Supply—from its inception as an equipment distributing organization operating on a national scale—with results that speak for themselves as to progress. On the day that National Theatre Supply is celebrating its twentieth birthday this week, Mr. Green told Showmen's Trade Review that the company was doing the biggest business in its entire history—despite the impediments to theatre expansion and improvement due to shortages of building materials.

Showmen's Trade Review
Canadian Exhibitors

War on New Contract

Organized exhibitors of Ontario and Quebec, representing 360 or more theatres both chains and independents, Wednesday threw down the gauntlet to the Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association, Toronto, over new provisions of 1946-47 rental contracts. Strong objection was registered in a resolution adopted by directors of Motion Picture Theatres of Ontario against proposals while the Quebec Allied Theatrical Industries at Montreal also went on record as opposing changes. The proposed new terms enable film exchange to add to not only box-office reports on engagements of percentage pictures, but also the exhibitor’s operating expenses. Further provision is that other sources of revenue such as sub-lease of theatre space and screen and other advertising as well as subsidiary receipts during percentage engagements are to be deducted from operating expenses.

Canadian Grosses at Peak, But Reveal Spotty Trend

Attendance figures and box-office receipts of motion picture theatres in Canada reached an all-time high in 1945. British Columbia led the Dominion in attendance. Canada’s 1,323 theatres received 215,572,678 paid admissions in 1945, compared with 208,167,180 in 1944, the previous high. Box office receipts amounted to $60,485,732, from which federal and provincial governments collected $14,055,021 in amusement taxes. Net receipts were $55,430,711, compared with $53,173,325 in 1944. Per capita expenditure by provinces were: British Columbia $8.15, Ontario $7.16, Nova Scotia $6.35, Alberta $5.34, Manitoba $5.15, New Brunswick $4.76, Quebec $4.36, Saskatchewan $3.83, and Prince Edward Island $3.31.

Despite the new highs for grosses and attendance, however, the government report indicated there was evidence of a spotty business condition for the first time in five years. Declines were (Continued on Page 11)

Varying Sales Deals

Picture deals in the Iowa-Nebraska territory vary with the winds of trading skill on the part of the exhibitor, according to Leo F. Wolcott, chairman of the Board of Allied Independent Theatre Owners.

Commenting on the results of a questionnaire circulated by the exhibitor organization to its members, Wolcott in a bulletin issued this week said that sales are being made in “about business every possible way under the sun.” He states that, depending apparently upon the buyer’s trading ability, deals are being written under which one exhibitor pays 40 per cent to 50 per cent for the same picture that another exhibitor pays a “smarter trader” just a few miles away for a medium flat rental.

In the same bulletin, Wolcott chides Confidential Reports for pronouncing him the only one in the territory “who doesn’t trade a deal” with a declaration that his questionnaire reveals that 142 exhibitors out of 284 answering did not allow local checkers.

Ball Case Decision Rejects Claim That Theatre Retains Right to Run

A decision which in effect declares that a run does not follow the theatre, ended the now famous “Ball Case” in which Harry N. Ball, owner of the Penn Theatre, Ambridge, Pa., sued distributors in order to obtain first-run product. The decision, rendered by Judge R. M. Gibson in U. S. District Court, Pittsburgh, was clearly in favor of the defendants, Paramount, RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox and Loew’s.

Ball, who acquired the Penn Theatre which formerly was operated by Pennware Theatre Co., in which Paramount owns a 50 per cent interest, brought suit in 1944 to restrain distributor defendants from selling films for first run to the new State Theatre, built and operated by Pennware and the former theatre. The Pennsylvania Attorney General had claimed that the theatre had enjoyed first run while under the management of Pennware and that first run in the town thus belonged to the theatre he had acquired. This plea that the defendants be enjoined from licensing product on the run formerly enjoyed by the Penn was denied by Judge Gibson in a decision which attracted widespread notice in the film industry since it goes counter to the theory that run follows the theatre.

In his decision, Judge Gibson rejected the theory that the case paralleled the Goldman vs. Loew case in Philadelphia as well as paralleling the New York Paramount decision. Regarding the latter the Gibson decision declared: “Assuming that the decree will reflect the opinion, it will be appealed by both parties in all probability. This likelihood possibly weakens it as a citation of legal principles.”

According to the Court, the one actual issue raised was “in the charge that the defendants conspired to violate the Sherman and Clayton Acts to the injury of the plaintiffs. First we may dispose of the Paramount and Notopoulou (head of Pennware). Even under the drastic provisions of the New York Paramount opinion, the association between them was not a restraint of commerce. Paramount did not buy stock with Notopoulou through any force, but sold him a half interest in its Ambridge corporation. Instead of creating a restraint of commerce, the transaction was a widening of interest in favor of the independent exhibitor.”

Setting forth the principle of claim to run, the decision declared “As conditions then existed... Paramount and Notopoulous (head of Pennware) had the right to build a theatre in competition with the Penn Theatre. If it was equal to that theatre in location and earning power, revenue only considered, it had an equal right to first run as had the Penn Theatre; and if it was operated by an experienced and reputable exhibitor, as opposed to an unknown and inexperienced operator, it had a better right to them. And this right would be doubly entrenched if it had a larger and equally located theatre with greater revenue capacity.”

Southern Showman Lauds MGM Bulk Sales Plan

MGM’s policy of bulk selling on non-competitive situations may solve a lot of trouble for such exhibitors, Warren Salles, Covington, Louisiana exhibitor, said Monday.

“I think that may be a simple solution,” Salles said. “It seems to me it will be a lot less trouble to buy in group with cancellation privileges than it would be to buy each picture separately.”

Salles, who now is the only exhibitor in Covington, operates both theatres there. He seemed concerned that if competition should develop it might cause cancellation of such group deals that he might be able to make. Other than that he had few views on the statutory court opinion.

Salles is a one-man threat to chain operation. When he operated in New Orleans he successfully bucked a chain situation and another independent, between whom he was sandwiched. Moving to Covington, he bought it out with the houses that were buying through a combine, and eventually bought them out.

Gomersall Returns to Scully’s Executive Staff

With the Universal-Enterprise distribution agreement dissolved, E. T. (Peck) Gomersall, who went over to Enterprise as general sales manager last June, this week returned to Universal-International as a sales executive on the home office staff of William A. Scully, general sales manager.

In announcing the return to U-I of Gomersall, Scully said that he had been loaned to Enterprise when the distribution arrangement was made between U and Enterprise covering the distribution of six pictures to be made this year by the new production company.

33 Theatre Projects Get CPA Axe

With chances for new theatre construction virtually zero under new building cuts and material set-asides, CPA turned down a total of 33 new theatre projects during the third week of August. During the same period, no approvals for construction of new stands were approved by the agency from Washington. Although this means that projects could have been approved in the field, it was thought no such approvals were given.

Included in the latest list of turn-downs was a $150,000 project in Corpus Christi, Texas. Applicant in the case was the Lone Star Theatres Circuit. Other expensive projects turned down by CPA included the application of James C. Papayanakos for a $140,000 stand in Potsdam, N. Y., and the application of W. A. Brown seeking a $100,000 theatre in Cantonment, Fla.
Milton Sperling, United States Pictures production chief, arrived in New York Wednesday to confer with U.S. president Joseph Bernhard and close pending deals on writing and acting talent. On his return to the Coast, Sperling will stop over at Gallup, N. M., to look over location shooting on "Pursued," the Teresa Wright-Robert Mitchum co-starring vehicle being directed by Raoul Walsh.

Tom Connors, head of distribution for 20th-Fox, returned to New York headquarters directly from Dallas, this week following a business trip covering various exchanges.

Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., advertising and publicity director of United Artists, and Harold J. Auten, J. Arthur Rank representative, went to Buffalo from New York by plane Tuesday to be among the many present for the opening there of "Henry V" at the Midtown Theatre.

Eric Johnston, MPAA president, planned out of Hollywood Sunday last following his broadcast on the transcontinental network of ABC with an inspiring message about the film industry's contributions to a developing application of motion pictures to the field of education in world peace.

Sidney Gilliat, British producer-writer-director, started his return journey to London Thursday aboard the Queen Mary.

H. M. Warner and the Warner Bros. Studio were recipients this week of the Medal of Merit awarded by the U. S. Army and Navy Union, convened at Milwaukee for its fifty-eighth national convention. The citation lauded the head of Warners and the company he heads for "contributing immeasurably to the morale of the armed forces."

Lew Kerner, executive talent director for Samuel Goldwyn, arrived in New York this week on a talent search, Kerner will scout the Broadway shows and little theatres along the Eastern seaboard for talent for the four Goldwyn productions planned for the 1946-47 schedule of the company.

Phil Reisman, RKO Radio vice-presy in charge of foreign operations, left New York Wednesday via Pan American Clipper for a visit at the company's London headquarters and a business tour of the Continent.

Reversing the process, Wesley Ruggles, American producer-director, arrived in New York Wednesday by plane from London, where he has been engaged more than a year in the direction, for the J. Arthur Rank Organization, of "London Town," the first print of which Ruggles brought with him.

Majorell Heads NSS Production in London

James Majorell, producer for National Screen Service, left New York for England this week to take over as head of all trailer production at the company's London office. Majorell has been associated with NSS in a trailer production capacity for ten years, and leaves his berth in the company's Hollywood Studio for his new post.

Majorell's shift to London was prompted by NSS recognition of the high quality of production being accorded English films, and the belief that trailer production should be advanced to a comparable high level. Majorell's introduction into the English scene will mark the debut of an all out effort to equal or surpass the high standards of trailer-making being applied to American films.

Increased facilities, in the form of latest laboratory equipment shall be made available to Majorell.

Lippert Forms Own Unit to Produce for Screen Guild

Robert L. Lippert, San Francisco theatre operator and distribution head of Screen Guild, this week branched out into actual production himself with the formation of his own producing unit to release through Screen Guild.

Golf Tournament Resumes

The Philadelphia Variety Tent's annual golf tournament and dinner dance resumes this year with the first post-war renewal of the sports and social classic set for September 20 at the Manufacturers Country Club, Glenside, Harry Norman Ball is chairman of the event, with Oscar Neufeld as Dough Guy.

**Rules Is Rules**

Dick Letts, manager of the Strand Theatre, Trail, British Columbia, was fined in police court when he pleaded guilty to parking in front of his own theatre while a show was in progress.
Let's look in at a couple who will bring crowds to your BOXOFFICE WINDOW!
Those Best-Loved Lovers in Wonderful Ventures

and David

by Sydes

20 Century-Fox
IT'S A FACT THE BEST-SELLERS AT THE BOXOFFICE ARE FROM THE BIGGEST FIGURE IN BEST-SELLERS ALWAYS!
U-I Announces 25 American, 12 British Films for Year

A schedule of 25 Hollywood-produced features plus 12 productions to be made in England by the J. Arthur Rank Organization was announced for release during the coming year by Universal-International following a week of conferences at the Universal coast studio of the top executives of the new company.

The announcement listed by title the 25 Hollywood productions to be offered. Changes from the previous product announcement by Universal (made Nov. 30 to the combine which brought Universal, the former International Pictures, and J. Arthur Rank outposts into association in a world-wide operation of production and distribution) included the dropping of a group of six pictures from Enterprise Productions, the new organization which last week announced a termination of the pact with Universal. Also, the new production lineup includes new pictures added by reason of the International tieup, and eight more British imports than the Universal schedule.

The Universal-International 1946-47 program announced this week covered the following features:

- "The Egg and I," written and produced by Chester Erskine and Fred Finkelhoefer, directed by Chester Erskine, and starring Claudette Colbert and Fred MacMurray, with Marjorie Main, Percy Kilbride, Billy House and Richard Long.
- "Winds of Chance," with Joan Fontaine heading an all-star cast.
- "Portrait in Black," a Skirball-Manning production, directed by Carol Reed and starring Joan Crawford.
- "Assailed to Syria" (formerly "Ashenden"), produced by Joe Sistrom, screenplay written by James Hilton from a novel by Somerset Maugham, to star Ronald Colman, Compton Bennett, who directed "The Seventh Veil," will direct.
- "Magnificent Doll," produced by Jack H. Skirball and Bruce Manning, directed by Frank Borzage, and starring Ginger Rogers, David Niven and Burgess Meredith, with Peggy Wood.
- "Secret Behind the Door," a Diana production to be presented by Walter Wanger and produced and directed by Fritz Lang, and starring Joan Bennett.
- "Ivy," produced and directed by Sam Wood, and starring Olivia de Havilland.
- "Swell Guy," produced by Mark Hellinger, directed by Frank Tuttle, and starring Sonny Tufts and Ann Blyth, with Ruth Warrick, William Gargan and Thomas Gomez.
- "Temptation," produced by Edward Small, directed by Irving Pichel, and starring Merle Oberon, George Brent, Charles Korvin and Paul Lukas.
- "I'll Be Yours," produced by Felix Jackson, directed by William Seiter, and starring Deanna Durbin, Tom Drake and William Bendix, with Adolph Menjou.
- "Song of Scheherazade," in Technicolor, produced by Edward Kaufman, written and directed by Walter Reisch, and starring Yvonne DeCarlo, Brian Donlevy and Jean Pierre Aumont, with Eve Arden and Philip Reed.
- "Mr. Peabody and the Mermaid," written and produced by Nunnally Johnson, from a story by Guy and Constance Jones.
- "Buck Privates Come Home," starring Bud Abbott and Lou Costello.
- "Up in Central Park," in Technicolor, produced by Felix Jackson, and starring Deanna Durbin, based on a Broadway hit by Herbert Fields, Dorothy Fields and Signum Romberg.
- "Pirates of Monterey," in Technicolor, produced by Paul Maiver, directed by Alfred Werker and starring Maria Montez and Rod Cameron, with Mikhail Rasumny, Philip Reed and Gilbert Roland.
- "The Exile," a Technicolor production to be produced by and starring in by Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.
- "Great Son," to be produced by Michael Todd, from the novel by Edna Ferber.
- "Slave Girl," produced by Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano, directed by Charles Lamont, and starring Yvonne DeCarlo and George Brent, with Carl Esmond and Albert Dekker. This is the Technicolor production formerly known as "Flame of Tripoli."
- "Sunny River" (Technicolor), a Skirball-Manning production adapted from a Broadway musical by Sigmund Romberg and Oscar Hammerstein II.
- "Winchester 73" (Technicolor), a Diana production to be presented by Walter Wanger and produced and directed by Fritz Lang.
- "Mexican Hayride," (Technicolor), starring Abbott and Costello, based on the Broadway play.

U-I Sales Policy

Declaring that no sales policy can be "blue printed with finality at the present time," William A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager of Universal-, International, indicated the basic points upon which the company will operate in servicing theatres when he addressed in Denver on Wednesday those members of his sales force gathered there for the first of a series of divisional meetings.

Highlights of the policy under which Scully will operate immediately—with modifications as necessary to be made from time to time—are: Features to be offered individually but not on cooperative bookings; exhibitors may license as many as are to be available during the entire season, with privilege of cancellation to be negotiated with each account in competitive situations; no picture will be licensed until after it is completed and available for screening.

Canadian Industry Shows Gain in 1946

(Continued from Page 9) reported for the Provinces of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island and for a number of municipalities, including Halifax, Moncton, St. John's, Que., Kingston, Brantford, Edmonton, as well as various smaller communities. This scattered trend is believed to be due to post-war population shifts.

There was a net gain of 32 theatres during the year, of which 24 were new cinemas. The proportion of double-feature bills was 59.4 per cent of all programs, the theatres of Quebec Province leading in his respect with 75.3 per cent. There were 618 individually-owned theatres across Canada.

The 23 film-exchange companies of Canada had a banner year, according to the review. Film rentals totaled $17,490,264, substantially better than the previous high of $16,516,673 for 1944. Included in the 1945 total is $1,188,016 from the renting of 16-mm. product. Additional revenue of $358,250 was derived from advertising and another $127,953 from miscellaneous sources.

MGM to Use Narration To Reach Foreign Fans

Narration, a new technique in film presentation, developed to make Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer films accessible to millions of filmgoers overseas, will be used beginning early in October in five large language areas of the world, it was announced Wednesday by Arthur M. Loew, president of Loew's International Corporation. The countries, in which narrated versions have already been sent are: India, using narration in Hindustani; China, using Mandarin; Brazil, using Portuguese; Egypt and the Middle East, using Arabic; and Siam, using Siamese.

Favors Auction Sales

Herbert J. Yates, President of Republic Pictures, predicted at a press conference held at the company's Hollywood studio Aug. 30, that once the new auction sales policy becomes effective, with all difficulties ironed out, it should mean better business for all. He predicates his opinion on the fact that it will not be as great a problem to sell, for this policy opens the door for more business in theatres never entered before.

"This will not only help the exhibitor, to whom it will give a wider choice of available product, but it will also give everyone a chance to compete on equal terms," Yates declared.

"The competition should help greatly in the quality of product turned out and bring about a healthier trade relationship between the distributor and producer."
Cleveland Hits 'Polio Closings'

The general indications on the polio situation this week were that the epidemic was beginning to taper off with the approach of cooler weather, although different communities throughout the country continued to vary greatly in their attitude concerning the closing of public places.

For instance, in Cleveland Public Health Director Knapp said the schools would open as usual, giving as his opinion that the children are better off under constant supervision. Theatres there have not been affected. On the other hand, the schools of Peoria and Centralia, Illinois have delayed opening for two weeks, with theatre attendance also being hurt.

At least fifteen theatres were closed in the Denver territory because of the epidemic. In Muskogee, Okla. children under 14 years were barred from all theatres. The seriousness of the situation in Connecticut was alleviated last week when the State Department of Health announced only two cases were reported.

The polio crisis apparently has passed its peak in the metropolitan St. Louis area because only one new case was reported in the 24-hour period ended at midnight on September 2nd, bringing the total to 315 for the year, or almost double that for the same period in 1945, when 156 cases were reported. Most of the local schools opened on Sept. 3. A few are delaying their start until Sept. 9, including public schools in Clayton, Kirkwood, Maplewood and Webster Groves.

PRC Schedule of 29 to Include 12 Features Produced by Eagle-Lion

The PRC feature schedule of 29 attractions to be released during the 1946-47 season will include 12 pictures to be produced by Eagle-Lion Studio, in addition to seven specials, Harry H. Thomas, PRC president, told a cheering assemblage of 200 delegates comprising the executives, branch and exchange managers, house office personnel and salesmen who gathered for the annual sales conclave of the company at Atlantic City this week.

Thomas, in giving details of the forthcoming season's program from PRC, said that each of the 12 productions from Eagle-Lion would have a minimum negative cost of $500,000.

Referring to accomplishments of PRC during the past year, Thomas quoted a letter written to him recently by Robert Young, of Pathé Industries, parent organization of PRC, in which Young remarked upon the record of achievement made during season now coming to a close, and gave fulsome praise to the sales command headed by Thomas, Lloyd L. Lind, vice-president and assistant general sales manager, and "all the valiant heads who have so magnificently contributed to the upward climb which will inevitably lead the company to the top."

The PRC product lineup, Thomas said, would be headed by the following seven specials:


Balance of the program, each picture of which was discussed in detail by Thomas, will include: "Bayou Belle," drama of the Louisiana swamp country; "Peaches and Cream," comedy-romance; "Gasoline Alley," comedy-romance based on the comic strip; three Philo Vance mysteries; two Gas House Kids dramas; "Hamish from Savannah," musical comedy featuring Texas Caroldia; "Lone Star Gal," musical comedy-romance; "Park Avenue Woman," comedy-drama; "The Lost Continent," dramatic adventure of rocket trips to the Moon, and three PRC TV serials starring Hugh Beaumont.


PRC's Poo-Loo-F-Um program will also include more in the series of Eddie Dean outdoor musicals, with Roscoe Ates and Lee Bennett head of the supporting cast, and 8 Al La Rue-Al St. John Westerns.

Roth Promoted

A number of promotions were announced by Thomas at the convention. Max Roth, former mid-west division manager, became eastern sales manager; and other promotions affected Beverly Miller, Kansas City; Joe Miller, Albany and Buffalo; James Hendel, Pittsburgh and Cleveland; Sam Miller, Dallas; William Sherman, St. Louis; Abbott Swartz, Minneapolis; Sam Weiss, St. Louis; Mike Lee, Des Moines.

Edward Morey Succeeds Carr on Monogram Board

Edward Morey, vice-president and executive assistant to President Steve Brody, was elected a member of the Monogram board of directors at a quarterly meeting held last Tuesday at the studio in Hollywood. Morey succeeds to the vacancy created by the death of Tom Carr, who passed away August 18.

Holiday Grosses Big In Key Run Theatres

(Continued from Page 8)

Man Bites Dog

The censor situation in Milwaukee looked very different this week following a decision handed down by Asst. City Attorney Leo B. Hanley, which declared that the Motion Picture Commission had no power to prohibit the showing of any film in the Milwaukee theatres. The commission had recently banned "Scarlet Street," and Universal came up with a squawk. Hanley declared local authorities had no control over the showing of films, including the right of the mayor to do so under his own authority.—MIL.
Selling the Picture

Largest Air Hegira for 'Gallant Journey' Premiere

Approximately 125 persons, including Columbia studio officials and publicists, Hollywood celebrities, and newspaper and magazine writers and photographers comprised the largest air hegira aside from a military operation in the history of aviation, when several transport planes carried the party to the Spreckels Theatre in San Diego this week for the world premiere of "Gallant Journey," a William A. Wellman production starring Glenn Ford and Janet Blair.

After taking part in the events arranged in connection with the premiere and attending the showing, all the members of the party were guests at a cocktail party and dance at the U. S. Grant Hotel. They remained in San Diego that night and were scheduled to fly back to Hollywood on Thursday.

Preceding the premiere, the visitors were among the 500 guests at a dinner given by the city of San Diego at the U. S. Grant. Earlier in the day, the film folk visited the Navy hospital in San Diego where they entertained the patients. Later, they joined with the press representatives to attend ground-breaking ceremonies at Otay Mesa, in the city's outskirts, for a monument to John J. Montgomery, the pioneer aviator upon whose romantic career the film is based.

As a highlight of the celebration, the woman selected on Wednesday as the "Queen for a Day" on the Mutual Network's program of that name was flown to San Diego, where she was named "Queen of San Diego" and participated in the events held in connection with the world premiere.

Another highlight was Erskine Johnson's coast-to-coast broadcast over the Mutual Network. The 15-minute broadcast was devoted to a discussion of the historical background of the film story and to an interview with Glenn Ford.

The San Diego Junior Chamber of Commerce, which sponsored the premiere, estimates that the Montgomery Memorial Fund will profit by at least $25,000 from the various events in connection with it; the Fund will also receive five per cent share of the net profits of the picture.

Midget Window Cards

N. E. Brickates, manager of the Warner Theatre, New London, Conn., distributed 50 midget window cards on "Night and Day," through four department stores. Newspaper teasers were used. Cards mentioning the picture were set atop juke boxes throughout the New London area. Night clubs played hit tunes.—HD.

Sets Window Displays

Ernie Grecola, advertising and publicity director for the Hartford Theatres Circuit, Hartford, arranged window displays with merchants in the Colonial Theatre, Hartford, vicinity, as a stunt on "Two Sisters from Boston."—HD.

MGMairship on Schedule, Figures in Sea Rescue

Following its official christening last week by Elizabeth Taylor, the Metro-Goldwyn-MGMairship which will spell out latest movie news from the skies, is now on an eight-hour schedule seven days a week. The dirigible made its maiden flight last Friday when it circled the New York metropolitan area.

Each afternoon the MGMairship will take to the air at 4:30 and will continue on flight, weather permitting, until half an hour after midnight. In addition to the Hollywood announcements displayed on its 265-foot electric signboard, the craft will display weather news and occasional spot news flashes.

The dirigible figured in a sea rescue early in the week when its pilot, James Pumperson, of Lakehurst, N. J., former Navy airship officer, saw an upside down American flag displayed as a distress signal by a 32-foot cabin cruiser wallowing helplessly in heavy seas. The cruiser Nan-Pat-Jim, owned by O. G. Drake, of South Orange, N. J., a manufacturer, was disabled six miles east of Sandy Hook when its reduction gear burned out.

Pumperson brought his ship to the spot, took it down and hovered over the boat until he could talk to the skipper. Told of the boat's plight, he notified air traffic control authorities at Newark. With its 10,000 bulbs illuminating the darkened scene, the MGMairship stayed in the area to see that all went well. A Coast Guard cutter soon arrived on the scene to take the cruiser in tow.

Girl Ballyhoo Exploits 'Postmaster's Daughter'

Wanna play postoffice? The prospect would be intriguing, if model Jacqueline Joyce, carrying the imploring legend on her sign in busy Times Square, was also in the game. It all has to do with the new French motion picture (with English titles), "The Postmaster's Daughter," starring Harry Baur, which had its U. S. premiere recently at the Stanley Theatre in New York; Miss Joyce invaded the Broadway, Fifth Ave., and Park Ave. areas for two consecutive days. Needless to say, she attracted unusual attention for more reasons than one, New York being what it is.

Enthusiasm was duly covered by press photographers. The colorful costume she wore originally adored Irene Manning during her Broadway engagement of "Day Before Spring." Stunt was devised by Noel Meadow, American representative for YOG Film Co., distributors of "The Postmaster's Daughter." Legend painted on the small apron worn by Miss Joyce read "I am 'The Postmaster's Daughter.' I am looking for the Stanley Theatre. Can you help me?"

Contest Stirring Interest

Much interest is being created by the Moviegram Contest now being run by John Newkirk, manager of the Beach Cliff Theatre, Cleveland. Prizes are offered for the best juggling of picture titles.—CL.

SELECT MISS ROCHESTER. Lester Pollock, Loew's Rochester, set up this display in his lobby to ballyhoo the Theatre's Bathing Beauty Contest. Application blanks were obtainable at Royal Crown Cola dealers for the contest at which Miss Rochester of 1946 was to be selected for the Grand Contest at Atlantic City.

McLeod P. A. Helps Boost Borzage Film

Catherine McLeod (rhymes with load), new star of Republic's "I've Always Loved You," produced and directed by Frank Borzage, was in Chicago last week making personal appearances in behalf of the world premiere at the Apollo Theatre.

Miss McLeod, shepherded by Bill Hollander's publicity staff, made a whirlwind tour of the Windy City, making personal appearances on radio network programs in interviews with commentators and in large department stores where she signed autographs. She was introduced by Governor Earl Warren of California to 100,000 people at the Order of the Moose Convention at Soldier's Field. She later visited the Vauhn General Hospital and was guest of honor at the Chicago Bears vs. Giants Football game, sponsored by the Herald-American.

Miss McLeod arrived in New York this week to be on hand for the Loew's Criterion opening on Friday (6), and was feted with a cocktail party at the Sherry-Netherland Hotel by the Republic home office, where she met the press, newspapers, trades and general magazines.

Arrangements have been made by the Steve Edwards publicity staff at Republic to shuttle Miss McLeod on numerous radio broadcast appearances as well as appearances at large department and music stores to do autograph chores.

Following her brief stay in New York, Catherine McLeod is slated for a round of press interviews in Philadelphia to herald the premiere of "I've Always Loved You" at the Aldine Theatre on September 25, 1946.
—The same amazing business in Los Angeles, Hollywood, Cleveland, Asbury Park, Atlantic City—everyone breaking every non-holiday record!
2nd Week Tops Breaking 1st At 'C Hall, Which Holiday Record!
**'Modest' Campaign on 'Centennial Summer'**

Manager Edward May of the Rosetta Theatre, Miami, Fla., reports his "modest campaign" on 20th-Fox's "Centennial Summer." Not as modest as Showman May would have us believe, the campaign was divided into five categories—screen, lobby, vacant stores, window cards and heralds.

**Screen.** Two weeks in advance a teaser trailer was used, followed one week later by the regular trailer.

**Lobby.** Two 40x60 displays utilizing 8x10s and 11x14s were used in advance. Also as part of the lobby exhibition were 200 pennants and balloons, plus a large display oval, used for atmosphere. The lobby material was moved to the front for the film's run.

**Vacant Stores.** Mounted 11x14s and 8x10s were used in five vacant store windows.

**Window Cards.** Two hundred window cards were spotted in store windows and posted to poles in outlying districts.

**Heralds.** Two thousand were distributed house to house. A merchant ad promoted for the back cover paid for the entire cost of the heralds, including distribution.

**'Life' Spreads 9 Pages On 'Razor' Production**

One of the largest on-the-spot spreads yet allotted by Life to a motion picture company appeared in a recent issue, with nine pages of photos and script telling the behind-the-scenes story of the making of Darryl F. Zanuck's "The Razor's Edge." Life's cameramen spent days at the 20th Century-Fox studios following the action of the scenes and recording with their cameras the actual steps that went into the making of the film product.

The layouts show, in detail, production, how the various technical departments function.

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**Hotel Store Cards Sell 'Big Sleep' in Hartford**

Jim McCarthy, manager of the Warner Strand, Hartford, used distribution of numerous cards to hotels and department stores to promote "The Big Sleep." McCarthy, for cards set up in hotels, had copy: "This way to 'The Big Sleep.'" Cards in home furnishings sections, department stores, had these words: "For Fine Furniture, it's (name of store), and for fine screen entertainment, it's 'The Big Sleep' now, Strand."
SELLING THE PICTURE

Harold Argues for 'Home Grown' Ads

Often the exhibitor who offers a window card to a dealer is turned down. True, there are many windows in which this accessory is readily acceptable; but there are also many so-called "high-tone" establishments and classy managers who are extremely discriminating about what does or does not go in their windows. To placate these dealers and at the same time to get valuable window display space for your current attraction, why not mount stills on a cardboard which is lettered with the stars, title, theatre and playdate? A local artist can design such cards for you at a nominal charge, or you can have them printed, with space permitted for the affixing of the stills.

Amen to the advertising controversy often discussed among showmen concerning the efficacy (or lack of it) in press book advertising (as compared with the home-grown variety), a new debater has come forth in the person of Hank Harold, advertising manager of the RKO Palace in Cleveland, who often produces his own ads in preference to those offered in press books. Harold states that in making up his own ads he is motivated sometimes by a policy set by RKO Theatres, such as preferring to sell the names of the stars in "Centennial Summer" above the title of the picture, as illustrated above, and sometimes because he is unable to obtain a press book ad that is not "terribly cut up and disconnected" and Mr. Harold sends us the Warner ad above as an example of what he means and the one he designed in its place on "Night and Day."

In many cases a campaign is set up in its entirety before it reaches his office, Harold continues, and for one reason or another it must be run exactly as received. But on a hold-over or move-over he generally makes up his own.

Harold also delves into his own type of comedy in advertising when the occasion demands it and when he is of the opinion that press book ads don't do a good enough job. On "The Kid from Brooklyn" hold-over he designed a series of cartoon ads (not shown here) that were the talk of Cleveland.

Any other entries in the pro and con of press book ads as compared with your own?
SELLING THE PICTURE

Money Dates for October

If there was a dearth of money dates for September, October makes up for the deficiency through its many days and weeks of cooperative promotion. There are no less than six one-week celebrations with which theaters may tie in, and there are also such typical monthly events as Navy Day and Halloween shows, football games, etc., which provide shows with the opportunity to demonstrate their promotional prowess. Be alert, be on your toes for every possible tieup that will put your theater and its attractions in the limelight.

Legal Holiday

OCT. 12: COLUMBUS DAY
Parade and entertainment.

OCT. 27: NAVY DAY—If a Navy feature or short subject is available, book it for this day. With the war over and peoplebeginning to forget, it would be well to impress on your newspaper editor the necessity of publicity to arouse town consciousness of the big job done by the Navy in the winning of World War II. Tie in with Navy recruiting officials and try to get recruits seens in the stage. If Navy Day exercises are held in your town, be sure your theater is a participant.

Special Day

OCT. 31: HALLOWEEN—This day of witches and goblins falls on Thursday this year. Best stunt is a midnight show featuring the more simple pastimes, with the audience participating in such games as eating an apple suspended from a string, ducking for apples. The film attraction should be of the horror variety. Decorate your front and lobby in true Halloween fashion.

National Observance Weeks

OCT. 4-11: ADVERTISED BRANDS WEEK—Gives you cooperation with the management of the whole sale grocers and try to swap screen messages and Hollywood tieups for cards on delivery vehicles and in grocers’ windows. Theme of the campaign should be “Health is a national asset. Demand advertised foods and attend Blank Theatre for necessary vitamins.” If their advertisements are printed, try to arrange for a paste-on vine or see if you cannot prepend on their window display of cards with some sort of contest where the copy would tie in as above. Highlight of the personalities appearing on your screen will be attention-getters for commodities mentioned. Since advertised food brands will be plugged, be sure that you plug advertised film entertainment brands in conjunction with the tieup.

OCT. 6-12: FIRE PREVENTION WEEK—The importance of reducing fire hazards should be impressed upon every person in your community. Local fire department authorities and civic leaders will be glad to cooperate on the stage or in front of your theater. Insurance agents handling fire policies can also be influenced to arise cooperation with the theater. If your theater staff is well drilled in fire prevention (so it should be), you might hold an emergency drill which could be publicized. It would be a part of your staff’s effort to make your theater safe at all times.

OCT. 13-19: NATIONAL LETTER-WRITING WEEK. Overshadowed by Fire Prevention Week but gives added possiblities for theatre activity and preITLE-build-up of interest, with these days being a good time to run stationery stores naturals for tieups. Toup could be made with stationery store and newspaper for best letters on “Why the Blank Theatre and Blank Stationery Are Most Popular With the Residents of Blankville.”

OCT. 26-NOV. 2: NATIONAL APPLE WEEK—A natural for tieups with merchants along produce row. Since the dealers are ordinarily inactive where advertising is concerned, you might get them into activity, in cooperation with your local newspaper, by runningingleg contest aimed to encourage more apple eating. Have merchants include prizes in their apple consumption, a very high order is also possible from this group.

OCT. 27-NOV. 2: GIRL SCOUT WEEK—Contact local officials and arrange for as much of the planned activity as possible to take place at your theater. Stage entertainment is very high order is also possible from this group.

OCT. 27-NOV. 2: BETTER PARENTHOOD WEEK—Here is an opportunity to build goodwill among the older groups. Contact leaders of the Parent-Teachers Association to hold morning meetings at the theatre, and arrange for dentists, doctors, dieticians, teachers of domestic science, etc., to address the gatherings.

Appropriate Seasonal Events

FASHION SHOWS—Because your local department stores are anxious to bring prominence to new fall and winter styles, you can depend on them for cooperation. With the right approach you can set up a stage show of models of clothing, with high school or college students taking part. This is the event important and profitable through the display built in cooperation with the newspaper for extra advertising by the stores.

FOOTBALL—Here is an opportunity for publicity tieups with your newspaper’s sporting editor whereby by teams in the immediate surrounding vicinity figure in a weekly contest with prizes of tickets to the teams who come closest to guessing the scores of scheduled games. Your theater’s attractions should be plugged at the games through imprints on schedules or by back-to-back methods.

HALLOWEEN—For tieups with potential retail draw, this activity has great possibilities. Fearless finger may become a competition among wives and daughters for the best jar of preserves, etc., and corn-husking, wood-plenty, etc., among men. Be sure newspaper is in on this, and have lobby and front suitably decorated with corn-stalks and other produce.

Monogram Sets National Tieups on 'School Hero'

Monogram Pictures has set two important national exploitation tieups with Korot of Cali-
ifornia, Inc., women’s sportswear manufacturer, and Royal Crown Cola for “High School Hero.”

Full page ads in “Seventeen” and “Photoplay” and other leading consumer magazines will feature Floodie Stewart and June Preiser in the Korot tieup and 11,000 stores handling the Korot fashions have received dealer ads for insertion in local newspapers in conjunction with local bookings of the film. Dealers will be advised of booking dates. Miss Preiser also will be heard as the featured star on Korot’s “Show Stoppers,” 15 minute radio show to be carried on 110 stations.

“High School Hero,” also, will be promoted by Royal Crown Cola’s spot announcement campaign via 200 radio stations. Miss Preiser will be featured on the Cola broadcasts and a two color ad will appear in “Seventeen” under the drink manufacturer’s sponsorship. The film and Miss Preiser also will be ballyhooed in the Royal Crown dealer magazine. "Trem-Talk," which goes to more than 6,000

Teen-ager clubs throughout the country under the sponsorship of the Ne-Hi Corporation also will carry a feature on the film.

Spurs Parsons’ Interest With Local Angle Selling

The fact that the locale of RKO Rad- "Badman’s Territory” was right in the Parr Theatre’s backyard and that the M & K & Railroad’s locomotive shops, general offices, teams, etc., are located in Parsons, Kansas, a third that the M & K & (Katy) Rail- played a prominent part in the film, all made the advent of the picture a “natural” for mag- ager Arthur Turner and his staff. So t turned their exploitation right in the em- magazine of the Katy Railroad, with a st that went back to the early days of the rc Story provided the background material in a Mov and was written along lines that set up us with readers to see the picture.

Turner and his staff also planted plenty feature articles with local newspapers, ran tractor trailer for four weeks, displayed a foot banner in the lobby, posted cards on Katy Railroad bulletin boards, hung an arc- the-street banner, used spot announcements the radio station and otherwise let popu know when and where about “Badman’s Territory.”

Window Contest Sparks ‘Night and Day’ Campaign

A window decorating contest, arranged by State Theatre, Harrisburg, and sponsored the D & H Distributors, local radio contest was an important highlight of the extensive campaigns put on by the State for its show of “Night and Day.” The distributing comp offered a cash prize to the music store the provided the best window on the picture. Three winners were selected, the first prize material and a top-up cards, including plenty of stills and the sheet posters.

A lobby display on the film, which was set two weeks in advance of playdates, was mot on opening day to a window formerly occupy by a beauty contest. The State has tied up space until a new tenant takes over.

Local radio and newspaper announcements, bus ca and cooperative advertising were included in campaign.—HAR.

Marine Stages Kid Show With PAL Cooperation

Century Circuit’s Marine Theatre, Brook held a special morning Kiddie Show rec in cooperation with the Coordinating Council the 63rd Police Precinct’s division of the Pol Athletic League in which admission was limit to members of the PAL. Cartoons, westerns and other sh shorts of interest to youngsters made up the showing, which will be repeated from time to time, where the local PAL leaders request it.

Cooperation of the Century Circuit has been notified to the Police Precincts in a where the circuit has a theater.

Old Shoe Without Rice

A critic-by-direct-action caused something of a commotion recently at Loew’s Broad in Columbus, Ohio. The objector, a man aged about 35 years, took off his shoe and threw it at the screen. He missed the shoe, found later to be size 10, landed harmlessly in the blue drop stretched over the pit. Van Johnson was on the screen at the time in “Easy to Wed.”
ST. LOUIS

MAX TSCHACHTER DIES SUDDENLY;
WITH CENTURY-FOX BRANCH
PLANS FOR PRESIDENT’S DRIVE

The St. Louis film colony was shocked to learn of the sudden death of Max Tschachter, manager of the Frisina Amusement Company’s Roxy Theatre, Springfield, Ill., on August 26th. Details of funeral plans were not immediately available.

Mrs. Rina, featured player in Monogram’s “Bringing Up Father,” was in St. Louis on her transcontinental goodwill tour, playing a visit to Mayor Aloys P. Kaufmann at the City Hall, giving him a special message from the Mayor of Los Angeles. She also was interviewed by the press and was heard in a radio broadcast. Rina is en route from Los Angeles to New York City via plane and is making stops at key cities.

The Institute of Life Insurance will soon begin national distribution of its latest motion picture “The Search for Security.” Running time is 16 minutes.

Andy Dietz, Screen Guild Productions manager, was in the territory during the week. Mrs. Theresa Passek (nee Brunhofer) has resigned her post as cashier of the RKO office here after 20 years of service. She intends to devote her entire time to her housewife duties at the new home of the Passeks. Her husband, Crescent Passek, is in the shipping department of the local MGM office.

Dean Davis and his son, Dean Bill Davis, former service man, were in St. Louis from their West Plains, Mo., headquarters to see that important series of four games between the St. Louis Cardinals and the Brooklyn Bums for the leadership of the National League.

Tommy Williamson, manager of RKO Radio and Mrs. Williamson had a number of friends in St. Louis from their West Plains, Mo., headquarters to see that important series of four games between the St. Louis Cardinals and the Brooklyn Bums for the leadership of the National League.

ST. LOUIS

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BRIIDGEPORT

All neighborhood theatres operated continuously shows Labor Day.

Dan Ritchelli, manager of the Colonial, has been receiving congratulations on a marriage anniversary.

A. J. Domian, manager of the Globe, has been having a lengthy session with his dentist.

Harry A. Rose, manager of the Majestic and his wife, Anita, spent a pleasant day by riding the Hudson Day Line to Poughkeepsie and back. Only fault that Harry found with the trip was that he could not dangle a fishing line over the side of the steamer.

Paul Fialk is a new usher on the staff of the American.

Agnes Liscinsky, cashier at the American, is spending her vacation in Cleveland. Pauline Medak and Jean Burnett are substituting.

Ramsone Geduldig, junior assistant manager at Loew’s Poli is celebrating her birthday today (Saturday, Sept. 7), with a party of friends and relatives at Oyster Bay, L. I.

Michael J. Carroll, manager of the American, devoted his day off last week to picking apples. His wife, Mary, rewarded his efforts by making him one of her famous apple pies for Sunday dinner.

Ann Wise, cashier at the Mayfair, is on vacation.

Charles Gandino, assistant manager at Loew’s Poli, and his wife went to the Westport Country Playhouse on his night off last week to see Olivia de Havilland, a bride of a few days, in “What Every Woman Knows.”

Harold (Hank) Kilborn, doorman at the Majestic, attended the first postwar reunion of the Kilborn family at West Simsbury.

Phil (Roxy) Oliver, manager of the Strand, celebrated his return from his vacation by showing, quite appropriately his friends say, “The Shadow Returns.”

Herbert Alpert, assistan manager at the Globe, has been in Worcester, Mass., for a week.

Three local judges have been selected for the Loew’s-Poli-Harry Conover modeling contest to be held on the stage of Loew’s-Poli on the evenings of Sept. 9 and 16. They are: Theodore Haley, portrait photographer; Lillian McCoy-Ferron, dancing instructress, and Anthony, hair stylist.

DALLAS

Favorite Films Corporation of Texas has been established for business with offices at 308 S. Harwood St., Dallas, with Ed. V. Green as branch manager.

Favorite will distribute re-prints of past successes, beginning with a group of five subjects, which will be sold as a group. First release will include, also, three special to be sold with the above or singly. Each three months thereafter will be an additional group of five subjects to complete an initial schedule of 21 pictures of this category.

Ed Green is a veteran of the Dallas exchange center, having been in all exchange capacities since graduation from the Dallas high schools. His latest exchange job being with Universal as office manager.

The franchise of Favorite Films for Texas is owned by John L. Franconi.

VANCOUVER

MATERIAL SHORTAGES DELAY THEATRE BUILDING; BUSINESS PICKS UP WITH STERLING FILM BOOKINGS

Thomas Hetherington of Kalsbo B. C., is operating a 16-mm circuit in several towns in that section of the Kootneys in and around Nelson and 3e Kettle Valley zones.

Agnes McEwan, employe of Empire-Universal and daughter of Bob McEwan of the Star theatre, was married to Ormond Lake here this week.

A shortage of building material is reported delaying some theatre construction projects in (Continued on Page 22)
MURDER MAKES STRANGE PARTNERS!

MAN ON THE SPOT . . . His mind blanked out for one single hour. Can't remember what happened.

BLONDE MYSTERY . . . The kind of a woman that men just can't seem to leave alone

SLICK SHADOW . . . Out after a grim secret . . . and stopping at nothing to get it!

PAT O'BRIEN
CLAIRE TREVOR
HERBERT MARSHALL

R K O RADIO PICTURES
A-RKO BRAND!!

ACK-UP

With
Ray Collins • Wallace Ford • Dean Harens

Directed by Irving Reis • Written by John Paxton, Ben Bengal and Ray Spencer

NATIONALLY ADVERTISED

TO

30,610,384

CIRCULATION

REGIONAL NEWSREEL

(Continued from Page 19) British Columbia including the West Vancouver (Odoon) and the new Kerrisdale 1500-seat Famous Players theatre. Homes are given priority on all building material by the various government boards.

Jack "Scotty" Johnstone of Filmmart Toronto, who calls Vancouver his home since he bought the Medical Arts Bldg. here, has now purchased a chain of six cahes, called the Aristocrats, all in the Vancouver district. Scotty still likes to show his and is thinking of buying some theatres in and around British Columbia.

Colonel John (Pete) Fleming veteran of two wars has been appointed new chief Censor of moving pictures for the Province of Alberta, succeeding Mrs. C. McCaig who retired after 27 years service.

A new addition to local film row is Max Shene now booker at Monogram exchange. Shene is formerly with the RCATF and winner of the British Empire Medal, he succeeds Don Wilson who resigned to enter show business in Victoria, B. C.

L. C. Smith recently discharged as an instructor with the RCATF, plans to build a 350 seat theatre at Osoyoos, British Columbia, near the Washington State line and not far from Oliver, B. C. in the Okanagan fruit belt.

All theatres at Anchorage, Alaska, were closed by order of the Mayor following discovery of 60 diphtheria cases. With the closing of theatres, all public and other gatherings as well were banned, and travel restrictions enforced.

Sydney Taube old timer in Canadian film history and a member of the Canadian Picture Pioneers who now makes Hollywood his home, was a local visitor, Mike Goldin, manager of the Vogue was his host.

Famous Players are making extensive alterations to the Plaza theatre, Shamannow, Saskatchewan. Among the improvements are a new lounge, a candy counter, popcorn vending machine and soft drink machine, and easy chairs and a neon lighted marquee.

Ralph Michellree, manager of the Capitol Calgary, is the proud father of a baby girl his first and will name it Patricia.

A turn for the better was noted at the box offices. Ideally cool weather greeted openings. Attractions were strong and there was no important competition in town. Best were "Caisar and Cleopatra" on its third week at Vogue, "Green Years" at the Capitol also very good and holds over.

A Vancouver film council will be formed at a conference here Sept. 3-5 of British Columbia field representatives of the National Film Board of Canada.

COLUMBUS

HOLIDAY HITS BOX-OFFICES; STATE FAIR DREW RECORD CROWDS; PALACE STILL "SINGLE WITH 'NOTORIOUS'"

This year's Ohio State Fair, which closed a week ago Friday, was the biggest money-maker in the 92-year-history of the big exposition. More than $300,000 passed through the fair box-offices with 352,168 persons in attendance.

Legitimate season opens Sept. 16 at the Hartman with Pauline Lord starring in "The Glass Menagerie." Remainder of the opening week will be filled by a three-day date for a return engagement of the perennial "Life With Father." "The Hartman, with its Theatre Guild troop, is expected to show Lawrence Olivier's "Henry V" soon.

Labor Day weekend meant an attendance slump with thousands of holiday-bound motorists on the roads for the last fling of the outdoor summer season.

Danny Kaye's "The Kid From Brooklyn" has been making the box-office at the Grand the busiest place in town the past couple of weeks, Which doesn't annoy Manager Larry Caplaine in the least.

RKO Palace has been veering toward a single-feature policy with "Notorious" the latest film to be solo featured.

Joe Holleran, war veteran who has been a Loew assistant in Dayton, Indianapolis and Columbus, is the new manager of the Beechwood of the Academy circuit.

New office assistant at Loew's Broad is Esther Laslo and new PBX operator at the Ohio and Broad is Fawn Meadows.

Henry Bernstein, Columbia exploiter, in town to battalion the merits of the Technicolor Western "Rouges." Members of Tent No. 2, Columbus Variety Club, were invited to inspect the beautiful New Dutch Room of Mills 19 Restaurant, formerly Mills Buffet, which had its formal opening Thursday. After-theatre crowds (and many working theatremen) are happy that this favorite dining spot is now open until 1 a.m. During the war emergency the Buffet closed at midnight.

Jean Peters, East Canton co-ed who won the Miss Ohio State contest and a Twentyifth Century-Fox screen contract earlier this year, has requested an annulment of her contract with her local sponsor, Paul Robinson, campus photographer.

The swimming pig of Columbus has landed in the movies. Discovered by the Columbus Athletic Club, the Johnny Weissmuller of porkers appeared in a recent Fox Movietone news reel with Lew Lehr in one of the most unusual swimming meets ever filmed.

NEW ORLEANS

Mrs. Lorraine Brown, after many year service with Universal, bade farewell to her fellow workers to assume domestic duties an make preparations for a visit from the stork.

The Souzaets are hallmarking a baby girl since July. The Misses are in the inspection department of Universal.

Audrey Dares, steno at Universal, will be a Mrs. on Sept. 9.

G. W. Allen of the Gala Theatre, Butte, Ala. announced today that he will open his new theatre, the Alco in Camden, Ala. on Sept. 25. He was accompanied by the projectionist, H. B. Barrett of the Gala Theatre.

Gordon Ogden of the Ogden Theatre and Ro Pfeiffer of three suburban theatres in Baton Rouge, La. tarried a while in the colony en route to Grand Isle for some deep sea fishing.

The glad tidings on film row is that exhibitor Sam Pasqua, from Gonzales is well on the road to recovery. He has been confined to Hotel Dieu Hospital for a fortnight.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Levy, former owner of the Star theatre here, motored to Thibodaux, La. last Friday on a house-hunting tour and to the completion of the actual bill of sale of the Harter theatre there which they pur chased from Delas and Harp, who also own the Grand and Baby Grand theatres in both Thibodaux and Donaldsonville, La.

National Theatre Supply here is all decked with announcement banners and posters of the score of years in business. Special neat ante show window, showcase, floor and counter displays of their many suppliers were rigged under the direction of their manager, Tom Nealy.

Pauline Sowysz, typist at Universal, is on two weeks' vacation in New York City.

Robert Dobyns and Frances Odo are new girls at Universal.

Harold P. Saltz, office manager at Universal is back at his post after a two weeks' vacation in New York City.

Charles Achee, mechanic for National Theatre Supply, has returned from a two weeks' outing at North Shore.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Lebowitz from Memphis, Tenn. who recently purchased the Savoy Theatre at Clarksdale, Miss. from H. G. "Slim" Brewer, were midweek visitors in New Orleans and the film colony to make their acquaintance with managers, bookers and cashiers of all exchanges.

Exhibitors visiting the colony within the week were Jeff Rebstock of Golden Meadows, La.
PARIS BOUND. Maria Montez and her husband, Jean Pierre Aumont, are shown above as they arrived in New York last week en route to Paris.

HARTFORD

LEHIS HEADS CIRCUIT CORE; NEW LONDON VICTORY GOES ON FIRST RUN POLICY; HOFFMAN VOLUNTEER

Certificates of organization have been filed with the office of the Charles J. Prestia, Secretary of State, including the following: Continental Circuit, Inc., president, Martin J. Lewis; secretary-treasurer, Max Zipperman; vice-president, Rocco Mattace; directors, officers. The company recently acquired the Center Theatre, Hartford, from Al and Belle Dow on a 20-year lease; Audio-Visual Company of New England, South Norwalk; Charles R. Abry, vice-president, Anne Abry, secretary, Colby Stilson; directors, all officers.


A recent visitor at the MGM New Haven exchange was Jack Byrnes, who was MGM New Haven branch manager seven years ago and recently was promoted to Eastern sales manager.

Ralph Carenze of the Warner Strand, New Britain, has returned from a vacation in Pittsburgh. Other Warner men in the Connecticut area back from vacations: George Harvey of the Palace, and John Scanlon, Sr., of the Warner, both in Torrington.

Ray Landry, manager of the Palace, Hartford, has been recovering from illness at the Veterans Home, Rocky Hill.

Lient. Joseph Goldstein, son of Nathan E. Goldstein, who is known throughout the New England film industry, and Mrs. Goldstein, have returned from a trip to Japan on terminal leave prior to separation from the armed forces.

Jesse L. Clark, district supervisor at Tampa, Fla., for Paramount Theatres, and Mrs. Clark have returned to Tampa, following a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Walter B. Lloyd in Hartford. Mr. Lloyd is manager of the M & P Alley, Hartford.

Jim Grecelli, chief projectionist at the Warner Strand in Hartford, is now observing his 25th year at the same theatre.

Mickey Daly, Daly Theatres Corp., Hartford, has returned here from a vacation in New York.

Albert Lessow, assistant to Manager Fred R. Greenway at Loew's Poli Palace, is back from a vacation spent in Connecticut and New York.

Charles Aaron, manager of the Victory, New London, Conn., reports the theatre will henceforth have a first-run film policy, "The Kid From Brooklyn" opened first-run New London at the Victory last week. New prices for the theatre: Adults, matinee, 36 cents; evening, 35 cents; children, matinee, 12 cents; and evening, 20 cents.

DENVER

STONER, HARRISON, FETED AS WINNERS OF DRIVE; BELL RECOVERING FROM OPERA TION

J. J. Morgan, co-manager and Louise Ferguson, office manager of National Theatre Supply's Denver branch were given 20-year pins in recognition of their lengthy service with the company.

B. D. Stoner, west coast district manager and Alex Harrison, division booker, entertained the local exchange staff of 20th Century-Fox on the occasion of their winning the division managers' drive. At a luncheon at the Xaverre Cafe celebrating the event, the visitors discussed plans for the forthcoming President's drive in honor of Spyros Kouras.

C. E. Pfeffer, Bell Theatres manager has started daily commutation 35 miles each way to the new house he bought in Idaho Springs.

Eddie Ashkins, manager; Frank Sheffield, booker, and M. R. (But) Austin and A. G. Edwards, saloonmen, are in Atlantic City for the PRC sales convention.

Mary Nen, Paramount exchange secretary, vacationing at the Mesa Verde ruins near Mancos, Colo., Joe B. Stone, co-manager National Theatre Supply branch, is the father of a baby boy, James Joseph Stone, born at Presbyterian hospital Aug. 28.

Allen Kane, Paramount district manager, Detroit, and co-captain in the "34th and Greatest: Year" drive, was in Denver.

Robert Patrick, recent purchaser of the Frederick, Frederick, Colo, has opened the Central Booking Co.

R. E. Hoffman, Paramount branch manager, is recuperating at home following an operation.

Margaret Gayotte, resigned Denham publicity chief, is doing public relations work for the Arthur Murray Dance Studios and the Broadway country club.

Len Grunenberg, RKO district manager, back from a Salt Lake City visit. (Continued on Page 24)

OMAHA

TRI-STATES OUTING TO BE HELD AT LAKE OKOBoji; MANY WINDING UP VACATIONS

Charles Feldham, former Omaha who recently took over as western division manager for Universal, stopped here for a visit with relatives and friends.

Harold Johnson, Universal branch manager, has returned from a Denver meeting.

MG M Auditor John Ash has arrived in the city.

Jack Renfro, RKO's branch manager, goes first to Kansas City, then to Minnesota on a divided vacation.

Mayer Monsky, brother of Phil Monsky, Universal salesman here, and branch manager at Denver, spent the weekend in Omaha.

Morrie Sneed, Council Bluffs exhibitor, is back making regular rounds of the Row following six weeks in California.

Backroom employees proved handler with the bat than the front office personnel and scored a 5-2 Saturday afternoon softball victory in the second intra-Row rivalry of the year.

Mary Ann Jordanson, 20th-Fox secretary, is vacationing in Chicago.

The Okoboji Club at Lake Okoboji will be taken over for three days, September 10-12, for a Tri-States Theatres outing, winding up the company's Thirtieth Anniversary drive in this district. Drive prices will be awarded during the outing.

John Cannella, former assistant at the RKO-brandsie here and now with the Pan Theatre, Minneapolis, is vacationing in the city with relatives. The Cannellas had an addition to the family last month.

Robert Wolhein, Columbia salesman here, has been shifted to the Minneapolis sales force.

Regina Moseed, 20th-Fox head booker, is spending her vacation at home this year.

Oscar Hanson, operator of a booking agency in the territory, is back after a Colorado vacation.

Jerry Lubin, from Warner Brothers home office, is in town.

Stenographer Phyllis Christensen has resigned at RKO.

Warners' booker Doris Gross has left the exchange. She is moving to California.

Jeanette Shoemaker and Pat Plummer of the Wahoe Theatre, Wahoo, have returned from a month's trip in the western states.

Jean Wildman, Columbia's secretary, has resigned and will help her husband run a newly-purchased store in town.

Harry Shannon, former MGM branch manager here, has left the film business due to ill health. His new home is San Francisco.

Bill Missell, Tri-States Theatres branch manager, is back from a visit to the company's office in Des Moines.

Harold Snoonover, Aurora exhibitor, has left for a two week's vacation in Estes Park.

Joe Scott, 20th-Fox branch manager, and J. T. McBride, Paramount branch manager, dined together one evening to celebrate birthdays they both had during the week.

SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, September 7, 1946
REGIONAL NEWSREEL

(Continued from page 23)

Edna Athlets, contract department manager at Paramount, vacationing.

Lon T. Fidler, Monogram franchise owner, to Salt Lake City to visit his exchange there.

Gustave Mohme, owner of the Clasa-Mohme exchanges which handle Mexican product, in Denver conferring with Mannel Osio, local manager.

Bernice McNeely, Paramount booking clerk is wearing a diamond engagement ring.

Theatre Supply Co. has installed Morigraph sound and projection equipment in the Ute, Aguilar, Colo., and Morigraph sound in the Garlock, Custer, S. D.

Brahman Bros. expect to have their new Brahan 450-seat $30,000 theatre at Hatch, N. M., open by Oct. 1.

LOS ANGELES

'VINNICOF ADDS NEW LINK TO CHAIN: POOLE SAYS PCCITO WILL AID GOVT FILM PLAN: BLAKE IN NEW POST

Foster Blake, former Universal branch manager, was named district sales manager for Universal-International, having charge of the offices in L. A., Salt Lake City and Denver, Barney Ross, ex-Frisco manager, will now supervise the Frisco, Seattle and Portland offices. William Parker, formerly in Milwaukee for Universal, takes over Blake's job as local manager.

Harry Stern, who has resigned as PRC western district manager, is expected to announce his plans shortly.

"Sheriff" Jack Valpey, chief MGM booker, was mighty happy to get away on his vacation. Day before Jack left, his fellow-workers made life a slight madhouse by playing a multitude of pranks on him. Valpey's secretary, Aarion Silverman, left for her vacation at the same time.

Latest release being handled by Clasa-Mohme, Inc., distributors of Mexican films, is "Pepita Jimena."

Harold Goldstein, who used to work for Universal in New York City succeeded Natalie Solomon as a PRC booker. Natalie is taking a wellearned vacation.

Jean Borch, newcomer to the Row, went to work for RKO in the contract department.

Jean's cousin, Joyce Schatz, has been subbing for Edna Blackwood, receptionist. Joyce is in the billing department. Other RKO vacationists include Ann Black, secretary; Ethel Simpson, cashier; and Eddie Jones, booker.

Harry Vinnicof added another theatre to his circuit when he bought the Green Meadows from the Tomsom company. The house is being closed temporarily for repairs, which Vinnicof states will run $25,000. It will reopen as a subsequent run, operated by the Southern California Amusement Co.

Visitors to the Row included Judge Pasley from the Desert Theatre in India, and O. Karr, manager, Lamont.

Before Syd Lehman left for the PRC convention he helped set "Woman of Monte Cristo" in first run at Orpheum, El Rey and Vogue. It opened September 6.

William Rodgers, Metro's sales chief, paid a visit to the local branch while on the Coast recently. Howard Perrette, MGM booker, is on a Mexican trip during his time off. Noel Robinson, formerly with Columbus, was discharged from service Aug. 11 and didn't waste any time getting back into the film game. Noel is now in MGM's shipping room.

CINCINNATI

Jack Needham, salesman with 20th Century-Fox for 25 years, and James Neff, head booker, celebrating his 27th year with the company, will be feted by their fellow employees at the annual outing of the Family Club September 7 at Ross, Ky. Both men will receive pen and pencil sets. Dave Stenger is heading the outing committee consisting of Virginia Meyer, Jean Kolkmeyer and Russell Weller. Wedding gifts will be presented to Alice Ransdell, inspector, and Audrey Niheas, both recent brides.

Bob LaSance of 20th Century's booking department, is the father of a 7-pound girl, his first child.

A usually reliable source has it that Bob Morrell, head booker at Metro, has been promoted to supervisor of shorts, news and trailer liquidation—whatever that is.

Stanley Jacques, branch manager of RKO, has returned from two weeks in Canada. On his way home, he attended a testimonial dinner at Detroit for Mill Cohen, newly appointed trict manager.

For Joseph W. Goldberg, traveling representative for Popular Pictures, the "state of emerency" is past now that his son, Donald, is home from the Navy. Donald is planning to enter the University of Indiana.

Enjoying a foretaste of fall during this past week along what might here be called "Smoore Row" (Film Row) were the following out-of-town exhibitors: Paul Holien, So. Charleston, W. Va.; Bill Thalheimer, Logan and Madison, W. Va.; Louis Wetzel, Dayton O.; S. S. Steenrod, Nelsonville, O.; Fred Carnahan, and William Hughes, Muncie Ky.; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Etts, Dayton, O.; Louis Padola, Parkersburg, W. Va.; J. H. Davidson, Lynchburg, O.; James Weddle, Laxenceburg, Ind.; David Frey, Frelcy, George Turflukis, Middleton, O.

Ed. A. Wheeler, former operator of the P. Film Service of Pittsburg and several theatres in and around Baltimore, has taken over the Astor Picture Franchise for the Cinci- nati territory, comprising Southern Ohio, East Kentucky and Western West Virginia, addition to the Astor Picture line-up, a number of out independent features and short subjects will be handled. The releasing organization will be called Astor Pictures Exchange for the Astor product and Wheeler Film Co., for all others.

HARRISBURG

HARRY TYSN GETS SURPRISE PARTY ON ANNIVERSARY; GOTH PUBLISHES FABIAN HOUSE ORGAN

Nearly twenty exhibitors and film men the area gathered in the Allison Hillside Wenesday, August 28, to honor Harry Tysn, United Artists representative, on his sixty-fifth birthday. The dinner and party was a com- plete surprise to Tysn, who was kept on the road all day by Wilson Turner, Universal, a returned to the hotel only after he was sure all the gues had arrived. They prased toon with a Shaffer pen and pencil set. Present were: Turner (who is love Handly, Yost theatre manager) arranged the part: Handly, Mark Rubinsky, Rubinsky ci cunt; Walter F. Yost, Yost theatre manager; Ira; Schiuff, National Amusement Boyd; I. Hiler, Lebanon; William H. Whyte, Stu William Bethel, Collomade, Millersburg, at Republic salesman; Jack Bergen, newly-appointed manager for Paramount, Philadelphia exchange; Russ Einicgreen, Paramount; N. Rone Fox; Tom Noble, Warners; Mi Shulman, KKO; Frank Jelenke, MGM; Her man Hirschorn, Monogram; Eli Ginsberg, SRC Ray O'Roarke, former Paramount representative; and Jim Belch, Allison Hill.

Sam Gihman, who has been relieving is Billy Saxton, Loew's Baltimore, returns Sep- tember 5 to take over the managerial reins at Loew's Regent here. Maurice Drucker, relie manager, goes the same day to Loew's Capitol Washington, for a turn.

Next week a new publication will make it appearance destined for distribution to Fabian Wilmer and Vincent houses, managers and of ficials. To be called "Action," the magazine will be published weekly and distributed to abo 60 persons. The editor, Edgar Goth, Fabian advertising and publicity director, said the pub

PLAN BIGGER, BETTER SHOWMANSHP: The shot above shows the Warner Bros. executives and theatre managers in Washington, Maryland and Virginia gathered for one of the several business sessions of the first postwar annual meetings of the group held in Washington last week. John J. Payette, general zone manager, presided.
REGIONAL NEWSREEL

NEW YORK

B'S ABRAHAMS CELEBRATES 90 YEAR WITH COMPANY;
R'S ROTH HERE FOR TALKS

Paul Abrahams, head of the print department in charge of home office screenings for Warner Bros., this week celebrated his 23rd year in continuous service with the company. In early days of sound Abrahams had charge of all bookings of prints (and sound discs) for a period of two years. Throughout that time, due to the unfamiliarity of exchanges with the new medium, every sound and talking exchange had to be booked directly from the home office.

Max Roth, PRC midwestern sales manager, in New York for a series of home office conferences with President Harry H. Thomas and Vice-President Lloyd L. Lind.

A conference on the New York branch's participation in Paramount's sales contest in connection with the company's "34th and Greatest Film Celebration" will be held next Monday at the local exchange. At the meeting a report of the New York sales force's part in the drive will be submitted to Hugh Braly, one of two regional co-captains in the contest for the prize. Braly will preside at the conference, which will be attended by Hugh Owen, Paramount's eastern sales manager, and southern division sales manager. The New York exchange sales headed by Harry Randel, branch manager, and Myron Attier, branch sales manager.

Engagement of Diane Rita Kulmenson, daughter of Ben Kulmenson, Warners' vice-president and general sales manager, to Burton Levine, has been announced by Mr. and Mrs. Kulmenson. Miss Kulmenson attended Emerson College in Boston and is now a student at the Laboratory of Fashion Merchandising in New York. Mr. Levine is a member of the noted State's Navy for two years.

Selma Stoff, of the Paramount publicity department, was married last Sunday to Stanley Kolbwowitz. The couple are honeymooning in the mountains upstate.

Opening of Marcel Pagnol's "The Weddler's Daughter," which was scheduled for the new Avenue Playhouse on September 6, has been postponed until the middle of the month because of construction difficulties. The new theatre is being built on the Avenue at the corners of 40th and 47th Streets. The film is distributed by Siritzky International.

Bob Snyder, in charge of Film Classics exchange here, flew to Cincinnati for a vacation. Snyder was formerly a Cleveland for Florida, franchise holder, is a visitor at the home office this week.

The Atlantic Playhouse on Flatbush Avenue at Dean Street, Brooklyn, recently acquired

CONGRATULATIONS. George T. Landis, branch manager, was honor guest at the Indianapolis 20th-Fox Family Club picnic last week. At right, Herman Hallberg, booker and president of the Club, is first to shake hands, say congratulations.

by Brant Theatres, opened last Sunday with a double program of two films based on Italian operas. "Pagliacci," in English, stars Richard Tauber, while the other feature is "Amami Abruzzo," a film version of Giuseppe Verdi's "La Traviata." (Italian film with English subtitles.) The Brant Theatres have taken over two other film houses, the Terminal and the National, both of which are also situated in downtown Brooklyn.

Harry Stern, Western Division Sales Manager for PRC Pictures announced his resignation as of August 30th. Stern is in New York at present surveying picture properties with an eye to entering the production field. His devotion in production terminates 26 years of distribution experience, which began in August 1920 with the old Fox Film Co. Prior to his association with PRC, Stern was special western representative for U.A., and west coast representative for Gaumont British. He will return to the west coast in about 3 weeks.

A requiem mass was held at the Church of St. Francis Xavier on Thursday for James E. Finey, who died at his home last Sunday. Finey was sales assistant to Carl Leesman, representative of Benedict Bogstein and David L. Lowe.

MILWAUKEE

Victor Theatre, Hartland, Wis., has been sold to J. S. Johnston of Milwaukee, by Carl F. Neitziel.

Abbott & Costello came to Milwaukee on August 28th, to make several appearances in person, and they were also the guest artists on the air at the Monday nighton program on that day over WTMJ, the Milwaukee station. At 2:30 p.m., the two comedians led a parade, with several organizations participating, including the disabled vets in cars and 20 children of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

The theatre holdup at the Venetian in July, when the cashier was robbed of $7,500, has resulted in handing the robber over to the municipal court under $10,000, as other charges are pending against him.

At Plankington, So. Dak., the American Theatre Supply Co. is completely re-equipping the Anjime Theatre owned by John Anderson, who will soon celebrate his 30th year in show business.

Ursula Moerck, owner of the Hecla Theatre, at Hecla, So. Dak., is re-equipping her booth with Wenzel projectors, Strong lamps and Soundmaster sound, which is being installed by Art Trotzig of the American Theatre Supply Co. of Sioux Falls, So. Dak.

OKLAHOMA CITY

Pvt. Thomas Lauderdale of Shawnee, on furlough from the army, was charged with an attempted robbery of the Jolie Theatre at Fort Smith last week and arraigned in municipal court but declared he didn't know whether he did it or not, claiming he was drunk. Miss Lois Hedwell, cashier, refused to hand over her money when he demanded it.

Opening of the Will Rogers theatre here has been scheduled for September 18. Named for Oklahoma's most famous son, the new Griffith theatre, which has a seating capacity of 1,000 and cost $150,000, is one of three major theatres now nearing completion here by Griffith.

R. E. Roller plans to open his Granada Theatre at Maysville next week after remodeling and installation of a great deal of new equipment.

KANSAS CITY

Isidore Freheng, former resident of Kansas City, now a director in the Warner Bros. animated cartoon department, was a visitor here last week.

Eddie "Rochester" Anderson appeared before a crowd of 2,500 persons at the Municipal Auditorium last fortnight headlining his show "Stoppin' Traffic.

Jack Tierman is the new publicity manager at the Orpheum here; coming from Cincinnati.

Bob Johns, former head of the booking department at MGM here has been promoted to the role of a salesman and Roger Leaton, at present a booking agent, becomes Johns place.

Morrell Fauklenberg has acquired the Royal at Leonardville, Kansas.

PHILADELPHIA

THEATRES HOLD TO ROOM LEVEL, OFFER HOLIDAY; LARRY WOODIN, CHAUFFEURS 'MISS PENNSYLVANIA'

Although the seashore boasted of record breaking crowds, and the bus stations and railroads had as much traffic as they could handle, and the Delaware River Bridge was on its way to set a new high on the number of vehicles which crossed on any week-end, Philadelphia movie houses did outstanding business. Although prices were higher, and many theatres downtown started off with the full price from the first show, theatres were packed. The Stanley Theatre, playing "Notorious" was on its way to establish a new box office record this week.

A new night club opening "The Click" brought many more thousands of persons downtown. Operated by Frankie Palumbo of the restaurant clan, the new club is planned to play to the masses, and can handle more people than any other club downtown.

The Daily News went into a 3c price today for the first time. The reason for the increase was given as more added features in addition to increased costs. The paper is really adding many more features, and held off on the increase for a long time.

(Continued on Page 28)
...who introduced such great adventure stars as JOHN WAYNE – GENE AUTRY – ROY ROGERS ...proudly hails the arrival to full stardom of another dashing screen personality...

WILLIAM (BILL) ELLIOTT

Breaking Records in His First Major Starring Production "IN OLD SACRAMENTO"

starring WILLIAM E with HANK DANIELS • RUTH
Acclaimed in DENVER!
Crowds! Crowds! Crowds! at the Paramount and Webber Theatres!

Acclaimed in DALLAS!
Sensational 3-day appearance at the Melba Theatre!

"I feel that William Elliott has all the qualities to make a great star. After they see him, I know the showmen of America will agree."
H. J. Yates, Sr.

Acclaimed in KANSAS CITY!
Throngs braved record heat to cheer him at Tower Theatre!

ACRAMENTO
T and CONSTANCE MOORE
LLY · EUGENE PALLETTE · LIONEL STANDER
er and Director JOSEPH KANE

A REPUBLIC PICTURE
SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, September 7, 1947

REGIONAL NEWSREEL

(Continued from Page 25)

Pat Netaro, manager of the Bromley Theatre was married last Saturday. His fellow managers threw him a party last night before the wedding. His bride was Marion Koster, an ex-Wac lieutenant.

Marx Levine, Warner District manager in the Atlantic City area, went into the St. Frances Hospital in Wilmington this week, for a hernia operation.

Lou Fortunato, son of Fert Fortunato, Universal booker, is now booking in the Paramount exchange. He came there from the Warner Theatre booking department. Lou had been in the Marines, and was discharged recently.

The wife and two sons of 20th Century Fox's branch manager Sam Gross, returned from a two-months visit to Hollywood last week.

Larry Wodin, exhibitor from Wellsboro, was in Philadelphia during the American Legion parade, driving the car in which "Miss Pennsylvania" rode. Larry had the state rights for the selection of "Miss Pennsylvania" for participation in the Miss America pageant in Atlantic City.

WASHINGTON

Wade H. Skinner, secretary to Warner Bros. General Zone Manager John J. Payette, has received the Presidential Unit Citation awarded his U. S. S. Lexington and her attached air groups. The holder of six battle stars, Skinner joined the Warner Bros. Washington office in 1939 and was granted a leave of absence in 1942 to enlist in the U. S. Navy. He now holds the rank of Lieutenant in the U. S. Naval Reserve.

District Manager Wade Pearson, of the Neighborhood Theatre Corp., in Arlington, Va., announces that Bert King, New York radio personality, and originator of the "Blind Date Quiz Party" broadcast, played one-night stands at three of his theatres, the State Theater, Falls Church, Virginia; Wilson Theatre, Arlington, Va., and Globe Theatre, Arlington, Va.

Leonard Ridgely, youngest son of MGM Head Cashier, Anna Ridgely, was married on August 24 to Miss Carolyn Atree at St. George's Church, Annapolis, Maryland. Cal Farley, true life hero of Boys' Ranch visited the local Metro Exchange through the efforts of Tom Baldrige, exploiter.

Jack Goldberg, Sales Manager at MGM, vacated in New York and Atlantic City.

The Arlington County Centennial Celebration on September 3, in the Washington and Lee High School Stadium, was staged by Harry Anger, former manager-director of the Earl Theatre, and a well-known showman.

Nathan Golden, of the Dept. of Commerce, and 1st Assistant Chief Barker of Variety Club Tent No. 11, left for a two weeks' vacation.

A surprise birthday party was given MGM Representative Phil Bobys by his fellow workers. A gift from the office staff, and refreshments, were part of the festivities.

CHARLOTTE


H. H. Minter announced that this week, his company, Everett Enterprises, has purchased the Watts and Marco Theatres in Williamson, N. C. from Jimmy Watts.

The local Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer office entertained all of its employees Friday night, August 30 as both a farewell party to Jack Sims—booker who recently resigned to take over the management of the Midway Park Theatre at Midway Park, N. C.—and a welcome back party for all of the Metro employees who have returned from the service.

Carol Ogbum, Warner booker, has returned from a vacation. Also back at his desk after a few days rest is J. D. Hexamer, United Artists Office Manager.

Kay Kyser arrived in Charlotte to organize a group of showmen to work for the improvement of North Carolina's health standards. Kyser is meeting with H. F. Kinney of Willys-Kinne theatres and other theatremen.

DES MOINES

Television and movies took over the Iowa Centennial state fair which established an all-time attendance record with more than a half-million people going through the turnstiles during the ten-day event.

Television and the movie crew of Warner Bros. took the eyes of the rural visitors, however. The television consisted of an RCA Video demonstration unit which was brought to the fair by radio station KXNT and set up in the International harvester company tent. The movie crew, from Warner Bros. were on the scene during the entire fair taking technicolor shots for a two-reeler short.

The RCA Video unit—brought to the fair by KXNT with the Cowles brothers reported as laying out $5000 to finance the costs—was set on a stage for pickup while a dozen receivers were scattered around the huge tent for spectators to watch. The crowd was estimated at averaging close to 5,000 an hour at peak times. Audience reaction was mixed, with some disappointed over reception and others beaming in typically rural style at the world's new marvel.

The show consisted mainly of interviews of fair winners, personalities at the fair and non-union musicians.

The Warner Bros. crew ran into an unusual thing while filming their special feature. One shot they had counted on was a big mess of Iowa corn on display but the farmers didn't bring any in and fair officials had to call on the hybrid corn companies to ship some in. The movie people selected a number of Des Moines pretties to feature in the film and after taking a flock of shots of the girls doing the rides at the midway, a few had to drop out because of dizziness.

A postal card 160 times as large as the standard penny card was mailed from Waterloo by Russell A. Beach, RKO Orpheum theatre manager, containing a complimentary greeting to Lurgi Bergman at RKO radio studios in Hollywood. The card contained the signatures of thousand of Waterloo theatre patrons. It was the largest postal card ever mailed from Waterloo, weighing 11 pounds and seven ounces and exceeding the 100 inch circumference limit of parcel post and manager Beach had to pay $5.46 to send it by first class mail.

CHICAGO

B & K STAGES 4 PREMIERES; MUSICIANS WIN 15% RAISE; ALLIANCE HOLDS MEETING

Balaban & Katz were involved in four premiere showings last week with Republic's "Love of the Son", Warner's "Apollo", Warner's "Ever Night and Day" at the State and Paramount's "Monsieur Beaureac" at the Chicago and MGM's "Easy to Wed" going into the United Artists for a run.

Walter Immemon, B & K's general manager, and his son James plan to travel the Fox River this month in their speed boat.

Chicago theatre musicians have received 15 per cent wage increase.

Dan Goldin, NSS supervisor, is going to the company's Des Moines offices for a checkup and then will return to New York headquarters.

Lee Arwood has been named advertising manager for RCA's Chicago office, succeeding K. S. Lineback, who has joined the sales department.

B & K has withdrawn armed forces reduction prices and Allied theatres and other circuits plan similar action. More than seven million free tickets have been given to servicemen in Chicago during the war, in addition to the reduced admission prices.

Alliance Theatres held its fall meeting to managers at the Lincoln Hotel, Indianapolis this week, with awards presented to winners of the Alliance business drive. J. J. Gregory, Pete Panagos, John Doerr, R. H. Brandt and Jack Springer attended from City Ciego headquarters.

James Coston, Warner Theatres zone manager, will play host to his fisherman friends a Eagle River Lodge.

To and from vacations: Alliance president P. J. Dee, and Mrs. Dee, from a business an vacation plane trip to Europe; Viola Run secretary to W. H. Straford, LATSE, 600 from Yankton, South Dakota; H. A. Silverburg, NSS's Chicago manager and Lou Patz Michigan manager, from Charlotte, Michigan Fred Matthews, Photographic, to Canada on vacation vacation and business trip.

Gerald Gitwitz, president of the Natco Company, and Ed Levens have left for New York City for business conference.

Monroe loop theatre is showing "Smoky" this week, having received second week clearance to this run, which is an improvement over the regular playing time.

Roy Zermain, named manager of new 1,000 car outdoor theatre which opened last week.

(Continued on Page 34-A)
Opening Week at the N.Y. WINTER GARDEN Theatre

"The KILLERS" played to 71,080 admissions!

"fantastic figure" says Variety

(The Killers" opened sensation-
ally last Wednesday at the Garden,
and built on subsequent days, be-
ing helped by crix praise. Film
went in on all-night grind policy
with scale upped to $1.70 for choice
times of day. Fast turnover is
created, too, with bringing such a
fantastic figure.

MARK HELLINGER
presents
ERNEST HEMINGWAY'S
Directed by
ROBERT SIODMAK
of "The Spiral Staircase" fame

A Universal Release
EDMOND O'BRIEN • AVA GARDNER
ALBERT DEKKER • SAM LEVENE
and Introducing BURT LANCASTER
Screenplay by Anthony Veiller
From the story by Ernest Hemingway
Produced by Mark Hellinger
Little Miss Big

Universal Drama 61 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Beverly Simmons, the youngster who appeared in "Patsy," gives fine performances in a mildly entertaining little picture.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: A minor offering for the secondary spot.


Plot: In rich old lady tax-assay proceedings instituted against her by her conniving nephew and is committed to an asylum. When she flees and reaches a barber shop, the barber's daughters provide her with love and shelter, and nurse her back to health. The sanity hearing is proved illegal, and the only unhappy persons are her thwarted relatives.

Comment: After introducing Beverly Simmons to the flamingo public in "Frontier Gal," Universal now brings the youngster back in a starring role in which she turns out to be a minor offering for the secondary spots. They probably expected there would be quite a few theatregoers who would enjoy seeing her again. But their purpose was defeated by the material given her, for although Beverly comes through with a satisfactory performance, living up to the promise she gave in the previous film, the time-worn material gives the picture little chance of attracting any attention. The age-old tale of the rich, crochety old woman made human by the love of a youngster, having been repeated so many times, holds little interest, and the tears and human appeal don't quite come off. Among the well-chosen cast members are such splendid trouper as Fay Holden, Frank McHugh, Samuel S. Hinds and Milburn Stone, while Dorothy Morris and Fred Brady take care of the romantic interest. Erle C. Kenton gave the picture adequate direction and Stanley Rubin handled the production reins.

South of Monterey

Monogram Action-Drama 58 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Has definite appeal for action audiences, especially those in Spanish-type communities and neighborhoods because of nearly-produced "caballero" flavor.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Ought to do nicely for average exhibitor in small towns and subsequent runs in larger towns, with series building constantly and "Cisco Kid" name of long-standing value.


Plot: The Cisco Kid comes to the aid of a beautiful young Mexican girl and her handy-some lover down in old Mexico. The girl's brother is commandante of the town and is in cahoots with an unscrupulous American. Said American desires the girl and is keeping her locked up until she yields. The commandante and the Yankee are looting the town. The Kid manages to get himself and the girl's lover out of jail, trails the two gaunters and kills the American gangster. The girl and her lover are brought together and off goes the Kid to new adventures.

Comment: Monogram has an excellent series in The Cisco Kid, if this release is any indication. The picture has plenty of life and a great deal of unsuspected comedy, with Roland turning in a topnotch performance. Marjorie Riordan, who was once proclaimed one of Hollywood's brightest young lights, lends real stuff to her portrayal of the beautiful young Mexican beauty, and the entire cast seems to be in earnest. Director William Nigh deserves plaudits for maintaining a good pace throughout the film. The music is excellent, giving flavor to the action. Photographer Harry Neumann does a swell job, worthy of more pretensions budget offers. The picture will be a "natural" for action crowds, especially those in Spanish-type communities and subsequent runs.

Swing, Cowboy, Swing

Westernair Pictures

Western (with music) 57 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) A rather innocuous dose of story and song that is calculated to give the small children who do not demand big productions.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Purely for the lower half, with no box office names, this can work wonders for the proper public.

Cast: Cal Sturman, Don Weston, Max Terrbane, Alta Lee, the Colorado Hillbillies, Credits. Story and direction by Elmer Clifton. Production manager, William Noble. Music directed by Frank Sanucci. Script by Don Weston, Walt Shrum and Robert Hoag.

Plot: Cal Shrum and his Rhythm Rangers are shot at by a mysterious rider as they approach town to give a performance. They find a murder has been committed at the opera house and nobody will attend. So they track down the masked rider to find its the owner of the hotel who wanted to kill business at the opera house in order to take it over itself.

Comment: Produced by a group of ex-G.I.s, "Swing, Cowboy, Swing" offers an innocuous story entirely surrounded by hill-billy and western songs. Shrum and his brother singers are passable enough as entertainers, although their effect is not quite professional. Perhaps for this reason the picture has a kind of homespun quality that will be liked by audiences of simple taste, who prefer their songs and songs out of the parlor rather than from Sammy Shiland's Agency on Broadway. Certainly the talk is legitimately Coloradan, with no straining on the part of the players, Elmer Clifton, an old hand, has paced the film very slowly. It has some pretty bad continuity, but it percolates up every time the horses go galloping before that beautiful Colorado background. It is strictly for the lower half.

God's Country

(Color)

Screen Guild Outdoor Drama 62 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Excellent offering for family theatregoers, especially in smaller towns and subsequent runs.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Will fill the bill very neatly as the second feature on a double program, and perfect for special kid show.


Plot: An escaped man, accused of killing another person, comes to the forest country for refuge. He quickly becomes the frier and defender of the Indians and trapper including the daughter of the storekeeper. When an unscrupulous lumberman tries invade the sacred domain of these simple folk, the escaped man rises to battle. He sets in getting the governor to okay a petition to oust the badmen, gets the girl as is cleared of all charges against his father.

Comment: Most outstanding feature, far, of this action piece is the sheer magnificence of the location filmed: the Redwood country. While the Cinecolor processing does take too well at all times during the film, the beauty of the region is nicely captured. Mack LePlongeon's photography deserves a hand. Another very busy gentleman on the job was Robert Tanney, who, in addition to directing it but wrote the screenplay. The picture made some six months ago as a separate venture by producer Bill David, was lat incompletely finished. Former Exhibitors will do well to use it as a double bill lower half, and as a "natural" for k shows. Running time is an hour, which, just right. Bob Lowery, as the virile young lead, does good work; Helen Gelert, ingenue, is quite pretty; and oldtime comic Bus Keaton gets a full quota of laughs from minding material, making one wonder why the clever veteran has been all these years.

Gallant Bess

(Color)

MGM Drama 96 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) A picture that should interest and entertain the entire family, from the youngest to the oldest. Photographed in Cinecolor, the scenic magnificence. Story is human and appealing and the behavior and tricks of "Bess" is all there to please practically any audience.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: In spite of lack of names, this should do quite well wherever played, for once seen and word-of-mouth spreads, it is bound to attract attention. The right advance exploitation help pull it over.

Plot: When an orphan boy enlists, leaves his ranch home in the care of an old friend. During his final leave before his...
BOX-OFFICE SLANTS

**London Town**

*(Color)*  
*(Previewed in London)*

Universal-International Musical 120 mins.  

**AUDIENCE SLANT:** (Family) British musical in the Hollywood style with the accent on comedy. Introduces Sid Field, who will capture audiences with his robust humor.  

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** Opulent color and technical production, tip-top songs and an outstanding comedy discovery, give this entry to offer the smart showman.

**Cast:** Sid Field, Greta Gynt, Tessie O'Shea, Claude Albert, Sonnie Hale, Mary Clare, Petula Clark, Kay Kendall, the "London Town" Boys and Girls, and others.  

**Credits:** Produced and directed by Wesley Ruggles for the J. Arthur Rank Organization. William Collier Jr., personal associate.  

**Plot:** Field and his young daughter, Petula, go to London where he is to star in a revue it arrive to find that he is understudy to the leading lady. Disillusioned, he wishes to return to the provinces where he is a top-of-the-bill median, but Kay, the ingenue, attracts him. Petula tricks the star into missing a performance, and thus gives Field a chance which he takes. He becomes a star and wins his girl.

**Comment:** Directed by Wesley Ruggles.

**New Mirrophone Sound**  
**JOE HORNSTEIN has it!**

"London Town" has all the ingredients and polish of a Hollywood musical. The accent, however, is on comedy rather than girls, though the latter are not neglected. The story is flimsy, but serves as a vehicle to introduce Sid Field, an outstanding comedy discovery. His sketches are comedy gems, and it is unnecessary to be a player to appreciate the golf number which, for belly laughs, is rivaled only by his portrayal of an effeminate photographer taking a city dignitary's portrait. This is honest vulgarity and the laughs are so consistent that the dance routines which have been tastefully staged provide welcome respite. An effective number was shot on location on the Thames Pleasure boats. The music is tops, with So Would I and 'Ampstead Way obviously destined for the hit parade. Some of the Cockney humor may be missed, but if Field's wartime reception from US Forces who saw him on the stage is any criterion, his success is assured. Excellent comedy support is given by Claude Albert and Sid Field, the Dozen and One Girls and innumerable show girls who are seen to advantage in the big production numbers. Twelve-year-old Petula Clark is a name to boost, as she was elected "Queen of Rainbow Corner" by US Forces and sang with several Military Bands. The film as a whole might be short of twenty minutes by cutting the meaningless "Daffodil" Ballet and the finale. There is plenty in "London Town" from the box-office standpoint, and smart showmen will be able to cash in on its obvious saleable qualities.

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**Red River Renegades**

Republic Western 55 mins.  

**AUDIENCE SLANT:** (Family) Average western that will get by in action spots.  

**BOX-OFFICE SLANT:** Should do average business in action houses.  

**Cast:** Sunset Carson, Peggy Stewart, Tom London, Ted Adams, LeRoy Mason, Bruce Langley, Kenne Duncan, Edmund Cobb.  

**Credits:** Producer, Horace B. Williams; Director,_Type_2_original_writing; Original screenplay, Norman N. Hall. Photography, William Bradford.

**Plot:** Two government postal inspectors pose as ordinary cowpokes in an effort to stamp out the mystery of disappearing stage-coaches carrying great sums of registered mail. Their efforts are almost voided by a

*(Continued on Page 35)*
Theatre Management

The Brass Tacks of Efficient Picture Theatre Management

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR ADVANTAGE

By Jack Jackson

The theatreman possesses a marked advantage over every other type of commercial endeavor in selling his merchandise to the public because all people in all places are pursuing happiness.

Other merchants market their wares in the reflection of happiness by selling the possibilities of wealth, health, comfort or contented well-being as a potential of the goods he manages as a matter of course.

The theatreman sells happiness direct in pure 4K, unalloyed form.

Think that last sentence over Mr. Showman—because it indicates possibilities limited only by the amount of imagination you are capable of conjuring and can, if given even a modicum of the tremendous horizon it presents, be a spectacular factor in making your community conscious of the vital importance of you and your establishment as an indispensable part of their daily lives and the American way of living.

If you, or I, or any of us, could use a slide rule and compass, a $75 square and yardstick, a transit and plumb line—or any other generally accepted measuring device—to gauge the actual rehabilitation value of two hours of mental eyssium and physical relaxation administered to the human body during the average theatre program we would have a sales argument as irrefutable as the laws of gravity and as irresistible as a catfish sandwich at a Negro picnic.

I know that you, my dear Mr. Showman, may be thinking that I've sent my cerebral machinery to be overhauled when I tell you that I'm still playing Trilby to P. K. Johnston's Svengali and that the profound thoughts expressed above are excerpts from the same conference about which I wrote last week and not from my own shallow "think tank."

Movies Held Mental Tonic Treatment

Of course the measuring of the effect of happiness on the human mind and body is impossible but "PK's" premise is real enough and makes a swell stab at raising the show business goulash high into the ethereal heaven of commercial endeavor—where it really belongs. And, if you stop to reflect on the truth of his assertion, you'll swell up like an amorous bullfrog and start steppin' a trifle lighter, holding your head a little higher and generally reflecting a conscious pride in being associated with a business whose service to every customer merits higher valuation than the proverbial riches of Midas.

Undoubtedly I'm going way beyond my depth and I question whether I will accomplish my purpose—that's up to you—but I'm going to try to dissect Johnston's thoughts and lay the pieces (as they appear to me) before you in the hope that some unit of the assembly will induce the kind of effort that will elevate your theatre in the esteem of your patrons.

It's going to require a little adventure in "imagineering" and the arguments I intend advancing are purely hypothetical yet indelibly backgrounded in the elevating premise my friend Johnston advances. In this light I begin to see myself—not my literary self but my showman self—as conducting the greatest mass healing establishment in town—a place where the patients who purchase admission tickets are given a two hour mental tonic treatment that completely assuages whatever worries or cares they carried into my place of business.

My place is also a haven to the physically ill who are induced to forget their discomforts and live in a painless dreamland for the period it takes to present my program.

To my portals also come the lame and halt, the indigent and infirm whom life has

(Continued on Page 33)

Contest in Chicago for Feminine Achievement

Popularity contests are grist for the exploitation mill. The winning bathing girl, the most beautiful girl in town, the most beautiful baby—there's always a beauty angle somewhere—of most beautiful lips, for instance. But here's a popularity contest that is really different. The North Shore in Chicago's suburbs has been voting for the woman who has achieved the most, regardless of how she looks.

It is a campaign that has been put on by Sar Meyer, the manager of the Teatro del Lago and the Wilmette, Glencoe and Stadium theatres in concert with the producers of the "Woma Speaks" series of shorts. These films consist of sequences depicting the activities of individuals who have won success in various fields and are designed to show the part behind plays by women.

Incidentally, arrangements for national distribution are said to be completed.

The first release (to give you an idea of the subject matter) includes such women as the late Mrs. Mullen of New Jersey, who painted on stainless steel; Margaret Hanna, first woman in 2 years to hold the world's professional stenotyping championship; women operating a radio station; the world's champion feminine bowler (Ethel Willette) of Hollywood, who entertained servicemen on more than 900 radio stations for three years.

With this as a background Meyers got bus and drew up his contest. Persons visiting the theatres were entitled to vote for the woman in the North Shore district who was achieving the most. After the returns are complete the winner will be feted and then will appear in one of the "Woman Speaks" releases, the producer of which is H. A. Swatt of Wilmette.

As the return came in Meyers was astounded by the reasons given for patrons' choices—the reasons being of as much interest as the contest itself for they showed a wide divergence of opinion as to what constituted achievement. On the winner was instructor of physical education at Northwestern University; another was a man of the Glencoe Girl Scouts; another was "an excellent teacher. The children love her." Still another was an author, lecturer and traveler. Then there were reasons such as these: "entertainment of servicemen," "good housewife" "humanitarian," "sportsman," "an great mother," and lastly "has a beautiful child."

The fact that national distribution is in sight has heightened interest in the contest still more and Meyers, delighted with the results of his first try at a "woman of achievement" contest, looks forward to more in the future, while Producer Swatt undoubtedly has his eye on the possibilities of such contests in other areas.

Insure Patrons' Comfort

Temperatures have been playing funny tricks lately—first warm, then cool, then hot. Keep a careful check on your cooling system to be sure patrons are comfortable.

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THEATRE MANAGEMENT

Make Most of Your Advantage, Says Jackson

(Continued from Page 32)

culled powers and blessings the majority enjoy yet whose hearts crave active participation in the kind of living which in the world of stark reality is denied them by the circumstance of inferiority. In my place they are privileged to visit the engendered places of their desires, to experience the kind of adventure which has been put beyond their reach by the prices of Nature. For the few hours spent under my roof they become strong in equal terms with their more fortunate brothers and sisters.

overwrought Lawyer

To me the tired business man tries to forget the anxieties of commerce; the doctor, worn out from administering to the ills of others, in need of the relaxation that will etch fit him to ease the pain of his patients; the overwrought lawyer whose mental turmoil is such that a few moments absorption in the adventures and foibles of the screen folk is medicine beyond price.

And beyond all else I am privileged to live to the fairytale dreams of childhood and to turn the latch that releases the roistering laughter that—through the ages—makes the whole world a better place to live and gives substance to the promise of the better things to come when these girls in pig tails and barefoot boys grow to the stature of man and womanhood.

Looking at it that way I get mighty proud of myself and still more proud of my business. I wouldn't trade places with the town's best doctor because his accomplishments are tiny as compared to mine. By inference, and because of the ability of my merchandise to induce sound reason, I am of greater service to my community as a whole than its most able lawyer. Because of the messages for good over evil so forcibly portrayed on my screen I am in position to do more to lead the steps of thousands away from the pitfalls of wrong-doing than the single-minded 

1. Make Other roots absorb all 

2. Let kids of the noise and crannies. Remember always that happy 

(Continued on Next Page)

THEATRE MANAGER'S NOTEBOOK

Maintenance

HEATING PLANTS I

(From an Outline of Talks Presented to the Classes in the Wilby-Kincey School of Maintenance)

ALL COAL HEATING SYSTEMS, whether steam or hot water type, require the following ten procedures when started for the winter. 1. Clean boiler thoroughly. 2. Inspect grates and shaking equipment. 3. Clean and oil all doors and dampers so that they close properly. 4. See that there are no air holes through boiler insulation; check especially where boiler sections rest on base and base rests on foundation. 5. Check for proper admission of air to boiler room. 6. Check smokepipe for cleanliness and air leaks. 7. See that smokepipe is cemented tightly where it enters the chimney. 8. Oil all parts of damper regulator on hand-fired boilers. See that cold air check just opens when ash pit damper closes. 9. Check stoker—if any—for proper operation. 10. Inspect entire system—radiators, piping, valves. Repair or adjust as needed.

Stay With the Boiler

STEAM SYSTEMS. 1. Open try cocks and feed water into boiler slowly. When water runs out of the lower try cock, close both cocks and continue filling until the proper level shows on the gauge glass. 2. Open and close both try cocks to make sure connections to gauge glass are free. Tighten or repack any leaks around try cocks. 3. Stay with the boiler until entire system is heated and normal circulation established.

HOT WATER SYSTEMS. 1. Make sure all radiator vents are closed and radiator valves are open. 2. Fill system with water—up to one-third the height of the expansion tank, if it is an open system. If it is a closed system the water will stop when proper pressure is reached. 3. Make sure the pressure of a closed system does not exceed the proper limit, usually 50 pounds. Should it go beyond this, relieve pressure immediately, find and remedy the cause; also repair the pressure relief valve. 4. Open air vents on all radiators to expel air fro the system. Close the vents when water starts to come through. 5. Make sure expansion tank and overflow pipe will never be subjected to freezing temperatures.

Maintain Proper Boiler Water Level

OPERATION, ALL SYSTEMS. 1. See that boiler room and equipment are kept clean; that soot formation on heating surfaces is prevented and that any that forms is removed promptly. 2. See that proper boiler water level is maintained. Carelessness about low water level may lead to a cracked boiler. (Too high a water level reduces steam space and encourages priming, with resultant water hammer). 3. Should the boiler water become scummy, greasy, or contaminated with dirt or rust particles, the boiler should be blown down and refilled to prevent clogging of the valves or priming of the boiler. 4. Excess water inadvertently added to the system should be removed through the system.

OVER
Showman 'Happiness Agent'—Jackson

(Continued from Preceding Page)

ness is of evanescent quality that can be
nullified by the slightest jarring note or
marring blemish. Make sure about the
meticulous cleanliness of carpets, drapes,
glass, receptacles, lamps, etc.,

Get together with your service staffs
(from cashiers to porters) and make them
actually FEEL their responsibility as the
attendants for the sale of such precious
merchandise as the theatre offers. Educate
them to the habit of natural smiles and
the dire need for sympathetic under stand
ing of the irritable and hard-to-please
patron—because they (the "difficult"
ones) more than the usual ticket-buyer,
ned the kind of handling that will insure
top benefit from the program, and the
reward to the hands of house personnel
is in important.

Care and Diligence

Use care and diligence in selecting the
subjects that go to make up your com
plete show to guarantee the entertainment
balance best calculated to assure a satis
factory diet of amusement.

And by all means don't let your service
end with the final ficker. Have the at
tendants on their toes to bid smiling
adieu to the outgoing patrons and give
every evidence that they are willing and
anxious to render still further service if
such be asked or implied.

Look for Possible Leaks

CAUTION. If the gauge glass shows no water, open the
lower try cock immediately. If no water flows, pull the fire
(don't wait). Close water and condensate lines to the boiler.
Do not open the return valve again until after the boiler has
cooled, and then only slightly so the water will return very
slowly.

After the boiler has cooled to the point where heating
surfaces feel only slightly warm the cause should be in
vestigated. Unless it is unquestionably certain that neglect
was responsible, look for possible leaks caused by cracked
sections, split tubes, defective fusible plugs or cracked
return piping.

Cheapest Coal Often Costliest

BUYING COAL. The cost of coal per ton can be very
misleading unless the heating value of the different grades
is taken into account. For example, lignite contains approxi
mately 35 per cent moisture and has a heating value of
7,000 BTU. lb.; while a good semi-bituminous has about two
per cent moisture content and a heating value of 14,000
BTU. lb. The latter is a better buy at twice the price,
because only half as much need be used to give the same
heat, yet clinker formations and grate losses will be less.
Clinker coal is recommended for the case of installation, use the coal recommended by the manufacturer
of the stoker. Also keep a record of all expenses of the
heating system, and this record and experience will pro
vide a double check on the recommendations submitted
to you.

The cheapest coal per ton is often the most expensive.

FIRE COLOR INDICATIONS. 1. Red, smoky fire indicates
too little air. 2. Bright flame indicates too much air. 3. Clear
yellow flame without smoke indicates proper adjustment.

CLINKER FORMATION. Clinker is fused ash and en
wrapped combustible material. Clinker is caused by
1. Thick fuel beds. (Less heat escapes from the bed by
radiation, and the ash is subjected to higher temperatures,
which produce clinkering). 2. Excessive stirring of fires.
(The underlying layer of ash is lifted into the burning coal
Excessive slack in coal. 5. Excessive draft, causing blow
holes to form in the fire.

Clinkering is prevented by: 1. Using thin fires. 2. Firing
coal in small amounts to minimize crust formation. 3. Not
allowing coal to burn too far in the ash pit. 4. Keeping an
open door closed and regulating the draft by means of the damper.

All of the foregoing comprises verbatim quotation or paraphrase of a chapter in the book issued to members of classes in the
School of Management of Wilby-Kinsey Theatres circuit. The book was made available to Showmen's Trade Review for
such quotation by the company which is headed by H. P. Wilby
and is recognized as one of the most progressive and efficiently operated circuits in the United States. The
book, according to Mr. Wilby, was prepared not as a
manual, but merely to serve members of the classes (which are conducted for managers of the circuit) as a notebook to
spare those attending the classes the effort of making their own notes during the talks and demonstrations.
REGIONAL NEWSREEL

HELLO, NEW YORK. Mr and Mrs. Joseph J. Nolan arrive in New York from Hollywood. Nolan is studio executive in charge of commitments (that's contracts for stars, stories, etc.) for RKO Radio Pictures. He is visiting the East for the first time in several years.

(Dick) Main of Toronto, former supervisor of Odeon Theatres and more recently a partner of Theatre Amusement Co. During the six-year war period, Mr. and Mrs. Payne personally raised or contributed $41,465 for war causes. In addition, the theatre was loaned 55 times to the Listedow War Services League and 11 times to the British War Victims Fund. Benefit shows were also conducted for the Red Cross, Navy League, British Fire Fighters, Greek, Chinese and Russian patriotic funds. The Paynes were dinner hosts many times for the soldiers at the Listedow training camp and sent countless parcels overseas. When one regiment returned from war service, Mr. and Mrs. Payne were paraded before the ceremonial line-up to receive the thanks of the unit and to be the recipients of handsome tokens of appreciation.

I. H. Allen, head of the new Toronto film exchange, Astral Films, has opened his head-office at 8 Dundas Square to direct Canadian distribution of American and British features including re-issues. First release was "I Met a Murderer," British picture featuring James Mason, played two full weeks at the Toronto Hollywood, ace house of the Premier circuit. "This Is Your Child" had a flourishing week at the Rio in downtown Toronto.

With the resignation of Mark Plotell to become sales manager with Empire-Universal at Toronto for Universal, United-World and the Rank product, RKO-Distributing Corp. of Canada Limited has reorganized its personnel. Joseph S. MacPherson, RKO manager at Winnipeg recently transferred to Montreal, has been brought to Toronto to succeed Plotell as Ontario manager. Murray L. Devaney, Toronto salesman who had been appointed Winnipeg manager, has been switched to Montreal and Meyer Nakhimson of the Toronto sales staff is to become manager of Winnipeg. Other changes have been made as well.

With units near Hamilton and Windsor, Ont., and three others projected, Skyway Drive-In Theatres Limited, Toronto, has offered $300,000 in 5% per cent debentures to the public along with rights to purchase common shares at $1 each, the par value of the debentures being $100. This is Canada's pioneer automobile-theatre enterprise.

Arch H. Jolley, executive-secretary of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario, Toronto, opened his fall speaking tour in behalf of the film industry with an address before the Kiwanis Club at St. Catharines, Ont., the program for which was organized by Manager Al Sedgwick of the Odeon Palace there. Brief speeches were made by John Allen, owner of the Tivoli, Thorold, Ont., and Manager Roy MacPherson of the Lincoln in St. Catharines.

Famous Players Canadian Corp. has added a valuable prize to go with its challenge trophy for the low-grosser in the third annual Canadian Motion Picture Golf Championship at the Toronto Oakdale course, Friday, Sept. 13, under the sponsorship of Canadian Film Weekly. Upwards of 300 entries are anticipated including, for the first time, four somes from Montreal, Ottawa, Hamilton and other centres.

"Caesar & Cleopatra," played one week at Loew's Theatre, London, Ont., but has been held for a second week at the Odeon Capitol, Hamilton. Meanwhile the feature has opened at the Elgin, Ottawa, and the Odeon Palace, St. Catharines, but the Toronto opening at Loew's Uptown was further delayed because of the "Canyon Passage" holder. Quite a number of "Caesar and Cleopatra" window displays appear downtown Toronto, while the theatre was still playing "Canyon Passage" in its third week.

The Film Producers Association of Canada, of which the president is Frank E. O'Byrne, general manager of Queen's University, Toronto, study Studios, Toronto, Federal Government charter from the Secretary of State. With 12

"Voice of Theatre Speakers" JOE HORNSTEIN has it!

NEW THEATRES

French Lick, Ind.—The French Lick Amusement Company will erect a modern, fire-proof, 50-seat theatre in French Lick to cost about $50,000. The new house will be located on the main Boulevard, connecting French Lick and West Baden, four to five blocks from the business section of the city, according to T. N. Lucasett, who owns and operates the Dream, and plans to keep it in operation, Ralph Langman, Evansville, the architect for the new structure.

York, S. C.—Tom Fleming, owner of the Sylvia, has purchased property on Congress Street for the building of a new 700-seat theatre. Preliminary plans have been drawn and construction will begin and soon as materials are available. Fleming will continue to operate the Sylvia.

Eldland, N. Y.—The Lyric Theatre is being remodeled with the entire Parkhurst Street facade to be covered with marble and ivory porcelain blocks. The existing entrance covering is to be replaced with a new triangular shaped marquee with neon lighting.

Eugene, Ore.—Application for permission to erect a new drive-in has been filed by Thomas Bowers with the Oregon district CPA committee. Cost of the contemplated theatre is estimated at $25,000.

Oakland, Cal.—United California Theatres, Inc., has acquired title to the former Post Office site in downtown Oakland, involving payment of $825,000 for the property. United plans the erection of a $2 million commercial building and theatre on the property with probability existing for immediate start of the commercial part, with the theatre erection to be delayed in accordance with governmental restrictions on non-essential structures.

Winchester, Va.—Hable Theatres have completed plans for the construction of a new theatre here to seat 100, and to cost about $50,000, according to Herman Hable, operator of the Palace in Winchester and another theatre in Washington.

Toronto—Skyway Drive-In Theatres Limited is expanding its Ontario circuit of automobile film theatres to the Scarborough suburb of Toronto and to London, Ont., where sites have been procured. Their open-air theatre at Windsor was scheduled to open Aug. 25. The first Skyway amphitheatre at Stoney Creek has been in successful operation for a month.—TOR.

Vancouver, B. C.—The Odeon Theatre circuit is planning theatres for Moose Jaw, Saskatoon and in the Alberta town of Lethbridge. Both spots are at present Famous Players-Canada exclusively.—VAN.

Vancouver, B. C.—L. C. Smith, recently discharged from the RCAF, plans to build a 350-seat theatre at Osoyoos, B. C., near the Washington State border and in the Okanagan fruit belt.—VAN.

Under Gundall-Fink management.

Dan Carmel, Chicago Operators Union attorney, and his wife are spending their vacations in the north woods.


George DeNuced, CIO Washington director, is checking on theatre managers organizations in various parts of the country.

Illinois Allied booking department releases for looker list 26 features, 22 re-issues, 2 technicolor, 1 cincoseer and two foreign films.

The State and Roseland theatres of the Alliance circuit, co-operating with the Safety Council and local merchants, urging juvenile patrons to observe caution in crossing streets. Safety lms are featured to tie up with a safety drive.

Negotiations are still underway with the Chicago Musicians Union and the Essaness circuits, operators of the Loop Oriental theatre for new contract for their stage band.
Canadian producing enterprises as members, the association is tentatively carrying out its co-operative procedure.

Thomas H. Moorhead, veteran theatre man of Brampton, Ont., has been appointed police magistrate for Peel and Dufferin Counties by Attorney General Leslie Blackwell of the Provincial Government.

Queen's Way, Toronto, has had camera crews in Western Canada to make two 3-reel subjects which are to be released for showing at the Odeon Movie Club "meetings" in Great Britain and Canada.

Cleveland

VARIETY TENT SHOPPING FOR NEW CLUB; OCHS OPENS AUTO THEATRE; BURKHARDT GETS YOUNGER

J. Maxwell Jolie, Paramount exploiter, just back from a vacation trip to Mexico, is lavish in praise of the country's scenic beauty but prefers the home brand of living accommodations.

Jack Sogg, MGM branch manager, now added to the west-coast-in-law and daughter, Shirley, to Capt. and Mrs. Fred Holdow at the army general hospital in Santa Fe.

Dave and Mrs. Sanders are all decked out in new fall clothes—not to make a splash but because their bags, containing their wardrobe, were stolen from their car in Chicago where they stopped off on the way home from a Virginia fishing trip.

There will be an MGM wedding on November 9 when Mildred Abrams becomes the bride of Bernard Levine, a local pharmacist.

W. M. Carr is about to open a regional office for Manley Popcorn. And—speaking of popcorn—Warren A. Miller has been appointed manager of the Cleveland office of Interstate Popcorn Co. by its head, Irving Sussman. Dorothea, is Miller's new assistant.

L. J. McGlaun of Prestige Pictures, to be released through Universal, stopped off for a short visit on his way to Chicago.

Variety is out shopping for new club rooms. Chair barber Edwin R. Bergman has appointed a committee of three members headed by Oscar Kantor and made up of Manny Stutz and Gilbert Lefton to find a suitable location. The club did not renew its lease in the Hollenden Hotel. A meeting is scheduled for next week to discuss plans to extend its membership to radio personnel.

Earl MacBride who has been manager of the Falls Theatre, Cuyahoga Falls, for 18 years, has resigned to go into business in California. His successor is Ray Brown, Jr., transferred from the Hallowth Theatre in Cleveland. Joe Summers of State College, Ohio, a newcomer to the city, and a former Warner theatre manager, becomes manager of the Hallowth. Both houses belong to the Washington Circuit and are operated by M. B. Horwitz.

Herb Ochs opened his new Auto Theatre on Brook Park Road last week; just in time to catch the crowds attending the Air Races.

Butch Young, local Film Classics manager, is spending ten days in New York on a double feature business and pleasure trip.

George W. Erdman, secretary of the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors' Association on leave of absence to regain his health, will welcome mail addressed to him at Sunny Acres Sanatorium, Warrensville Rd., Cleveland 22, Ohio.ickle Labowitch, Erdman's secretary.

REGIONAL NEWSREEL

LONDON OBSERVATIONS

Labor vs. Capital for Film Monopoly?; Korda Tieup With Indie Exhibitors Rumored; Korda Scores Again

By Jock MacGregor

Visited the Welwyn lot with Jack Griggs, Assistant British of energetic publicity director. Welwyn is not the foremost British studio, but its output in quantity, quality and popular appeal has no peer in this country. The target is the box-office and not an Academy Award. The present production is a mystery thriller, "Temptation Harbor" in which Simone Simon and Robert Newton are co-starred. Over lunch I talked with James Wallis, Controller of Administration, on the subject of rising costs and other problems with face British producers. It is quite apparent from what I have seen and heard that Labor is presenting a far more serious monopoly than J. Arthur Rank. Through the Unions, the rest seems to have left the studios. With limitations on overtime, to-day's slogan is "The show must go on—and on."

Speculation on Theatre Tieups

Much speculation surrounds Sir Alexander Korda's theatre tie-ups and I paid a formal call on Roffe Thompson in their palatial new Piccadilly offices. He did not seem to want to talk theatres though he admitted that they had taken the lease of the little Ritola where Sir Alex proposes to show some French films which he procured with the frozen receipts from his own pictures in France. It has been suggested that a number of independents may link up with him and the names of Lou Morris, Southam Morris and Bernstein have been mentioned in this connection.

John and Max Schlesinger, South African Cinemopolitans, have returned home with a new contract for Rank pictures whereby they will pay percentage terms for the first time—a decided Rank success.

Adley in New Offices

 Anglo-American's Louis Jackson off to Denmark for the premiere of "Liibcny Story" and a well earned rest.

Harry Adley and his Younger's Publicity Service now encomenced in new West End offices, in Albermarle Street.

"The Strange Love of Martha Ivers" beating the weather and winter takings on release. "Night In Casablanca" has proved quite a hit in high-surfed London. Warners' "One More To-Morrow" slipped out on release without any London premiere.

Roy Disney announces the appointment of J. E. Reckettes, recently demobbed, as British film sales and publicity supervisor.

Visit to Denham

A pleasant surprise greeted me on my first visit to Denham since pre-war days. The doorman actually expected me, thanks to Ken Green, who is handling the publicity for Two Cities' "Old Man Out." Much is expected of this picture, which promises to be after the style of "The Informer." Featuring James Mason and players from the famous Dublin Abbey Theatre, it is the story of an illegal organization, and with Carol Roe directing neither suspense nor originality will be lacking.

It was good to have a chat with Carol Roe again, as we were in the same Army unit one time. He tells me that despite the picture, "Portrait in Black" may not be the picture, but a prelusive report of the year's activities to win Hollywood for preliminary discussion returning to put the finishing touches to the current feature. Later he will join Korda.

Mason Versus Redhead

Opposite Mason will be Rank's new Irish discovery, Kathleen Ryan, a tall flaming red head who tells me that she has signed a one year contract. She is very pleased about her next picture, "Captain Boycott," as the posters are to be shot near her Irish home.

Denham is working at top pressure. At lunch I said "hello" to William Sistrom, who is completing "Hungry Hill," William Eythe and his little co-star Hazel Court, in 20th-Pox's "Me at Dawn," and Edward Dmytryk, Martin Scott and John Mills of Rank-RKO's "So We Remembered" unit. It's hoped the last film will live up to its title.

In passing I never realized that the studio had suffered such bomb damage.

Many have asked what the British Film Producers Association does. Now a really con preparer, the first thing, activities, prepared by the erstwhile secretary E. W. Wigan, provides you the answer. It is everything—help British producers and it is not surprisi group has released official recogniti as a bargaining power. Furthermore, it is grow ing in importance.

Dieterle Has His Say

William Dieterle, host at a reception after the run of "Searching Wind," seemed convinced that prestige pictures were out or, as Hollywood is concerned, Refreshing to me a producer who to the inevitable question, "I, expect you to make a picture here?" said, "No, and not "Maybe. "Wind" got a mixed price with the trade reviews positively freezing.

PRC's Sam Seidlemann in and out on way to the Continent.

MGM's Days Blowing in on a short visit.

Technicolor's Kay Harrison and L. W. Olive back from New York.

Receive Mementoes

Having completed 25 years with UA, Assistant W. J. Smith, Cashler Celia Palma Chief Custer Miss B. White, Technical Adviser Tom Richards, Branch Manager Willie Bondo Office Manager Mrs. F. Elliot, and Clean Mrs. Allan were presented with mementos from David Coplan.

Demobed from ENSA, Kessler Howes back at Columbia's press desk, vacated Arthur Allighan. No news regarding the future's future is available. Nice to receive a publicity sheet from Frank Shaw, Re-Ret. Handling "Crowsnest of Banckham," which is it Rank release.
MEMPHIS

ROSEMARY THEATRE, RENOVATED, NOW IN SIVING AGAIN; LIGHTMAN BETTER; TUNSTALL IN MEMPHIS

Al Kane, Paramount district manager at Boston, and Duke Clark, district manager at Dallas, were in Memphis this last week discussing plans for Paramount's "His Greatest Year" with L. W. McClinton, branch manager.

W. A. Finney, Atlanta, district manager of Loew's Theatres, conferred with William Kemp, Loew's State manager, and Cecil Vogel, Loew's Palace manager, here this last week.

James Barues, Warner Bros. zone manager, has announced his forthcoming marriage to Miss Midge Faulkner, the marriage to be on Sept. 22.

Augustine Cianciola has completed the renovation and redecoration of his Rosemary Theatre, Memphis' largest suburban theatre, and reopened it with an invitational party Monday night.

Clayton Tunstill, field director for Malco Theatres and previously Malco city manager at Owensboro, Ky., is being transferred into Memphis soon as city manager to replace Ed Sapisnley, who goes to the Malco accounting department.

Tunstill has purchased a home in Memphis. Byron Meyer, former manager of the Memphis Malco, has been transferred to the circuit advertising department assisting Elliott Johnson, advertising director, and M. A. Lightman, Jr.

Dave Flexer of the Flexer-Haberfeld Circuit has been assigned to his work after an operation on one hand.

M. A. Lightman, residing at his home for the last several weeks, is reported feeling more fit every day.

BOSTON

FILM PUBLICISTS AID NURSES FUND; ABE BARRY HOSPITALIZED; JACK SHEA IS ON THE MEND

Red King, Art Moger, Joe Di Pesa and Harry Browning, all Boston motion picture publicists, have accepted appointment to the Publicity Committee for the Nurses National War Memorial campaign, Sept. 16 to Oct. 16.

Floyd L. Bell has been named Publicity Chairman of the New England district.

Alse Weiner, former district manager for PRC in Boston, is now city salesman for Universal in Boston.

Al Herman, from Albany, comes to PRC as new manager.

Abe Barry, booker at Columbia, is a patient at Brooks Hospital in Brookline, the result of a hernia operation.

Friends of Major Patrick F. Healey, in the Department of Safety at Monogram, extend their heartfelt sympathy to him on the sudden death of his mother, Bridget Healey.

Joe Minsky, representative for International, visited the RKO office recently to confer with district manager Gus Schaefer and branch manager George Dropper.

RKO booker, Harry Smith, spent his vacation at his summer home in New Gloucester, Maine.

Rosalyn Jaffe, secretary to McFarber, Regal Pictures of New England, is on a two-week's vacation in Florida and West Indies.

At Poulton, salesman for Monogram in the Maine territory, visited the local office recently.

(Continued from Page 34-B)

\[\text{text continued from previous page.}\]

\[\text{INDIANAPOLIS}\]

\[\text{MCCRAW CHIEF SPEAKER AT VARIETY TOURNAMENT; IRENE SNOOK, VETERAN EXHIBITOR, DIES}\]

The Indianapolis Variety Club, Tent No. 10, will hold its annual Golf Tournament Sept. 16 at Broadmoor Country Club. The annual banquet will be held in the evening and Gen. William McCraw will be the speaker, George T. Landis, 20th-Fox branch manager, is chairman for the event.

Mrs. Irene P. Snook, owner of the Griffith Theatre, LaGrange, Ky., died in her home Aug. 24, after a long illness. She was one of the early operators of motion picture theatres in Kentucky.

V. E. Burke, operator of the Riata Theatre, Fortville, Ind., who has been on the sick list for many weeks, stricken by a heart attack, is reported on the mend.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Holtry, operators of the Lyric Theatre, Waterloo, Ind., are vacationing in the lake regions of northern Indiana.

Charles Rich, Warner's district manager, was a business caller at the local branch on Thursday.

Joanne Sniez, of the booking department, and Mary Smith, of the contract department, Warner Bros., flew to Detroit, Mich., to spend the Labor holiday.

Visitors on Filmrow included, Robert L. Hudson, Richmond; Isaac T. Sallers, Covington; William T. Studebaker, Logansport; J. E. Whitley, South Whitley; D. D. Lee, Rockville; Arthur Clark, Bloomington; Joe Schilling, Connersville, and E. H. Austin, Versailles. Flights June Moore, office staff, and Earl Wood Warnier, Jr., were married Aug. 24 in the First Christian Church, Mooresville, Ind. The couple will spend their honeymoon in Chicago.

Eleanor Bokes, RKO booker, has gone to the West coast where she will spend her vacation.

L. J. McGlinchey, vice-president and general sales manager, Prestige Pictures, spent the holiday in Indianapolis, visiting old friends on Filmrow.

August (Gus) Heinrich, office manager, Columbia Pictures, left for Michigan, where he will do some fishing over the week-end.

Jules Goldman, Warner's office manager, and Mrs. Goldman, took a flying trip to New York over the week-end.

Ray Thomas, Paramount booking department has resigned his position to become assistant booker at United Artists. Robert Rigby, from MGM, succeeds him at Paramount.

Mrs. Jane Stephens, accountant at Universal Pictures, has resigned her post and will devote her time to housekeeping. She is succeeded by Janes Keyes.
ADVANCE DATA ON FORTHCOMING PRODUCT


THE LIGHT OF BORING (20th) Drama. Director: Henry King. Cast: Joel McCrea, Ginger Rogers, Spencer Tracy, Grace Moore. A war hero who is accused of cowardice must prove his bravery.

Red River Renegades

(Continued from Page 31)

pretty young girl in the local postoffice, who turns out to be a Pinkerton operative. How-
never, the postmaster is eventually brought to justice, when it is evident that he is the leader of the gang.

Comment: This is one of the last of the Sunset Carson series for Republic, the studio having ended this output. Carson is a fine-

enough appearing cowboy, being a big fel-

loved by his constituents, but he doesn't project the needed ingredients for a

really good western. In this particular film, he isn't helped too much, either, by the

story. The story starts out with a bang, but

builds up along the way, getting too talky and confusing. Outstanding attributes of the

picture are its excellent photography by Wil-

lard Bradford and generally fine production

mountings by producer Bennett Cohen. Peggy Stewart does an adequate job as the Pink-

erton female operative and Tom London car-

ries a lot of the story's burden on his capable shoulders. The only miss in this film is Ted Adams does just a

little too much exaggerating in his his-

tronics as the gang leader.

Three Little Girls in Blue

(Continued from Page 59)

20th-Century-Fox Musical 90 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Delight-

ful entertainment with music, comedy

and romance to satisfy every member of the

family.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Good marquee

names. Technicolor and strong exploitation

should bring better-than-average business

everywhere.

Cast: June Haver, George Montgomery, Vivian Blaine, Colene Hale, Vera-Ellen, Frank Latimore, Charles Smith, Charlea Halton, Ruby Dandridge, Thurston Hall, Clinton Rosemond, William Forrest, Jr., Thomas Keith, directed by Hal B. Hume-


Music by George and Ira Gershwin. Songs by Harry Warren. Photography, Ernest Palmer. Techni-


Plot: Sisters June Haver, Vivian Blaine and Vera-Ellen have been brought up on a

poor farm. They inherit a small amount of money, pool their shares and go to At-

lantic City, with June as the great lady, Vivian as her secretary and Vera-Ellen as her

maid so that June can catch a rich hus-

band and then start the other girls on the

same general objective. They meet George

Montgomery and Frank Latimore and it's a

toss-up who June will get. One of them isn't

so rich, however, and the usual complica-

tions develop before each sister gets the man

of her choice.

Comment: While the plot is obvious (and what plot of what musical story isn't?) the gen-

erally pleasant singing of the Three Little Girls in Blue," from the standpoint of pure escap-

tment entertainment, is that it certainly fills the bill. The production values of Mack Gordon are

shown to advantage in the early weeks and the direction of Bruce Humberston leaves little to be desired. The motion

of the story follows the general line described in the aforementioned plot, but the complica-

tions in which the three sisters find them-

selves make for plenty of laughs and a few

heart throbs. June Haver, Vivian Blaine and

Vera-Ellen are excellent and just as pretty as

they should be for their parts; They are thor-

oughly convincing and entertaining. But when

Celeste Holm and Dorothy Malone come on at

the screen, things begin to perk up to a

degree seldom seen on the screen. The lady has what it takes and audiences are going to

demand much more, if ordered well of enter-

tainment. She takes over and dominates every

scene in which she appears. George Mont-

gomery and Frank Latimore as the male

love interests are good and Montgomery

even sings. Some include I Like Mike, On

the Boardwalk, A Farmer's Life Is a Very

Merry Life, Three Little Girls in Blue,

Somewhere in the Night, You Make Me Feel

So Young, Always a Lady and This is Al-

ways, most of which are destined for leader-

ship among the popular songs of the day. You

Make Me Feel So Young is the occa-

sion by Janet Blair. He first time "in blue" is

Always a Lady is Celeste Holm's single

opportunity to do the kind of song and

comedy that made her a stage musical favor-

ite. 'Three Little Girls in Blue' offers show-

manship approaches for exploitation, and

those who go to work on those opportunities will find their efforts paying off to better-

than-average box-office returns.

BAX OFFICE SLANTS: (Continued)

From Box Office, August 1946

Ballad Journey

Columbia Drama 85 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) A little slow in pace but interesting. The love story is
tender and touching for feminine interest

and the males of all ages should like the

story of man's first controlled flight.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: The film's theme is highly exploitable and the names of Glenn

Ford and Janet Blair will decorate anyone's

marquee. National exploitation started at

San Diego, where the erection of a monu-

ment to the first flyer is garnering publicity

that will aid the picture. Local exploitation

should be good.

Cast: Glenn Ford, Janet Blair, Charlie Ruggles, Henry Travers, Jimmy Lloyd, Charles Kemper, Arthur Shanks, Wilbert Mobley, Robert Kieckhefer, Robert Lowery, Byron Morgan, Elsa Mor-

son, Michael Twayne, Paul Marlon, Henry Rowland, Howard Smith, Dave Finley, Monte Blue, Fernando Alarado, Bobby Cooper, Rudy Wiseher, Tommy Cook, Buddy Swan, Conrad Binay, Credits: Original screenplay by Robert Ford, directed and by William A. Wellman, produced and directed by William A. Wellman, Photography, Barnet Leff.

Plot: Glenn Ford, about 19 years old in

1879 is obsessed with a desire to fly and is

staunchly supported in his so-called crazy
dream by his mother. He builds a home-

made glider in 1883 and then accepts a post as a

assistant professor at Santa Clara so he can

carry on his flying experiments. He suffers

vergoy accidents, is ordered not to try to fly

again, and then persuades Jimmy Lloyd to

fly a glider from a balloon. The experiment is

a success, Glenn and Janet marry and in a

subsequent flight Jimmy is killed. Ford then
determines to try again in a newly de-

signed plane, suffers another attack while

flying, crashes, and dies in Janet's arms.

Comment: The story is well told and direc-

tion and direction are good and the two leading play-

ers are excellent, with top support from everyone else in the cast. But the picture

begins slowly, develops slowly and closes at the same unhurried pace. Its lack of high-

lights may prove somewhat disconcerting to audiences, but the excellent performances of Glenn Ford and Janet Blair and the

historically accurate story of John Montgomery's experimental wanderings with glider planes in the 1870's and the clever design proves that box-office possibilities are anyone's guess, but the possibilities for exploitation to bring in the extra crowds are almost unlimited.

Columbia's press book offers many sound ideas for local theatre use.

Cloak and Dagger

Warners Bros. Drama 106 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Adult) Based on

a best seller of the same name, this picture

portrays the melodramatic elements and dar-

ing adventures encountered by men of the

OSS. It is a "must" for theatregoers who like

exciting, suspenseful melodrama. Fine

acting and well written script, make this

one film that has something for everyone to make it a top attraction.

Cast: Gary Cooper, Robert Alda, Lilla Palmer, Vladimir Sokoloff, J. Edward Bromberg, Helena

bolowks, Amelia Flavin, Margaret Holdec, Pat O'Malley, Larry Olson, Don Turner, Charles Marsh, Credits: A Treatise of Pianos. Produced by Milton Sperling, Directed Fred Lang. Screen-


Plot: Armed with information that the

Germans are moving through Switzerland from Spain and Czechoslovakia into Germany, OSS officer James Flavin prevails on Gary Cooper, physics professor and an expert on atomic

fission, to go on a secret mission to determine whether or not the Germans are working on atomic weapons. His mission takes Cooper through many exciting adventures, and he ends up by discovering three of the four plants used by the Germans for their atomic power development. The fate of the fourth plant is underdetermined—an important reason for keeping the world at peace. A romance between Cooper and Lilla Palmer weaves its thread throughout the proceedings.

Comment: This is a dramatic "inside story" of the dangerous war assigned to men of the OSS. The action is well handled, and the picture measures up as excel-

lent dramatic fare that carries a constant pitch of excitement and suspense for all who see it. The romantic interest is secondary, but is evident as witnesses to action melodrama which high-

lights violent conflicts that culminate in knifeplay, fist fights and murder. Running gun battles with the OSS men and other day

are all part and parcel of this adventurous screen pastime. Gary Cooper is excellent as the American atomic scientist. Lilla Palmer, European star who makes her American debut, proves herself a threat to many of our top dramatic actresses—she is that good in the role of an Italian girl, member of the underground, who aids Cooper in his dangerous mission, and she provides the romantic interest as well. Robert Alda, Vladimir Sokoloff and others turn in polished and effective performances.

SHOWMAN SAM SAYS: They tell me "Cesar and Cleopatra" cost $6,500,000 to make. Boy, what Cleopatra could have done with that $5,500,000 in her day!
**STUDIO ROUNDUP**

**Columbia, MGM and Paramount in a Current High Wave of Production Activity; Monogram's ' Fifth Ave.' Will Require Approximately 67 Days Before the Lens**

Paramount is currently swinging into top form with more pictures going at its lot than in many previous months. The studio currently has seven films before the cameras, a record that is excelled only by Columbia and Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. Significant on the production front, too, is Monogram’s first million-dollar effort, “It Happened on Fifth Avenue,” which will shoot around 67 days before being edited. This is by far the most ambitious undertaking the studio has attempted, and a milestone in smaller companies’ output.

**Paramount Starts 'Haircut'**

“The Big Haircut” started Sept. 4, with Tay Garnett directing, despite Alan Ladd’s recuperating from a badly bruised right foot sustained shortly before the film began. Ladd co-stars with Dorothy Lamour, who just completed her part in Bob Hope’s “My Favorite Brunette.” Robert Fellows is producing. Director Elliott Nugent brought “Brunette” on the nose of its 48-day schedule, completing the comedy with location filming at Monterey. The unusual procedure of cutting, dubbing and scoring on a day-by-day basis speeded up the film so much that a “snack” preview will be held in a few days.

Billy House, comedian, was added to Hal Wallis’ Technicolor Production, “Desert Town.” The troupe returned from location in Arizona to start work at the studio, but a second unit remained to film backgrounds for the outdoor drama. The “Gilded Earrings” company spent several days at Universal City, getting German village exteriors.

**RKO Finishes Several**

RKO finished “San Quentin” and “Katie for Congress.” The “Trail Street” company has been back and forth from varying locations to the studio, “Banjo,” produced by Lilie Hayward, one of Hollywood’s few women producers, is starting, with Richard Fleisher directing. Sharyn Moffett and Walter Reed have the leads.

The Hal Kim boys, Robert and Raymond, were a few days late in starting their Halkin-Litvak Production, “A Time to Kill,” one of RKO’s largest-budget offerings. The film got under way Aug. 28 at RKO studios and shifted the next week to RKO Parke studios in Culver City. Litvak, who is directing as well as gaining co-producer credit, had Henry Fonda and Barbara Bel Geddes working by themselves in initial shots. Another unit is in Pennsylvania, getting backgrounds for the story, which is laid in a small industrial community.

Dore Schary’s “The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer” company finished location at Busch Gardens, marking the last time a film company will use this historic site in Pasadena. Director Irving Reis had to revise his schedule to get in under a deadline set by the owners.

**Miss Harbert Joins E-L**

Eagle-Lion added the role of “When” to its current production. It is now tagged “When the Devil Drives.” Film is being directed by Crane Wilbur and produced by Jerry Briskin.

Bryan Foy, v.p. of the studio, placed Ruth Harbert under contract to serve as assistant to David Stephenson, Jr., story editor, in handling writers on the lot. Miss Harbert was associate editor of *Cosmopolitan* for ten years.

**Irish Rose’ Set at WB**

If present plans jell, Warner Bros. will start shooting “My Wild Irish Rose” on Sept. 9, with William Jacobs producing and David Butler directing. Dennis Morgan is set to star “Deception,” the Bette Davis starrer, is nearing its fifth month of production, having been before the lenses since April. The “Pursued” troupe is in Gallup, N. M., having gone there by special train for several weeks of shooting near the Navajo reservation. A company of 140 was headed by director Raoul Walsh, Teresa Wright and Robert Mitchum.

The original “Janie,” Joyce Reynolds, who retired over a year ago following her marriage, has returned to WB’s roster of players.

**MG M Shoots Eight**

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer has eight films shooting, including “This Time for Keeps,” which has been using a castload of extras. More than 250 were employed on a set reproducing the Metro Castle, Havana night spot.

Production on “It Happened in Brooklyn” was delayed a week because of Jimmy Durante’s switch to “This Time for Keeps” set. Durante was needed there because of Esther Williams’ impending hospitalization, making it urgent to finish her scenes quickly. “Brooklyn” recordings continued during the shutdown.

May McAvoy, silent-days star, won a role in “Merton of the Movies,” in which red Skelton is starred. Director Roy Rowland is on location at Santa Cruz for six more weeks on “Romance of Rosy Ridge,” which stars Van Johnson. Producer Jack Cummings will plane back and forth from location to the studio. Others in the cast include Janice Leigh, debuts in the film, Thomas Mitchell, Selena Royle, Dean Stockwell, Marshall Thompson and Guy Kibbee.

**Columbia Still Active**

Columbia is continuing its unusual production pace, with a top number of films before the lensmen. Producer Jules Scherner put “They Walk Among Us” into action Sept. 6, with Glenn Ford and Janis Carter co-starred. Richard Wallace is directing the film, which has a Western locale and is a tale of crime.

Harry Joe Brown’s independent production, “Twin Sombreros,” marking the return of this former associate to Darryl Zanuck to pictures, is starting. Brown and his associate, director George Waggoner, left Sept. 8 for a three-week location trip to Arizona’s Painted Desert. The picture, being made in color, is a filmination of Zane Grey’s book, and stars Randolph Scott and newcomer Dorothy Hart. Another three-week location Janot is on for Columbia, with independent producer Sam Katzman and director George Sherman at Sonora, Calif. Picture is “Last of the Red Men,” with Jon Hall, Michael O’Shea, Evelyn Ankers, Julie Bishop, Rick Vallin, Buster Crabbe and Buzz Henry.

“Dead Reckoning,” Humphrey Bogart-Lizabeth Scott vehicle, was completed, following shooting of final scenes at Columbia Ranch. Also completed were Ken Curtis’ “Over the Santa Fe Trail” and Stewart’s “The Lone Wolf’s Invitation to Murder,” being produced by Sanford Cummings, was started Sept. 4, with D. Ross Lee’s directing cast. Cast includes Gerald Mohr and Eric Blore. Lloyd Corrigan and Rosalind Ivan were added to the cast of “Alias Mr. Twilight,” which started Aug. 27.

**Miracle’ Resumes at UA**

Lou Breslow is writing the Fred MacMurray episode for the Boguea-Meridian production, “A Miracle Can Happen.” The picture features Burgess Meredith as a newspaper reporter sent out on an assignment. He interviews four people, and eventually all are tied up together. Being produced in sections, two have already been made. The Charles Laughton episode, in which he portrays a minister, and the Meredith-Paulette Goddard episode, with Paulette as Meredith’s wife, have been completed. MacMurray is now shooting his section, and the concluding one will star Harry Fonda and Jimmy Stewart. King Vidor directed the first and second; Leslie Fenton is doing the third. Writers John O’Hara, Lawrence Stallings and Norman Reilly Raine have helped in the large-budget film. Meredith, who is super-active, also did some scribbling, in addition to his other manifold duties.

“Whispering Walls” finished at General Studio services; this is the latest Holagons (Continued on Page 38)
Rosenberg Managing Coast Banking Office

Joseph H. Rosenberg, recently retired executive vice-president of the Bank of America, and a business associate and friend of Hollywood motion picture executives, is assuming the management of the Pacific Coast office of Lehman Brothers, International bankers.

Decision to establish the office, it was said, represents a growing recognition of the Los Angeles and Hollywood territory. Rosenberg, at the time of his retirement under the Bank of America's retirement plan, as in charge of all credits in Southern California.

Heifetz Joins 'Hall' Cast

Jascha Heifetz, eminent violinist, was in New York this week to go before the cameras for a role in "Carnegie Hall," the Federal Films production by Boris Morros and William LeBaron which United Artists will release. Heifetz sings such stellar musical personalities as Walter Damrosch, Leopold Stokowski, Lily Pons, Artur Rodziński, Riste Stevens, Jan Peerce, Harry James, Ezio Pinza and Gregor Piatigorsky. Cast of the story includes Martha Hunt, William Prince, Marilou O'Driscoll, Frank Fellows and Felix Bressart.

Vacation for Loretta

Loretta Young has been granted a month's vacation following completion of RKO Radio's "Katie for Congress," so that she may take South American vacation with her husband, Paul Lvon before starting work in the Robert Skidmore Production "Magic Town." She will star with James Stewart in this RKO release.

Jason to Direct 'Wedding'

Leigh Jason has been signed by Eagle Lion Studios to direct "His Wedding Day," the Joe Fields comedy about GI war brides. The picture will start in late September with Dennis O'Keefe, Jean Richards and Constance Dowling in the principals. Joe Fields and Lee Marcus will co-produce.

Join "Desert Town"

Mary Astor has been signed to join the cast of the Hal Wallis Technicolor production for Paramount, "Desert Town." She will appear with John Hodiak, Elizabeth Scott, John Lund, and Wendell Corey in the film, adapted from the novel and magazine serial by Ramona Yearsley.

Hals Moflett Option

RKO has lifted its option on Sharyn Moffett, nine-year-old star who recently completed the title role in "Child of Divorce" and is now before the cameras in "Banjo.

Two New Pics

Victor Mature and George "Gabby" Hayes have received new RKO Radio contracts for other year.

New Ideal Theatre Chairs

JOE HORNSTEIN has it!
HOLLYWOOD

STUDIO ROUNDUP

(Continued from Page 36)

Cassidy, starring Bill Boyd. Arthur Lubin has been directing Jules Levey's "New Orleans" in that city, but returns to the Hal Roach lot for interiors.

PRC Loses Tansey

Robert Tansey, producer-director of the Eddie Dean films, won his release from his PRC contract, after winding up the latest picture starring the singing cowboy, "Stars Over Texas." Jerry Thomas succeeded Tansey.

Another change was the appointment of Howard Welsch, recently resigned Universal producer, to a berth with PRC as executive producer. The studio has combined its offices into a central organization on Sunset and Gower, with the loss of exception of publicity, which stays at the old spot.

Roach Completes 'Joo'

Hal Roach completed "The Fabulous Joe," and is set to start another, "Who Killed Doc Robin," on Sept. 9. This will be the second in the kids series, with the same cast that made Roach's initial child picture. Featured are Ellen Janssen, Larry Olsen, Dale Belding, Arda Lynnwood. Producer is Robert McGowan and Bernard Carr directs.

Hal Roach, Jr., executive producer, named Richard Cahoon to assist him with production chores occasioned by the 12 feature comedies scheduled for 1946-47 release.

U-I Scouts for 'Egg and I'

Jack Hively, second unit director, and Maury Gertsman, cameraman, have been in Medford, Oregon, and Crescent City, California, scouting locations for "The Egg and I," filmitization of the Betty MacDonald best-seller, soon to start shooting.

An additional group of 15 technicians left the Universal-International studio in a chartered plane, to help film the harness races over Labor Day at Crescent City's county fair.

"Flame of Tripoli," Technicolor special, and "I'll Be Yours," Deanna Durbin starrer, are the only two U-I films actually before the cameras.

20th's Wartzel to Start One

Sol M. Wartzel, who makes his films independently for 20th-Fox release, will start another thriller-diller on Sept. 9. This one is tagged "Backlash," which is the new title. Picture was originally called "Backfire." Jean Rogers gets the feminine lead, with Eugene Forde directing. Rest of cast lines up as Richard Travis, Larry Blake, Louise Curby, Robert Shayne and John Eldredge.

Famed newscaster Truman Bradley was added to George Jessel's Technicolor musical, "I Wonder Who's Kissin Her Now." Bradley will play a theatrical producer who eventually wins exotic Lenore Aubert. Another cast addition for 20th was James Finlayson, veteran comedy character player, who joined "Bob, Son of Battle," being directed by Louis King. Picture, which co-stars Lon McCallister and Peggy Ann Garner, is also in Technicolor.

'S5 Ave.' Back at Mono.

"It Happened On Fifth Avenue" is back at Monogram, following shooting for the first time in the studio's history at Goldwyn's lot. The Roy Del Ruth production will be at the home base until Sept. 21, when it goes to 20th-Century Fox for more shooting. It has the largest schedule in Monogram's history, with the highest budget, estimated to total well over a million dollars.

Lindsay Parsons ended his independent venture, "Ginger." Johnny Mack Brown doesn't waste time—he's set to start another, "The Valley of Fear," with Raymond Hatton, on Sept. 9. Charles J. Bigelow will supervise.

Monogram expanded by adding 30,000 square feet to its studio property on Aug. 28 with purchase of a corner plot adjoining the studio. New space will be used for publicity and advertising offices, as well as exploitation and producers.

Republic's Rogers Busy

The King of the Cowboys, Roy Rogers, has been plenty active at Republic. Roy and the Sons of the Pioneers did a scene for "Hit Parade," taking time off from their own "Apache Rose." Separate numbers were done, also, for the big Republic musical. McHugh and Adamson, song-writing duo, added five more tunes as their contribution to the film.

"Outlaws of Sioux City," a Red Ryder, will start Sept. 9, with the usual lineup of Sidney Peck, producer, Robert Springer directing, and Allan Lane as Red.

Myton on Screenplays

Screenplays for two new Michael Shayne mysteries, "The Corpse Came Calling" and "Tickets for Death," are being written by Fred Myton at PRC. Both are based on novels by Brett Halliday.

BOOK REVIEW

OKAY FOR SOUND. How the Screen Found Its Voice. Edited by Frederic M. Thrasher. Published by Duell, Sloan & Pearce, Inc. 303 pages. $3.75.

A pictorial history of the industry from Edison, 1889 to present-day techniques of sound pictures, with emphasis on the latter, this volume emerges as a great tribute to the aggressiveness and foresight of the Warner Brothers in pioneering and developing sound in its early stages. Generous display of action stills from pictures of various eras gives it certain public appeal that should add up to good bookstand sales. For everyone in the motion picture industry it is a "must" for their collection of industry volumes. Editor Frederic M. Thrasher, Professor of Education of New York University, has apparently gone to great lengths to bring together all the photos and data comprising this interesting volume. Text, other than the captions, was written by Robert层层 layering of the phases which form the basis for the book; namely, "Finding a Voice"; "Learning to Talk," and "Sounding the Future." Each phase is set forth in detail with accompanying photographs from the pictures of that period. We recommend the book to everyone in all branches of the motion picture business.—C.E.L.

Schwarzwald, Pivar in U-International Posts

Milton Schwarzwald, who has served as co-ordinator of the Universal music department, has been named musical supervisor of Universal International. Ted Cain will remain as assistant to Schwarzwald.

Maurice Pivar, head of Universal's editorial department for the past 25 years, will continue in that position for the new company. Ernest Nolms will be associated with Pivar as editorial supervisor.

Comet at Halfway Post

Completion of the Cinemecolor feature, "Adventures From Coyote," marks the half-way post for Comet's scheduled six pictures for Unite Artists release during 1946-47, less than nine months since Comet's formation. Other completed films by producers Buddy Rogers and Ralph Cohn are "Little Joefins" and "Susi Steps Out." The script of "Stork & Bites Man" is now being prepared by Louis Pollock, who wrote the book.

Del Ruth Buys Original

"Favorite Son," timely story of an ex-GI who returns to politics, has been purchased by Roy Del Ruth for future production. Story, a original by Tom Rafter, has been scheduled as a future starring vehicle for Don DeFore, currently playing the romantic lead in "It Hangs on Fifth Avenue," which Del Ruth is producing and directing for Monogram.

Ames Signs New Pact

Stephen Ames, who has been signed to new RKO contract as an executive producer will devote his future time to filming his budget Technicolor pictures. First of these major productions will be "Tycoon," with filming to start in December. Ames recently completed "Sinbad the Sailor."

Signs Parisian Designer

David O. Selznick has signed Jacques Fall to be the number one designer of women's clothes in Paris, to design women's costume for Selznick films. Fall's first assignment will be Alfred Hitchcock's "The Paradine Case."

'Party Line' Star

Jeanne Crain has been named the star of 20th-Fox's "Party Line," which Robert Basse will produce. Screenplay is by Dorothy Benet.

Carter Option Lifted

Colombia has lifted his option on the tent contract with Janis Carter, who has the lead opposite Glenn Ford in "They Walk Alone."

Ford in 'Magic Town'

Wally Ford will play one of the feature roles in "Magic Town," the Robert Riskin Production for RKO Radio which stars Jane Stewart.

Sheriff Stuart Erwin

Stuart Erwin has been signed by Producer Seymour Nebenzal for the role of the sheriff in "Heaven Only Knows," his forthcoming release for United Artists.
Color Short Subject Unit Shows Give Program Gaiety, Beauty, Excitement

One of the highlights of Interstate's 40th Anniversary celebration was the series of color short subject unit shows featured in theatres throughout the circuit. In setting up the various combinations, the circuit's short subject department reminded Interstate managers that "short subjects in color can add to the gaiety, beauty and excitement of your programs for this festive month."

The shorts combinations were divided into six categories: All Cartoon Show, All Sports Show, All Novelty Shorts Show, All Musical Shorts Show, All Western Shorts Show, Unit Show of Varied Subjects.

No matter what the occasion, these special unit shows can just as the Interstate manual prepared by Loia Cheaney declares, "add to the gaiety, beauty and excitement of your programs." To aid exhibitors in selecting the types of color shorts to make up their own unit shows, the detailed examples which appeared in the Interstate manual are reproduced herewith:

- **All Cartoon Shows.** Rhapsodies, Colombia; Fox and Crow, Columbia; Mighty Mouse (Territory); 20th-Fox; Candy Cone (Territory); 20th-Fox; Tom & Jerry, MGM; Sam Squealer, MGM; Popeye, Paramount; Little Lulu, Paramount; Jumper (Popeye), Paramount; Jolly (Popeye), Paramount; Novelties, Paramount; Casper, Paramount; Mickey Mouse (Disney), RKO; Pluto (Disney), RKO; Donald Duck (Disney). Disney; Daffy Duck, United Artists; Woody Woodpecker (Lanza), Universal; Andy Panda (Lanza), Universal; Wally Wales (Lanza), Universal; Oswald Rabbit (Lanza), Universal; Porky Pig, Daffy Duck, Sniffles and Bugs Bauman, Warners.

- **All Sports Shows.** Fishing; Rod and Gun in Canada, WB; Fin 'n Feathers, WB; Underwater Spear Fishing; Let's Go Fishing, WB; Trolling For Stripes, 20th-Fox; Let's Go Fishing, WB; Nova Scotia, 20th-Fox; Golfing Down the Fairway, 20th-Fox; Hunting—Let's Go Hunting, WB; Rod and Gun in Canada, WB; Fin 'n Feathers, WB. Horse—The Derby, 20th-Fox; Hunting—Holiday on Horseback, WB; Arabians in the Rockies, WB; The Riding Every Year, 20th-Fox; The Bluebirds, WB; Adventures of Gentleman, 20th-Fox; Days of 76, WB; Archie's Bungalow in Sports, WB; Cavalcade of Archery, WB; Boating—Fishing! Your Daughters, WB; Swimming—Swimmingcapades, WB; Time Out for Play, 20th-Fox; Sea Sirens, 20th-Fox; Beach Days, WB; Shining Snow Eagles, WB; Ski Aces, 20th-Fox; Bikes and Skis, WB; Water Skiing—Michigan Ski Daddle, WB; Water Babies, WB.

- **All Novelty Shows.** Popular Science (Paramount)—New Kitchen of Tomorrow; New Kitchen of Today; Chemistry Research; Now Pullmans; Fiber-glass; Louisiana Oil; U. S. Chemicals; DDT, Wonder Chemical, Unusual Occupations (Paramount)—Great Gildersleeve; Penn; Metalworking; Sterling Hollow- way; Bedsoncomer Show, Cass Daily. Forest Com- munication—New York, 20th-Fox; Underwater Spear Fishing, WB; Fishing, Vera Cruz, MGM; El Salvador—Seeing El Salvador, MGM. Vacation—Holiday of Vacation, MGM; Merida and Campeche, MGM; Guatemala—Modern Guatemala City; MGM; Glimpses of Guatemala, MGM; Land of the Maya, MGM; Where Time Stands Still, MGM.

- **United States—Texas.** Black and Gold Cartoons, 20th-Fox; (California) The Mission Trail, MGM; California, Here We Are, WB; America the Beautiful, WB; 20th-Fox; The World's Greatest, 20th-Fox; Song of the Sunshine, 20th-Fox; Louisana Springtime, 20th-Fox; (Colorado) Colorful of the Sun, 20th-Fox; (Missouri) Land of 10,000 Lakes, 20th-Fox; (New York) Empire State, 20th-Fox; (New Mexico) In Old Santa Fe, 20th-Fox; (Territories—Alasakan Grandeur, 20th-Fox; Bountiful Alaska, 20th-Fox; Alaska Last Lake, 20th-Fox; (Gram) Gem of the Oceans, WB; Hawaiian Memories, WB; Alaska—Looking Around the Lagoon, MGM; Cuba Calling, WB; Cuba Isle of Romance, 20th-Fox; Bahamas Souvenirs, WB; Cuba—Jewels of Cumberland, 20th-Fox; (Dominican Republic) Memories of Columbus, 20th-Fox; China Carries On, 20th-Fox; Jewels of Iran.

(Continued on Page 40)

**'Okay for Pictures' As Special WB Short**

"Okay for Pictures," made especially for showing at the recent Warner Bros. convention in Atlantic City, is announced by Jack L. Warner, executive producer, as an addition to the company's schedule of shorts for general release.


On being shown [to company officials], the short was so highly acclaimed that its general release was decided upon by Colonel Warner.

**Now With Clampeatt**

Donald Towsley, former head animator on the Donald Duck cartoons at the Walt Disney studios, has joined Bob Clampett Productions as head animator and has begun work on the first short which this company will make for Republic release.
THE SHOW BUILDER

'Last Bomb' Premiere Climax of VFW Meet

An audience of more than 1000 distinguished guests at the 47th National Encampment of the Veterans of Foreign Wars saw the world premiere of "The Last Bomb," a Warner Bros. Technicolor two-reel film, following a speech by General Carl Spaatz, commander of the AAF, at the Hotel Statler in Boston Tuesday evening. The subject was flown in from the Burbank Studio, through the courtesy of Col. Jack Warner, as a tribute to General Spaatz.

The 2000-foot Technicolor film was the highlight of the evening's festivities, which came as a complete surprise to those who had just heard the General stress the importance of maintaining a strong air force preceding the film's showing. Toastmaster George Curley, son of Boston's Mayor James M. Curley, requested the guests at the head table to change their places to seats on the main floor. As the houselights dimmed, he announced the world premiere of "The Last Bomb."

Photographed by the Army Air Force combat units which see the world in "The Last Bomb" shows the 21st Army Bomber Command in its devastating raid on Japan—the beginning of the end of Tokyo. Of special interest is the first public Technicolor showing of the atom bomb as it was dropped on Nagasaki.

Showing of the subject was made available by Spaatz's interest in the film. Commander James F. Reynolds, contacted Mort Blumenstock, Warners' vice-president in charge of advertising and publicity, who arranged the necessary details in making arrival of the film possible.

National release date of "The Last Bomb" has been set for November 23.


Fourteen shorts are being released by Warner Bros. during September and October, in addition to "Okay for Sound," the 20th Anniversary Talking Pictures short, the September schedule includes three cartoons in Technicolor, "Racketeer Rabbit," "Fair and Warmer and "Fox Pop"; a Technicolor Sports Parade, "King of the Everglades," and a Technicolor Special, "Cinderella's Feller."

The October group consists of "So You Want to Save Your Hair," comedy; Desi Arnaz on Hand, Melody Masters Band; "Lazy Hunter," Technicolor Sports Parade; "Spangale City," Technicolor Adventure Special, and four Technicolor Cartoons, "Big Snooze," "Wack Worm," "Monomerized Cat" and "You're an Education."

Color Unit Shows Give Program Beauty, Gaiety

(Continued from Page 39)

MGM will have a shorts program of five different series during 1946-47, Vice-President and General Manager William F. Rodgers announced in Chicago recently before departing for the company's coast studios.

The MGM lineup will consist of four two-reel specials and the following one reel subjects—10 Pete Smith Specials, 12 Technicolor cartoons, 12 Fitzpatrick Travelogues in Technicolor and six Passing Parades with John Nesbitt.

New Series of Fact Films Inaugurated by MGM

A new series of short fact-films to be known as "Theater of Life," presenting realistically and objectively topics in the public interest, are being produced with the cooperation of the Associated Press and released by MGM. To achieve authenticity, actual characters, uninvited situations and true locations will be used.

The initial film, "Traffic With the Devil," which was previewed recently in New York, was produced by Herbert Morgan, who also wrote the screenplay. Gunther V. Fritsch directed.

Avery Starts Work on New Cartoon Series

With a new long-term MGM contract calling for his services as a cartoon director, Tex Avery is working full steam ahead on his plans for a cartoon series burlesquing works of William Shakespeare. First of the series, "Romeo at Juliet," started last month.

Avery's new contract was handed him on completion of five years at MGM, during which time he has directed 35 cartoon subjects, including the "Red Hot Riding Hood" series.

Second in New Smith Domestic Series in Work

Production on "A Really Important Person," first John Nesbitt Passing Parade of the 1946-47 releasing season, started recently at MGM, under the direction of Basil Wrangell. Jerry Breeder is producing. Story concerns a small boy who enters a school essay contest on the title subject. Connie Gilchrist has been added to the cast.

Also before the short subject cameras at MGM is the second in Pete Smith's new series on domestic life, "I Love My Wife—But," co-starring Mr. and Mrs. Dave O'Brien, with O'Brien also directing. Smith's first in the series was "I Love My Husband—But."

First-Class Campaigning

Newspaper advertising, marquee space and lobby art comprised the first-class campaigning of Jack Cartell of the Orpheum Theatre, Waco, Texas, on the 20th-Fox Terrytoon, "The Golden Hen."

Screen Snapshots Releases Increased to 12 Yearly

The number of Columbia's Screen Snapshots for the 1946-47 season has been increased from the usual ten to an even dozen.

Reason for the increase, it was said, is because of the "sustained popularity of . . . the one reefer produced by Ralph Staub which give intime glimpses of celebrities in the entertainment world."

De Rita in Columbia Short

First of the two-reel Columbia comedies starring Joe De Rita has a cast which includes Christine McIntyre, Dorothy Grainger, Florence Auer, Jean Donahue, Dick Wessel and Emil Sitka. Edward Bernds directs his own screenplay from the story by Ellwood Ullman and Monty Collins. Hugh McCollum produces. The short marks De Rita's first screen appearance since an extended tour with the USD 8 occupied territory.

Shorts Shopping

(Continued from Page 39)

ardently devoted to her calling, and in retiring to join her husband she is taking the rest she so richly deserves.

It is good to know that, although "Besa Short's Shorts" is no more, there will be a weekly short subject manual called "Interstate's Shorts Magazine" which will be in the capable hands of Lois Chaney and supervised by Dabbs A. Reynolds.

One of Paramount's current releases in the Singing of Animal series, we note, is "Be Kind to Animals." Although the national observance of this anniversary does not occur until some time next April, exhibitors who book the short could do well to inaugurate their own "Be Kind to Animals" city-wide campaigns in advance of, and during the subject's playdate, Naturally, the subject is on the humorous side, as for instance, when the narrator makes the title plea and the wire-haired terrier responds, "And we'll be kind to you dumb people, too." Nevertheless, the serious note of urging kindness to animals will serve a worthwhile purpose and call more than passing attention to the short.

MGM Shorts Series for '46-47

"Last Bomb" Premiere Climax of VFW Meet

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Kennedy in 'Jingo'

Douglas Kennedy has the leading role in Warners' Technicolor short subject, "Jingo," adapted from a Death Valley Days show film and directed by Richard Hare.

Fun's Over—Work Starts

MGM's cartoon studio resumed production this week following a vacation which began August 19.
Dinky Finds a Home (Cute) 20th-Fox 7 mins.

Dinky, the little black duckling, flies the hunters' guns and tries to ingratiate himself into the home of the pompous rooster and his family. He is kicked around scandalously, however, until he saves one of the chickens, which is swept over the fence and cannot swim. Then Mr. and Mrs. Chicken are glad to add him to their brood. A nice Technicolor subject, and especially good for the children.

Choo Choo Amigo (Excellent) UA Daffy Ditty 8 mins.

Choo Choo Amigo is a little train—a kind of South American Toonerville trolley—that goes in ways and ways, helping the people by ironing their clothes and making itself generally agreeable. Comes a monstrosity streamlined and Choo Choo is destined for the scrap heap. But the people rally around its favorite and save him—perhaps to help itself. A real story, well told.

Traffic With the Devil (Instructive) MGM Theatre of Life 18 1/2 mins.

This first in a series of four instructional and informative features released by MGM treats the growing menace of traffic accidents somewhat in the manner of the U. S. Government in its training films used so successfully during the armed services. It delineates, through the presence and speaking voice of Motor Sergeant Charles Reincke of the Los Angeles Police Department, and actors who portray various types of automobile driving mistakes, the dangers to humans and property in today's traffic problem. It is a real-life story, based on actual facts and figures compiled by the Los Angeles Police, using actors to portray the actual characters. It was filmed in and around Los Angeles, which has the nation's largest number of automobiles and the highest percentage of traffic accidents, some of which are shown on the screen with all their accompanying dangers. Acting the role is a plea for safe driving, pointing out, as it does, how many of the dangers in driving and just how these dangers may be circumvented, with just a reasonable amount of common sense. Morgan produced "Traffic With the Devil" and wrote the screenplay, Gunther V. Mitsch directed.

Enric Madriguera & Orchestra (Fine) Warner Bros. (2510) Melody Masters Band 10 mins.

Madriguera, plus singers Patricia Gilmore and Eddie Gomez and dancer Lazara, put on ten encores but really first class entertainment. Here—tops for a band shot. Nice setting, plenty of costumes, good numbers of the Latin variety; the combination makes it suitable for all audiences, the more sophisticated.


This sports number, photographed in Technicolor and filmed without a great deal of imagination, is nevertheless in the excellent class because of its fresh subject. The purpose of the ranch in white is to raise white horses and every other kind of white animal. The idea itself is novel and makes a very interesting short for any audience. The horses are used for saddle work, jumping, and trick stuff—many of them going to circuses. It was new to this reviewer and probably will be to your audiences also.

Walking Talky Hawk (Excellent) Warner Bros. (2707) Technicolor Cartoon 7 mins.

Papa Hawk tells little Henry Hawk that the curse of the Hawk family is that they have a craving to eat chickens. Henry asks "Is that bad?" and proceeds to find a chicken for himself. He does find one, but doesn't know he's a chicken (rooster), and the latter points to the dog. After maligning the dog, Mr. Chicken and the pup get into an argument which ends in the hawk's still in a chicken for all. Henry still doesn't know which is the chicken, but decides one of them must be, so the film ends with him dragging all three off. First rate for all.

Of Thee I Sing (Very Good) Warner Bros. (2706) Technicolor Cartoon 7 mins.

The mosquito air force is seen in training, using modern methods of warfare. The brass hats single out a隧celent farmer as the objective and teach the trainees how to handle his defenses (screen, fly swatter, flit, etc.) Then the attack comes and the picture ends with the mission completed and the farmer well stung. This short is first rate fantasy and is good fare for all audiences.


This is a quick looksee at sports as they are practiced in Canada, running from the winter sports like bicycling to the national game of lacrosse, which is pretty rough. The scenes were shot all over Canada. One trouble with this short is that too much ground is covered, with the result that the audience receives only a momentary glimpse of each sport—not enough to make an impression. But the Technicolor is good and the subject is pleasant.


Here is a travelog covering Bolivia and Peru, going from the mountain sections downward to the head waters of the Amazon and showing everything from the ever-present native derbies of the mountaineers to the modern city of Lima, and finally to the head-hunters of the Amazon, plus a couple of the heads (the hair keeps on growing). Most interesting are the head-hunters—even the Tenth Avenue boys would be scared of them. The rest of the film is routine, but nice to fit in an under-loaded program.


This travelog scouts the islands of Java and Sumatra and then moves up to Singapore. It is a pre-war view of the British East Indies capital. Tribal dances, shots of ex-cannibals, and the more orthodox views of city streets keep up audience interest in this subject. The lush life seen in Singapore reflects once again the tragedy which hit that city early in the Japanese war. Run it as ballast for an action program.


...NEWSREEL SYNOPSIS...

(Released Saturday, September 7)

MOVETONE (Vol. 29, No. 2)—Admiral Halsey speaks on freedom of the seas; Army demonstrates "electro-seat" for bailing out at supersonic speeds; N. Y. Police academy, training; Czechoslovakian refugees in 400-bed slum reach U. S.; New fashion in fur hats; Wild west show in Los Angeles; Gomorrah gets in action; Audie was explo into Hawaii; Canadian girls in mini-calitistic performances.

NEWS OF THE DAY (Vol. 18, No. 200)—Admiral Halsey answbrs Russian criticism; Human projectiles hurl from airplanes; German refugees in Denmark; Younger act in beauty parade at Roxbury, Mass.; Prana Camera gets on wrestling show; Talman's (Adv.); Browns in war-up; Coliseum in Los Angeles scene of rodeo.

PARAMOUNT (No. 2)—Last chapter in Yugoslav-US. S. disposto; U. S. Navy on Mediterranean patrol; New rescue device for high speed planes; Fashion dresses feathered with "microbe" and other intricate combinations; World speedboat record.

RKO PATHE (Vol. 18, No. 6)—Safety ejector seat for planes; Highway marks Paris's course through France; Mexican village holds pandemic; Italy burns bl. wings; The British in Egypt; The new pilot for "Flying Doctor" service; Newton for lightweight armor and challenger prepares for bout; National Air Races at Cleveland.

UNIVERSAL (Vol. 15, No. 530)—U. S. air vic in Yugoslavia; Navy visit stirs Russian protest; Pilot ejector seat for planes; Fire flares; Double Sanremo; Air races at Cleveland.

(Released Wednesday, September 4)

MOVETONE (Vol. 29, No. 2)—Refugees from Palestine land at Ceylon amid uproar; United Na-

tion Security Council meets at Lake Success; Greek-Long, etc. in 504th Annual Meeting; Montgomery visits Canada; President Truman flies off Bermuda coast; Whale boats use harpoon guns; National dual Red Cross Day; Miami football hopes train in ocean; Trilplets compete at Atlantic City; Baby parade; 1st Asbury Park.

NEWS OF THE DAY (Vol. 17, No. 303)—Tel Aviv mass meeting protest removal of refugees to Cyprus; U. N. Security Council meets at new Long Island home; President Truman goes fishing—without any luck; Greek Leg in London exile; Clendenen at York Beach, Maine; Baby beauty contest at Asbury Park; National double tennis tournament goes to Miami; Ben Hogan wins P.G.A.

PARAMOUNT (No. 2)—8th-inch spsnow iso- rated Maine resort; West Dame and Miami U. play football; Romanian refugees arrive in Miami; President Truman presents flag to Israel Waton as big one gets away; Asbury Park scene of baby parade; Para doppel team for "Dollas"; Advertisements for Mobil's for a take; Whaling industry enjoys post-war boom.

RKO PATHE (Vol. 18, No. 4)—Palestine-bound Jews rat at Cyprus camp; Brooklyn, N. Y. scene of national double tennis championship; President Tru- man fails to catch big enough fish after day's work; Honolulu welcomes Nisei horses; World laughs more and visits second; Pic Nan no. 1; Holland's (Adv.); World's Most Difficult race started at Sons; Chilean leg underway at Mount St. Helens.

UNIVERSAL (Vol. 19, No. 531)—U. S. in new home on Long Island; President Truman goes fishing; Tennessean breaks record; Long Beach golf—Boils over-run Spanish town in annual festival; Tripletop competes in Atlantic City's Steed fair; Whale hunt off coast of Chile; Bicycle disaster proof at Palsides Park.

ALL AMERICAN (Vol. 4, No. 202)—New York girls participate in annual dance festival; District attorney for Hungarian woman who attacked Rocky Park Community House annual party; Wibulforts welcome Newman's tournament; Mystic Steinters hold 45th annual conclave in Philadelphia.
TITLE INDEX

Features and western series pictures are listed alphabetically by title under name of distributor. (Consult indexes for distributors elsewhere in parentheses for title.) Numerals at left of titles indicate Phonofilm or Technicolor Number. (SP indicates picture sold separately; release sold separately, those at extreme right give latest date of release.) Advertiser pictures color photographs, with following letter giving name of type of color used: *T*; Technicolor, *C*; Colorcopia, *M*; Magnacolor, *U*; Trucolor. Audience Classification is indicated by letter following titles: A—Adult; F—Family. Letters and comments indicate type of item in order of appearance on following pages.

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**SHOWMEEN'S TRADE REVIEW, September 7, 1946**

**KRO-RO (Continued)***

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<td></td>
<td>Nevada Smith (W.F.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>532</td>
<td>True Story of Vegetable Giants (W.F.)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B. Nelson-P. J. Tracy</td>
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<tr>
<td>533</td>
<td>Undercover Woman (W.F.)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>S. Bacherli-R. Livingston</td>
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<tr>
<td>534</td>
<td>Valley of the Zombies (HD.A)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robert Livington-L. J. Booth</td>
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<tr>
<td>535</td>
<td>Woman Who Came Back, The (D.A)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Joseph Cotten-John Loder</td>
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**COMING**

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<tr>
<th>Affairs of Geraldine</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jane Withers-Jimmy Lydon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angel and the Outlaw</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. Wayne-O. Russell-I. Rich</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apache Rose</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roy Rogers-Dale Evans</td>
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<td>Calendar Girl</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barbara Britton-R. Hughes</td>
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<td>Ghost Goes Wild</td>
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<td>James Ellison-Ann Gwynne</td>
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<td>Hit Parade 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roy Rogers-Dale Evans-&quot;Gabby&quot; Hayes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Home in Oklahoma</td>
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<td>R. Rogers-G. Hayes-D. Evans</td>
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<td>I've Always Loved You (D.F.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Young-A. Barrymore</td>
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<td>Last Frontier Uprising &quot;T&quot;</td>
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<td>Monte Hale-Adrian Booth</td>
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<td>Magnificent Rogue</td>
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<td>L. Roberts-W. Douglas</td>
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<td>Outlaw California (H.K.)</td>
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<td>Warren Douglas-Lynne Roberts</td>
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<td>Pilgrim Lady</td>
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<td>L. Roberts-W. Douglas</td>
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<td>Pretty Please</td>
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<td>L. Roberts-W. Douglas</td>
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<td>Roll on Texas Moon</td>
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<td>R. Rogers-G. Hayes-Dale Evans</td>
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<td>Spiders of the North</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evelyn Ansley-Paul Kelly</td>
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<td>That's a Gas &quot;T&quot;</td>
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<td>Don Barry-Lynne Roberts</td>
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<td>They'll Be Yours &quot;T&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roy Rogers-Dale Evans</td>
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<td>Winter Wonderland</td>
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<td>L. Roberts-C. Drake</td>
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**Westeran**

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<tr>
<td>555</td>
<td>Alias Billy the Kid (W.F.)</td>
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<td>Sunset Carson-Peggy Stewart</td>
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<td>537</td>
<td>Blue Montana Skies</td>
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<td>Gene Autry-Donna Reed</td>
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<td>Big Bill Billings (W.F.)</td>
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<td>Wild Bill Elliott-Alice Fleming</td>
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<td>Sunset Carson-Peggy Stewart</td>
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<td>Days of Buffalo Bill</td>
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<td>Wild Bill Elliott-Bobby Blake</td>
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<td>Wild Bill Elliott-Bobby Blake</td>
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<td>Red River Renegades</td>
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<td>Sunset Carson-Peggy Stewart</td>
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<td>544</td>
<td>Rough Riders of Cheyenne (W.F.)</td>
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**REPUBLI**

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<th>Run Time</th>
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<td>E0: Sheriff of Redwood Valley (W/F)</td>
<td>. .110. 85.</td>
<td>. .10/15/46</td>
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<td>E0: Sun Valley Cyclone (W/F)</td>
<td>. .10/5/46</td>
<td>. .10/15/46</td>
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<td>E0: Wagon Wheels Westward (W/F)</td>
<td>. .12/31/46</td>
<td>. .10/15/46</td>
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**CREEN GUILD PRODUCTIONS**

**CURRENT 1945-1947**

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**DTH-FOX**

**Current 1945-46**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANY WALK IN THE SUN (W/F)</td>
<td>Dana Andrew-Richard Conte.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HOME ON ELEVENTH STREET (W/F)</td>
<td>Allan D. 12/1/46</td>
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<tr>
<td>HOW I LEARNED TO LOVE MY UNCLE (W/F)</td>
<td>Allan D. 10/15/46</td>
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<tr>
<td>JESSE JAMES</td>
<td>Allan D. 11/15/46</td>
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<tr>
<td>JOHN HOPE OF THE YANKEE DIALED (W/F)</td>
<td>J. Reis M. 10/10/46</td>
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<tr>
<td>DON JUAN AND SHE'S HEAVEN TO HIM (W/F)</td>
<td>J. Power-H. Fonda-N. Kelly. 10/15/46</td>
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<tr>
<td>RASCAL (W/F)</td>
<td>M. O'Hara-J. Payne-W. Endix. 10/10/46</td>
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<tr>
<td>VICKI</td>
<td>J. H. Fonda-L. Darnell-M. N. 10/15/46</td>
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<tr>
<td>IN THE NIGHT</td>
<td>J. H. Fonda-N. Kelly. 10/15/46</td>
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<tr>
<td>SNEAKING THROUGH</td>
<td>J. A. Grant-D. Haynes. 10/15/46</td>
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<tr>
<td>STRANGE TRIANGLE</td>
<td>J. A. Grant-D. Haynes. 10/15/46</td>
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**ROMAN ARTISTS**

**A Night in Casablanca (M/F)**

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<tr>
<td>MARS BROTHERS</td>
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<tr>
<td>ALLIANCE-110. 85.</td>
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<td>ALBINE TRIP</td>
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<td>BACON</td>
<td>REO</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAESAR AND CLAUDIA (W/F)</td>
<td>REO</td>
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<tr>
<td>CASAVAL</td>
<td>REO</td>
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<tr>
<td>DIARY OF A CHAMBERMANS DAUGHTER (W/F)</td>
<td>REO</td>
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<tr>
<td>GETTING GERT'S GARDEN (C/A)</td>
<td>REO</td>
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<tr>
<td>JOURNEY TO THE ENCHAINED VOYAGE</td>
<td>REO</td>
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<tr>
<td>MR. ACE (W/F)</td>
<td>REO</td>
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<tr>
<td>OVER THE WHIRLWIND</td>
<td>REO</td>
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<tr>
<td>REBECCA (W/F)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPELLBOUND (W/F)</td>
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<td>YOUNG WIDOW (W/F)</td>
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**COMING**

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<tr>
<td>A MIRACLE CAN HAPPEN</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>RICHARD MARTIN-FRAVES RAFFERTY</td>
<td>REO</td>
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</table>

**T**

**Talk About a Lady | Col.**

**U**

**Uncle Andy Hardy | MG**

**Vacation in Reno | MG**

**V**

**W**

**Walls Came Tumbling Down | UA**

**Z**

**Ziegfeld Follies of 1944 | MG**
**TITLE CHANGES**

"My Brother Who Talked to Horses"

**MY BROTHER TALKS TO HORSES**

"San Quentin" (1937) (KRO) now

**PRISON STORY**

**PICTURES STARTED LAST WEEK**

COLUMBIA
Alias Mr. Twilight—Principals: Michael Duff, Trudy Marshall, Director, John Sturges.

Last of the Redmen—Principals: Jon Hall, Michael O'Shea, Evelyn Ankers, Director, George Bazar.

MGM
Romance of Rose Ridge—Principals: Van Johnson, Thelma Todd, Leigh, Director, Roy Rowland.

**ADVANCE DATA**

On Forthcoming Product

(Continued from Page 34-D)

LADY IN THE LAKE (1947) (MGM) Mystery, Principals: Robert Montgomery, George Brent, Trumpet, Leon Ames, Director, Robert Montgomery. Plot: Private detective Phillip Marlowe finds himself involved in murder when the body of a woman is found on a dock. He deduces that this crime has something to do with the gangland, and discovers the two women had once been rivals for the affections of the same man. The man is subsequently killed, and Marlowe finds the body. Detectives as a suspect himself, the detective talks fast, gets himself released from jail, and solves the mystery.

**ADDITIONS TO CURRENT LIST**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>United Artists</th>
<th>Coming</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Angel on My Shoulder</td>
<td>P. Muni-A. Baxter-C. Conlin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bewitched</td>
<td>John Wayne, Jack Oakie, Yvonne De Carlo, Director, John Ford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chase, The</td>
<td>Robert Cummings, Michele Morgan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dangerous Abduction</td>
<td>C. A. Levet-Scribner, Director, John Hodiak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Devil's Playground</td>
<td>William Boyd-Andy Clyde</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dishonored Lady</td>
<td>H. Landau-R. O'Keefe-J. Leder</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duel in the Sun (H)</td>
<td>J. Jones-Q. Sun-T.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fabulous Dorsay</td>
<td>T. Dorsay-J. Dorsay-W. Landigan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fanny By Gaslight</td>
<td>James Mason-Philip McVickert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fool's Gold</td>
<td>William Boyd-Andy Clyde</td>
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<tr>
<td>Henry the Fifth (D) (T)</td>
<td>L. Oliver-R. Asherson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Judging Marie (M)</td>
<td>T. Everett-H. Morgan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monsieur Verdoux</td>
<td>Charles Chaplin-Maria Raye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Orleans (T)</td>
<td>Arturo de Cordova-Louis Armstrong</td>
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<tr>
<td>No. 6 (M)</td>
<td>G. B. McCrae-Fleming-H. S. Albert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Private Affairs of Bel Ami, The</td>
<td>George Sanders-Angela Lansbury</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shady Lady (M) (D)</td>
<td>P. Darrow-Bennett-D. Stirling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sin of Harold Diddlebock</td>
<td>H. Lloyd-R. Walburn-J. Conlin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strange Bedfellows</td>
<td>Priscilla Lane-Eddie Bracken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strange Woman (D) (H)</td>
<td>B. Luddy-P. Morgan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Susie Steps Out</td>
<td>David Bruce-Cleatus Caldwell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vendetta</td>
<td>Robert Lowery-Frank Morgan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Whispering Walls</td>
<td>William Boyd-Andy Clyde</td>
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**CURRENT 1946-47**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prod. No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>518 Because of Him (CM)</td>
<td>D. Durbin-C. Laughton-T. Tone</td>
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<tr>
<td>543 Black Angel (M)</td>
<td>T. Glass-L. Calvert-D. Webb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>572 Blonde Alibi (My)</td>
<td>T. O'Malley-A. Dandridge-B. Lawton</td>
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<tr>
<td>541 Canyon Passage (T) (D)</td>
<td>D. Arness-D. O'Keefe-J. Swayne</td>
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<tr>
<td>550 Cairo (D) (T)</td>
<td>S. Holman-H. Thompson-K. de Ball</td>
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<tr>
<td>569 Crimson Canary (My)</td>
<td>D. Arness-A. Dandridge-B. Lawton</td>
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<tr>
<td>542 Clue of the Big瞿dal (M)</td>
<td>D. Arness-A. Dandridge-B. Lawton</td>
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<tr>
<td>510 Daltons Ride Again (W)</td>
<td>D. Curtis-M. O'Driscoll-L. Chaney</td>
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<td>539 Danger Woman (D)</td>
<td>B. Joyce-D. Porter-P. Morrison</td>
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<td>546 Dragnet (D)</td>
<td>D. Arness-D. O'Keefe-J. Swayne</td>
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<td>547 Dead of Night (D)</td>
<td>D. Arness-D. O'Keefe-J. Swayne</td>
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<td>548 Dressed to Kill (My)</td>
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<td>512 Frontier Gal (T) (D)</td>
<td>D. Arness-D. O'Keefe-J. Swayne</td>
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<td>515 Girl on the Spot (D-M-A)</td>
<td>D. Arness-D. O'Keefe-J. Swayne</td>
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<td>538 Her Adventurous Nephew</td>
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<td>511 House of Dracula (H)</td>
<td>D. Arness-D. O'Keefe-J. Swayne</td>
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<tr>
<td>512 House of Horrors (H)</td>
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<td>567 Job Girl (S) (T) (D)</td>
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<td>546 Killer in the (My)</td>
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<td>550 Little Giant (C)</td>
<td>D. Arness-D. O'Keefe-J. Swayne</td>
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<td>549 Little Miss Big</td>
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<td>536 Madam of the Seven Moons (D-A)</td>
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<td>539 Night in Paradise (T) (D)</td>
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<td>511 Smooth as Silk (My)</td>
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<td>530 Strange Conquest (D)</td>
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<td>546 Square Woman (S) (H) (D)</td>
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<td>532 Tangler (D)</td>
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<td>517 Terror By Night (My)</td>
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<td>548 While The Town Sleeps</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brief Encounter (D)</th>
<th>Celia Johnson-Trevor Howard</th>
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<tr>
<td>Brute Man</td>
<td>Ron Haddon-Jane Adams</td>
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<td>Dark Mirror, The</td>
<td>O. Douglas-L. Ayres</td>
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<td>Flame of Tripoli</td>
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<td>I'll Be Yours</td>
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**Westernt (Current 1946-47)**

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<td>1104 Gun Town</td>
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<td>1107 Gallant's Cove</td>
<td>Kirby Grant-Fuzzy Knight</td>
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<tr>
<td>1106 Lawless Breed</td>
<td>Kirby Grant-Fuzzy Knight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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**SHOWME'S TRADE REVIEW, September 7, 1946**
ADVANCE DATA
On Forthcoming Product

(Continued From Previous Page)

THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER Mitty (MG&M; Dramas; Principals: Danny Kaye, Virginia Mayo. Director, Norman Z. McLeod, Plot: Dominated and despised by an overbearing mother, a young man takes refuge in a world of fertile fantasy. When he suddenly drops out of a beautiful girl always appears. One day the girl of his dreams sits next to him on a train in aid his help in escaping from a man who is following him. He discovers that he has become involved into adventures more exciting than his reveries. His family has become psychoanalyzed and has discovered that the whole thing is another dream. Finally he comes to his senses and rushes out to rescue the girl of his dreams.)

THE BEGINNING OR THE END (MGM) Drama; Principals: Brian Donlevy, Robert Walker, Tom Drake, Audrey Totter. Director, Norman Taurog, Plot: This is the dramatic story of the development of the atom bomb, beginning in Berlin where a scientist is forced to flee Germany, taking her secrets with her to the United States. Then the bomb is dropped, and finally the novel's main protagonist, with the assistance of his former scientific associates, that the bomb is now ready to be dropped on Hiroshima. Surrender follows quickly, and the war ends.

STALLION ROAD (WE) Drama: Principal: Ronald Reagan, Alexis Smith, Zachary Scott. Director, James V. Kern, Plot: A veterinarian owns a large horse farm. When a novelist comes to visit him, they both fall in love with a girl who owns a ranch. They call on the vet for help when her prize mare falls sick but is busy inhumanely tending his horse. She refuses to take the horse. An epidemic of anthrax sweeps the area, but the vet and the heroine take charge of the situation. The third veteran finds his family unprepared for the sight of the horse. She now uses his hands, but he still finds the courage to ask his old sweetheart to marry him.

THE BEAT OF OUR LIVES (RKO) Drama; Principal: Myrna Loy, Fredric March, Director, William Wyler, Plot: Three teenagers go on the range, all together. One of them cannot find his wife, so he spends his first night at home at his buddy's apartment, and there meets their young daughter. When he does locate his wife, she soon becomes restless and seeks the company of other men. He leaves her, realizing her love for her daughter. Disarmed, he almost leaves town, but not. He will recover, and so the novelist bow out of the triangle.

AUDIENCE CLASSIFICATIONS OF NATIONAL REVIEW COMMITTEES

This is a new service feature which will be expanded. Its purpose is to supply tunesmen with the classifications as to audience suitability, by age groups, of national reviewing committees which are Independent of the motion picture industry. This service should be std for reference on age dissociation in advertising, as well as to requests of local groups or individual parents. The statement may state the facts about the suitability of a given feature for showing to children as determined, not by himself or any industry agency, but by his parents maintained in the public.

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NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW: Founded in 1909 to represent the interests of the motion picture industry.

SCHOOLS MOTION PICTURE COMMITTEE: A committee of the National Board of Review which represents the interests of schools and representatives from public and private schools, whose purpose is to select pictures suitable for age groups 8-12 and 12-14.

NATIONAL LEGION OF DECENCY: Committee of the International Federation of Catholic Alumni reviews pictures and publishes its moral classifications for guidance of members of the Legion—composed of members of the Catholic Church who join the Legion.

THE BIG SLEEP—Objection: Suggestive dialogue and situations.

PUBLIC OPINION: The opinions of various groups:

FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS: The motion picture committee is headed by Mrs. Arctus F. Burt, Chairman, of St. Louis. Two reviewing committees are maintained—Mrs. Harry Lilly, New York, Chairman Eastern Committee; Mrs. John Suhr, Los Angeles, Chairman Western Committee.
HELP WANTED

AS&T MKG with PROJECTOR EXP. In Theatre sixty miles from N.Y. City. Good Salary. Write where employed last ten years. Box 721, c/o Showmen's Trade Review, 1501 Broadway, New York, N.Y.

NEW EQUIPMENT

IMMEDIATE DELIVERY—LARGEST 16-mm. AM-RC Projectors. High Intensity Archamp; Rectifier; 40 watt amplifier; 2 Heavy Duty Loudspeakers; screens and accessories. Recommended by M.T.C., S.O.S. Cinema Supply Corp., 449 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y.

CRYSTAL BEADED SOUNDSCREENS, 49½" sq. $275.00 each, 3 for $675.00 each. Reversable, 48½" sq., $375.00 each, 3 for $990.00 each. Blanking material 75½" sq.; Small Theatre Stage Sets $55.00; General Electric 6 amp. Tungars, $2.95; Automatic Colorheads with 600W spotlights, $22.25; Snaplite Series II coated lenses, $73.00; Flashlight Batteries, 5' Dimm-2450W, $22.50; 2000W, $19.95; 1650W, $15.95; 1350W, $13.50. Write for Full Catalog. S.O.S. Cinema Supply Corp., 449 W. 42nd St., New York, N.Y.

COMPARABLE AND SAVE! 15 amper rectifier bulbs $5.95; Photofax, first quality, $3.95; SuperTite screens 37½ sq ft coated; Glasses systematically in stock. Catalog available. S.O.S. Cinema Supply Corp., 449 W. 45th Street, New York, N.Y.

POP CORN MACHINE

POPCORN POPPER. The nation's headquarters for best popping equipment. Definite, early shipments on "Super Star" Popper, Warmen, Wholesale Poppers, Concessionaire Service and parts all made, Blevins Popcorn Co., Kansas City, Mo.

SITUATION WANTED

VETERAN with FIVE YEARS' CIVILIAN THEATRE EXPERIENCE desires on-the-job management with large theatre in South Florida. Now employed small theatre. D. A. Lockey, Box 42, Oteen, N. C.

SOUND EQUIPMENT

IMMEDIATE DELIVERY LATEST 1947 SOUND-HEADS at 1942 prices — Standard drum type, $91,000; Switch-n-dial, $155,000; Direct-drive Rotary Statibeam, $285.50; NEW 1947 Theatre Amplifiers, 17 watt, $65.00; 30 watt $125.00; Plenty under $100.00. Single or Complete 16mm Projectors, $125.00 up; New Zeon Elko 35-mm. Portable Sound Projectors, $275.00; S.O.S. Cinema Supply Corp., 449 W. 42nd St., New York, N.Y.

27'1 Kitty Korrered — All Right 7/27/46
24'0 You Say You Think You Can 7/24/46

SPORTS PARADE

20'0 Film 'N Fanatasies — Excellent 7/27/46
21'0 Riding Home Trends — Excellent 7/27/46
20'0 Let's Go Gambling — Excellent 10/11/46
21'0 Secrets Go to War — Excellent 10/10/46
20'0 A View From Above — Excellent 10/16/46
23'1 Michigan Ski-Daddles — Excellent 10/16/46
20'0 Snow Eagles — Excellent 10/16/46
24'0 With Red and Green in Canada — Excellent 4/6/46

TECHNICAL SPECIALS

21'0 Fashions for Tomorrow — Excellent 10/15/46
20'0 All Around — Excellent 10/4/46
20'0 Facing Yesteryear — Excellent 10/4/46
20'0 Girls and Powers — Excellent 10/4/46
20'0 Where's the Groom — Excellent 10/4/46

TECHNICAL SPECIALS (SH) 11/13/46
20'0 Pinch the Pacifier — Excellent 10/4/46
20'0 A View From Above — Excellent 10/16/46
20'0 Not About the Girl — Excellent 10/4/46

HIGHEST PRICES PAID FOR SIMPLIFIED, POWERS, SPAH production films in wide-screen, wide perforation formats, including certain Star Cinema Supply Co., 449 West 45th Street, New York 19, N.Y.

USED EQUIPMENT

PAIR REBUILT POWERS 6 B Projectors with Sound Heads—$300.00; Fair Reflector Arc Lamps with Automatic Feed—$100.00; Fair Gen. Elec. Mada Equipment—Complete Ready to Use—$60.00; Pair New 30 Amp. Rectifiers—$180.00. P. Sabo, 916 N. 19th Ave., Portland 9, Oregon.

SIMPLEX MACHINES REBUILT, $110.00; Powers, rebuilt, remanufactured $109.00; Liberal Supplies; Simplex intermittents, good, $4.95; Chairs priced right—Antique are legion, not too many on hand. Thousand bargains. Write for catalog. Star Cinema Supply Corp., 440 W. 45th St., New York 19, N.Y.

SIMPLEX PEDESTAL TILTING Devices, $6.00; Easy Roller Statibeam, $10.00; Projectors—Booth Fire Shooters, 8", $7.00; 12", $10.00; 20", $20.00; Good 20" Printers, $15.00; New Ortinghouse 25", $85.00; Ticket Machines hand operated, Three Units, $15.00; Four Unit, $195.00; Beautiful Box of lights—3 lights by 4" Square—$95.00; Dated for Full Catalog. S.O.S. Cinema Supply Corp., 449 W. 42nd St., New York 18, N. Y.

REPLACE YOUR OLD BOOTH EQUIPMENT—Entire Complete Theatre outfit ready for installation guaranteed almost new. Dual Holmes with L. I. arc, standard amplification, $285.00; with De-Luxe multiplex speakers, $1695.00; De-Vry Navy type outfits with H. I. arc, for large theatres, finest sound obtainable, workman—$500.00. Special $249.00. S.O.S. Cinema Supply Corp., 449 West 42nd St., New York 18, N.Y.


WANTED TO BUY

WHY SHOULD I PAY TOTALLY—WHAT YOU GOT? Box 720, Showmen's Trade Review, 1501 Broadway, New York, N.Y.
THE SYMBOL OF A SERVICE
THEATRE BUYERS DEPEND UPON

Showmen's Trade Review Feature and Short Subjects Booking Guides are Published COMPLETE Every Week
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Vol. 45 No. 9

SEPTEMBER 14, 1946

Entered as second class matter February 20, 1940, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Published weekly by Showmen's Trade Review, Inc., 1501 Broadway, New York 19, N. Y., U. S. A. 10 cents a copy, $2 a year.

CHARLES E. 'CHICK' LEWIS
Editor and Publisher

In This Issue
THE MOTION PICTURE THEATRE Equipment & Maintenance

(Begins Opposite Page 34)
HOLIDAY!
HOLIDAY!
HOLIDAY!
HOLIDAY!
HOLIDAY!
HOLIDAY!

ALL-TIME HIGH
AT CAPITOL, N. Y.
AND ALL-TIME HIGH
IN 4 LOS ANGELES
THEATRES (Day & Date)

IT'S MAGNIFICO!  IT'S TERRIFICO!  IT'S M-G-M!
All Steak—No Potatoes

It is disquieting to theatremen to note the trend of several companies which formerly specialized in low and medium-budget pictures towards “class” production in the million dollar category. Of course, the companies doing so claim that the move is necessary in the face of conditions generally and particularly in the face of the in-coming single-picture selling; or they claim they merely are expanding into the better brand of product as a natural development.

However convincing the theory may seem in oral or printed statement, the fact remains that a large segment of theatres will be left without the product they can use and have bought in the past—to the profit and progress of these very companies.

These same theatres face the necessity of playing whatever low-budget product they can obtain, irrespective of its quality, or going out of business.

They'll go out of business eventually anyway if they are forced to play whatever junk happens to be within their reach of their budget.

These are important theatres for this industry as a whole (there's many a steady patron of the de luxe first runs who learned to love movies in them), and very important indeed for the producers who have built their studio organizations to a pattern which makes them far more efficient at turning out the modest-budgeted pictures than even the biggest of the big studios which excel in “class” pictures because that's the way they are geared to operate.

What disturbs many of the smaller exhibitors is the fear that these companies which formerly supplied lower-cost, down-to-earth pictures, will increasingly get into the “big” pictures only, thus drying up a supply source which is needed by these exhibitors.

The argument that under present conditions there is a chance only for the producer of the “big” picture, does not hold water unless you can prove that all moviegoers in all parts of the world have the same tastes and wish the same kind of entertainment when they are in a home-town or neighborhood theatre as when they are in a Radio City Music Hall, or a Roxy or a Paramount on the main stems of New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, or any other metropolis you want to name. And if you can prove that, you'll have one hell of a job, we think, explaining how some loads of pictures that made big money around the country were horrible box-office flops in the big de luxe runs.

We would find it cheering indeed, were we to hear or read that the top executives of some of these companies were determined to continue to supply the field with lower-cost product.

Constructive

Charlie Schlaifer, advertising-publicity-exploitation head man for 20th-Fox, recently announced something new in conventions. He will assemble in New York on October 15th the company's entire publicity-advertising-exploitation personnel for an exchange of ideas and experiences and the formulation of specific plans for more efficient, more aggressive selling of the 20th-Fox pictures through every avenue of approach to the public's interest.

Top executives of the company will address the meeting and participate in certain sessions. Harry Brand and several of his assistants at the studio will be present to work on and with the planned co-ordinated effort of the home offices, field and studio show-selling forces.

STR applauds this revolutionary meeting because it is based on a sound and excellent principle of planned effort for bigger, better showmanship.

Opportunity Knocks

There is a grand opportunity for National Allied to do a real service to this industry at the national convention in Boston next week. This is a time for clear thinking, constructive program of action, and a spirit of cooperation. Allied, according to all reports, will have a very large attendance of exhibitors.

There is a spirit of earnestness abroad in exhibitor ranks. The exhibitors are looking for constructive policies of action to protect their rights and their properties.

We believe all members of the industry are interested in seeing Allied live up to the opportunity for the organization to attain its greatest prestige and importance, and we join in wishing Allied, its leaders and membership, the very best of success and achievement in this very important convention.

"CHICK" LEWIS
**Charge Fraud in New Castle**

Five suits charging fraud in connection with returns on percentage pictures were filed in the United States district court for the western district of Pennsylvania at Pittsburgh Monday as 20th Century-Fox, United Artists and Warner Bros. Each extended separate suits against David Victor of the Victor Theatre, and Columbia and Universal entered separate suits against Speer Marcus of the Regent Theatre. Both houses are at New Castle, Pa.

Each of the suits charges the exhibitor defendants with operation of a plan to defraud the plaintiff distributors by submitting false statements of admissions receipts on picture tickets in order to gain the distributors' receipt smaller license fees than were due or to grant lower terms on subsequent pictures.

The complaints state the defendants refused permission to the plaintiff's attorneys to inspect records and ask actual and punitive damages as well as an injunction against destruction of records.

**Johnston Yanks 'Outlaw' Seal; Hughes Flies to New York**

Flying his own plane, Howard Hughes arrived in New York Wednesday with the intention of mapping a further fight against the Motion Picture Association of America which this year terminated its production code approval seal from "The Outlaw" after several months' litigation and bickering.

This was Hughes' first flight since he was seriously injured when a plane he was testing crashed on July 7. The producer-aviator piloted his own B-25 from California with one stop.

Confirming the report that it had finally removed its seal from "The Outlaw" because Hughes persisted in unapproved advertising, the MPAA emphasized that its action was taken to dissociate the organization from any connection with the picture and would not boycott the picture from any MPAA-affiliated theatres.

However earlier in the week Loew's in Washington reportedly held up playing the picture and a Loew's spokesman in New York said: "We've practically finished with the picture in most spots. What we'll do in one or two spots I don't know. We haven't decided what we want to do in Washington yet."

The MPAA said:

"We have notified the Loew's office when they inquired about the matter. It (the removal of the seal) will not penalize them."

Asked if Hughes were still a member of the MPAA, a spokesman from that office said:

"I think he can be regarded as out of the Association now." (Hughes originally had resigned but the resignation was not accepted because of time requirements in the MPAA bylaws; a move to expel him was halted when he was injured.)

Hughes filed suit against the MPAA to prevent the seal removal after the association was taking action against him for advertising which it considered in bad taste (too much Russell exposure, with prone positions and the tag line "How would you like to tussle with Russell?"). He lost all rounds to date, though the MPAA was blocked from removing the seal during several phases of the various court battles, and "The Outlaw" was able to play the country with sensational box-office results.

**May Probe Child Labor As Boy Projectorist Dies**

The death of a 15-year-old hero in a motion picture booth fire at Baldwin, La., may lead to an investigation of the use of child labor as projectionists in certain sections of the south.

That anyway seems to be the opinion of New Orleans film row, still aghast over the fate of Joseph Shea, who was burned to death as he blocked himself in his own projection booth and fought to extinguish the blaze.

Shea, whom attending physicians said died of "burns received and fumes inhaled," lingered for hours after he had fought the fire with an extinguisher. Attendants near him before he died, quoted him as saying:

"I was thinking of the children down in the audience. I thought my kid sister might have been down there."

Reports about the fire and its origin conflict. Apparently the projection booth door was open when the fire broke out and Shea slammed it shut, cutting himself off while he fought the fire.

Shea's death highlights a situation which, frequently bad in certain sections of the south, grew worse when the war made manpower scarce.

**School Days Sock Shows But Grosses Still Good**

School days socked the country's box-offices their annual blows this week, which probably accounts for the small percentage of holdovers reported nationally, despite the fact that business was above the same level of previous years at this same time.

Every year exhibitors feel the pinch of the school vacation weeks of school closings, and in order to gain the distribution's tolerating show time of both parents and children and with the additional outlay needed to reequip the students with clothing and other necessities cutting into that part of the family budget which would ordinarily be spent on amusements.

RKO reported a series of extended runs with "Till the End of Time" doing three weeks at Salt Lake City, entering its ninth at the Rivoli in New York, taking a 15 day run in Providence, R. I., two weeks at the Minneapolis Orpheum and three weeks in both St. Paul and Boston.

The same company's "The King from Brooklyn" is closing out after 20 weeks at the Astor in New York, four weeks at the Chicago Woods as well as St. Louis and Cincinnati, five weeks in Atlanta, one month in Salt Lake City, three weeks at the Columbus, Ohio, Strand, and holdovers in New Haven, Waterbury, Tacoma, Bridgeport, Toledo, Memphis, Dallas and Quebec.

"Tomorrow is Forever" did three weeks in Birmingham, a usual one week town, while "Bad Man's Territory" played at the new opening in Denver and the old opening in Seattle as well as the Phoenix, Ariz., Fox.

In New York Paramount claimed a record for "Monsieur Beaucaire," exceeded by only two other pictures, one of them being "Road to Utopia," while Universal's "The Killers," entering a third week at the Winter Garden with an all night show policy, was an asserted record breaker. Universal is also chalking up national records with "Canyon Passage," which does its third week at the Spokane Grand and the Boston Boston, a second week at the Alton Strand and the Oakland, Calif., T. & D., and the Little Rock, Ark., Pulsaski, (usually a one week house) as well as the Houston Majestic, the Dayton, Ohio, Colonial and the Detroit Adams. In St. Louis it moved for a second week from the Missouri to the Fox St. Louis. The same company's "Time of Their Lives" is entering a second week at the Atlantic City Hollywood.

United Artists reports "Mr. Ace" moved from the Baltimore Century to the Valencia, from the Syracuse State to the Strand and from Be the Toledo Enquirer to the Valencia, while "Casanova and Cleopatra" broke the New York Astor's opening records and went into a fifth week at the New York Astor.

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**Streke Threatens Blackout**

Pittsburgh theatres were threatened with literal darkness this week when the employees of the Duquesne Light Co. voted to go out on strike. Only a five-day preliminary injunction saved the city from a total blackout. The crisis is not yet past. Three downtown and eleven suburban houses have had emergency power units installed so they can operate in case the strike becomes effective.
Backlog Cushions Trust Trial Ruling—Zanuck

The backlog of finished product now in producers' vaults will serve as a cushion against any shock that may result on film making as a result of the New York anti-trust trial calling for "auction" selling. Darryl F. Zanuck, 20th-Fox vice-president in charge of production, said in New York this week.

The producer, who visited the company's home offices for conferences concerning premieres for "The Razor's Edge," said that for the next couple of years—for until experience shows that things may be done differently—there will be "slightly" fewer pictures made by each company. Moreover, his company at least, will make it a definite policy to produce pictures having only "top quality" values as to story material, talent, casts and production. Lower-cost production, of the type that was made in the past under a system of an over-all annual budget for a studio, will not be attempted by 20th, Mr. Zanuck said. Nor should each picture must stand on its own when it reaches the market and must measure up to that situation, insofar as concerns good judgment in story selection, production, casting and show values on the part of the studio, he said.

The picture which brought Mr. Zanuck east for the home office conferences, will be nationally released next Christmas day. He favors an earlier opening for the picture in New York—where "The Razor's Edge" will play at the Roxy. The production will run about two and a half hours.

Asked if the picture would be road-showed, the producer said that he does not see how you can road-show a picture under the terms of the court decision with respect to raised prices.

Production costs have risen and still mount, according to Mr. Zanuck, until they have hit a point that he indicated he feels is fantastic but is very real nevertheless. Most of the increase, he said, is for labor under rising wage arrangements. The work stoppages experienced at the studios during the past couple of years, he declared, account for a tremendous amount of added cost to production. He said that when a picture is brought in at less than $2,500,000 now he's delighted—it's a miracle when it happens.

Mr. Zanuck indicated that 20th-Fox will continue its policy of seeking its subject material very important in the book field.

Oh, for a Second-Run!

The gag in Los Angeles now is that the smaller companies are hiring detectives to find the second-run situations. The film capital now has 31 first-run theatres, with Fox West Coast adding three more of their houses this month. Two of the WFC theatres will be exclusively Universal-International showcases, while the other will exhibit 20th-Fox.

Goldman Gets $410,000 Damages

Damages of $410,000, representing a claim of $125,000 tripled under the anti-trust acts, Wednesday were awarded William Goldman, Philadelphia exhibitor as a result of his suit brought against the major distributors on claims that he could not get product for his Erlanger Theatre. The damages cover a 14 months period in 1941 and 1942. Goldman took the Erlanger over in 1940 and in December 1942 filed suit for $3,100,000 damages charging that the defendants had refused to sell him pictures.

MGM Extends Its Auction Experiments; Day Offers Plan

MGM moved this week to extend its experiments in auction selling into other territories as it studied results from initial trials in Ambridge and Philadelphia, Penn.

The MGM decision marked a quiet week during which Columbia formulated its stand in connection to the Federal statutory court forthcoming decree and the Joseph F. Day, Inc., an auctioneering firm with real estate experience, made a bid to handle the auction selling aspects of the industry when the decree is finally handed down.

Universal and United Artists were also reported ready to present their views on what the decree should contain either late this week or some time next week, while the five competing majors were said to be ironing out their differences and would soon be ready to have a final plan for Paramount, Warner Bros., MGM, 20th Century-Fox and RKO to the court.

Murphy's Law

MGM is remaining mum on what the results of its experiments so far indicate, taking the position that each attempt at an auction sale is just an experiment and that no experience gained from all the trials will form a basis for future action.

So far the Ambridge deal appears to show that certain interests which are using the majors are not in the loop while in Philadelphia, where "Holiday in Mexico" is being offered, William Goldman seems to have outbid the Warner circuit. MGM is not revealing the amounts bid, nor will it say where future experiments are being conducted.

Columbia seems definitely committed to a policy of challenge. As an individual company, its attorney Lou Frohlich apparently is prepared to question the right of the court to set up auction bidding as being beyond the authority of the court. In addition he is said to be fighting on double front for the grounds that the United States Circuit Court of Appeals has found it legal. His third point of contention may be an appeal to the court to prohibit any distributor from dealing with agents for theatres. This would have the practical effect of hitting at buying combines or agents which represent several theatres.

Seek Common Ground

The majors have been moving to meet on a common ground for their version of the decree. To date their aim seems to be to get as little interference as possible on the condition and manner of auction selling. Report is that the average distributor would not like the idea or having the bids made public or of any other step which might reveal the private nature of his business.

The plan offered by an outsider is that of the Joseph P. Day company to the Department of Justice. Day, asserting his experience in auctioneers, would set up 31 branch offices in exchange centers, served by an auctioneer, who might also be a lawyer, and a recording secretary.

The exchange managers would inform these branches what pictures they had available, what runs, clearance, etc., and was qualified (Continued on Page 11)

Chicago Defendants Fight Suggested Decree; Bars Competition is Claim

Federal District Court Judge Michael Igoe Monday took under advisement suggested plans for a decree presented by both sides in Chicago's now historic Jackson Park Theatre case.

Attorneys for the distributor and exhibitor defendants — Paramount, 20th Century-Fox, Loew's for MGM, Vitagraph, RKO, Paramount, Balaban and Katz, Warner Bros. Theatres—reportedly opposed the plan which Jackson Park Theatre Attorney Thomas McConnell had previously submitted to the court (SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, August 24, p. 6).

The defendants told the court that McConnell's plan did not have any provisions creating a competitive situation but instead actually prevented competition. They further charged that it would make the court the judge of how much film rentals should be charged in Chicago theatres and what the clearance should be established. They argued against any order against double features.

In his suggested draft for the decree, McConnell had asked among other things, for a ban on double features, first runs limited to two weeks and subsequent runs to one week, where they affected the Jackson Park Theatre.

The defendants also presented their version of what Judge Igoe's decree should contain which provided for auction selling of pictures, elimination of price fixing on admission between distributors and exhibitors, establishment of reasonable clearance and elimination of chain buying power.

The injunction phase of the Jackson Park phase is separate from a damage suit which asks for $600,000 damages in addition to the $300,000 which the defendants have already been ordered to pay.
RKO's "NO CRACKS"

ALL-TIME

3rd WEEK biggest with
2nd WEEK bigger than
1st WEEK broke all norm
TORIOUS MUSIC HALL RECORD!

Week on record—bar none!

than the first!

-holiday-week records!
Allied Strength Mobilizes in Boston for First Post War Meet

Allied’s gathering strength in Boston this week indicated that its first postwar convention which opens Monday Sept. 16 at the Copley Plaza and runs through Sept. 18, will be that organization’s most important from a viewpoint of attendance and may be its most important from a viewpoint of results when the problems which face the assembly are considered.

For the organization is making a definite bid for expanded membership as well as for the cooperation of independent exhibitors who are not affiliated with it and returns from the latter show that an important group will be there to take part in the open forum on the anti-trust statutory court opinion scheduled for all day Wednesday.

In addition, Allied itself has to determine officially the course it will take on the proposed decree and decide whether its members will foster additional motion picture production by agreeing to furnish a specified amount of playing time to a series of 12 productions made especially for Allied members.

This question of production came up at the Allied Board meeting in Chicago in May when it was decided to study the matter. A report on the question is thought due at the convention.

Queried as to what he thought of the plan to enter production through a guarantee of playing time, Allied Convention General Chairman Nathan Yamins lashed at the shortage of existing product and said that any relief in that direction which came from good pictures would benefit exhibitors. Yamins’ views, though personal, may indicate a trend of thought.

“It is my opinion,” he said, “as it is that of every other exhibitor I am sure, that any method of increasing the supply of pictures would help matters greatly.

“Every picture company is so cut down at present that it is ridiculous. Paramount from 60 to 20 for example, Fox from 50 to 20 and so on down the line.

“There is a terrific shortage of pictures and any price they can command is now received for some pretty terrible pictures. We want to correct all that and we believe it can be done and must be done to save the industry.

“Even the addition of 12 good pictures a year would help to alleviate the terrible condition we now face. . . . Any increase in product will make the life of the independent exhibitor more livable and more pleasant and will help the industry.”

Among the non-Allied affiliated exhibitors whom Yamins said would attend are officials of the Ralph Snider Circuit, the Gordon-Lockwood Circuit, the Independent Theatres, Inc., E. M. Loew, Inc., the Stoneman Circuit and the Morse-Rothenberg Circuit.

Yamins estimated the reservations as set for more than $30.

The three day program follows:

Sept. 16: Convention registration. Business session, 1 to 5 P. M. Dinner and night club party at the Bradford Roof Garden in the evening.

Sept. 17: Harbor sail or golf, 9:30 A. M. Business session, 1 to 5 P. M. New England shore dinner at North Schuette, 6 P. M.

Sept. 18: Exhibitors’ forum on the anti-trust suit, 10 A. M. to 5 P. M. Cocktail party, 6:30 P. M. Annual banquet, with George Jessel as emcee and Eric Johnston, speaker, 7:30 P. M.

Higher Admissions Needed

Kirsch Tells III. Allied

Subsequent run admissions in the Chicago area are too low for the three hours entertainment offered, Allied National President Jack Kirsch told Allied of Illinois last week in Chicago.

Kirsch pointed to what he termed the constantly soaring costs facing the theatre owners and said the admissions would have to be higher if the exhibitor is to make both ends meet.

The Allied president also reported on the latest development of the New York federal statutory court case. He said that block booking after trade showing with the privilege of cancellation on films which the exhibitor deemed poor box-office attractions would be acceptable.

Kirsch added that there was nothing in the present court opinion to prohibit such block booking and urged exhibitors not to get panicky but to abide fully by whatever the court rules.

The consensus of exhibitor opinion was against auction selling. The number of percentage pictures now being offered at what they termed too high rentals for subsequent runs was also criticized.

Approximately 143 theatres were represented at the meeting.

Convention Set for Oct. 14-15

The mid-year convention of the Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa and Nebraska will be held in Des Moines Oct. 14 and 15 with national Allied President Jack Kirsch scheduled as a speaker. Affiliation with the American Theatres Association also comes up for a vote at this time, Chairman Leo Wolcott said.

Maine Tax KO Likely

Maine this week appeared to have rejected a five per cent amusement admission tax.
Canadian Exhibitors To Fight 'Popcorn' Percentage

Canada’s theatremen, including leading circuit executives, this week moved to present a united front against “infringement percentages” and other new terms put into film contracts by the Canadian Motion Picture Distributors’ Association for the 1946-47 licenses.

According to the exhibitor, the new terms, inserted without consulting them, would reduce the exhibitor’s end of the revenue on percentage pictures, would give the distributor a percentage of the theatre’s real estate profits and return on supplementary advertising (such as programs, screen advertising) as well as on popcorn and candy concessions.

The exhibitors deny the distributors have a right to share in the proceeds of any revenue other than that accruing from the sale of admission tickets.

Speaker for Canadian theatre operators in the new issue, "strike," N. A. Taylor, president of 20th Century Theatres, Toronto, declared the distributors, as a business group, had no right to change a standard contract without consulting those affected. Taylor, who was made chairman of a protest committee, called the move a "brazen grab-all" and termed it a "high-handed action," saying the distributor had no claim on the candy, popcorn and other revenue of a theatre.

"What possible concern," he asked, "can the distributor have with the real estate operations of an exhibitor?" . . . The distributor is amply protected by the present clause and exhibitors of every rank will be united in opposing the assumption of undervalued powers on the part of the distributors.

Developments so far have been the adoption of a strongly-worded resolution by the board of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario; similar action by the Quebec Allied Theatrical Industries; enactment of independent exhibitors and of a committee, comprising representatives of circuits and independents, to dispute the new film-rental contract.

Premieres That Pay Off

The showmanship value of "world premiere" is an important pictures were summed up by Darryl F. Zanuck, 20th-Fox production chief, during a trade press interview in New York this week as follows:

"New York is the toughest test for a picture’s artistic and audience value, and a picture having real quality benefits throughout the nation by reason of favorable reaction and box-office success at a New York theatre.

"Special" premiers put on in cities or localities associated with the individual picture by reason of story locale, author, etc., are good for generating colorful publicity for the picture.

Hollywood has lost all value as the scene of a premiere because the rest of the industry have assumed that anything spec-

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Dive into the fascinating world of film with our comprehensive research on the latest trends and developments in the industry. Our analysis covers the most important stories of the week, providing insights into the strategies of key players and the impact of emerging technologies. In this issue, we delve into the Canadian theatre operators' response to the "infringement percentages" introduced by the distributors, offering a fresh perspective on the evolving landscape of the industry.

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**Divorce Gains**

Latest available returns on the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America poll, conducted to sound exhibitor opinion on phases of the federal statutory court opinion, ran in accordance with past reports this week, as the trend continued to show a mounting support of theatre divorcement.

The returns, to date, follow, To: On auction bidding—18 for, 188 against. Arbitration of "bids, clearances runs" 50 for, 147 against. Use of non-industry arbitrator—32 for, 171 against. Theatre divorcement—130 for, 75 against. The poll, which closes Sept. 15, covers to date the opinion of exhibitors owning 581 theatres in 43 states.

**Full Gov’t Control Next Step Warns Brooking**

Complete government control of the film industry insofar as distribution and exhibition is concerned was forecast at Omaha Monday by Howard Brookings of Avoca, Iowa, new president of the Allied Independent Theatres Owners of Iowa and Nebraska.

Addressing a convention of the organization which was marked by one of the largest exhibitor assemblages in the history of the two states, Brookings told exhibitors they had neg- lected to "clean house" and now are faced with a federal decision "throwing out nearly all our existing methods and those practices which label them "illegal, monopolistic and collusive."

"The next step," he warned, "is out and out 100 per cent government control. We must avoid any further meddling in our affairs at all costs."

Brookings’ speech was but one of several spirited addresses which minced no words on controversial matters.

Ben Berger of Minneapolis, president of North Central Allied Theatres, called upon exhibitors to battle what he termed an un-American system of sales imposed upon the exhibitor by the distributor.

"I don’t believe," he said, "in having to sell peanuts and popcorn to make enough money to exist. The present (type of) contract is wrong and is a violation of the Sherman antitrust act."

The Iowa-Nebroaska Allied unit passed a resolution calling upon all checking services to provide the theatres they checked with a complete copy of the reports they made.

The unit also resolved to oppose any regulation of the theatre business “now being foisted upon us without first giving us a chance to be heard.” This covered the proposed auction selling of pictures, clearance and general trade practices.

Other speakers who addressed the assembly were: Harold Field of Minneapolis, head of Pioneer Theatres; Leo F. Wolcott, Eldora, Iowa, board chairman for the Iowa-Nebroaska Allied; and Eugene N. Blazer, Omaha attorney.

**Veteran Exhibitor Dies**

Oliver A. Kitchel, who operated the Princess Theatre, Jeannette, Pa. for the past 35 years, died last week at his home in Jeannette.

**Ga. Supreme Court Kills 'Scarlet' Protection**

Georgia’s State Supreme Court last Saturday threw the "Scarlet Street" case into the arena again when it ruled that Fulton County Superior Court Judge Bond Almond had erred in allowing the picture to be shown in Atlanta over the protests of the city council.

The Supreme Court held that the injunction Judge Almond granted Universal Film Ex-

**Would Fireproof Fixtures**

That furnishings in hotels, motion picture theatres and other public places should be fireproofed was the recommendation made by the June term of the St. Louis grand jury to Circuit Judge David J. Murphy. The jurors also recommended the appointment of 25 additional fire inspectors and urged that the city fire marshall be given greater authority to eliminate fire hazards.

**It Ain’t Democratic**

Kissing might mean a lot to the folks doing it but it doesn’t necessarily mean democracy.

Take the word of the Japanese news agency Asahi for that. Asahi, commenting on the practice of kissing which seems to have been doing a bit of spreading on stage and screen, says:

"Such kissing by Japanese on the stage and screen is repugnant and shameful." The new agency says, indicating that the practice in private is OK, and adding that osculation has nothing to do with democracy.
PICTURE PEOPLE

Paramount's Executive Committee Chairman Stanton Griffis is being talked of as a possibility for the Democratic nomination for Senator from Connecticut, if you listen to political talk. The question will soon be answered.

Film Classic's Vice-President and General Manager Nicky Goldhammer told the press this week that the eastern sales manager's job, which became open when Irving Wormser left to join another outfit, has been split up. Jules K. Chapman, assistant general manager will take over Pittsburgh, Indianapolis, Oklahoma City, New Orleans, Atlanta, Dallas, Memphis, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Detroit and Charlotte. Seymour Schussels, who heads the New York exchange for the firm will take over New York, Buffalo, Philadelphia, Washington and Boston.

Commentatore Ferrucio Caramelli, chairman of the United Artists Italian outlet whose title sounds like an operatic aria arrived in New York this week for conference with United Artist Foreign Manager Walter Gould.

 Paramount's South African Representative Clay V. Hake is in New York after a trip from Johannesburg by way of London. Another Paramounter in Gotham town is Tony C. Reddin, director of Paramount Theatres in Great Britain who also took in the coast on his stateside trip.

SHOWMEN'S SILHOUETTES by Dick Kirschbaum

Vincent R. McFaul

President and General Manager
Buffalo Theatres Inc. operating 13 houses in New York State

This is real relaxation after a tough day's work!

Mary Renault's "Return to Night," won the $200,000 M-G-M novel prize in that company's third annual prize novel contest. William Morrow will publish the book in fall. Previous winners were "Green Dolphin Street" and "Before the Sun Goes Down."

Wesley Ruggles, producer of "London Town," accompanied by Mrs. Ruggles and Film Editor Sid Stone arrived stateside this week to stage the first "international sneak preview program."

Due in New York before moving on to London is Warner Bros. International President Max Milder, who had been visiting the coast studios.

Universal International's travelers for the week include Joseph H. Seidelman, President of "U" International, who arrived in New York from the Coast, "U" International Mexican manager Jack Epstein, and Argentinian, Uruguayan and Paraguay manager Monroe Izen, as well as Egyptian Manager Andre Salib, all of whom are due in New York.

J. Arthur Rank has been elected Chairman of Alliance Productions, new outfit to produce pictures in England jointly with RKO. First will be "So Well Remembered." Robert S. Wolff is managing director.

Dee Lowrance, who gids the fly for MGM has an impressionistic piece in the Oct. 1 Vogue dealing with Block Island.

RKO Executive Vice-President Ned Depinet is off to London on a tour of inspection which will take him to the Denham Studios, and later to France where he will visit Pathé Cinema Studios to watch Rene Clair's "Golden Silence." RKO incidentally is to hold its first South American convention at the Hotel Alvear at Buenos Aires Sept. 23-26 with Latin-American Supervisor Jack Osserman as chairman.

PRC Foreign Sales Manager S. L. Seideman is home again after spending six weeks in England and continental Europe. He had hoped to get back for the convention but the flying weather was bad.

Victor Jurgen, who turned the cameras on March of Time's "Japan," "The Argentine Question," "Australia at War," "Back Door to Tokyo," and flew the Hump with the Air Transport Command to make scenes of that outfit's epic flights, this week was appointed a director in the New York office. His first directorial assignment was announced. He recently covered the Bikini atom bomb.

MGM to Make Records

MGM this week announced that it had entered the phonograph recording business to manufacture recordings of popular recordings with MGM stars as well as other artists. The record, according to President Nicholas M. Schenck, will be pressed in a former General Electric Plant at Bloomfield, N. J., purchased for approximately $1,000,000. Distribution of the product will be principally through Zenith outlets.

Bat Man Fights

They tell of an exhibitor at Knoxville who was showing two horror pictures at a Saturday midnight performance. Suddenly there were shrieks from the projection booth. The audience shivered and the manager came on the run. He discovered that the operator was engaged in a duel with a live bat.
It takes a big theme to make a picture.
Rosalind Russell, Alexander Knox

"Sister"

Untold millions are waiting to see it!
Never, never, never has the screen known greater, deeper, more certain power to stir the heart than is in this TRUE STORY of the woman who turned her back on all that MOST women hold dear—love, family, home—to write in thrilling deeds one of the most glorious chapters in all human history.

Kenny

WITH DEAN JAGGER • PHILIP MERIVALE • BEULAH BONDI • CHARLES DINGLE

Produced and Directed by DUDLEY NICHOLS • Screen Play by DUDLEY NICHOLS, ALEXANDER KNOX and MARY McCARTHY
RKO is backing "Sister Kenny" with one of the most extensive and far-reaching magazine campaigns ever given a motion picture! Full-page and full-color ads reaching not only regular prospective customers, but also going after those bonus millions who never come out except for the exceptional movie event! Think of it, ads in more than

**100,000,000 COPIES* OF NATIONAL MAGAZINES!**

**The Big Weeklies**
- Life (3 insertions)
- Saturday Evening Post (3 insertions)
- Look (3 insertions)
- Time (3 insertions)
- Collier's (3 insertions)
- Newsweek
- Liberty
- New Yorker

**The Big Monthlies**
- American
- Ladies' Home Journal
- McCall's
- Woman's Home Companion (3 insertions)
- Good Housekeeping
- Woman's Day
- Household Magazine
- Everybody's
- Family Circle
- Parent's Magazine

**The Big Farm Magazines**
- Country Gentleman
- General Federation Clubwoman

**The Big Newspaper Supplement**
- AMERICAN WEEKLY
- appearing in the following newspapers:
  - Los Angeles Examiner
  - San Francisco Examiner
  - Washington Times-Herald
  - Miami Herald
  - Atlanta Journal
  - Chicago Herald-American
  - Baltimore American
  - Boston Sunday Advertiser
  - Detroit Times
  - Albany Times-Union
  - Buffalo Courier-Express
  - N. Y. Journal-American
  - Syracuse Herald-American
  - Cleveland Plain Dealer
  - Portland Oregonian
  - Philadelphia Record
  - Pittsburgh Sun-Telegraph
  - San Antonio Light
  - Seattle Post-Intelligencer
  - Milwaukee Sentinel

**The Big Specials**
- Motion Picture
- Movie Story
- Movie Show
- Screenland
- Silver Screen
- Movie Life
- Movie Stars Parade
- Modern Film
- Modern Screen
- Movieland
- Photoplay
- Screen Guide
- Screen Romances
- Screen Stars

(*104,436,793 to be exact!)*
Extend Auctioning; Day Offers Plan

(Continued from Page 5)

to bid therein, as well as the minimum terms. The Day plan would keep the auction down to one or two days and would be split into five steps.

The first step would be the notification of the exchange manager to the auctioneer of what he has. The second would be a fixing of day, date and hour for the auction by the auctioneer. The third would be notification to exhibitors "qualified" to buy. The fourth would call for action on the bids by exchange managers within a specified number of days and the fifth would be notification of the results to their interested parties.

Under the Day plan the exchanges would pay the cost of the auction branches and would be billed monthly on a scale of charges for six classes of pictures, four of which would be for features, one for news and one for shorts. All notification plans to exhibitors would be by regular mail. The plan confines the auctions to the bidders "qualified" to bid and presumably the bidding will be attended only "by interested and qualified parties." Those who do not come under this classification presumably will be barred.

The letter offering the service to the consideration of the Justice Department assumes that any such plan to exclude the "undesirable bidder," leaving the questions of "whether or not the prices"... "are adequate for consideration.

School Days Sock Shows But Grosses Still Good

(Continued from Page 4)

the Chicago Grand the San Francisco United Artists, and a third week in the four Los Angeles Music Halls.

RKO's "Notorious" continues to be the big thing in the New York Radio City Music Hall, where another "all-time" gross is claimed. It has entered the fourth big week at the Hill-street Palace in Los Angeles, where it is playing day and date as well as the Palace, Cleveland and the Stanley, Atlantic City. The Cincinnati Orpheum has booked it for a third week, as also have the following: Denver Orpheum, San Francisco's Golden Gate, Des Moines Orpheum, Philadelphia Stanley, Buffalo Century, Waterloo Orpheum, Milwaukee Riverside and Stamford Palace.

The picture is a holdover in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, the Columbus Palace, the Davenport Orpheum, the Dayton Keith, the Trenton Lincoln and Palace, and the Sioux City Orpheum. Meanwhile the Howard Hughes money-maker, "The Outlaw" continues to set records, the latest being the Portland, Me., Empire. And entering its sixth week at the Palace State, Detroit.

Film Classics to Handle 'Crime Newsreel' Series

Film Classics this week announced that it had completed negotiations for the distribution of "The Crime Newsreel," produced by Erwin and Arthur Lesser in association with True Detective Magazine and featuring former New York Police Commissioner Lewis J. Valentine.

The deal calls for 13 issues of the reel a year to be distributed by Film Classics 29 exchanges.

MPAA Amends By-Law

The Board of Directors of the Motion Picture Association, meeting in New York Wednesday for its quarterly meeting, amended the association's by-laws so that such films can now be made subject to the condition that they do not have the effect of creating curiosity in the use of drugs or show effects or details. The change reportedly was made to clear the road for government films attacking the drug traffic, but will also permit features about the subject which hitherto has been taboo.

Bond, MPEA At Peace As Dutch Deal Is Made

The lion and the lamb had apparently dwelt together this week as the Motion Picture Export Association was admitted to the "undesirable bidder," leaving the questions of "whether or not the prices"... "are adequate for consideration.

The agreement also calls for the creation of a committee on new enterprises, which will be composed of two distributor members, of which MPEA is one. Bids are made forbidden by Dutch law, but the MPEA says, but groups of six will be sold at one time and an expected import of 100 features during 1947 is expected by MPEA members.

Nick Schenck, Back From Coast, Outlines Plans

Loew's President Nicholas M. Schenck returned to New York this week after a series of two week production conferences with Louis B. Mayer, the MGM executive and Vice-President and General Sales Manager William B. Rodgers in the Metro studios at Culver City. Bioscope Bond, semi-governmental sanctioned monopoly in the Netherlands which had been having difficulties with American producers.

Under terms of the agreement announced by the MPEA in New York Wednesday, the discrimination between Dutch and American Syndicates and the Dutch is removed when it comes to building. Loew's, International which has a site in Holland, will get a theatre permit and permits are promised to the Dutch-American Syndicate, affiliated with National Theatre Enterprises, that operates the Astor in Hague and the Luxor in Rotterdam, "should its bids," according to the MPEA release, "for one or both of these houses be accepted."

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Nick Schenck

PRC Will Single Sell 8 of Its 36 for '46-'47

Plans for profit sharing of sales based on a 52-week steady sales plan were announced last week by PRC Vice-President and assistant general sales manager Lloyd Lind.

The idea of a 52-week sales plan, Lind declared, is based on the thought that with the new form of selling necessitated by the statutory court rulings, all out sales pushes will be required throughout the year. The new plan is based around the "52" Club, Lind explained.

"We will set up for each branch office the most liberal basis we can know," Lind declared. "This will be based on the exchange's pro-rata share of negative costs, which will be added distribution, prints, advertising and overhead costs, plus a very fair margin of profit. On every cent of business obtained beyond this figure, every one in the exchange will cut in."

IATSE Organizing Front House Help in Chicago

Organization of front house employees into an IATSE affiliated union was under way this week in Chicago with Local 110 of the IATSE assisting the new union.

Approximately 30 per cent of Chicago's front house employees, which includes assistant managers but not managers, were reported signed, including two outdoor theatres. The new union, will be chartered through the IATSE but will have its own officers and management.

In New York, IATSE offices emphasized the fact that the move did not include house managers and that the national organization was abiding by the convention sound which was that it would recommend house managers to be organized under an AFL federal charter.

Roach's Daughter Dies

Elizabeth Carson Roach, 8-month old daughter of Hal Roach, died last week following an operation at home in Beverly Hills.
Has the wife started hauling the "woodies" out of the moth balls yet?
Well it won't be long now because it's only a hop, skip and jump until ear-muffled urchins begin practicing on the city pond for star billing in the Ice Capades east and Old Man Winter himself takes the spotlight to demonstrate the congealing power of the blasts from his lusty lungs. So-o-o, this is just to remind you not to wait until the frost is nipping at your proboscis before you start reading your theatre to keep the temperature in the 70's. The rush for mufflers and overshirts will soon be in full swing so unless you want to get caught with your "vents" down you better get the oil can out and make sure they can be turned up.

Of course there are some of you who have only to lay in a stock of cord wood, clean out the old stove pipe and make sure the grate works. But, the heating system of most theatres is far more complicated and requires considerable planning, inspection and "make ready" before the order to "set the thermostat at 72" is given. Whatever equipment you happen to be using to keep Jack Frost far enough away from your theatre to spare the customers a dose of chilblains and goose pimples, this is the time to begin taking a careful check of all its parts—working and stationary, inside and out—to guarantee efficient and uninterrupted operation.

Despite the fact that the war is already a year and some days behind us there is still an acute shortage of materials and a still more acute shortage of efficient trained mechanics in all professions. So open up that wilted collar, wipe the perspiration off your brow and let's take a looksee at what may be needed to get the stoves, furnaces, boilers, oil or gas heaters or what have you in order for the Boreal blasts that are certain to follow the simmer of summer.

Allocate Repairs to Respective Experts

Let me caution against the all-too-frequent practice of simply calling in the janitor or maintenance man and casually mentioning that they had better check over the heating plant. You know—or you should know—the details that should be looked into, so why not put all your instructions down on paper and keep a copy on file. Every day or so from now forward call in the men responsible and check with them as to what details have been inspected and the results of their findings. You'll have to keep after them or they will neglect matters until the last minute. If repairs or replacements are recommended look the equipment over personally and satisfy yourself as to the merit of the recommendations before marking down for future reference. When the inspection is complete you will find that you can allocate the work to respective experts and save a lot of time and money that would be wasted if you start calling for help before the inspection is complete.

I don't need to caution—or do I?—about arranging for your fuel supply early. If possible make a contract for the estimated needs for the season and arrange for delivery at intervals calculated to keep things going with a liberal reserve on hand for emergencies. If you get heat from a central heating plant this problem of supply is off your mind but you are still frontal with the need of complete detailed inspection of all units of the plant to insure against paying for BTU's that are distributed along the sidewalk, in the basement or in some other place where leaks take place. And you have to check carefully throughout the distributing plant of the theatre proper to make sure leaky pipes or fittings are not discharging steam where it will do the most harm instead of the most good.

Maybe I'm writing ABC's for the majority of my readers but for the benefit of the many neophytes who have entered the business during the war years—and just in case some of you old timers have forgotten—I'm going to outline a few of the more important requirements of thorough heating plant examination.

I presume that there is some way of testing the valves without applying the actual pressure of incoming steam but I've never been fortunate enough to come in contact with the method. I have been considerably discomfitted—and my customers more than considerably inconvenienced—when a plant that I had concluded to be in A-1 shape developed valve trouble the first time the steam was turned on. So, my recommendation is that you have all of the valves completely disassembled and the washers, gaskets, etc. replaced if they show the slightest signs of wear. And, be certain of the quality of cement used in setting the new gaskets.

Pipe connections are another potential source of worry (I mean the joints, elbows, plugs and other connecting units) and the precaution of having them looked after by professional steam-fitters may save you no end of difficulty, embarrassment and expense.

Avoid Annoying Sizzles

The radiators and all the little gimmicks that go to make them useful should be thoroughly gone over to eliminate the chance of annoying sizzles and those dribbles of hot water that stain and rot the carpets.

Inspection of the boiler and all its various assemblies is a "must" not only from a standpoint of fuel conservation and maximum efficiency but in the interest of major accident prevention and safety measures of audience protection.

I don't want to leave the impression that I'm any Mr. Knowitall on this steam heating business. I just happen to believe thatsteam is used more than any other medium for heating of theatres and have (Continued on Next Page)
Prepares Heating Plant Now, Jackson Warns

(Continued from Preceding Page)

tried to list a few preventative measures that will keep you from experiencing some of the headaches that have been mine in handling the blistering vapor.

To sum it up let me suggest that you have your own staff examine every possible detail first. Then check over the flaws found and call in the experts. When you know what is needed you are in better bargaining position and can ask suggestions as to what defects can be handled by your own staff as well as demand the best price and best service for such repairs as require the attention of the professional mechanics.

Check Insulation Units

Before going on to the furnace, stove and unit gas heating, let me suggest right here that you have a thorough check taken of the various units of insulation around the theatre. Have a look at that back door and see about the weather stripping. After all you have to pay for the heat you throw into the passages and alleys too. The windows, lobby doors, emergency exits, etc. should all be given attention and if repairs are needed take care of it at once. I don't know who said it but that remark about "What will keep out the cold will keep out the heat" comes pretty close to batting 1000 in the theatre league. And don't forget the roof. Many theatres have materially reduced their heating and cooling bills by having a layer of rock wool or other insulating material laid between the roof and attic. Remember that science and experience both prove that heat rises so take measures to see that the heat you spend money to generate doesn't get away but stays in the theatre to warm the toes of the ticket buyers.

My Ouija board tells me that circulating hot air is next in line as a dominant factor in the way of theatre heating so a few suggestions as to what measures are needed to make sure that clean hot air and not a shower of soot and accumulated dust is spread through the auditorium when the 1946 version of winter makes its bow may be in order.

A little attention to the conveyor system may save you a sizable cleaning bill for drapes, walls, fixtures and ceiling to say nothing of the wearing apparel of the patrons. A portable air compressor with the hose attached to a long pole will facilitate cleaning from opening to opening along the conveyor lines. Supplement this with a good dry mopping and a thorough washing—yes, I said washing—of the vented openings and you will have pretty good insurance so far as the house proper is concerned. The heating plant will need professional attention regardless of the type of fuel used and I'd suggest that you place your order early to be certain of getting whatever parts are needed before the Sun starts casting that icy glow. If you happen to be using gas by all means insist on the utility company giving every inch of the pipes a thorough testing before you let the dangerous stuff loose among the customers. The utility inspectors are more than willing to perform this service and orders placed now are sure to be cared for before the big rush. While you are about it have them test your meter.

Rules Still Hold Good

For stoves and furnaces the same primary rules that have been written time and time again still hold good. A well kept furnace will more than pay for the repairs made yearly by the economy of fuel consumption and the same goes for stoves. Be sure of the dampers, the inlets into the theatre and the pipes leading to the inlets. Keeping these clean will pay off both in patron comfort and in minimizing of cleaning bills for walls and ceiling. They will require attention according to

(Continued on Next Page)

THEATRE MANAGER'S NOTEBOOK

Maintenance

HEATING PLANTS 2

(From an Outline of Talks Presented to the Classes in the Willy-Kinecy School of Maintenance)

Trouble Shooting

TROUBLES IN HEATING SYSTEMS, whether steam or hot water, usually yield to simple analysis. The same is true of stokers and of automatic water feeders. The latter give little trouble under normal operation and maintenance; however, the blow-off valve at the bottom of the sediment chamber should be opened for a short period once a month to remove any dirt that has accumulated.

The following suggestions will prove helpful in running down trouble.

RADIATOR FAILS TO HEAT. 1—Hot water system: Radiator may need venting or there may not be sufficient water in the system. 2—Steam system; Radiator may be air bound, owing to improper working of air valve or trap. The faulty part should be cleaned or replaced. 3—Radiator may be filled with condensate.

Draft May Be Insufficient

BOILER FAILS TO HEAT. 1—Check pressure gauge. 2—Draft may be insufficient; chimney or smoke pipe may need cleaning or (in a new installation) the chimney may be of insufficient area or height. 3—Soot may have accumulated on heating surfaces such as boiler flues; clean them. 4—Fuel may be of poor quality or the firing insufficient. 5—Clinkers may have accumulated in the fire box, preventing proper combustion. 6—Damper action may not be properly regulated; choke damper in smoke hood may be open or intake damper closed. 7—Boiler may be syphoning.

WATER LINE UNSTEADY. 1—Grease and dirt in boiler; have it thoroughly cleaned. 2—Boiler may be working at excessive pressure. 3—Water gauge may be clogged or dirty. 4—Pressure drop between supply and return piping may be insufficient, preventing return of condensate. 5—Valve in return line may be closed. 6—Automatic water feeder may need cleaning.

WATER IN STEAM MAIN. 1—Grease and dirt in the boiler; have it cleaned. 2—Too much water in the boiler; drain it to the proper level. 3—Boiler working at excessive pressure; let fire die down till pressure returns to normal.

BOILER REQUIRES TOO FREQUENT CLEANING. 1—Insufficient draft. 2—Improper firing. 3—Excess air in fire box, chilling gases before combustion.

BOILER SMOKES THROUGH FIRE DOOR. 1—Insufficient draft due to faulty chimney. 2—Improper setting of dampers. 3—Clogged flues or dirty smoke pipe. 4—Fire smothered with coal; improper firing. 5—Air intake to boiler room closed.

PRESSURE BUILDS UP AFTER DAMPER IS CLOSED. 1—Air leakage into ash pit. Have furnace cleaned and

OVER
Check Up on the Heating Plant

(Continued from Preceding Page)
the fuel used with soft or bituminous coal necessitating the most frequent service. Checking the chimney and making sure that all flues are free of soot and extraneous accumulation of the drifted refuse that piles up during the summer months is very important. Don't forget to see that all drifed paper and other debris is cleared off the roof because the slightest spark—and there are sure to be plenty of them—is liable to bring on one of those four-alarm blazes that everybody dreads to even think about. It's not a bad idea to put the roof on a semi-weekly checkup basis since the winter winds are more capricious than the summer breezes and unless your theatre is in a very isolated location there is always the danger of accumulated waste providing fire hazard.

From Actual Experience

Let me admit again that this is no expert advice and that I know absolutely nothing about the innards of any of the various heating units. All I have set down are suggestions gained from actual experience as to where to look for trouble. I have hopes that the information provided here will keep you from experiencing the embarrassment and expense that follows neglecting the pre-season checkup.

Each of you will have to be guided by the equipment used in your individual theatres and I'm sure you'll find—from the reports of the inspection—that it would take another book far bigger than this one to enumerate the many sources from which trouble may sprout even in the simplest of theatre heating units.

Tri-States Observed 13th Year With Many Events

Tri-States Theatre Corp. of Des Moines observed its 13th anniversary year at its houses in Iowa, Nebraska and Illinois with special events being carried out in all the cities where the circuit operates. At Des Moines one of the stunts was a special deal for the first 13 couples to apply for a marriage license. Gifts and a special show were included. At Waterloo the theatres put on a special show by invitation only.

In connection with its 13th anniversary, Tri-State officials rated the following as top box-office attractions for each of the 13 years. State Fair, 1935; Dinner at Eight, 1934; Lives of a Bengal Lancer, 1935; Matiny on the Bounty, 1936; Captains Courageous, 1937; Alexander's Ragtime Band, 1938; Wizard of Oz, 1939; Rebecca, 1940; Gone with the Wind, 1941; Mrs. Miniver, 1942; For Whom the Bell Tolls, 1943; Longest Day, 1944; Going My Way and Gone with the Wind were placed at the top of the list, while Smoky and Road to Utopia are rated the best so far this year.

New Policies to Create A 'Family Atmosphere'

Marshall Stauffer, manager of the Newington Theatre, Newington, Conn., has announced improvements of theatre-community goodwill relations by introducing a number of new policies at that theatre during the past four months. The new policies, introduced to create a "family atmosphere condition," follow:

Start of a kiddie cartoon show on Saturday matinees.
Instructing employes to remember to be neat, prompt and be polite to patrons of all ages.
Instructing cashier to say "Good evening" and "Good night" to patrons.
Instructing doormen to say, "Good evening" and "Thank you."
In the theatre's vicinity, there has been no juvenile delinquency. Says the manager: "I've found that by showing respect for youngsters, they have acquired a sense of being treated like grown-ups. We treat them like 'regular fellows' and they appreciate the thoughtfulness of the theatre."

The Saturday matinee cartoon show has provided Newington mothers with more Saturday afternoon shopping time, inasmuch as door open at 12:30 for the 1 to 5 performance.—HFDF.

Cleanliness of Lobby

Your lobby, especially if it is exposed to the elements, becomes littered with dust and debris quicker than you can say "The Private Lives of Bel Ami." Have your custodian or some other member of the house staff be responsible for its cleanliness and orderliness.

(All of the foregoing comprises verbatim quotation or paraphrase of a chapter in the book issued to members of classes in the School of Maintenance of Wilby-Kinney Theatres circuit. The book was made available to Showmen's Trade Review for such quotation by the company, which is headed by R. B. Wilby and H. F. Kinney, and is recognized as one of the most progressive and efficiently operated circuits in the United States. The book, according to Mr. Wilby, was prepared not as a manual, but merely to serve members of the classes (which are conducted for managers of the circuit) as a notebook to spare those attending the classes the effort of making their own notes during the talks and demonstrations.)
Prevent Panic, Loss of Lives in Case of Fire

**Theatre Management**

**Staff Training and Drills, Theatre Inspections Will Frustrate Awful Tragedy**

"Fire! Fire!" some one yells. Instantly women scream and everybody rushes for the exits—usually toward the lobby. In the wild crush women and children are trampled and the frenzied patrons fight to get ahead of each other. What happens next can amount to little or it can become a catastrophe with hundreds of persons killed from injuries or suffocation. Not nice to think of, is it? But it has happened on a large scale both in real fires and in scares—namely the Iroquois Theatre holocaust in Chicago.

What prompts these thoughts are reports of a panic in a Philadelphia neighborhood theatre only a few days ago that could easily have taken on major proportions and certainly did not come under the head of fun for patrons and management.

There were 500 patrons in the theatre at the time of the panic—a party of three or four, including one war veteran suffering from a nervous ailment. This fellow twice tried to get up and leave the theatre, but his companions held him back. Finally he broke free and ran up the aisle. Then there followed the usual. As the Philadelphia Inquirer put it: "An instant later the aisles and exits were filled with a screaming, stampeding throng. Men, women and children barreled through the emergency exit doors and then piled about outside, asking each other what had happened.

One woman was jammed against the wall, knocked down and lost consciousness. At the hospital later it was ascertained she was suffering from a possible fractured skull. Another woman fainted and only by luck escaped serious injury.

**Impossible to Stem Rush**

Where was the staff all this time? Well, the incident came so suddenly that it evidently became impossible to stem the rush. The manager and an usherette did the best they could to halt the stampede at the lobby doors and finally called in police to help. Still, this was not quite enough. All incidents occur suddenly.

Were the manager and his staff adequately trained for such situations? Could this emergency have been conquered?

It all depends, of course, on the circumstances—what particular set of conditions obtained at the moment. Yet there are plenty of instances where such dangerous happenings have been prevented by theatre staffs. Right in the same City of Chicago last week before a real fire of large proportions destroyed a supermarket warehouse only one door removed from the Avon Theatre. The smoke, of course, spread through the neighborhood, and since the Avon was in the path of the fire itself, a panic of major proportions seemed imminent. But Manager Goldberg put up the house lights and requested the 250 patrons to leave quietly and come back when the fire was under control as he asked and most of them returned when the warehouse fire had been controlled.

There are other recent instances. The LaSalle Theatre in Chicago had a fire recently and, according to reports, the audience filed out quietly on its own initiative before any panic could develop. Not long ago the smell of burning rubber permeated the Polkin Theatre, Polk, Ill. This theatre is one of the Great States circuit, an organization that puts great store in training its staffs for emergencies. What happened was this: the operators automatically stopped the show and turned on the house lights. Ushers promptly appeared at all exits, while the audience waited quietly until the manager determined the cause for the rubber smoke. Then he told his charges (the patrons) that an electric fan in a store next door had become overheated and had caused a slight blaze and that the show would resume. Only half-a-dozen left the theatre. The local paper in reporting the affair: "The theatre staff was apparently prepared for a fire emergency."

**Prepare for Emergencies**

Of course, every theatre owner knows he should prepare for emergencies, but the trouble is that many intend to do something about it without getting down to business. That's human nature. There have been lots of rules and suggestions laid down—in fact, there have been so many that many an exhibitor and manager has given it up as a bad job. Many of the written brochures on the subject of emergencies have covered so much ground at one sitting—so to speak—that the result on the mind of the reader has been confusion. So why not break up the subject matter into a simplified breakdown, and not put it under the one general head of "fire."

We'll proceed to do that right now and try to give you a short-as-possible summary of suggestions that cover the subject of "panic," regardless of what may cause it. Here goes:

**PANIC PREVENTION RULES**

1. All panic bells and hardware on exit doors **MUST** be examined each day both by the janitor and the usher and on day nearest to each exit door.

2. Fire escape stairs and walks should be kept free of rubbish and regularly inspected to obviate any dangers in the use of same.

3. In winter, snow and ice **MUST** be removed from all exits, fire escapes and outside stairs.

4. Since darkness contributes to panic, a system should be worked out, and practiced at least once a week, whereby signals for the stopping of the show and the turning on of all house lights can be effected with the least delay.

5. Falling plaster has started more panics than fire. Therefore, and this applies particularly to theatres with hanging ceilings, regular inspections must be maintained to see that there are no cracks or sections in such ceilings which may break away and fall into the audience.

6. "Danger" spots require more care and attention than elsewhere. In classification we would place: stair wells, hand rails, carpets at aisle heads, carpets on stairs, lighting of stairs and exits, lights outside of exit doors, caution signs where there are steps on opposite sides of any doors.

7. Theatres equipped with a fire alarm box must designate someone to keep it in proper working condition. It must be kept in good repair and the fire department would be essential in any panic that may be caused by fire escape devices.

8. Fire shutters in the booth have the ugly habit of refusing to work just when they are needed and statistics prove that this is one true only where they are rarely or never tested. Your projectionist is only human and may postpone his testing of these shutters. It is your duty and responsibility to visit the booth at least once a week to see them tested and repaired if they fail to work to your entire satisfaction.

9. Since most theatre fires start in the projection booth it stands to reason that this part of the theatre must be kept in top condition. Should there be a fire the same signal system on house lights could be put into effect so that all members of the staff would be immediately informed the reason for the dark screen and the sudden putting on of the house lights.

10. A fire of minor importance in a remote part of the theatre but not known to the patrons results in smart handling by the manager and staff. Phone your alarm to your fire department cautioning them that the theatre has patrons who might be frightened by the howling of fire sirens and bells. They will cooperate because they too must avoid panic.

**A Thought on Talking**

Perhaps you can do little about it, but it's terribly distracting to the patron who wishes to enjoy the show to have a couple behind him predict the next situation or comment on the star's latest. If you don't believe this happens, view the show from among your audience at frequent intervals. There is no talking during a concert or the presentation of a stage play; why should there be at the movies?

**Deleting a Subject**

If you must cut a subject from the program to make the programme run overtime, then do it on the first show. Otherwise, if deleted later, those who entered during its performance will complain about its absence on the next show.

**Not THAT Roosevelt**

Publicity in connection with the anniversary of the Skouras Roosevelt Theatre, Roosevelt, L. I. Long Island (which was celebrated simultaneously with the 20th Anniversary of Sound), emphasized the fact that the theatre was named after Theodore, not Franklin, Roosevelt.
"A Peach Of A Technicolor Musical Mixing Gaiety, Laughs, Romance And A Hit Parade Of Songs!"
—Motion Picture Daily

"Lush, Gay, Musical Delight!
A Solid Success!"
—Film Daily

IT'S A FACT: ALL The Big-Money Technicol
Girls in Blue IN TECHNICOLOR

WALK OFF WITH* ALL THE HONORS!

Atlantic City – the greatest gross in A.C.’s greatest boxoffice year topping all peak-season highs!

PHILADELPHIA FLASH! . . . They’re Shaping New Boxoffice Figures at the Fox!

Musicals Are Made by Century-Fox
Flights Are Scheduled For Advertising Dirigible

MGM's new advertising behemoth, the Mairship, began its first regularly scheduled flights this week over Manhattan, Philadelphia and other points in the eastern states. In each of the key spots where Loew theatres dot the area, special parties were held to celebrate the event and, all in all, the first official appearances of the giant dirigible created a sensation in the advertising world.

The Mairship was scheduled to fly over Manhattan Wednesday, cover Washington Thursday, take in Philadelphia, Trenton and Wilmington Friday, and was due back over Broadway and Coney Island on Saturday in connection with the latter's Mardi Gras. On Sunday (15) the ship will visit Waterbury, New Haven, Hartford, Bridgeport and other western Connecticut towns. The first three days of next week, the ship will be back over New York, then takes a jaunt to Reading and Harrisburg. Current advertising is on "Courage of Lassie," "Captains Courageous," "Holiday in Mexico," "Three Wise Fools" and "The Yearling."

Round Table Idea to Sell Pictures in Japan

An elaboration of the Round Table idea as a supplementary device for focusing large-scale pre-release attention on American films is being planned by Charles Mayer, Japan and Korea managing director of the Motion Picture Export Association.

The basic plan is to select 30 prominent personalities well known in and around Tokyo—University professors, critics and journalists—and run a special preview screening for them. After each screening, the group will formulate and develop plans for an enlightenment campaign that will reach out into newspapers, magazines and radio.

Emphasis will be placed on an evaluation of the film and discussion of its merits as entertainment for the Japanese masses. Several members of the group will be selected each week for a Round Table discussion of the film as a supplement to the Motion Picture Hour on Radio Tokyo. Big-name endorsement and discussion of each picture and thorough coverage of all publicity media in addition to the conventional publicity and exploitation formule, are expected to give U. S. Government approved releases of MPEA member companies unparalleled advance buildup.

First pictures to receive the special treatment will be "Tales of Manhattan" and "Going My Way."

No Skunks, Please

Margaret O'Brien is in "Bad Bascam," and when that picture was booked for the Broadway Theatre, Council Bluffs, Iowa, Manager Schrimp said to himself: "Ha! Animals." So he arranged a "most unusual pet" contest, awarding the winner with a Margaret O'Brien loving cup.
Silver Jubilee Launched by Schine Theatres

An Outstanding Display of Showmanship Expected as Managers Go into Action

(See Cover)

Postponed from 1944 because of war-time conditions which, according to J. Myer Schine, would not permit the organization to "rejoice in a festive spirit that such an occasion normally afforded," the Post-War Silver Jubilee, marking 25 years of successful theatre operation, was launched this week by the Schine Circuit. The celebration extends from September 8 to October 3, with every theatre in the circuit participating in a program of activities in keeping with the importance of the event.

To formulate elaborate plans for the Silver Jubilee, the company's home office executives and men in the field were consulted for ideas through a series of seven managers' meetings which started in the home office with a convention of home office executives, zone, group and city managers. Following the convention, other managers' meetings were held in Syracuse, Rochester, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Wilmington and Albany. At these meetings plans laid out at the home office were augmented by ideas received from the field. Home office executives present at the sessions included J. Myer Schine, Louis W. Schine, heads of the circuit, Sidney Deneau, Seymour Morris, Gus Lamp, William Kraemer and Maurice Glockner.

As a result of the meetings, a campaign manual containing all of the ideas and plans to be carried out during the celebration was prepared by the publicity department under Seymour Morris' direction.

The theme of the campaign is designed to express the Schine theatres' gratitude for the generous support and cooperation extended by the patrons over the long period of time the Schine theatres have been operating.

"Our Silver Jubilee is not merely a promotion scheme," Schine pointed out, "it is a program that will cement even a greater feeling of friendship between you (the managers) and our patrons. That is our aim."

The celebration is also pointed to launch the new movie season and all plans call for continued emphasis on an unprecedented lineup of screen attractions to be released during the coming months.

One of the outstanding phases of Silver Jubilee plans is the projection of special Hollywood trailers in which various stars address Schine audiences. The governor of each state embracing Schine theatres has also been filmed in a message to Schine audiences in his state.

Special publicity matter has also been prepared for mayors' proclamations, editorials, radio and merchants' tiptops. Special packaging has also been prepared by the candy department for the sale of candy and popcorn.

In connection with a full-page cooperative ad mat, some of the circuit's alert theatremen will give away boxes of Mason Mints to patrons who write the best 25-word letter on "Why I Enjoy Attending a Schine Theatre."

A complete line of front and lobby accessories, including valences, bargeens, pennants, ushers' sashes and 40x60s, has been prepared and furnished each theatre. Local radio stations are also cooperating in many situations.

Exploitation activities include the revival of old-time movies, tiptops with jewelry stores, promotion of a birthday cake from a local bakery, hosting of couples celebrating their 25th anniversary, displays of local products in theatre lobbies, window-dressing contests with Chamber of Commerce cooperation, football rallies, square dances on theatre stages, Cinderella silver slipper contests, 4-H Club fashion shows, tiptops with gasoline stations and back-to-school parties.

Imprinted book matches have been prepared for distribution through barber shops, beauty parlors, hotels, professional men's offices and other channels.

Officials of the Schine circuit anticipate one of the most outstanding displays of showmanship in the history of the industry during the 25th anniversary celebration. As the Post-War Silver Jubilee got under way this week, there was every reason to believe that Schine managers would roll up new showmanship records.

Executives of the Schine circuit met with the men in the field to outline plans for the company's Post-War Silver Jubilee. Photos above (top to bottom) show groups convening in Albany, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Syracuse and Wilmington.
SELLING THE PICTURE

MGM Sets Nationwide Tour
For Its Equine Star, Bess

Marking the first tour of its kind since Leo the Lion and MGM trademark traveled over the country more than 15 years ago, MGM will embark on an elaborate city-to-city visit for Bess, the star of the company's Cinecolor attraction "Gallant Bess," on Sept. 14 in Lexington, Ky, where an outstanding program of activities will herald the arrival and personal appearance in the town.

Six Cities Lined Up

With six mid-eastern cities lined up as the opening gun in the nation-wide tour, the entire campaign will be preceded by a few weeks of Howard Dietz, vice-president and director of exploitation, advertising and publicity, with William R. Ferguson, exploitation head, in charge of all arrangements. The other cities to be visited in the first group set up include Huntington, W. Va., on Sept. 19; Charleston, W. Va., Sept. 20; Cincinnati, Sept. 21; Dayton, Sept. 23; and Columbus, Sept. 24.

MGM has chosen Lexington as the starting point for the tour because the Kentucky city is the acknowledged home of stables of the most famous horses in turfdom, and also to tie in with the Schine Circuit's Silver Jubilee celebration, which will get under way there on the same day. Seymour Morris, advertising and publicity head, Lou Hensler, Bob Cox, Jack Mitchell, John Hutchings, and George Pugh, all of Schine theatres, are cooperating in the joint effort.

The palatial traveling studio home for Bess is 28-feet long and is being driven by a special liveried chauffeur. The studio home has a complete display of 11x14 pin-up photos around the front, showing every built-in show. There is a built-in large screen on the MGW lot with Bess; a special ventilating system, a built-in loud speaker; a handsome feeding stall with gold painted feed buckets, dress blankets, adjustable head covers and all latest equipment and apparatus for providing the utmost comfort for the horse. No horse has had such an extensive itinerary and elaborate arrangements for a personal appearance tour, which will take in the key cities in each territory.

Horse With a Human Mind

Dubbed by those who should know as "The Horse With a Human Mind," Bess' visits in each city will be preceded by a few weeks by Howard Herty, studio advance man, who is traveling in a special car which will be properly dressed up to herald the horse's coming arrival to the city and its populace. In another advance car, which will visit the city a week ahead of Bess' entrance to the city, will be Norman Linz, special field representative. This car is equipped with a special screen and projector for the showing of a trailer depicting a brief outline of the horse's many accomplishments. A third car which will accompany the traveling studio will have in it Joe B. Atkinson, trainer of the horse, and Capt. Volney Hilter, who is in charge of the itinerary and presentation arrangements for the tour.

Arrangements have been completed for newsstands to cover the opening of the Bess tour. J. E. Watson, Cincinnati exploiter, and Harold

EQUINE INTRODUCTION. During his recent visit to the MGM Studios in Culver City, Calif., William R. Ferguson (left), MGM's advertising and publicity director, conferred with Harry Rapf, producer, on campaign plans for exploiting "Gallant Bess," and met Bess, star of the Cinecolor film.

Marshall, Indianapolis field representative, will assist on the premiere arrangements. The picture, "Gallant Bess," is slated to open at the Kentucky theatre in Lexington on Sept. 19.

Among the home office representatives attending the premieres are Helen Herty, of Missouri; J. D. Geary, of Michigan; E. F. Morrisey, of Nevada, and W. C. Burris, of Pennsylvania.

Now, Fred-

We have received a story from Hartford—story, we said. It seems Manager Fred R. Greenway of Loew's Poli-Palace came in to catch the show on opening day of "The Kid from Brooklyn." He took a vacant seat toward the rear, but when he let himself down he jumped up pronto. The attraction was a false one and had sat on a set of false teeth. The pay-off is that the theatre rated fine newspaper plugs on the angle that a patron had lost his teeth laughing at Danny Kaye's antics. It doesn't matter how old they are if they're good. If alive, we expect to see this story in 2000 A.D.—HF.

'Missing Persons' Angle
Used to Sell 'Stranger,'

The Stanley Theatre, Pittsburgh, Pa., followed unusual lines in exploiting Internation-al's "The Stranger," released by KKO Radio. In addition to cooperative newspaper ads and film plugs, a trailer was placed in the Police Department and Missing Persons Bureau. Through the latter, a half hour free radio show on Station WCAE was obtained, with a spot broadcast originating at the Missing Persons Bureau. This program was a tieup with the picture's title and theme with a case history of various interesting "strangers" the bureau had turned up. A local columnist also devoted space on interesting "strangers" from the bureau's files, mentioning the broadcast.

The campaign was set up by Jim Totman of Warners, Pittsburgh, assisted by Jack Tucker of the KKO Radio field force.

No 'Shooting Works' on One Picture;
Showman May Exploits 'Em All

The campaign efforts of Edward May, manager of Wometco's Rosetta Theatre, Miami, Fla., may be, as he himself states, "modest." Nevertheless, instead of "shooting the works" on his laurels and their fortune to his laurels through several others, May engages in some sort of exploitative effort on each one.

And such activity, in the long run, is more conducive to continued good results. Patrons are constantly reminded of each attraction. There is no opportunity for them to be aroused to a high pitch of expectancy for one film, only to be practically ignored, from a selling standpoint, when another comes along.

May reports the highlights of his selling campaigns on four current features—20th-Fox's "Smoky," "Cluny Brown" and "Do You Love Me," and Columbia's "Renegades."

In the case of "Smoky," two thousand heralds (with back page sold to merchant to pay for their cost) were distributed house to house and via counters of busy drug stores. One hundred window cards were placed in merchants' windows and also posted on poles and fences in outlying areas.

"Cluny Brown" had the benefit of the distribution of 2000 business cards ("See Cluny Brown for Expert Plumbing, etc.") by staff employees at street intersections and at cashier's counters in restaurants and drug stores. Free radio promotion on the film included plugs on a thrice-weekly program ("Inviting all lady plumbers to attend Wometco's Rosetta Theatre and enjoy 'Cluny Brown' as guest of Ed May, manager, simply by presenting plumbers' credentials, identification or union card.")

The theatre received many calls from plumbers' wives and relatives but not plumbers.

Thirty-inch block letters spelling out the title formed the basis for a window display on "Renegades" a week in advance of the opening. The letters were mounted on the marquee during the run.

For the showing of "Do You Love Me," May promoted displays in eight prominent store windows, utilizing exchange merchandise and mounting 8x10s of 14x22 cards with proper tie-in art and lettering. Tiens included jewelers, florists, beauty salons, dry cleaners and super markets. Two thousand "To My Darling" letters were placed in all parked cars in parking stations and streets a week in advance. Outside of envelope was addressed "To My Darling." Message on monogrammed stationery (M. O. H., for Maureen O'Hara) was as follows: "Darling—Do you love me? And in Technical Details, too? Meet me up anytime between Saturday and Wednesday at the Rosetta Theatre, Love, Maureen, P.S. Phone me at 7-1055 (theatre)." This novelty went over very big. May asserts, and certifies that two wives called the theatre and insisted that the "husby" who was writing "mash notes" to their husbands be fired. One woman found the letter in her husband's coat; the other caught him reading it when she returned from a shopping trip.
SET IT FOR A MONTH AT LEAST!

IN NEW YORK 6 WEEKS AT THE STRAND!

WARNERS PRESENT HUMPHREY BOGART AND LAUREN BACALL VERY MUCH TOGETHER IN "THE BIG SLEEP" with MARTHA VICKERS · DOROTHY MALONE · A HOWARD HAWKS PRODUCTION

Music by Max Steiner · Screen Play by William Faulkner, Leigh Brackett & Jules Furthman · From the Novel by Raymond Chandler
SELLING THE PICTURE

Alliance Theatremen Active in Exploitation

Managers in Circuit Under Gregory's Direction Prove Showmanship Gets Results

That he considers exploitation the "life blood of our industry" was declared recently by S. J. Gregory, head of the Alliance Theatre Corp., Chicago, whose opinions on the matter were quoted in an editorial which appeared in the September 7 issue of STR. He also declared that after all the reports were in, the theatres engaged in the most selling activity reaped the biggest harvests at the box-office. That is definite talk and must come from definite knowledge.

Mr. Gregory's conclusions came as the result of Alliance's 15-week Annual Manager's Drive and were based on careful examination of the campaigns submitted plus, naturally, the box-office reports. This was proof of the pudding. But, you may ask, what kind of campaigns were these? It is impossible to say, but they were practical. Examples? Here are a few:

Goldberg's Amateur Nights

Amateur nights, quite the thing years ago, have been neglected recently. But Joe Goldberg, Alliance manager in Franklin, Ind., decided on a revival of this kind of exploitation and put on a series of eight such nights during the drive. The local music and dancing school assumed all details and responsibilities for the staging so that the operation was comparatively simple. Goldberg found that his public was ripe for this kind of thing, with heavy patronage on the weekly amateur night and business on other nights stimulated. Now, says Mr. Gregory, such nights are being held in other locations with similar results.

Morning cartoon shows have been so successful that they are becoming almost standard, but Everett Sorensen, Alliance manager in Walla Walla, Wash., added a new twist by inducing a radio station to sell a sponsor with a half-hour program from the stage of the theatre preceding the show. He dreamed up the idea of staging a "Smile Queen" contest at surrounding locations to be crowned at the annual Grape Festival. The idea worked with the Festival committee, and as a result the contest received a big front-page publicity build-up which is not yet over for the Grape Festival begins Oct. 3. The Kernwick contest has created much interest and large returns at the box-office. How was it handled? Anderson got 12 business and club sponsors, each of which was entitled to enter a girl. They contributed enough to permit the theatre to cut out the necessary ad matter and also provide a $50 prize for the winner. The theatre paid nothing in cash. The Kernwick winner (and very attractive, too) will compete with the other local winners at the grand finale the opening day of the Festival.

"Ami" Art Exhibition To Open in New York

"The Private Affairs of Bel Ami" art exhibition consisting of 11 canvasses created by top modern artists, will have its world premiere showing at Knoedler's Galleries, in New York on September 16. Based upon the subject of the Temptation of St. Anthony, the exhibition represents such artists as Ivan Le Lorraine Albriton, Eugene Berman, Leonora Carrington, Salvador Dali, Paul Delvaux, Max Ernst, Louis Guglielmi, Horace Pippin, Abraham Rattner, Stanley Spencer and Dorothy Tanning.

The winning painting by Max Ernst, which was awarded the prize of $3,000 by the judges, Alfred H. Barr, Jr., Marcel Duchamp and Sidney Janis, will be featured in color in the Loew-Lewin motion picture, "The Private Affairs of Bel Ami," based on Guy de Maupassant's novel, to be released through United Artists.

The exhibition will be on view at Knoedler's from September 16 through September 28. Under the auspices of the American Federation of Arts, it will tour the important museums and art galleries throughout the country. The paintings will also be shown in London and Paris.

Rose Plants Review in Mimeographed Paper

A review of MGM's "Boys' Ranch" was planted in the Men's Club News, a weekly mimeographed sheet, by Manager Harry Rose of the Loew-Poli Majestic Theatre, Bridgeport, Conn.

The Men's Club News is distributed to 1,200 families at Yellow Mill Village, a project within walking distance of the theatre. Rose planted the review because "these are our customers and 'Boys' Ranch' is their type of picture.

Rose used this same stunt on "Tarzan and the Leopard Woman" a couple of months ago, "which did our biggest business."

"Anyway," he concludes in his report, "it can't hurt our business, as any medium of advertising contributes to the box-office."

Gets Ad for 'Palooka'

Readers of the Bridgeport Post's presentation of the Joe Palooka comic strip were apprised recently by an overline over the strip that "Joe Palooka, Champ" was playing at the Majestic Theatre. Manager Robert Carney, Loew's Poli-Majestic, arranged the important plug for the film.—HFD.
COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

The
THRILL
OF
BRAZIL

South American
Fiesta of Music,
Laughter and
Talent!

Starring
EVELYN KEYES
KEENAN WYNN
ANN MILLER
ALLYN JOSLYN
TITO GUIZAR
VELOZ AND YOLANDA
and
ENRICO MADRIGUERA
AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Screenplay by Allen Rivkin, Harry Clork and Devery Freeman
Directed by S. SYLVAN SIMON
Produced by SIDNEY BIDDELL
SELLING THE PICTURE

Preview and Premiere
Climax Beauty Pageant

Bathing beauties in Atlantic City for the annual Beauty Pageant, Mayor Joseph Altman, State Senators and others high in local civic and social life battled a traffic jam one day last week to get into Haddon Hall Hotel for the preview of 20th-Fox's "Thee Little Girls in Blue." World premiere of the Technicolor musical followed next day at the Apollo Theatre.

The hotel's theatre-in-the-sky, 13 stories over the world-famous boardwalk, was ablaze with lights. Miniature balloons moored to the floor in front of the theatre were illuminated by small spotlights, and photographic bulbs popped constantly as the celebrities arrived for the preview presentation.

Vera-Ellen and Frank Latimore, who share starring honors in the picture with June Haver, Vivian Blaine and George Montgomery made a personal appearance at the preview and also appeared twice at the Apollo theatre.

Spot news of the event was carried on coast-to-coast radio hookups. The "Chesterfield Supper Club" broadcast directly from the little theatre, with Vera-Ellen and Frank Latimore appearing as guests on the program, along with several of the bathing beauty contestants.

At the same time, from another room in the hotel, the "Double or Nothing" show on the Mutual network also beamed the news of the premiere to the nation. Newspaper correspondents in Atlantic City to cover the bathing beauty contest also reported the "Thee Little Girls in Blue" festivities, thus giving the picture nation-wide publicity.

The preview of the world premiere, a brand new twist to a premiere program, climaxed the Atlantic City Beauty Pageant and set the stage for the regular premiere presentation.

Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising, publicity, exploitation and radio, personally supervised the premiere. Rodney Bush, exploitation manager, Sid Blumenstock, assistant exploitation manager, and Irving Kahn, radio manager, assisted by Mike Weiss and Bob Kaufmann, field exploiters, handled the details of the premiere activities.

Borden's Cooperate on 'Kid From Brooklyn'

Through a tieup with the Borden Milk Company, KGO Radio's field exploiter, Russell Morgan, was able to line up a very complete advance campaign in Houston on Samuel Goldwyn's "The Kid From Brooklyn."

A 200-line ad appeared in the leading newspapers for six days in advance of opening at the Majestic Theatre, Houston. This featured cuts of Danny Kaye in a milkman's uniform. One thousand 22 x 28 window cards were placed in grocery stores throughout the neighborhood. Fifteen milk delivery trucks carried banners on both sides in advance of the opening.

Sound Display in O. C.

A window display in connection with Warner Bros. 29th Anniversary of Sound is currently on view in the Hile Building in downtown Oklahoma City. Layout is based on the feature article, "Twenty Years of Sound," published recently in the Christian Science Monitor, and also includes some plugs for "Night and Day."

Peters, Milburn Exploit 'C & C' in Richmond

Manager George Peters and United Artists exploiter E. M. Milburn pooled their exploitation efforts on "Cesar & Cleopatra" with concentration on radio promotions for the picture's showing at Loew's, Richmond, collecting in all, three free air reviews and star biographies via WLEE by Edith Linderman, critic of the Times-Dispatch; six 15-minute Man on the Street programs via WRVA; two free spot announcements via WMBG; several announcements via the Juke Box Hour on WRVA and several others on the Battle of the Crooners program via WLEE.

The exploitation duo also promoted 12 free announcements on Harvey Hudson's WLEE program; gave away 500 photos of Vivian Leigh as Cleo, obtaining several announcements about the film on a sponsored broadcast, and otherwise had practically free rein on late platter programs on all four stations.

Peters and Milburn also used other exploitation channels, including many window displays, gave away 500 booklets on the Confessions of Cleopatra; distributed 100 window cards where they would do the most good; tied up with the Public Library system whereby displays of Shaw's writings were set up; placed interior displays in hotel lobbies, bowling alleys, night clubs; arranged for cooperative advertising with some of the city's leading merchants and altogether let Richmond know that "Cesar & Cleopatra" was playing at Loew's.
CHARLOTTE

CHARLOTTES AND SALT LAKE CITY

EXPLOITERS TRADE LOCATIONS;
EARNHARDT IS THEATRE BUYER

Lou Allemann III, RKO exploiter at Charlotte, and Frank Windsor, RKO exploiter at Salt Lake City, traded branches.

J. W. Parker of Gatesville, N. C., sold the Gatesville Theatre to Jimmy Earnhardt, who operates the Taylor Theatre at Edenton, N. C. for S. W. Taylor.

RALPH M. Perry, who has been employed at the Plaza Airport since he was discharged from the Navy in December, 1945, has taken over the duties of chief accountant at Exhibitor’s Service, replacing Ann Love who has resigned, effective later in the fall. Mrs. Love is remaining with the company for a month or so to handle the work of Louise Deese, secretary to the owner H. D. Hearn. Miss Deese has been confined to the hospital since the middle of August.

L. B. Propst announced recently that he will open his new theatre in Lake City, S. C. during September. Propst has been operating the Ritz Theatre in that town for a number of years.

Harry Kerr, Metro booker, has resigned, according to announcement by the local MGM exchange. No successor has as yet been named.

B. B. Benfield of Myrtle Beach, S. C., has sold his Gloria and Broadway theatres to a corporation made up of Watt Parker, Mrs. B. M. Parker, and R. B. Harrison, all of Charlotte. The corporation already owns the State Theatre in Gastonia, N. C.

Nancy Blakely, Exhibitor’s Service utility clerk during the summer months, will resume her studies at the University of North Carolina on September 21.

BOSTON

14 WORKERS WATCH HUNGRILY AS NEW BUILDING GOES UP;
PHIL ENGLER COVERS TERRITORY

United Artists is moving into a handsome new building on Church street, while the work of completing the new building goes on. United is forced to occupy cramped quarters across the street. But all of the force are taking it gracefully as they can look across the street and see for themselves what grand quarters they soon are to have.

Phil Engle, United Artists publicity man, has recently returned from a trip which took him every city in his Eastern Territory. Phil is one of the busiest promotion agents in the picture industry.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Convention did not help business in Boston. Rather was it off, for the Vets and their wives apparently did not wish to attend picture theatres and the noise and boisterousness of convention followers kept many regular customers from attending.

Arnold Van Lear of Paramount Pictures here has returned from a trip through his territory.

Ralph Banghart of RKO Pictures has just returned from a vacation in upper New York and in Pennsylvania.

Max Nayor is back on the job as managing director of the Metropolitan Theatre after a two-week vacation on Cape Cod.

John Dervin, branch manager for United Artists, has returned from a vacation in New Hampshire.

James Winn, United Artists district manager, has gained a great deal of weight and is feeling much better. His entire recovery is expected soon.

Fred Vytal of the Boston Traveller, known to all of the film colony, is confined to the Boston Sanitarium, Mattapan, Mass. with a severe pulmonary attack. He would be glad to hear from all of his friends. Write to Fred at the address given. And yes, he can read magazines and can smoke good cigars.

Harry Browning of M and P theatres, Art Moger of Warner Pictures, Arnold Van Lear of Paramount Pictures, Phil Engle of United Artists and Ralph Baughart of RKO Pictures, have all accepted appointment to the publicity committee for the War Nurses National Memorial Fund drive.

Jack Sael has returned from his vacation on the South Shore tanned and rugged and able to again climb the 97 steps to his publicity office in the Paramount Theatre here.

United Artists has scheduled a New England district meeting in Boston for this week-end. District manager Clayton Eastman will conduct the two-day New England session which will be attended by Edward M. Schnitzler, eastern sales manager, and Abe Dickstein, his assistant.

JERSEY CITY

LOEW’S JERSEY CITY GETS
COMPLETE RENOVATION JOB;
DUMONT’S HOBBY PAYS OFF

Loew’s is being entirely redecorated and undergoing a thorough renovation job. Work on the sidewalks, repainting of the marquees and upstage and refinishing of the entire inner and outer lobbies is in progress. The work is being done under the personal supervision of James J. (Jim) Kolbeck, managing director.

Staff Sergeant David Holder, son of Jack Holder, manager of the Orient, is out of the Army and now back in his old job as a member of the editorial staff of Chain Store Age.

Samuel Einhorn, general manager of the Rosenblatt & Welt Circuit, is back from his vacation looking fit as a fiddle.

John Schneider, projectionist, Orient, left Monday for a Canadian motoring and fishing trip on his annual vacation.

Ida M. Pironi, relief manager for the Rosenblatt & Welt Circuit, is back from a vacation at Greenwood Lake, N. J.

A lobby which has paid off handsomely for the rest of his life is the achievement of George Dumeau, with Loew Theatres more than 30 years. During his free time George, an ardent angler, worked to perfect a new type of fishing reel which he patented some years ago and which is now in production. George’s interest in his invention was so great that he rigged up a miniature machine shop in the basement of his theatre. Already George has bona-fide orders for more than $50,000 worth of the tackle, which sells for $75 to $800 per unit.

He has engaged the services of a St. Louis manufacturer to produce the reels, also fishing chairs and other angling accessories.

The new giant blimp, advertising MGM pictures and which is illuminated at night, is causing great attention among the ferry boat passengers to and from New York City to Hudson County railroad terminals.

ST. LOUIS

FRED WEHRENBERG TESTIMONIAL
LUNCHEON SET FOR SEPT. 23:
FRANK PAYLEN MEETS THE FOLKS

A testimonial luncheon in honor of Fred Wehrenberg, recently elected president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, will be given at the Coronado Hotel, St. Louis, on Monday, Sept. 23. It is expected that many of the men who were in the industry in the 1910s and 1920s may come to St. Louis to help pay tribute to Fred. The committee in charge includes Tommy James, Clarence Kaimann and Lester Kropp for the exhibitors, and Lester Bona, Warner Bros., and Harry Hynes, Universal; Clarence D. Hill, Columbia, and Maurice Schweitzer, Paramount, for the exchange managers.

Paramount gave a luncheon affair in the Embassy Room, Chase Hotel, last Wednesday, to give local newspaper critics, radio folk, and (Continued on Page 26)

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(Continued from Page 25)

trade press representatives the opportunity to cut up some roast beef and potatoes and chat between knife thrusts with St. Louis-born Frank Faylen and his wife, Carol Hughes.

Sam Komm, local exhibitor, has had to defer a contemplated $25,000 improvement program for his houses because the necessary green light couldn't be obtained from the Federal bureaus. Mike Horner, Bethalto, Ill., has also been forced to postpone a $20,000 project for the same reason.

Several theatres in the St. Louis territory have changed hands recently: W. B. Dehart of Anbarn, Ill., has sold his Raymond, Ill., theatre to R. W. Howard, H. S. Butler has sold the Kansas, Kansas, Ill., to M. W. Jessup. Mildred Rauth has added the Cozy, Cabool, Mo., to her growing circuit. The house has been operated by L. L. Pruitt.

Funeral services were held in Harrisburg, Ill., September 5, for Mrs. Paul Reynolds, wife of the manager of the Grand Theatre, Carrier Mills, Ill., and daughter of Oscar Turner, Turner-Farrar Theatres, Harrisburg.

Bernie Palmer, recently honorably discharged from military service, has taken over his old position as booker-buyer for the Columbia Amusement Company.

Out-of-town exhibitors seen along Film Row last week included: B. Tembornis, Lebanon, Ill.; Rani Pedracci, feature booker for the Firsima Amusement Company, Springfield, Ill.; George Kerasotes, secretary-treasurer and general manager, Kerasotes Theatres, Springfield, Ill.; Sam Pirtle, Pirtle Amusement Company, Jerrysville, Ill.

DENVER

UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL HOLDS REGIONAL MEETING; 2 FILM MEN ACT AS FIREFIEMEN

Universal-International Pictures held a regional sales meeting in the Oxy room at the Brown Palace Hotel. W. H. Scully, vice-president, headed the home office delegation. Others in attendance were Maurice Bergman, E. T. Gomersall, William Heineken, Bernard Kranze, C. J. Feldman, A. J. O'Keefe, of the home office; J. E. Garrison, Kansas City district manager; and exchange managers C. R. Wade, Salt Lake City; R. O. Wilson, Portland; A. E. O'Connell, Seattle; Mayer Monsky, Denver; Lou Levy, Des Moines; Jack Langan, Kansas City; Harry Hines, St. Louis; Harold Johnson, Omaha; Foster Blake, district manager in charge of Los Angeles, Denver and Salt Lake City, and Barney Rose, district manager over San Francisco, Portland and Seattle. The appointments of Blake and Rose as district managers were made at this meeting. Subjects under discussion included sales policies and new product.

Frank H. Ricketson, Jr., president, and Harold Rice, district manager, were in charge of the meeting of the southern district of Fox Intermountain managers held in the division offices of the company here.

Robert Selig, assistant to the president of Fox Intermountain Theatres, has been named to head a drive by the University of Denver, his alma mater, to raise a $2,000,000 expansion fund.

Two film row men were firemen one night last week. Paul Allmayer, Paramount booker, and Sam Langwith, owner Western Service and Supply, with the aid of the Idaho Springs fire department, put out a fire in a building next to Langwith's home.

Neil Beene, owner of the Midway, Burlington, Colo., is recovering from pneumonia.

Louise Morris, secretary to Robert Hill, Columbia branch manager, is vacationing in Indiana.

The force at the 20th Century-Fox exchange shared in the winnings of first place in the division managers' drive. It amounted to three week's salary for all.

Mickey Gross, who resigned as manager the Orpheum, writes he is general manager of the 20th Stirling Theatres, with headquarters in Seattle, and that he has named Ted Halmi, former Orpheum publicity director, as chief of publicity for the chain.

Fred Walker, Standard Pictures president, spent a few days in Denver on business.

Dewey Gates has changed the name of the Pitt, Johnstown, Colo., to the Lake.

BUFFALO

Mr. and Mrs. Constantine J. Basil, returned this week after spending a combined business and pleasure trip of three weeks. Mr. Basil is president of the Basil chain of theatres which operates the Lafayette in downtown Buffalo as well as the community theatres in an around Buffalo.

Their first stop was Atlantic City, where they stayed at the Hotel Traymore for the week renewing old acquaintances. After Atlantic City, they motored to New York City here, meeting Abe Selig and Variety Scen- Co., Mr. Basil signed contracts for complete redecoration of both the Varsity and Genese Theatres, a deal involving many thousands of dollars.

Three days later found the Basils on their way to Baltimore, where they spent a week visiting their daughter and son-in-law. Also while in Baltimore Mr. and Mrs. Basil attended the 20th National Convention of the Ahepa at the Lord Baltimore Hotel.

LOS ANGELES

CITY COUNCIL HALTS MAYOR'S ACTION IN LIMITING SIZE OF FILM THEATRE MARQUEES

Paul Williams and the Southern Californi-Theatre Owners Association are mighty happy over the City Council's action in overriding Mayor Fletcher Bowron's veto on the Los Angeles Marquee ordinance. By a vote of 11-4 the Council agreed to repeal action limiting size of marquees. W. H. "Bud" Loller and Jack Y. Berman of the SCTOA's legislative and public relations committees received commendation for their fight for unlimited size of marquees.

Sophie Smith, branch manager Fred Greenberg's secretary, went to San Francisco for her vacation. Clara Denker, Warners' office manager Morrie Shipp's secretary, dabbled in brass while Sophie was gone. Betty Schmuhl of WB's contract department, visited her folks in Oklahoma City.

Bob Beretta, a veteran of the Row, was on vacation from his duties with John P. Filbert Equipment Co.

Louis Feustenmacher, secretary to branch manager Al Taylor at Paramount, flew back from Salt Lake City after a vacation spent there and at Yellowstone. Louise had tough luck in losing her husband's valuable camera, but compensated for it by dispatching four rainbow trout back to L.A. in ice-packed containers. A pretty kettle of fish!

Charlie Sugarman, son of Al Sugarman, Columbus, Ohio exhibitor, renewed acquaintance with Lloyd "Stoopy" Goard of Exhibitors Service. "Stoopy" used to book for the MacDonald Circuit in Columbus. Young Sugarman has been appointed production clerk on the staff of RKO's "A Time to Kill," now in the making.

Clyde Eckhardt, branch manager, and Morrie Sadman, office head, of 20th-Century Fox, played host to the press Sept. 5 when "Strange Journey" was previewed at the exchange's projection room.

Twentieth's auditor, Richard Hildreth, returned to New York after visiting the local branch. Annette Verity, newcomer to the (Continued on Page 28)
Rendezvous with Annie

starring EDDIE ALBERT
FAYE MARLOWE • GAIL PATRICK
PHILIP REED • SIR C. AUBREY SMITH

HELLO LONGLEGS!

it's a riot of a rendezvous!

RAYMOND WALBURN • WILLIAM FRAWLEY
JAMES MILLICAN • WALLACE FORD

Screen Play—Mary Lons and Richard Sale
Based on Their Magazine Story
Associate Producer and Director—ALLAN DWAN

A REPUBLIC PICTURE
REGIONAL NEWSREEL

(Continued from Page 28)

Fil-lum business, was added to Fox’s contract department. She succeeds Hilda Provotolsky, who left to have a baby.

Ethel Garside was promoted to assistant bookkeeper at Warners. Ruby Lee Brown, another newcomer to the Row, took Ethel’s old spot.

Margaret Reid, who formerly handled box office reports for WB, is now returning to Iowa and getting married.

District manager Herman Wobber favored the local 20th exchange with a visit, coming down from San Francisco.

Warner’s disc-artists are practicing up for the big office golf tournament on Sept. 18.

Music Halls’ Auriel Mache, publicist, has just returned from a week’s visit to Yosemite. Auriel, the only female exploiter on the Row, went vacationing with her younger sister.

PORTLAND

With advent fall weather and return from Oregon beaches and mountains, and Portland’s steadily increasing population, both first-run and subsidiaries are again back to normal and at week-ends slightly above, according to box-office figures.

Ted Gamble, Portland theatre chain operator, advises he has become a stockholder in a Denver broadcasting company.

Eugene Paletta was busily replenishing his farther in Portland’s markets prior to another vacation on his broad acres near Wallowa lakes and mountains.


WASHINGTON

INGRID BERGMAN WASHINGTON VISITOR SOON FOR THREE WEEKS; VARIETY CLUB GOES ON AIR

Ingrid Bergman will be in Washington for the three-week stay of Maxwell Anderson’s “Joan of Lorraine” at the Lerner Auditorium of George Washington University, the Playwrights Company announces. The Washington engagement will open on October 28. The New York opening is set for November 18.

The Variety Club went on the air, over Station WWDC, on August 27, when a round table broadcast was held with A. E. Lichtman, chairman of the Welfare Committee; Nathan Golden, 1st assistant chief banker, and Sam Galanty, treasurer, doing the honors. The brief session, which might pave the way for future broadcasts, was held to acquaint Washingtonians with the aims and purposes of the Variety Club.

Cal Farley, whose life is portrayed in “Boys’ Ranch” had a very busy few days of his recent visit to Washington. He was the guest of the Texas State Society, spoken before the D. C. Motion Picture Council, lunched with Washington drama editors at the Variety Club, was interviewed by feature writers and was aired over National ABC hookup on the National Headlines Program.

Jerry Antel, former Washington showman, died recently. Mr. Antel was a member of the Variety Club, Tent No. 11.

James Majorell, production chief at National Screen Service in Hollywood and well known to Washingtonians by his affiliation with Warner Bros. Theatres, left for London on September 5 to handle traffic.

MGM Sales Manager Jack Goldberg recently returned from a week’s vacation; Booker Ida Bazeolsky, left for Providence, Rhode Island; Head Shipper James Tyler recently returned from his vacation. Metrosites were very busy over Labor Day as: John A. Contract Dept. and Joan Eagling, Billing Clerk, spent the weekend aboard a yacht. Mariella Harrington, secretary to office manager Joe Kronman, viewed Skyline Drive, Virginia, with her husband and some friends. Marilyn Knoll, secretary to exploiter Tom Baldridge, was in Union City and Paterson, New Jersey, visiting friends and relatives. Robert Cousins, two-year member of Frank La Falce’s Warner Bros. publicity department, resigned this week to join the editorial board of a new book club now being organized in New York City. Replacing him will be Coby Pfanziohl, former University of Chicago press relations man.

The Southern Police Boys’ Club of Baltimore opened this week with Gov. Herbert R. O’Connor of Maryland in attendance. The Boys’ Club, the fourth of a link in the chain, is sponsored by the Variety Club of Baltimore.

MINNEAPOLIS

MINNESOTA AMUSEMENT CO. MEN GATHER TUESDAY FOR 3RD ANNUAL MEET; ALLIED HEADS BUSY ON DEGREE

To inaugurate the Fall Happiness drive from September 20 to November 1, Charles W. Winchell, C. W. Perrine and John A. Branton of Minnesota Amusement Co. have been conducting meetings for district managers to acquaint them with special programs, promotion ideas and merchandising. Conferences were held in Duluth, Fargo, N. D., Sioux Falls, S. D. and Eau Claire, Wis. A meeting of Twin Cities managers was held Monday at Nicollet Hotel in Minneapolis.

Ben Berger, North Central Allied president, and Don Swartz, NCA executive secretary, attended the Nebraska division of the Iowa-Nebraska Allied Independent Theatre Owners meeting at Omaha on September 9. Berger spoke at the conference. Berger and Swartz also were slated to attend the meeting of the Conference of Independent Exhibitors and the Department of Justice for a discussion of the consent decree, and the national Allied convention in Boston to cite NCA’s opposition to the proposed new decree sales plan.

Exchanges are beginning to get back in the routine of business as the end of the vacation season nears. Charlotte Finkelstein, bookers secretary at the RKO exchange, enjoyed a late New York sojourn, while her boss, Al Stern, RKO office manager, looked well-tanned after his fish in the Galapagos. Other vacationers in Northern Minnesota included Marion McElraine, booker at United Artists; Peggy Jones, stenographer at United Artists; and Charles H blurry, booker at Universal. Al Putz and Richard Wilson, both salesmen at MGM, are enjoying the wonders of Yellowstone Park and Ed C. Benjamin, Warner Bros’, field representative in the territory, was in New York visiting his folks.

On the sick list is Roy Johnson, poster clerk at the Republic exchange, who is recovering from polio. Bob La Piner, head of the concessions department at Minnesota Amusement Co., is back at work after a stretch of hospitalization.

Two big changes occurred at the Paramount exchange, Harold Wise, head booker, left to become a salesman at the Milwaukee branch and was succeeded by ex-GI Bill Soper, formerly a booker. Another booker, Wayne Marx, left Paramount to manage the Ironon Theatre at Ironon, Minn., which he bought. New faces on film row are Dorothy Dios, switchboard operator at Columbia, and Boe Wolbein, salesman at Columbia.

Happy over new additions to their families are LeRoy Johnson, salesman at Monogram, and Bob Helmsen, salesman at Universal. It’s a girl for the Johnsons and a boy for the Helmscons.

Nupital news is the marriage of Ruth Evans, office manager’s secretary at Universal, to Floyd Johnson, Columbia’s Rubel, booking manager’s secretary at Paramount, has announced her engagement to Leonard Baker, a former army private.

ALBANY

20TH-Fox has victory dinner; david miller new district manager for universal here

Office personnel, salesmen and the branch manager of the Fox exchange participated in a Victory dinner party held at Murray’s Inn, Albany-Schenectady Road, on Friday past. The Albany exchange was one of the winners of the Andy Smith Drive. Helen Wisper, secretary to branch manager Welden Waters, was captain of the drive. Guests of the party, at this party included Max Friedman, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Weinstein, Irene May Smith (Warner Bros. Theatres); Mr. and Mrs. Chris Pope (Cicinnati, Cleveland); Charles Gordon and George Smith of the Olympic, Utica; Mr. and Mrs. Joe Saperstein (Fabian Theatres, Albany) The committee in charge of the dinner party included Wayne Kerrigan, head chairman, Winnie Allen and Fred Stier.

Variety Club of Albany: Tent No. 9, will hold its first fall Kings-for-a-Day dinner at the DeWitt Clinton Hotel, Albany on Monday night, Sept. 16. The dinner will honor C. J. Latta, Warner Bros., zone manager, and newly elected second assistant Chief Barker of Variety
REGONAL NEWSREEL

ATLANTA

HARRY D. GRAHAM TRANSFERRED BY UNIVERSAL TO KANSAS CITY; O'DONNELL CAN'T GO, GIVES

In a transfer of Universal's key personnel, Harry D. Graham, Atlanta district manager for 11 years, goes to Kansas City as district manager. Peter F. Resian, former manager of the Cincinnati district, succeeds him here.

Unable to attend the Atlanta Variety Club's professional football game September 28, Bob O'Donnell, Dallas, Tex., Chief Barker of the Variety Clubs of America, sent Jimmy Gillespie, local property manager, his check for $500.

The Palace Theatre at Little Five Points, operated by the Community Theatres Company, is closed indefinitely pending a complete remodeling as soon as materials become available. Opened in the early 1920's, it is the oldest of Atlanta's 50 neighborhood playhouses.

Lieut. Joe Williams, former treasurer of the Fox Theatre, now with the Army of Occupation in Germany, talked to his mother here by telephone from Berne, Switzerland.

Mrs. George H. Withers, 88, grandmother of Jane Withers, died here September 2.

Changes in the personnel of the Georgia Theatres Company, announced by City Manager T. N. Read, include: N. L. Deman, former manager of the Paramount, and recently released from military service, to manage the Fox; J. E. Scott, former manager of the Fox, to manage the Roxy; Sam George, former Roxy manager, to city relief manager. At the same time, Thoren Croxton, former city relief manager, was moved to Columbus, Ga., as manager of the new Georgia Theatre there.

William (Snake) Richardson, president of Astor Pictures, left on a business trip to South Georgia. He planned to get in some fishing in the Okefenokee Swamp.

Manager Boyd Fry has completed a new carpeting job in the lobby of Loew's.


TOGETHER AGAIN!...IN THE BIGGEST LAUGH SHOW THEY EVER MADE!

OMAHA

MAYOR'S SUGGESTION FOR PARK HAS EXHIBITORS WONDERING; SOFTBALL SEASON NEAR CLIMAX

Theatre operators here are wondering what will come of Mayor Leeman's suggestion for a modern amusement park, privately owned, but operated under a franchise from the city. From the standpoint of competition such a plan has one off-setting feature, however. All traveling carnivals would be barred from Omaha.

Front Office softball players evened the count with the Back Room personnel by snaring an 11-2 victory. The series now stands at one-all, with a big season final scheduled to decide the victor.

Pete Schnitzer, 69, who started the first theatre at York, Neb., died last week.

Cashier Adele Andersen of Warner Brothers.

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entered a local hospital for an operation.

Ralph Falkinburg, Jr., son of the Lexington exhibitor, soon will be back helping his father with the theatre business. Ralph returned after seeing service with the Marines in China.

Phyllis Christensen, RKO steno, has resigned.

Twentieth Century-Fox employs attended a party at the Fontenelle Hotel given by Mildred Rye, recent bride, and her husband. She is the Fox office manager.

Ted Emerson, Orpheum Theatre manager, has made arrangements for Lucille Ball to meet her husband, Desi Arnaz, here during the week's stand of his band at the Orpheum. A Ball picture also will be on the screen.

The local press carried a picture of Mayor Charles Leeman, Bill Miskell and L. M. McKechnay, Tri-States Theatres treasurer from Des Moines, cutting a giant Thirteenth Anniversary birthday cake as one of the ceremonies connected with the final week of the drive here.

Mrs. U. G. Brown, whose husband runs the Rialto Theatre at Arnold, Neb., is recovering from a serious illness.

Omaha had a visit from Pat McGee of Denver, Cooper Theatres general manager; Ralph Ayre, his assistant; and Frank Roberts, treasurer.

Tony Grabenstein is running the Liberty Theatre at Eustis for his uncle, John Grabenstein.

Lena Robarge, Columbia inspector, spent her vacation at Casper, Wyo.

BRIDGEPORT

DE ROCHEMONT NOW PLANS TO MAKE CONTROVERSIAL 'BOOMERANG' IN STAMFORD

With Bridgeport turning thumbs down on Louis deRochemont's plans to make the new picture, "Boomerang," based on the murder of the Rev. Hubert Daime, former Roman Catholic pastor of this city, within the municipal limits, the 20th Century-Fox producer definitely decided on Stamford for the filming. As deRochemont lives in Longshore and as several members of the cast are now housed in Stamford, production is expected to get under way next week. Jane Wyatt and Dana Andrews head the cast, which includes Frank Lattimore, a resident of Darien; John Payne, Margo Wood and Lee Cobb.

Matt L. Saunders, manager of Loew's Poli for many years and generally regarded as dean of the showmen in Bridgeport, had a birthday Monday which he celebrated by working just as on any other ordinary day of the year. Matt was so busy with the initial appearance on his stage of the Loew-Poli-Harry Conover model contestants that he had hardly time to recall that it was his natal day.

Pearl Perrigo, cashier at the Globe, is one of the contestants in the Loew-Poli model contest on the stage of that theatre. In entering the contest Pearl follows in the footsteps of her mother, who won a beauty contest at the age of 16. Assistant Manager Herbert Alpert gave Pearl some essential last-minute coaching before her first public appearance on the stage.

CINCINNATI

CINCINNATI FILM PERSONNEL BUSY WITH BIG CONVENTIONS; VACATIONERS STILL RETURNING

Harry Bugie, district manager, Irene Juniet, his secretary, and salesmen from PRC attended their company's national convention at Atlantic City, N.J.

Jack Lorentz, 20th Century-Fox Central Division drive leader and Ann Sufferin, division women's drive leader, were in town early this week from Chicago to meet with the Cincinnati staff in connection with the Spyros G. Skouras drive.

Late vacationers included Ruth Becker, RKO, secretary to the office manager, in Chicago; Florence Herrmann, cashier, and Estelle Schifferth, booking department, both of MGM, in Miami Beach, leaving by plane; Mrs. Mabel Rinehart, inspection department of MGM, at Los Angeles; Joseph Alexander, manager of the RKO Albee, touring the East.

Cincinnati was very well trained of distributor executives during the convention of the West Virginia Theatre Managers' Association, September 11 and 12 at the Daniel Boone Hotel, Charleston, W. Va. Among those attending were Milt Cohen, RKO division manager; Stanley Jacques, B.O. publicity manager; Leon Bamberger, RKO publicity man from New York City; Joseph Oulahan, Paramount manager; Jack Finberg, United Artists manager; Moe Dudelson, district manager of United Artists; Ross Williams, U.A. publicity man; William Onie, manager, Monogram; Harry Bugie, PRC manager; Levy Bugie, 20th-Century-Fox manager; John Kelly, manager of National Theatre Supply Co.; J. S. Abrose, Warner manager; Allan Moritz, Columbia manager, and of course, Rubie Shor, Cincinnati representative of the West Virginia association.

Another convention that will be attracting many from this area is the National Allied Convention in Boston on the 16, 17 and 18th of the month. Local independent exhibitors planning to attend include Wess Huss, Ralph Kissler, Louis Weite, Maurice White, Willis Vance and Irving Sochin, buyer for Theatre Owners Corp. Rubie Shor, local manager of the West Virginia Theatre Managers' Assoc. E. R. Custer, president of the organization, and Dave Brown, theatre owner from Cabin Creek, W. Va., are heading for the Boston convention following the closing of the Charles theater gathering.

Film Row visitors during the past week: Sylvan Goldfinger, Chicago, and Harold Popel, New York City, Telenews executive and buyer respectively; Ward Farrar, United Artists field representative, here to work with Nat Wise, RKO theatres publicity chief; J. C. "Doc" Newbold, Bramwell, W. Va. and E. K. Keeling, of the same circuit; Mannie and Loutie Shore, from Williamson and Holden, W. Va.; George Turbulak, Middletown; Ray Price and Bill Luhel, Springfield, Ohio; Joseph Lee, Covington, Ohio; Adeline Ward, Lexington, Ky.; Guy Greathouse, Aurora, Ind.; W. H. Midway, Ky.; Gene Custer, Charleston, W. Va.; James Welden, Lawrenceburg, Ind.; Fred Hengs, Eaton, Ohio; E. J. Myers, Chillicothe, Ohio; Chris Pfister, Troy, Ohio; J. H. Davidson, Lynchburg, O.; Lowell White, Lockland, O.; John Murphy, Columbus, O.; Law- rence Keathley, Martin, Ky.

Thomas McMahan of MGM was married recently to the former Joyce Miller of Wau- kegan, Ill.

COLUMBUS

CITY REDUCES PALACE THEATRE BUILDING TAXES $43,664; SAVES HEADS VET SERVICE

State Board of Tax Appeals has reduced the tax valuation of the RKO Palace Theatre building by $43,664 in a ruling made on an appeal from the figure set by the Franklin County Board of Review. The appeal was filed by the B. F. Keith Co. of Columbus, operators of the Palace, after the board of review had set the figure at $312,400 in 1944. The state board reduced it to $468,736. The Keith Co. had asked a cut to $272,000. It also asked that the $170,250 valuation on the land be slashed from $170,250 to $61,978, but the tax appeal board refused to grant the request.

Cecil Sansbury, who was press representative for Jackson-Murphy Theatres before he joined Uncle Sam, is now chief of motion picture service.

MGM AIRSHIP CHRISTENED BY STAR. In ceremonies at Lakehurst, N. J., recently, attended by newsmen, tradespaper representatives and Naval officers and their wives, the MGM Airship, new advertising dirigible, was christened and launched. Above: rear Admiral Taylor does the bottle-breaking honors as Rear Admiral T. G. W. Settle, commander of the Naval Base; Douglas Leigh, Mrs. Settle, Sid Seadler, MGM advertising manager, and Mrs. Leigh look on.
Cleveland

02 Cleveland Neighborhood Theatres Cooperate with City in Safety Campaign

In cooperation with the Cleveland Safety Council, the Cleveland Police Department, Director of Public Safety Frank D. Celebrezze and the Cleveland Transit Company, 62 neighborhood theatres, all members of the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors Association, will show on their screens a 10-minute subject "It's a Wanton Murder" during Safety Week. Theme of the subject is careless driving.

Nat Wolf, Warner zone manager, staged a double feature luncheon last Thursday in the Theatrical Grill. It was a "welcome home" to Charles Raymond, who returned to active duty as Loew theatre division manager after a ten-month leave of absence and a "farewell and God-speed" to Mike Cullen, who took over the reins during Raymond's illness. Cullen has returned to the Loew home office to await a new assignment. Present at the luncheon were Harry Schreiber, Emil Groth, both of RKO; Howard Burkhart, State theatre manager; Dick Wright, J. Knox Strachan, Eddie Miller, Tony Stern, Lou Rainier, all of Warners, and, of course, the guests of honor.

Marjorie Lillie, secretary to Warner district manager Charles Rich, last week announced her engagement to William Corcoran of this city, and recently released from the Army Air Corps. The wedding will take place November 15.

While Ray Brown, Sr., Warner southern Ohio theatre division manager, is getting over an illness at his home in Springfield, his responsibilities are being shared by Dick Wright, Frank Harpster and "Ike" Elliot.

George W. Erdmann, secretary of The Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors Association, is welcoming visitors at Sunny Acres Sanitorium, Warrensville Center Rd., where he is convalescing from an illness.

John Urbansky, Sr., and Bernard Rubin of Imperial Pictures, will be in New York shortly on a fall buying trip. "Open City," which they are releasing and which just recently received the blessing of the Ohio Censor Board, opened Wednesday at the Lower Mall Theatre, where it follows an extended run of "On Approval."

Sam Sepowlin, Republic district manager, was in town on a routine tour of the offices under his supervision.

Fred Matthews, of Photographic Corp., was in town demonstrating to theatre circuit owners the new post-war AA Photographic projector.

Gertunde Tracy is back at managing Loew's Ohio Theatre after a week's vacation.

Edwin R. Bergman, PRC branch manager and Gordon Bagie, booker, came back from the PRC Atlantic City convention full of enthusiasm over the company's announcements covering the new season's releases. Maury Orr, United Artist western division manager, was here over the week-end to visit Mrs. Orr, who won't give up her local residence until she finds another to take its place in the east where Orr headquarters.

Toronto

ROBBED, THEATRE MANAGER NABS THIEF 2 DAYS LATER; 'HENRY V' SELL-OUT AT $1.80

Following the daring armed hold-up of Manager Charles Greenwood and three members of the staff of the Centre Theatre, London, Ont., with the two bandits securing $50, Assistant Manager Ted Leavens spotted one of the gunmen on the street two days later. A call resulted in a dash by police and the arrest of the thug as he was buying a bottle of spirits.

Recently signed to a film contract by Warner Bros., Susanne Claudier returned from Hollywood to her Ottawa, Ont., home to marry Lieut. Francois LaFleche, who had flown from Athens, Greece, where his father, Hon. L. K. LaFleche is Canadian Ambassador. The bride is the daughter of the King's Printer in the Dominion Government.

The 600-seat International Cinema, under the management of Yvonne Taylor, has been filled to capacity at $1.80 top for every performance of the road-show engagement of "Henry V". The admission scale is the highest ever charged in the Dominion for a film engagement.

Frank H. Fisher of Toronto, Western Division manager of Odeon Theatres of Canada, announced managerial changes affecting 12 theatres.

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REGIONAL NEWSREEL

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31)

... atres of the chain in the Vancouver district, effective September 9, following the resignation of M. Goldin as manager of the Vogue Theatre in the British Columbia city. The changes are in line with consolidation of Odeon theatre personnel for the new season.

The high school student who was found guilty of the stick-bombing of the Prescott Theatre at Prescott, Ont., was placed on suspended sentence for one year and ordered to pay court costs.

Canadian exhibitors have been invited by the Dominion Government to give active cooperation with trailers and advertising for the Savings Bond Campaign in November, which replaces the Victory Loan Drive of the war years. No details have been announced regarding the interest yield or terms of the new-type issue.

Midas Loew's Theatres Limited, Toronto, has declared dividends on both the preferred and common stock, payable September 30, reflecting continued prosperity in the local film field where the company operates Loew's and the Uptown Theatres. Scheduled payment on the common is $1 per share.

Scheduled to produce "The Stronghold" starting this month, Quebec Productions Corp, has announced the signing of Mary Anderson of Hollywood for the feminine lead, following her recent appearance in Paramount's "To Each His Own," which has just completed a two-weeks' run at She'a Theatre, Toronto. President Paul L'Anglaia has previously announced the signing of Paul Lukas and Helmut Dantine for male leads.

PHILADELPHIA

ROBBERS CRACK ROYAL THEATRE SAFE, BUT FAIL TO LIFT $500 HIDDEN IN LOCKED DRAWERS

The Royal Theatre on South Street has been added to the long list of theatres that have been entered by robbers. An old-fashioned safe, with many steel compartments, prevented the thieves from getting away with the theatre's money, when after knocking off the combination dial they were forced to force the locked drawers. The attempted robbery took place last Tuesday night, and according to George Rubins, the manager, between $400 and $500 was in the safe at the time. It was believed the robbers had hidden in the theatre at the close of the show and spent the whole night in their attempt, leaving when the morning cleaning shift reported at 7 a.m.

Roy, the son of Dave Korson, Columbia Sales Manager, was married on Sunday morn-

ing last to Miss Lorraine Bagdon. Roy, the second of Dave's four children is a senior medical student at the Jefferson Hospital.

Bill Brooker, Paramount exploiter, feels that he has a sure bet on the new release "Bette Davis' S" and, on the second floor of the exchange.

Benny Rosenthal, veteran Columbia booker is on vacation. The last one in the exchange to get his leave, Ben really needed his rest when he left the corporation.

David Polland, United Artist's exploiter, is in town lending his talents for the engagement of "Caeasar and Cleopatra."

Mrs. Edna R. Carroll, chairman of the State Board of Motion Picture Censors, became a grandmother recently, when her daughter, Mrs. Rosemary Tarr, gave birth to a ten-pound boy.

It was a girl, the third child born to the Paul Kleinman's. Paul is manager of the Pearl, and was recently discharged from the Army.

Lil Rosentoor, booker at 20th Century-Fox, working on the Spyrus Skouras Drive with District Manager C. E. Peppiatt, flew to Buffalo for a conference in the city.

Charles Krups, Jr., of 20th Century-Fox's foreign department, who has been studying exchange operation here for the past several months, leaves at the end of the week to return to his home office; destination Italy.

Max Miller, local exploiter, who had worked for William Goldman before going into the Army, checked into Republic for his first campaign "I've Always Loved You."

C. G. Keensy of Reading was in town making the final arrangements for the re-opening of the remodeled Plaza Theatre on September 20.

LONDON OBSERVATIONS

MPA TAKES HINT, WILL NAME LONDON P. A.; MORE PAPER TO MAKE MORE SPACE FOR FILMS IN THE PRESS; GETTING READY FOR MORE BALLYHOO; BIG POSTER PLANS

By Jock MacGregor

The MPA has taken heed of our Observations and a London press representative will be appointed shortly to serve with Fay Allport. This will coincide with the relaxation of certain paper restrictions.

Already posters have been freed and now daily papers will have six pages on three days a week and Sundays will have eight pages instead of only on alternate weeks.

It is understood most papers will extend their film features.

Go-ahead publicity men are planning campaigns to grab this extra space and certain American companies are sending experts from Hollywood. The wisdom behind this at the moment, however, may be queried, Britain could do with a little ballyhoo, but the wrong type would do untold damage.

Some visiting Americans for extensive poster campaigns overlooking the fact that all the best sites are booked for months ahead.

While the distributors and theatres have publicity well organized there is room for improvement at the studios where things are too tied with red tape, too dignified. One publicist describing her work on the BBC said "We don't publicize, we represent..." So now we know!

The trouble is that the producers while spending fortunes on films, resent paying to publicize them. Two leading companies employ people for this important task with no previous experience. One group has a scale of expenses permitted for entertaining the press.

David Coplan of UA was host at a Savoy Hotel reception for George Sanders who has been having a holiday at home after completing "Bel Ami." He may appear in the title role of a rehash of "Scarlet Pimpernel" for Korda.

Paramount having received a poor trade press on "Searching Wind" and an excellent National write-ups have put out an ad asking who is right.

Eagle Lion are using 50 prints for "Caesar and Cleopatra" which is being shown in Greater London at all Odeons and key GB houses. This has only happened once before—with "Song of Bernadette." Normal practice is for each circuit to have its own release.

Reading of the fine London Pavilion displays in STIE Manager John Dudman of Na-
Veterans Committee. The Jolson dinner is set for Oct. 1 at the Hotel Astor.

The Philadelphia, monthly publication of Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'rith, edited by Milton Livingston of the Motion Picture Daily, has been cited with an award of honorable mention among the 200 entries in the eighth annual Chapter Bulletin contest. Jack Engel, film Classics branch manager in Philadelphia, visited the home office this week for a conference.

Carol Reed, former British director, was guest of honor at a luncheon tendered by Universal at “21” last Friday for the metropolitan press. Among those present were Matty Fox, Sam Machnovitch, Lewis Blumberg, F. J. A. McCarthy, Monroe Greenthal, David Levy, Fred Myers, F. T. Murray, John J. O'Connor, Charles D. Prutzman, Joe Seidelman, Tony Petri, Adolph Schmel, Jock Lawrence, Jerry Dale, Jack Skirball, Bruce Manning and Oscar Hammerstein II.

Edward L. Hyman, vice-president of Paramount Theatre Service Corp., is back from a trip through the western Massachusetts territory. Samuel Goldstein and Harry B. Smith accompanied him.

“White House,” current “This is America” release, had its New York premiere at the Roxy Theatre on Thursday.

The following have been affected in Century circuit managerial transfers: Abe Goldstein, Helen Beckerman, Edward Schwartzbart, Sidney Nelson, Albert Wasserman, Loy McEachern.

The Paramount Pep Club this week elected a woman to the presidency for the first time since its founding twenty-five years ago. The distinction went to Mrs. Agnes Mengel Grew, purchasing agent at the company’s home office, who succeeded Irving Singer. Others named to serve during 1946-1947 were Al Siegel, vice-president; Albert Skigmna, treasurer, and Lilian May, secretary.

OKLAHOMA CITY

GRIFFITH THEATRES TO SHOW FILM COVERING OKLAHOMA’S WATER RESOURCES SITUATION

A 30-minute motion picture depicting Oklahoma’s water resources is expected to be available for showing in state theatres about October 15, following completion of the filming September 2. Scenes from various state water resources projects were included in the picture, which was planned by the state planning and resources board and produced by the Griffith organization.

J. G. Varrell has succeeded Coy McCullough as manager of the Ramona and Ritz theatres at Frederick. Varrell was with Griffith theatres at Oklahoma City for many years before entering the Army Air Force.

C. J. Oliver, formerly of Hobart, has been named manager of the Griffith theatres at Clinton, replacing Morgan Duval, who has been acting as temporary relief manager.

Griffith Consolidated Theatres Corporation has contracted with a builder who will build a new theatre at Stillwater to double the theatre seating capacity of that city. The circuit now operates the Aggie, Mecca and Campus here. The new theatre will be named the Lenchman, for Claude 'Killer' Scully, William A. Scully, Universal-International's vice-president and general sales manager, and his boys were welcomed by Fox-Intermountain Theatres to U-I's divisional sales meeting in Denver last week via the gag photo-graph shown above. Photo was distributed during cocktail party which followed the meeting. All present enjoyed a hearty laugh.

E. Leuchman, manager of the three Griffith theatres there.

Jess Patton, manager of the Princess and Walmur in Bristow, has completed his new home there.

J. Eldon Peck is set to play host to his many friends September 16 when he holds open house in the new home of his Oklahoma Theatre Supply Company at 628 West Grand Avenue.

DALLAS

RKO DESIGNERS WIN AWARD FOR BEST FILM SETS AT MET OF AMER. INST. OF DECORATORS

The American Institute of Decorators, holding its national fall conference here September 5-14 presented an award to Production Designer W. B. Inben and Assistant Production Designer Victor Ganz for the most outstanding motion picture sets produced during the past 12 months. The sets were for the film "Tomorrow Is Forever" an RKO-Radio picture.

G. Rufus Layton, part owner of the Gem, Monogram and Palace at Childress, died in a hospital there after a lengthy illness.

Harry H. Geaves has been named manager of the Fredericksburg Road Drive-In Theatre at San Antonio.

Last week’s rains in west Texas drew many a sigh of relief from theatre men whose business had been falling off sharply as one of the costliest droughts that area had ever seen had set in and was killing crops. The rains came and business picked up again almost immediately.

Tom Griffin has purchased the Bobby Wal-
wage rate for the industry, it was said. A family of four needs $74 a week to balance the budget, according to another CIO survey.

With the summer season over, theatres are reopening and new theatres are beginning to appear. The State (Ted Harris, manager) and Bushnell Memorial (William Mortensen, managing director) have reopened in Hartford after summer closings. E. M. Loew's Capitol, Providence, which was damaged by fire several months ago, has been reopened, following renovations.

Along the New Haven exchange row—Car- los Spear is now assistant treasurer, New Haven Shubert; Harry Wenzel, National Screen, was in New York on vacation. Jerry Massamino of the MGM exchange has resigned to manage the Center Spa, next to the Cameo Theatre in West Haven. Elsie Jacobs is the new girl at RKO exchange. Max Salamone of PRC was down in Atlantic City for the PRC convention. Bernie Levy of Amalgamated Theatres was in Hartford.

**MILWAUKEE**

MEDNIKOW, CELEBRATING START OF DIRECT N.S.S. SERVICE, PLAYS HOST TO THEATREMAN

Johnny Mednikow, manager of the National Screen Service office here, gave a party for 400 guests on Tuesday to celebrate the graduation of the Milwaukee office from sales to full service. Herefore Milwaukee account men of NSS were supplied out of the company's Chicago exchange, but henceforth the local branch will have its own vaults and other facilities for servicing accounts direct.

The Milwaukee executives of United Artists exchange, Bob Allen, branch manager, John Bartlett, office manager, and several salesmen of this branch office, attended the annual district business meeting of United Artists at Chicago last month. Managers and their assistants from other cities of the district—Indianapolis, Minneapolis, St. Paul and Chicago—also attended.

At Monroe, Wis., the Goetz and Chalet theatres are having their marquees redecorated. The Goetz Theatre to celebrate its 15th year of operation this fall.

The question of selling the municipal theatre at Marinette, Wis., to Maurice E. Cannauck for $15,000 is still under advisement, and the matter may have to be settled at a city election in November. One requirement, if the house is sold to a private party, is that the hall will be available to civic, educational and other organizations, providing that the total rental occasions do not exceed twenty per year. Each group renting the theatre or hall would pay the expense of operating the house for that day or other period.

Activity is again evidenced at the location for the new Television Theatre, to be built for Fox-Wisconsin Amusement Corporation in Milwaukee at the city's busiest downtown intersection. Protection for street passengers is again being erected, and it is expected that construction work will commence as soon as permission can be obtained for materials.

"Voice of Theatre Speakers" JOE HORNSTEIN has it!

**VACATIONING** Ann Rutherford, who recently finished her role in Samuel Goldwyn's "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," which RKO Radio will release, arrives in New York with her husband, David May, for a vacation.

**CHICAGO**

**HARVEY, ILL. THEATRE JOINS ALLIED GROUP; ENGLEWOOD HOUSE GRANTED THIRD RUNS**

Jack Kirsch, president of Allied Illinois, announced last week that the Era Theatre, Harvey, Ill., owned by J. B. Rubin, has joined both the Allied Theatres of Illinois and the Allied buying and booking organization. In addition to the Era Theatre, Mr. Rubin owns the Hawthorne Theatre, Cicero, which is also a member of the Allied group.

The Engelwood Theatre of the Kempten Beatty circuit has been granted third run bookings, advanced from general release.

P. J. Dee, president, S. J. Gregory, James Gregory, George Doerr, James Brandt, Lou Harris and Pete Panagos of the Chicago headquarters of the Alliance circuit have returned from the Indianapolis meeting. Awards for the 11th annual summer drive of the circuit were presented by General Manager S. J. Gregory.

Louis Helm, business agent, and H. C. Rohrback, secretary, of Studio Union 724, Hollywood, are here for the Service and Utilities convention. Accompanying them are Sam Sadler, Republic studio; L. C. Davies, 20th-Fox; Norval Garrand, Columbia; and U. Loran and Henry Berman, Warners.

Van Nomikos, Allied vice-president, has returned from an eastern trip.

The Balaban & Katz theatres are celebrating the 34th anniversary of Paramount this week with all Paramount shows.

Frank Smith, RKO Theatres western division manager, is confined to Oak Park Hospital for an operation.

The Variety Club board of directors are meeting this week to consider the rebuilding of the Chicago headquarters.

The Chicago Censor Board reports 400,000 feet of film inspected during August. There were 37 cuts in 57 films, with one rejected, for adults only.

Al Binenfeld, manager of the Essaness 400 Theatre, is back at home after a siege of illness at the Michael Reese Hospital.

Back from vacations: Norman Kassell, Essaness circuit; Irving Kupcinet, Times columnist; D. O. Dunbar, attorney for the Morris Theatre interests; Speros Papas of Alliance; P. J. Dee, president of Alliance.

Lou Amour, auditor for Mid-States Theatre circuit, died recently. He is survived by his wife and daughter. Barial was at Witch Lake, Mich.

Al Winston of the 20th-Fox publicity department reports the birth of a son, Alan Lawrence Winston.

**KANSAS CITY**

**PRC PROMOTES BEVERLY MILLER TO DISTRICT MANAGER'S POST; FRUIT'S SELL NEW THEATRE**

Beverly Miller, local PRC branch manager, has been elevated to a district manager's post in the organization. Maurice Shubert takes over from Miller here.

Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Pruitt have sold their new theatre at Cabool to Mrs. Mildred Routh, who has theatres in three other Missouri towns.

September 15 is the opening date set for the Kesner Theatre at LeRoy, Kansas, which has been closed for some time. Marvin C. Shaw, war vet, will operate the house.

Jack Doty has taken over the management of the Dickinson Theatre at Olathe, Kansas, replacing Willard Ausmus, resigned, to go into business for himself.

Recent changes of ownership in this area include the Royal at Leonardville from Ed Sikks and John Stafford to Merle Faildender; the Royal at Thayer by Mr. and Mrs. John Beck from Mrs. Margaret Beck; the Iris at Clifton, Kansas, by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Eber- wein.

The Spuyten Duyver drive here is going good after that recent "pep" visit from Jack Lorentz, 20th-Fox district manager in the Great Lakes district, and Ann Sullife, booker in the Chicago branch. They came here from St. Louis.

Beverly Miller, N. B. Cresswell, Nathan Gould, Jack Campbell and Al Liles of the local PRC office back from that Atlantic City convention.

Bud Abbott and Lou Costello attracted 1,800 Kansas Citians for their show here.

**INDIANAPOLIS**

**CHARLES J. WOLF DIES AT 72; HEADED Y & W MANAGEMENT CORP.; STARTED CHAIN IN 1917**

Charles J. Wolf, 72, head of the Y & W Management Corporation, which operates 27 theatres in the state, died last Sunday in St. Vincent's Hospital here. A partner of V. U. Young of Gary, he entered the theatre business in 1917, with two theatres in Gary, in the days of the nickelodeons. The company is now managed by a nephew, Marc J. Wolf, of Indianapolis. Survivors, besides the nephew, are a sister, Mrs. Ruth Levi of Boston, Mass.; a brother, Leo Wolf of Indianapolis, and three other nephews.

Homer Knox, of the Republic sales organization covering southern Indiana and Kentucky territory, was stricken by a heart attack and is now confined to his home in Bloomfield, Ind.

Herman Morgan, Republic salesman who has tried to locate a house for more than a year, has finally found one after overcoming endless obstacles.

Russell Blecke, Republic office manager, returned from his vacation spent at Wisconsin (Continued on Page 41)
LIGHTING the THEATRE
(Three Pages of Charts)

(See Pages E-7, 8, 9)
Your Pictures can be Twice as Bright!

Simpler
High

PROJECTION ARC LAMPS

*Deliver twice as much light as the low intensity lamp, bringing out all the fine photographic details, with only slight increase in operating cost.

*Project the snow-white light that is absolutely essential to the satisfactory projection of Technicolor pictures. The light of the low intensity is yellow by comparison and in projection changes the color values of the film.

*Low in original cost. Within reach of all theatres.

Distributed Exclusively by

NATIONAL
THEATRE SUPPLY
Division of National - Simplex - Budworth, Inc.

"There's a Branch Near You"
The Economics of Drive-In Theatres

"Boom" Era Experience With Choice of Site, Construction Costs, Type of Patronage to Be Expected, Successful Operating Policies

PROFITABLE BUSINESS, but not a gold mine—this appears to be the verdict on drive-ins after a summer of intensive interest and experience under present boom conditions.

"Once thought otherwise, but at present construction costs we have been effectively disillusioned," said one exhibitor who operates a chain of them.

Nevertheless this exhibitor, like others, plans to expand his chain of drive-ins—They are profitable; not fantastically so.

First cost can be the vital factor in the ultimate profit-and-loss statement, experience shows; and the most important factor in first cost is the correct choice of a site. Those who have had the experience, and have paid for their mistakes, say nothing could be more untrue than the idea that two seemingly identical sites lying side by side are of equal value. They say more problems enter into the choice of a site than meet the eye, and that the eye is a very incompetent judge.

Choosing a Site

Grading is a major expense. A good natural slope is therefore a highly important advantage. But the mere appearance of a site does not give even an even slightly accurate indication of the true topography. In this matter experience is no help.

Not only can the cost of grading an average site run to one-third of the total cost of the drive-in, but to much more than that if the original selection was unwise. Only one procedure has been found safe in buying a location—take an option first, pending complete engineering surveys and an accurate estimate by the architect on the quantity of material that must be moved in grading. Any other method of buying is a gamble—and very likely a lose.

Grading, furthermore, must be very accurate. It may seem absurd to say that it must be accurate to the inch, but such can be the case. Sight lines may suffer if the grading is even one inch wrong, particularly with respect to those who occupy the rear seats in the patrons' cars.

Three other vital considerations bearing on the choice of a site are the nature of the soil, the availability of water, and the physical relation between the lot and the highway outside.

The wrong kind of soil, like the wrong original slope, can add enormously to the cost of the project. Both drainage and sewage problems enter into this. After the area has been surfaced rain cannot soak in and must drain off. What kind of soil will be available to receive it? If clay, the water still will not soak in, but form puddles, and it may prove necessary to go to the expense of building concrete-curb catch basins.

City sewers are seldom available, and septic tanks will not drain well into a clay soil. In such cases it may become compulsory to acquire additional land for use as a seepage field; to excavate clay from this to a depth of several feet, substituting gravel and straw; to install pumps at the septic tank; and to run several hundred feet of pipe from the septic tank to the disposal field.

If a porous soil is chosen to begin with, both these sewage costs and needless drainage construction can be avoided. As to the availability of water, not much is required but some is indispensable, and it must be pure. To drive a well at $5 a foot may not sound very costly, but if it proves necessary to go down 1,000 feet that is another five thousand dollars added to the project.

If the highway is on an embankment higher than the theatre, and if it forms a curve or angle with respect to the theatre, headlights of passing cars may be thrown into the eyes of the audience, necessitating a still further investment for protective fencing.

These four factors: relation to the highway, availability of water, nature of soil and original slope, have been found to make the all the difference between a highly profitable investment and a very dubious one.

Construction Costs

According to information compiled by SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, drive-ins at present cost an average of $230.00 per car for construction. Commonly held ideas that they can be run up for $100.00 per car or less appear to be without any trace of foundation.

The average screen structure costs about $30,000. It must be very strongly built and braced, and heavily anchored, to enable it to withstand the wind pressure against a surface of such size. The larger the theatre, of course, the larger the screen must be.

Grading an average site, at present prices, costs another $30,000; much more if the location was poorly chosen. Again, the larger the theatre, the greater the cost.

Similarly the size of the theatre governs the number of in-car speakers to be used and the expense of installing them; and naturally bears on the price paid for the lot to begin with.

The projection-room and -rest-room house, however, is relatively independent of the size of the enterprise. With its plumbing, and its projection and sound equipment, this item in all drive-ins can be estimated today at roughly $30,000.

Type of Patronage

Contrary to the widespread opinion, there is very little disorderly conduct among most drive-in audiences. The typical customers are not young people out for a good time, but family groups. Mama is dead set on getting out of the house for an evening, but papa doesn't want to change his working clothes, and anyhow there's no one to stay with the kids. So they pile the kids into the back seat of the car—let 'em go to sleep there if they want to—and off for the drive-in.

No need to dress, no need to wear shoes, papa can smoke his pipe if he wants to, they can bring along a bottle of beer if they like. The kids are with them and safe. There's no parking problem; no dragging sleepy children home on a crowded bus.

Both bookings and exploitation are usually addressed to this kind of family patronage.

Operating Policies

Drive-ins can charge admission prices per patron (not per car) comparable with those of first-run theatres in the same territory, although drive-ins seldom show first runs. Usually they follow every other house in the neighborhood.

Exploitation is handled in the same way as for any theatre.

Personnel costs are comparable. Car boys take the place of ushers; there is no other important difference.

Refreshment sales bring in about the same percentage of revenue as in any other operation. However, the size of the theatre makes it advisable and profitable to peddle refreshments from car to car.

Maintenance costs are lower. A drive-in has no heat, no cooling, no carpets and no chairs. But maintenance is not as cheap as some believe. Rain and frost damage the ramp surfaces and loosen speaker posts. Keeping so large an area clean is also a substantial problem.

In most American climates, drive-ins operate only 26 weeks per year. Where 52-week operation has been tried financial (Continued on Page E-22)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Memo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 16</td>
<td>Replace broken skylights, check roofs, flashing, while outdoor working conditions are favorable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 17</td>
<td>Have all weighing scales re-checked to assure your patrons accurate weight for their pennies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 18</td>
<td>If cleaners use work lamps, arc cords, plugs and sockets all in good, safe condition?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 19</td>
<td>Time for another check-up on curtain control motors, switches, mechanism and trim.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 20</td>
<td>Have you considered cleaning the front of your theatre with steam or sand blast process?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 21</td>
<td>Are you keeping down phone charges? Make sure your extensions are not accessible to the public.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 22</td>
<td>Have vacuum cleaners serviced for more efficient results on the part of your cleaning staff.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 23</td>
<td>Prepare autumn mats in warm colors for display frames. Freshen frames themselves with varnish.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 24</td>
<td>Make inventory check of all supplies, stock room arrangement, clean and orderly shelves.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 25</td>
<td>Check ticket machine motor, mechanism and cutting knives. Upright in polishing top plate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 26</td>
<td>Recheck every ladder used by any employee to avoid accident and injury claim by employee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 27</td>
<td>Are you getting exciting changeover of both picture and sound at every reel of every show?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 28</td>
<td>Time to re-check carpet condition with special attention to stair edges and exit-entrance areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 29</td>
<td>Have summer seat covers laundered and packed away in moth-proof packing for next season.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 30</td>
<td>Is autumn candy set-up appealing to the eye? Rascal slow-moving items by improved display.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 1</td>
<td>If new drinking water refrigeration is turned off for winter consult mfr. on how to close it down.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 2</td>
<td>Time for another check-up of chairs to assure comfort and safety and prolong their life.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 3</td>
<td>Remind sign changers to avoid propping ladders against metal channel facings of marquee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 4</td>
<td>Promote tidiness and pride in good work by removing projection room in fresh, clean colors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 5</td>
<td>Do cleaners move furniture each time they sweep or dust? Avoid odors from accumulated dirt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 6</td>
<td>Make sure furnace, flues are clean, unobstructed, before starting heating plant for the winter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 7</td>
<td>Check kick plates on all entrance and lobby doors. They will benefit by occasional varnishing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 8</td>
<td>If Columbus Day is important to your patrons, prepare flags, decorations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 9</td>
<td>Check water tower and its supports, paint all rusted areas, while outdoor conditions permit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 10</td>
<td>Check outdoor billboards and poster panels for security of anchorage under winter conditions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 11</td>
<td>Revise schedule for outside lighting for earlier sunset time; check up on compliance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 12</td>
<td>Check upright sign supports, cables and wiring to obviate storm damage. Paint rusted areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 13</td>
<td>Are fire escapes rust-free? All counterbalance types in good working condition.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Showmanship, Not Science, Determines Theatre Lighting

Wide Differences of Opinion Among Council Experts Indicate That Their Lighting Practices Are Partly Based on Esthetic Considerations

It is evident that theatre lighting is not a science!

How to arrange the illumination of the theatre, what kind of lamps to use at each location, how to control lighting and so on, produced enormous differences of opinion at this month’s meeting of the Theatre Advisory Council.

On one point at issue not a single member could be found in agreement with any other member! It was a little like the Paris peace conference.

Nothing could more clearly dramatize the role of showmanship in lighting the theatre than the fact that these experts almost completely disagreed with each other on almost every point.

Auditorium Light

The extreme example centered around the desirable level of illumination for the auditorium. Here are a few of the opinions:

“The highest possible level that does not interfere with the screen.”

“As low as possible.”

“A fairly high level.”

“Sufficient light so people can see when their eyes become accustomed.”

“Five footcandles.”

“One and a half to two footcandles.”

“Depends on the audience: more light for children, less for adults.”

Two members noted that the lighting should in any case be bright enough to facilitate seating and minimize accidents. Variable intensity, high at the back of the auditorium but decreasing toward the screen, was the preference of others.

The desirability of locating lighting fixtures where they will not be distracting to the patrons also was noted, and one member insisted that no fixtures except indirect brackets or lighting troughs be used during the showing of the picture.

In the matter of the approaches to the auditorium the strongest majority that formed on any question of the meeting favored a gradually decreasing illumination from the box office to the patron’s seat.

But here as everywhere there was dissent.

“Use the same level from the box-office to the auditorium,” was one recommendation.

“No, the distance between box-office and auditorium has to be taken into consideration. The lobby might be too brilliant and the foyer too dim.”

Dimmers were preferred by some, but disliked by others on the ground that they give trouble. A compromise view was proposed:

“Provided the transformer type of dimmer is used. Also switches should be so located that the manager can throw lights on full in case of emergency.”

“We have obtained longer life of light bulbs with switches than with dimmers, and dimmers are a source of continual maintenance.”

“Yes, dimmers burn out.”

“I prefer dimmers; they give us very flexible lighting control.”

“Yes, they provide better control of the light.”

Still another view was:

“Switches in small houses, dimmers in large ones.”

“Either is satisfactory if properly handled. Dimmers are not always practical in small houses but remain the standby of most larger ones— with adequate help.”

Practically total disagreement appeared again on the question of fluorescent versus incandescent. One member likes incandescent only in the auditorium; another only on stairs and in foyers, and a third nowhere inside the theatre but only under the marquee. Others again strongly prefer the incandescent, and use tubes very sparingly, if at all.

Objections to fluorescent tubes ranged from transformer hum to flickering, and a number of members also noted that a wider variety of colors is available in incandescent bulbs.

Types of Lamps

“We do not like fluorescent lamps except possibly in lounges, toilets and offices. They flicker. Their performance is uncertain. Neon tubes are satisfactory both inside and outside the theatre, in warm climates.”

“We do not use fluorescent lighting owing to cold winter climate which prevents the tubes starting and working properly. Color effects cannot be gained as readily. We use some neon for cove and display lighting.”

“We prefer incandescent in exposed locations, and in the auditorium because of the flicker of fluorescents.”

“We prefer incandescent for auditorium lighting. There is no transformer hum. They are adapted to smaller fixtures, can be used in a greater variety of colors. They are available in smaller wattages.”

Yet, (as already noted) other members prefer fluorescent and use the incandescent type as little as possible. One said:

“We prefer incandescent only where a large amount of illumination is required in a small area.”

Where incandescent are used, a limited use of reflectors was favored by the majority.

“For spotlighting and in advertising (Continued on Page E-23)
It's no wonder that theatres everywhere are installing

**Wagner**

**Colored Translucent Plastic Letters**

-No others afford such a gorgeous display!

-No others afford complete safety!

-Colors go all the way through. Cannot chip or scale. Never require painting.
  -4", 10" and 17" sizes.

Write today for free catalog or see your theatre supply dealer

**Wagner Sign Service, Inc.**

218 S. Hoyne Avenue

Chicago 12, Ill.

-Window-Type Marquee Frames
-Looby Display Units
-Transparencies and Frames

-Translucent Colored Plastic Letters
-Mounting Strips for Plastic Letters
Lighting the Theatre

Herewith are presented three pages of charts showing the type and location of every lamp, and footcandle readings in every area, in a typical theatre.
Illumination Charts for Lobby, Foyer and Auditorium

REPRESENTING the fruit of long and patient experiment, these drawings showing desirable illumination levels and lamping are presented here through the kind courtesy of Mr. Dick Dickson, of National Theatres Amusement Company, a member of the STR Theatre Advisory Council.

Charts on the preceding page represent (at top) the plan of the foyer, mezzanine and lounges, and (below) the front and marquee. Here shown are the first floor plan, and a section through the centerline of the building.

With respect to front and marquee, only the level of illumination in foot candles is indicated; the other three drawings give in addition the exact size, color, number and position of lamps used.
Gradation of lighting intensity can be clearly traced: for example, from under the marquee, where the general level is 130 footcandles, through successive stages to the auditorium proper, which has one-half footcandle throughout. In the exit alley behind the screen illumination is held down to 1/10th footcandle.

Readers will note that where the illumination level is less than one footcandle it is set down in these drawings in decimal fractions—as .5 FC, etc.
The gears of peacetime industry ARE slowly beginning to grind! It IS becoming possible for a theatre to place an order and actually get delivery. Some items of supply, including a number that are of outstanding importance, still are not available at this date of more than a year after the end of the war. Others, however, definitely are coming through now, and this page pictures a few, new and old, that are rolling out of the factories as of today.

In the center of the page is shown the extremely efficient Bausch & Lomb Super-Cinephor coated-surface lens, first used in 1940 for projection of "Gone With the Wind" but unavailable to theatres since Pearl Harbor. These lenses have a speed of f:2.0 instead of f:2.3 as in the case of the older Cinephor series, and very markedly increase the light on the screen. When they first appeared on the market Loew's instantly contracted for a sufficient number to supply the entire Loew chain; and other theatres were installing them as fast as they could get them when the war cut off the supply. It will be good news to many who were disappointed then to know that Bausch & Lomb at last has these lenses back in production for theatre use.

At top left is pictured American Seating Company's 1946 model Bodiform theatre chair. It is equipped with an automatic hinge that brings the seat up more than half way, but not all the way, when the patron rises. This "three quarter fold" enables customers who are fumbling for their places in unaccustomed darkness to be seated without feeling for and pushing down the chair seat; and it is similarly convenient to patrons who courteously rise for a moment to let others pass in or out.

Pictured at upper right is DeVry Corporation's new weatherproof individual car speaker. Two of these units mount on each terminal box within easy reach of the cars parked at either side. They are adapted to be attached readily to the car window or sun visor. Each speaker has its own volume control, by which patrons adjust the sound to suit themselves. Before DeVry introduced them, the housings were tested and proved safe for operation under adverse conditions more intense than any weather they can encounter in drive-in operation, even during the colder months of the year. The speaker units are of the permanent magnet type, with five-inch cones.

Adjustable for either four-inch or five-inch reel hubs, including exchange reels, the new "mule" shown at bottom left is a development of L. D. "Larry" Strong of Essannay Electric Manufacturing Company. It is an inexpensive device for emergency use in the projec-
A great many small movie houses have discovered that Simplified High Intensity Projection pays off handsomely at the box office! It's a sure bet that this inexpensive form of high intensity projection can sell more tickets for you too!

Here's why: One-Kilowatt High Intensity Projection gives you a 50-100% brighter screen. It provides a snow-white light, specially adapted to color pictures. This means sharper, more easily-seen black-and-white images — richer, more beautiful color scenes.

Such high quality projection will give your patrons a bigger kick out of seeing pictures in your theatre. Naturally, this will bring them back again and again!

So put Simplified High Intensity Projection to work. It will sell extra tickets for you—at little, if any, additional cost.

Consult your supply house on the availability of High Intensity Lamps

NATIONAL CARBON COMPANY, INC.

Unit of Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation
The word "National" is a registered trade-mark of National Carbon Company, Inc.

30 East 42nd Street, New York 17, N. Y.
Division Sales Offices: Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Kansas City, New York, Pittsburgh, San Francisco
William Ostenberg's

MIDWEST

Scottsbluff
Nebr.

“Singing Star” tower screen, illuminated in eight colors, replaces more usual vertical name sign.

Among the out of ordinary features that distinguish the Midwest is the star tower screen. It replaces the commoner vertical name sign. Made of stainless steel, and floodlighted at night by 64 spots which flash eight different colors in a four-minute cycle, the whole pattern is modeled after the “Singing Stars” tower of the San Francisco World Fair. Above screen and tower rise two curved neon lighting systems, and topping these again are two white mercury lamps operated by flashers and said to be visible up to a distance of 20 miles.

A marquee fifty feet long spans the entire front of the building.

Nine Herculite glass doors provide entrance and egress. The box office, located inside the lobby, has a sloping window of plexiglas transparent plastic. The lobby is otherwise finished in satin aluminum and stainless steel trim, with seven-color terrazzo flooring.

By contrast, the foyer is draped, carpeted and softly lighted. During the day it is partly illuminated through translucent Leverex glass which permits diffused sunlight to enter. This feature is simultaneously ornamental in itself and one that permits further decoration of the foyer by means of living potted plants.

A total of 865 yards of carpeting is used throughout, all laid over Ozite. Seats are Kroehler push-back chairs. Sound equipment is by RCA.

One of the smaller but highly striking features of the Midwest is the fact that each door is provided with three stainless steel doorknobs, at various levels. The lower two are for children.

Thermostatically controlled “winter and summer” air conditioning equipment includes humidity control and germicidal treatment of the air. It is capable of replacing 54,000 cu. ft. of air per minute.

William H. Ostenberg is president and W. M. “Bill” Boston is general manager of the Midwest Amusement and Realty Company. The Midwest Theatre is managed by Ralph H. Frame. Charles D. Strong of Denver, Colorado, was its architect.

Auditorium decorated in Louis XIV style with color scheme of gold, blue, cerise and peach.

Well-lit refreshment stand in softly illuminated lobby. Lounges are up the three steps to the right.
This is a laboratory theatre where projection must be perfect!

Before the design of any Strong lamp is definitely adopted, performance screen checks are made in our own projection room under actual theatre conditions. Uniformity of field, uniform light steadiness and distribution, screen brilliancy and freedom from color change are measured and recorded with sensitive graphic meters that plot the entire screen area, so that the performance of the lamp can be carefully analyzed.

When a lamp passes all the tests, proves that it will stand up under the most grueling usage, and meets the high standard of performance that is demanded of all Strong equipment it is then, and only then, ready for production and delivery to you. So, when you buy Strong projection lighting equipment you know you're getting the best product of its kind that money can buy.

Furthermore, Strong research does not stop with work on projection arcs, but includes rectifiers and reflectors which similarly call for painstaking care in development so that their functions may be properly coordinated with those of the lamp.

The Strong Electric Corp.
87 City Park Avenue
Toledo 2, Ohio
The Ideal Relationship Between Manager and Projection Room

Council Members Prefer Amicable Supervision, Not Too Detailed, With Harmonious Teamwork the Principal Objective

what is the best form of relationship between the manager and projection room? To what extent should the manager supervise and what rights should he have to the projectionists? In what ways can a centralized projection department or a servicing company assist us all in the daily routine? Taking up one detail of operation after another, the month’s meeting of the STR Projection Advisory Council not only evoked members’ views on specific problems and also made it very plain that in their opinion the maintenance of harmonious relations among all concerned is tuly as important as the choice of a particular method for getting work done. Sometimes more important. On a number of points of dispute, members interrupted with: “Settle it in whatever manner harmony prevails.” Or: “Fix it to mutual satisfaction.”

“Don’t ‘dog’ good men who take an interest in their work,” was another comment.

And these theatre chain Supervisors of Projection further made it very clear that in their view the individual manager in the individual theatre should know everything that is on going in his projection room, technologically and otherwise. He should keep himself completely informed. Differences of opinion arose only with respect to methods of doing this.

Inspections

Should the manager inspect the projection room personally from time to time? —yes! On that point there was no dissent whatever. The manager ought to go up there frequently.

How often? And should he appear by routine or unexpectedly?

A small majority favor weekly inspections. A substantial minority prefer daily visits. One member said: “Daily inspections preferred, but we’ll settle for twice a week.”

Another added: “It really depends on conditions, and on the calibre of the projectionists.”

The great majority advocate unexpected visits to the projection room. A minority prefer a daily inspection, preferably before the opening of the first show, or between shows.

As to whether the manager should inspect merely the general condition and cleanliness of the room and equipment, or go further, into the technical details of apparatus, a slim majority want him to check on everything, but as one member qualified this: “Provided he’s capable of inspecting apparatus.”

Others said that he should confine himself to the general appearance and cleanliness.

“General cleanliness, neatness of supplies, absence of inflammable material, absence of open film.”

“He should inspect the general appearance and neatness and be advised by the projectionists on the condition of the apparatus.”

“A general inspection, and for the rest consult the projectionists.”

Records

There was a small trend in favor of the manager taking personal charge of the spare parts situation, but a substantial minority thought this should be left to the projectionists.

“The manager should keep a running inventory of spare parts—and advise our department.”

“The manager should keep the spare parts record and see that spares are always at hand.”

“The manager should keep a running inventory unless the company has its own service department. When that is the case they will furnish the manager with the details.”

“Spare parts are the responsibility of the manager.”

Others felt very differently.

“The manager should not be bothered with spare parts. Let him see to it that his projectionists have a properly drawn up log, that they keep it up to date, and that they report to him from time to time.”

“Certainly. Entrust this to the projectionists.”

“We leave this to the projectionists. Our department gets a duplicate record.”

With respect to the life of parts, how long they last in service and how often this or that one needs to be replaced, a similarly wide division of views manifested itself: with, however, the additional suggestion that the servicing company can prove helpful.

“Let the servicing company keep this record and keep the manager informed.”

“The servicing company and the theatre chain’s projection department should keep these records.”

But then, again:

“Better for the manager to keep the record, after consultation with the projectionists.”

“The manager should handle this matter because he is responsible for expenditures.”

And a third view:

“The manager has too many other things to do, but still he is responsible. He can see to it that a properly set-up record

(Continued on Page E-27)
**SEPT. 16**
Do you check all prints in and out to make sure YOUR equipment is not damaging them?

**SEPT. 20**
Do you observe quiet in the projection room at all times to avoid annoying the audience?

**SEPT. 24**
Are arc lamp switch contacts burned? Dress them with sandpaper or replace as necessary.

**SEPT. 28**
Do you mop up any dripping or leaking oil at once and correct cause for such condition?

**OCT. 2**
Are all projection sound optical surfaces clean—including projection port glass?

**OCT. 6**
Is sound track alignment the best possible to avoid sprocket hole and frame line noise?

**OCT. 10**
Listen to sound critically: any flutter or wow? Remedy cope in sound head or projector.

**SEPT. 17**
Do you make it a rule to report prints received in unsatisfactory or dangerous condition?

**SEPT. 21**
If you have a spare mechanism are you certain it is in condition for instant use in emergency?

**SEPT. 25**
Are any power switch contacts in poor condition? Sandpaper, repair or replace as necessary.

**SEPT. 29**
Test each loudspeaker unit INDIVIDUALLY for volume, quality and rattle-free operation.

**SEPT. 33**
Is the takeup action smooth and correct; are belts or chains taut and not excessively worn?

**OCT. 7**
Using a watch, check the starting time of both projector motors. Have they slowed down?

**OCT. 11**
Check fire shutters of projectors for reliability; check action of part safety shutters.

**SEPT. 18**
If your monitor speaker is located where you need high volume, have you asked to have it moved?

**SEPT. 22**
Are your projection reelsElemented and in good condition. If not, have you ordered new ones?

**SEPT. 26**
Do you clean your spare parts cabinet periodically; throw out junk, inventory spare?

**SEPT. 30**
Is projector vibration increasing? Chuck carefully for the cause and remedy it promptly.

**OCT. 4**
Check readings of tube meters; replace tubes as necessary for quality and reliable operation.

**OCT. 8**
Inspect tungsten rectifier tube filaments. Replace all tubes that show any serious filament sap.

**OCT. 12**
Inspect all projector and sound head parts for mechanical wear. Order replacements now.

**SEPT. 19**
Is the arc generator so noisy, or does it vibrate so seriously, as to be annoying to patrons?

**SEPT. 23**
Is the film cabinet in good condition, with all doors fitting snugly and operating quietly?

**SEPT. 27**
Have you checked recently on condition of changeover mechanism, rewinder, film splicer?

**OCT. 1**
Test volume controls. Correct or replace any that are not COMPLETELY noiseless in operation.

**OCT. 5**
Is rectifier cooling fan behaving normally? Rectifier operating at the proper temperature?

**OCT. 9**
Watch the screen carefully during showing of titles for even slight travel ghost.

**OCT. 13**
Test each loudspeaker unit INDIVIDUALLY for volume, quality and rattle-free operation.
ACOUSTICAL MATERIAL. With today's sound equipment, acoustics rather than apparatus constitutes the major design problem. For the first time, the theater that was acoustically satisfactory for the better known sound film was better suited to popular sound films. A movie theater can now sound as good as they look. As higher acoustical standards are proposed and met, a body of knowledge is being generated—what sound is, how it is controlled, what the limits of it are. The result is a higher level of equipment and a higher level of design and building. (21)

AIR CONDITIONING. Varieties of conditioning equipment are available to blowers and selecters, so that their standard is now, essentially, one of selection. There is no reason, or need, to cover an enormous range of mechanical devices and consequent conditioning systems. Every designer and equipment manufacturer offers conditioning apparatus. Location, availability, cost and comfort are factors that many other factors enter into the problem of intelligent selection and should be matched against the nature and capabilities of equipment available. A number of very different devices are available for securing desirable comfort. (21)

ANCHORING DEVICES. When a two-hundred pound stage curtain is pulled into a theatre curtain not only the curtain but the anchoring devices may take a severe wrench. Expansion, contraction, the weather, time and a century for just such strains. We can send you a folder issued by Chicago Builders and Furnishers that describes untested anchoring devices. The use is not recommended, but describes an example of disease adapted to anchoring machinery, hundreds, lifting stage. (21)

CURTAIN CONTROLS. The loss of the pull of chops in the curtain varies according to the decorative scheme; the larger the number of units, the more they tend to go out of proportion. (21)

DRIVE IN THEATRES. Very detailed information about the planning, construction and operation of drive-in theatres is given in a booklet prepared by R.C.A. copy of which we will be glad to send you without obligation; (21)

FURNITURE. It is all depends on the decorative scheme, but if your lounges and foyers are modern and your theatre is, too, you are most likely to be interested in modern, with modern chairs and tables. Metal furniture consisting of chairs and tables or upholstered chairs and tables is the most easily maintained, and the most nearly indestructible. If you want tables with a lot of parts, that do work, then Steel Furniture Co. has brought out a full color brochure of furniture that will fit the modern theatre. (21)

LIGHTING. The modern theatre lures with light. A new lighting company, Electric Light and Color Co., cover the subject of theatre lighting techniques and techniques in a single. (21)

REQUEST FOR LITERATURE

I am interested in the equipment data mentioned in the Literature Bureau column. Send me booklets checked below, immediately:

[ ] 1  [ ] 2  [ ] 3  [ ] 4  [ ] 5  [ ] 6  [ ] 7  [ ] 8

Name ____________________________
Address ____________________________
City ____________________________
State ____________________________

Equipment Literature Bureau
Showmen's Trade Review, 324 North 2nd Street, Brooklyn 1, N. Y.

9/14/46
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KROEHLER PUBLIC SEATING DIVISION

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206 LEXINGTON AVENUE, NEW YORK 16, NEW YORK
The Projectionists
Speak Their Minds

The Men on the Job Write Their Views
To STR's Projection Advisory Council

Box 62
New Haven, Ind.
19 August, 1946

Projection Advisory Council
Showmen's Trade Review
1501 Broadway
New York, N. Y.

Gentlemen:
Having just completed reading the letter sent you by Mr. Earl Ruple, published in the August 17th issue of STR, I take my hat off and say Amen to every single word in that letter.

Time and again I have written to various trade magazines about the very same subjects but my letters were not interesting enough to publish.

One thing Mr. Ruple left out was the simple fact that some exhibitors are too stingy and tight to spend a few dollars for a good splicer and cue marker.

One exhibitor I worked for in the State of Ohio stressed this point to me so strongly that I purchased my own cue marker, and then when he found it out made me remove it from the projection room saying that such equipment was a waste of money and was unnecessary.

Some exhibitors still do not seem to realize that the projection room is the heart of their theatre and that poor projection caused by poor equipment shows at the box office.

To some owners a cue marker or a good splicer may seem a waste of money, but they will find out it will pay.

George E. Tabor, Proj.
Haven Theatre
New Haven, Ind.

1443 Fourth Ave., So.
Fargo, No. Dakota

Projection Advisory Council
Showmen's Trade Review
1501 Broadway
New York, N. Y.

Gentlemen:
If I may, I'd like to comment on some of the opinions expressed in the article "Good Projection Practice" in the July 20th issue of STR.

First of all, a big bunch of orchids to the gentlemen of the Council who made the following statements:

The member who has projectionists under his supervision report an hour early for each change of program, and considers this the best investment any theatre ever made."

The member who pays for 30 minutes per projectionist per day in the matter of checking projection and sound equipment.

Orchids to those who believe in contracts providing for definite understandings as to what should and should not be done.

And I'd like to present some stinkweeds to the members who used the phrase "part of the job."

I may be wrong in the impression I received and I may be prejudiced; if so, I apologize. It is all very well if whatever is to be done is included in the original agreement or the management is willing to make extra compensation for the extra services. But I have been getting everything part of the job is all hooey.

I once worked for a man who believed in that "part of the job" business. It got so I was doing everything but collect the profits. Someone would take a vacation and the rest would pitch in to help out. If the person on leave didn't return, the rest were permanently stuck with the extra work. It finally came to the place where measures were necessary. The line was drawn at the projection room door and nothing outside of the projection room was ever again done by any of the projectionists.

[Editor's note: Any policy whatever can be abused. The Council member referred to said distinctly: "I don't agree with paying a man $50 a week and then $5 extra to come in early and inspect his film. Pay him $60 a week and make inspecting the film part of his job." See SHOWMEN'S for July 20th, page E-3, column 2. This obviously contrary to Mr. Dunkelberger's opinion.]

As to the conditions under which I am now working, I don't think that I'm violating any confidences (although the manager involved might object on grounds of modesty). He is particularly particular in the point that might seem finicky to some. He owns and operates the top independent house in a situation involving two cities dominated by a chain. He demands and gets (we hope) deluxe projection service. In the line of equipment only the best will do (Simplex E-7's, coated lenses, WE sound with Voice of the Theatre, and all the little odds and ends that go with such equipment). He uses Altec sound service. Whenever I come across something I think might improve our screen results I have standing orders to call the matter to his attention, and if it is deemed practical an order is placed. If time is needed to perform service work on equipment it is only necessary to notify the office and the O. K. comes through.

The policy has been one based on mutual trust with all realizing that if the house doesn't show a profit it will have to close and hence no jobs.

A procedure that has been very helpful has been worked out among some of the men of our local. We drop in on each other occasionally and check over each other's equipment and projection. When one has "lived" with his equipment long hours he is not apt to be as critical as another would be.

I am enclosing a newspaper clipping of that tragedy in Baldwin, Louisiana. As you can see, a 15-year-old boy projectionist, called a "hero" in the headline, slammed the projection room door closed, shutting himself in with the flames while he extinguished a blazing red film. He kept the fire from spreading, the paper says, and died of burns and of the fumes he inhaled.

Fumes from burning film unite with the natural moisture of the lungs to form an acid which eats the lung lining away and causes death in most cases.

Child labor laws being what they are, is it permissible to hire a 15-year-old boy in a hazardous occupation? I do not know what Louisiana laws are. Possibly everything was as it should have been. But in our state (North Dakota) at least two or possibly three laws would have been broken.

1. The boy could not have worked as an apprentice in our state—not even in the presence of a regularly licensed projectionist.

2. The projection room door should not have been open.

3. There would be no need for anyone to lose his life to keep fire from spreading because the construction of the projection room and its safety devices are such that fires can't spread.

I wonder if the STR Advisory Council would not find it expedient to discuss this situation and then to generalize it in terms of standard practice for all states everywhere. Would they not make some recommendations that could be followed? I don't believe that any manager would INTENTIONALLY allow conditions to exist that endanger the lives of his employees or his patrons. Please, STR Advisory Council, would you make a list of recommendations?

Walter F. Dunkelberger
Isa Theatre
Fargo, North Dakota

South Ozone Park
Long Island, N. Y.

Projection Advisory Council
Showmen's Trade Review
1501 Broadway
New York, N. Y.

Gentlemen:
Why do some exchanges insist on putting O.K. on their patches when with the slightest strain they come apart? Is it possible that somebody is asleep on the job? (In my experience, Paramount, U. A. and RKO prints are good).

Just a projectionist trying to get his job done.

J. T. Nowicki.
The Revolutionary New
RETI SCOPE
CONCAVE SCREEN
"Shaped Like the Retina of the Eye"

YOU'RE THROUGH BUYING SCREENS WHEN YOU INSTALL A RETISCOPE

Proved by actual installations now in 7 different type theatres. (Names on request.) See it and be convinced. Adaptable to any theatre. Each screen is engineered to exactly meet the requirements of that particular theatre.

Developed by Advance Research Corporation from products of Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corporation and The Sparks-Withington Company.

RETISCOPE SCREEN COMPANY
214 W. 42nd Street • New York 18, N.Y.
Leading Manufacturers to Exhibit Their Latest at Tesma Convention

Leading manufacturers of theatre equipment have contracted to exhibit their latest models at this fall's joint national convention of the Theatre Equipment Manufacturers and Supply Association and Theatre Equipment Dealers Association.

The convention will be held in Toledo, Ohio, November 8th-11th, at the Commodore Perry and Secor hotels.

Few booths remain unreserved, Roy Boomer, Tesma Secretary-Treasurer, announces; and circuit executives, theatre owners and theatre architects have signified their intention of attending in gratifying numbers.

Tesma—Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association—was founded in 1933 with Allen Willisford as its first president. The membership is composed of manufacturers whose products are used in the theatre industry, and the organization serves as a general clearing house for information of common interest. It has erected a joint council of exhibitors, dealers and manufacturers to work out joint programs for the mutual benefit of all concerned.

Current officials are Oscar F. Neu, (Neumade Products Corp.) President; William A. Gedris (Ideal Seating Co.) Vice-President, and Mr. Boomer, Secretary-Treasurer.

The convention this year will include many social features, including a banquet at the Commodore Perry and bridge luncheons, sight-seeing trips and fashion shows for ladies accompanying the delegates.

Manufacturers Represented

Prominent manufacturers who have reserved space for the exhibition of their products included, as of August 30th, according to Boomer:

- Adler Silhouette Letter Co.
- Aero Metal Products Corp.
- Altec Lansing Corp.
- American Mat Corp.
- C. S. Ashcraft Manufacturing Co.
- Automatic Devices Co.
- Ballantine Co.
- Century Projector Corp.
- Compco Corp.
- Da-Lite Screen Co.
- DeVry Corp.
- Essannay Electric Manufacturing Co.
- Forest Manufacturing Co.
- General Register Corp.
- Ideal Seating Co.
- Kneisley Electric Co.
- Kollmorgen Optical Corp.
- Lavezzi Machine Works
- Mofograph
- National Super Service Co.
- Neumade Products Corp.
- Radiant Manufacturing Co.
- Reeves Instrument Corp.
- J. E. Robin, Inc.
- Strong Electric Corp.
- Switzer Brothers, Inc.
- Tele-Radio Corp.
- Textileather Corp.
- Wagner Sign Service.
- Weber Machine Corp.
- Wenzel Projector Co.
A year ago the selling organizations, L. C. Chase and Goodall Decorative Fabrics, were joined into Goodall Fabrics, Inc. Now Goodall opens its new home at 525 Madison Avenue.

With this unification of sales-service staffs, Goodall Fabrics completes its plan for complete vertical integration. We repeat a statement made to Goodall customers in a previous announcement:

“One company—and ONE company alone—assumes full responsibility for the quality of the raw materials; for the authentic styling you want; for the beauty of color and design; for the uniformity and durability of the weave; for the pricing, acceptance and DELIVERY of your order. Everything handled, figuratively, under ONE roof...at ONE profit.”

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO VISIT OUR NEW HOME IN NEW YORK
ECONOMICS OF DRIVE-IN THEATRES
(Continued from Page E-3)

results, it is said, are even less satisfactory than for theatres running a half year only. This may, however, result from the fact that many all-year-round regions are less heavily industrialized, so that purchasing power is lower.

In double-feature areas it is usual to give 1½ shows per evening, breaking up between 12:30 and 1:00 in the morning. Because the show ends late, audiences are much heavier on weekends as a rule.

Because of the size of the drive-in the rest rooms (and refreshment counter) are necessarily distant from many of the audience. An intermission is therefore a common practice. During this the grounds are floodlighted. Even so, it has been found desirable to number both ramps and posts, so people can find their way back to their own cars.

Although business varies with the weather, patrons already present do not leave because an ordinary storm comes up. They start their motors and windshield wipers sit it out. The screen can easily be seen through a light rain. In a heavy downpour it may become obscured, and patrons may drive off. There are no rain checks, as a rule.

Insurance problems are the same as those of any theatre, with the addition that car damage insurance is needed. Cars sometimes collide with speaker posts. Also (while there is little trouble with patrons intentionally driving off with the speakers) it happens occasionally that someone forgets to put the speaker back on the post and starts to leave while it is hooked to his window. The speaker cord is stronger than the glass. The theatre pays the patron for the broken car window; insurance covers it.

Traffic control is very necessary at main highway locations, particularly at the end of the show. Though they come in a few at a time, at the break hundreds leave at once, and create a serious traffic situation. A side road or rear road out is no help. Like all audiences, drive-in patrons insist on going out the way they came in. A saving feature is the late hour at which the show breaks; still, in some locations the theatre has to arrange for sworn deputies to handle the dangerous traffic snarl.

For this reason among others some exhibitors are now studying the desirability of locating their future drive-ins on side roads not too far from a main highway, rather than on the highway itself.

Unless effective steps of some kind are taken about the traffic situations drive-ins create, legislative restrictions can be expected, experienced exhibitors are convinced.

Future Developments

Among future developments anticipated for the drive-in are means for increasing revenue; new methods of getting the sound to the listeners; innovations in projecting the picture and vastly superior decorative treatment.

The future drive-in will be part of a community recreation center, in all probability. In this way it will be able to enjoy an income greater than can possibly be derived from a one-and-a-half show program.

Sound will come to future drive-in patrons in three novel ways, STR was told. It may be projected on invisible "talking light beams" which would be in-

PROJECTION room with RCA amplifier at the Fabian-Hellman Drive-In located between Albany and Schenectady, New York.

intercepted at each speaker location by a photocell; the variations in lighting intensity picked up by the cell then being converted into sound. Super-sonic (inaudible) sound radiated from a central speaker could similarly be picked up by microphones at each speaker location, and converted to audible frequencies. Lastly, one exhibitor anticipates that future automobile radios may be equipped with a special band to receive of drive-in sound.

To increase and improve screen illumination, there may possibly be a development looking toward use of duplicate projectors and duplicate films run simultaneously, with special projection lenses designed not only to increase picture brightness in general but particularly to improve intensity at the edges of the screen.

Some think that the drive-in is in its present form a step backward toward the tent-show-with-a-projector era. The motion picture theatre was built on glamour, it is pointed out. A trend toward dressing up the drive-in in line with the ornamental and luxurious surroundings of a theatre is anticipated. It is not easy for a housewife to find glamour in an ill-cleaned, perhaps ill-smelling car, beside a husband who is wearing working clothes and needs a shave. The pictures that do best in drive-ins today, one exhibitor notes, are westerns and mysteries.

Some think the drive-in is an incurable and hopeless step backward. "Pictures," said one showman, "are not made to be looked at from a car." Yet this man admits many new drive-ins will be built. Carefully planned and located, they are profitable enterprises.
SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW. September 14, 1946

SHOWMENSHIP DETERMINES THEATRE LIGHTING
(Continued from Page E-5)

frames; yes; they are very helpful in such applications." "Enamel or lacquer in coves helps efficien-
cy." "Reflectors are good in some cases and in some locations." "In some locations, but as a rule not in 
auditoriums, lobby or foyer." "Depends on where they are used. In many cases they make possible smaller 
bulbs, and economy." A substantial minority, however, turned thumbs down on any use of reflectors whatever.

Cold cathode lighting was favored for limited use by most of the members present.

"In lobbies, shadow boxes and the boxoffice." "In recessed coves, lobbies and display 
cases." "In recessed fixtures, cove troughs, re-
cessed ceiling dome, over proscenium arch." "All locations where strip lighting or 
curved strip lighting is used." "Economical and effective behind attraction board lettering." Others said:

"Our experience with cold cathode lighting has not been good up to the present time." 
"We do not feel that it has reached the point where it is practical for theatre illumination." 
"We are experimenting with it for cove lighting and advertising frames, but it appears that double intensity is required 
for best results."

Ultra-Violet

U-V aisle lighting and fluorescent car-
pets won very little favor. One member prefers them, one has not reached a final 
opinion as yet; a large number are flatly opposed.

"To date materials for this purpose have not been perfected for really practical use 
in the theatre." "I do not believe this has worked out 
well." "The initial cost and maintenance are 
too great."

Still another said:

"We like it, but better light sources are 
needed. The blacklight lamps are hard to 
get and not consistent in quality."

With respect to germicidal use of ultra-
violet light there were four different views 
—Yes: No: To a limited extent: Not de-
cided, still experimenting.

These opinions were so scattered there 
was no majority. A small plurality was 
for limited use, but this group did not 
agree among themselves as to the kind of 
limited use they favored.

"In air conditioning systems and in rest 
rooms." "All right for de luxe theatre rest rooms, 
not in the conditioning system nor the 
auditorium."

"In auditorium fixtures in certain loca-
tions, and in rest rooms. Air ducts are a 
third choice because the tubes collect dirt 
which reduce their efficiency."

"Use in air ducts is inefficient, due to too great 
an air change. In the auditorium, too 
much visible U-V results."

"I predict this will someday be used in

locations of the theatres for which the 
Council members are responsible. Very 
evidently the members attached different 
degrees of importance to the crispness of 
theatre lighting, the clarity of its color-
ing and the visibility of marquee changeable 
letters.

For lamp bulbs or tubes in auditorium 
lighting coves, members' estimates of how 
often they should be cleaned ranged from 
every two months to every six months.

For lamp bulbs in exposed auditorium 
fixtures: from one month to six months. 
("We never clean the bulbs, only the fix-
tures," one member added.)

For lamp bulbs in lobbies, foyers and 
rest rooms recommendations ran from 
every week to every six months.

For bulbs or tubes used outdoors, sug-
gestions were from once a month to once 
in two years!

Definitely: theatre lighting is not a 
science.

You get a good

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Look to Ideal for the better ways to 
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IDEAL CHAIRS

The chairs you sit IN 
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Meet every need and fit every budget.

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IDEAL SEATING COMPANY of GRAND RAPIDS

EXPORT OFFICE: 330 WEST 42nd STREET, NEW YORK CITY, ATTN: J. E. ROBIN
A Glossary of Words and Phrases Used in Connection With Lighting

Aisle Lights. Fixtures mounted on end-chair standards, designed to illuminate aisles only.

Alabaster Glass. Glass simulating natural alabaster and having a gray or parramite-like appearance.

Appearance. Candlepower. The apparent candlepower of an extended source of light measured at a specified distance is the candlepower of a point source of light which would produce the same illumination at that distance.

Blackbody. A temperature radiator of uniform temperature whose radiant flux in all parts of the spectrum is maximum obtainable from any temperature radiator at the same temperature. . . It will absorb all the radiant energy that falls upon it.

Black Light. See Ultra-violet.

Borderlights. Fixtures including reflector troughs or reflectors, mounted or flown horizontally above the stage.

Box Light. A lamp, consisting of a cluster of incandescent lamps mounted on a pedestal stand. Unlike the bungalow, it does not include a reflector.

Brightness. The luminous intensity of any surface in a given direction per unit of projected area of the surface as viewed from that direction. Expressed in candles per unit area of surface (or in lumens).

Bunlight. A floodlight containing one or more incandescent lamps, mounted on a pedestal stand.

Candle. The unit of luminous intensity. In the United States a specified fraction of the average horizontal candlepower of a group of 45 carbon-filament lamps preserved at the National Bureau of Standards.

Candlepower. Luminous intensity expressed in candles.

Cased Glass. Glass composed of two or more layers of different glasses, usually a clear, transparent layer to which is added a layer of opal, opalescent or colored glass.

Color Box. A device holding gelatines of different colors and permitting one to be substituted for another or two or more to be used together.

Color Frames. Devices in which gelatine sheets are mounted.

Color Temperature. The color temperature of a source of light is the temperature at which a blackbody must be operated to give a color matching that of the source in question.

Color Wheel. A device capable of being rotated, for holding gelatines and for permitting one to be substituted for another as required. May be motor-driven.

Covellights. Fixtures, usually including reflectors or reflector trough, mounted in lighting coves.

Dimmer. An electrical device for altering the intensity of lights connected to it. Usually a variable resistor, it may also be a variable reactor or an electronic control.

Dimmer Bank. A group of dimmers, mechanically or electrically connected for operation either singly or in groups.

Discharge Lamp. A lamp in which light is produced by the passage of electricity through a metallic vapor or a gas enclosed in a tube or bulb.

Downlights. Lamps equipped with reflectors and often with lenses, projecting light downward for general illumination or ornamental effect.

Effect Lighting. Projection of scenic or ornamental patterns, color or moving, such as cloud effects, water effects, etc.

Effect Machines. Lamps for producing effect lighting or effect projection.

Effect Projector. A device for projection of scenic or ornamental pictures or patterns, still or moving, often used to provide a decorative frame for the motion picture screen at the start of a feature.

Efficiency. (of a source of light). The ratio of the luminous flux in a given direction to the power input. In an electric lamp it is expressed in lumens per watt.

Flash Glass. See Cased Glass.

Flouccent Light. A lamp containing a number of fluorescent lamps, mounted on a pedestal stand.

Footlights. Fixtures including reflector troughs or reflectors, mounted along the front of the stage.

Gelatine. A transparent membrane made in many colors and used with spot lights or flood lights to give light of the color desired.

Incandescent Lamp. Lamp in which illumination results from the passage of electric current through a metal or carbon filament.

Infra-Red. Light of a wavelength longer than can be perceived.

Lambert. A unit of brightness equal to . . . the uniform brightness of a perfectly diffusing surface emitting or reflecting light at the rate of one lumen per centimeter.

Light Bridge. A steel structure from which border-light, spot, etc., may be suspended, and on which a man can stand to control the lights.

Light Towers. Frameworks of pedestals, usually mounted on roller casters, carrying spotlights or floodlights.

Lumen. The unit of luminous flux. It is equal to the flux through a solid unit angle (steradian) from a uniform point source of one candle, or to the flux on a unit surface all points of which are at unit distance from a uniform point source of one candle.

Lumen-Hour. The unit of quantity of light. The quantity of light delivered in one hour by a flux of one lumen.

Luminance. A complete lighting unit consisting of a light source, together with its direct appurtenances, such as globe, reflector, reflector, housing and such support as is integrated with the housing.

Luminous. Substances that will glow in the dark for various lengths of time after having been illuminated with ordinary visible light.

Luminous Flux. The time rate of flow of light. (Unit: the lumen.)

Lux. The practical unit of illumination in the metric system, equal to the meter candle. (Compare foot-candle.)

Mat-Surface Glass. Glass whose surface has been altered by etching, sand-blasting, grinding, etc., to increase the diffusing effect.

Mirror Ball. A revolving fixture studded with small mirrors, designed to reflect a multitude of small, moving spots of light.

Olive. A floodlight mounted on a pedestal stand. Double or triple olives consist of two or three floodlights mounted at different heights on the same pedestal stand.

Opal Glass. Highly diffusing glass having a nearly white, milky or gray appearance. The diffusing properties are inherent, integral characteristic of the glass.

Opalescent Glass. Opal glass having the properties of Effective transmitting and diffusing light, with a

(Continued on Page 25)
Twentieth Anniversary of an Idea—Complete Sales Service to the Theatre

September 3rd, 1926, saw the birth of a successful idea in sales of equipment to theatres. The idea was that the motion picture theatre needs not too vast a variety of equipment and supply items for any exhibitor to hope to make himself expert at buying all of them. The creation of a trustworthy sales organization large enough to hire a staff of experts appeared to be the solution. National Theatre Supply was born accordingly; and today, twenty years later, is prepared to furnish the theatre with more than 10,000 different items.

Successful developments often follow pioneer attempts that fail. National Theatre Supply is no exception. There had been previous efforts along the same line that came to nothing. National’s success is attributed by its own executives to heavy reliance on a staff of competent specialists both in making their own pur-

**Floor Cleaning Machinery Specifications Improved**

Specifications for floor cleaning machinery have been improved by the Floor Cleaning Machinery Manufacturers’ Association. In rotary machines, future steps will state both the brush block diameter and the brush spread diameter. Motor temperature rise will also be included. These improvements will permit the buyer of such machinery to make a more direct comparison between different models and brands.

radiant fire appearance when used with concentrated incandescent sources. Sometimes referred to as fire opal.
*Parlor. The unit of illuminating where the centimeter is taken as the unit of length. (Compare foot-candle).
*Polished Plate Glass. Glass whose surface irregularities have been removed by grinding and polishing, so that all surfaces are approximately plane and parallel.
*Proscenium Lights. Spotlight or border lights concealed behind the proscenium.
*Radiant Energy. Energy traveling in the form of electromagnetic waves. Measured in units such as TR, joules, calories or kilowatt hours.
*Radiant Flux. The time rate of flow of radiant energy. Expressed preferably in watts, or in ergs per second.
*Roundels. Curved glass facings made in many colors which fit on footlight, spotlight and other fixtures to provide colored illumination from ordinary incandescent bulbs.
*Shadow Box. A recess containing lamps and reflectors or reflector troughs, on which lettered or illustrated material can be placed and illuminated from within.
*Shower. A revolving fixture, designed to project a multitude of small, moving and illuminated spotlights in one direction.
*Specific Consumption. In an electric lamp, its watt consumption per hour.
*Spotlight. A lamp, usually incorporating both reflector and lens, designed to project a sharply defined circle of light or oval of light.
*Spotlights. Fixtures, including reflectors or reflector troughs, usually mounted vertically in the wings to help illuminate the stage or curtain.
*Switchboard. A device mounting a number of switch units and dimmers (or control) of stage and scene lights.
*Ultra-Violet. Light of a wavelength shorter than the eye can perceive, causes fluorescence, and can be photographed.
*Window Glass. Glass having a characteristic surface which is visible when viewed at an acute angle or in reflected light.
*Work Light. A reflector type lamp mounted on a pedestal stand, used to provide illumination for cleaning etc.


---

**THE PAIR THAT CAN’T BE TOPPED!**

...To Help You Give the Best Show In Town

In DeVRY’s new Theater Projectors—incorporating both picture mechanism and soundhead in one single unit—you get the wealth of knowledge and experience gained in the vast laboratory of war production. You get design refinements, resulting in simplicity of mechanism and elimination of unnecessary parts—to make maintenance economical and servicing easy. You need to see them in action to realize the rock-steady, flicker-free screening of the new DeVRY’S... the high fidelity of their true-to-life sound, from the softest whisper and the warmest tone to the weirdest shriek or the roar of a mighty organ... No perceptible flutter, hum or wou! Top-flight performance for either black-and-white newsreel or Technicolor feature. Priced to enable any theater to afford NEW equipment.

DeVRY’S famed "G-1’s" Projectors Now Available

Its war contracts completed, DeVRY’S famed "G-1’s" Projectors are now in production—quickly available. Before you buy projection equipment and lend coupon to DeVRY.

---

**S300,000 Drive-In Opens in Chicago**

Chicago—Irving Gandall and Frank Fink have opened a S300,000, 1,000-car drive-in at Harlem Avenue and Irving Park Boulevard. It includes a refreshment building with an 80-foot snack bar so located that patrons can continue seeing and hearing the picture while they enjoy their sandwiches and cokes. Equipment is all RCA, with individual in-car loud-speakers.

**SORRY**

The price of the SMPE standard sheets and binder was incorrectly reported in STR for August 17th. It is $4.50 for the binder plus 20 standard sheets; but when these are purchased separately the binder costs $2.50 and the standard sheets 15 cents each.

---

**Headquarters for Drive-In Theatre Projection and Sound Equipment**

DeVRY CORPORATION, Dept. STR-C9
1111 Armitage Ave., Chicago 14, Illinois
Please send details about the NEW DeVRY’S 35mm Drive-In Projectors...Amplifiers and Speaker Systems.

Name... Address... City... State...
Manufacturer... Theatre... Capacity...
Outstanding Performer in

LOW COST
Sound Reproduction

Winning applause as the finest sound re-
producing system available in the low price
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jector alterations. Complete information
and specifications will quickly show its
quality is achieved through simplicity of
design — not through engineering "short-
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Economy
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Cable: "Romos"

SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, September 14, 1946

PROJECTION COUNCIL
(Continued from Page E-14)

is kept in the projection room, and he
consults that record whenever he
needs to."

"The projectionist should keep such
data, with copies to the manager and the
projection department."

"Our projection department takes care
of this; the manager checks with our
department weekly and has duplicates of
all the information."

Opinion divided approximately the
same way, and most members offered very
nearly or entirely the same recommenda-
tions, with respect to the keeping of
records on how often each different item
of projection room equipment needed re-
pairing. No one member who felt
that the projectionists should maintain
records on how often parts needed to be
replaced, noted that this department keeps
the book on the frequency of major equip-
ment repairs such as overheating the
heads. Another, who relies on the ser-
vicing company in the matter of the use-
ful life of replaceable parts, does not do
so with respect to major repairs, but bases
such records on reports from the projec-
tionists and the manager. And one who
prefers the servicing company to keep
check on spare parts believes that the
manager should do it on every kind of
repair.

Reports from the projectionists to the
manager necessarily cover two principal
classes of information: the condition of
the prints, and matters relating to the
equipment.

A majority of the members feel that
the projectionists should be required to
report to the manager, in writing, on the
condition of every print received, regard-
less of whether it is good or poor. Some
chains have form reports, which are filled
out by the projection staff and sent to the
manager’s office. Other members, to the
contrary, prefer that consideration to be
nec-

ecessary unless film is received in poor shape.

One believes the projectionists should
keep track of the delivery as well as the
condition of all prints; and one stresses
that it doesn’t matter whether the report
is made in writing or by word of mouth,
so long as the manager is informed:—
"Don’t try to make a stenographer or a
bookkeeper out of a good projection
operator."

A strong majority also think the man-
ger should arrange to receive written
reports from his projectionists on the con-
dition of the apparatus.

“We furnish the theatre with regular
forms, which are made out by the pro-
jectionist every three months.”

“The manager should receive written
reports from both the projectionists and
the service company (or his chain’s pro-
jection department)."

“We believe in daily written reports on
the condition of both film and equipment.”

“The manager should obtain written
reports from his projectionists, and notify
our department.”

There were other views:

“This is up to the discretion of the
manager.”

“The manager should keep in touch
with the condition of the equipment, but
whether by written report or verbally is
up to him.”

“The manager should consult with the
B. & L. Expands Its Facilities

To meet increased production demands, Bausch & Lomb Optical Company is opening a new subsidiary plant at Wellsville, N. Y. Several hundred persons will be employed as soon as equipment can be installed.

Barret Textile Corp., fabric manufacturers, are extending their activities to the theatre field, bringing out a line of flame-proofed draperies and slip covers specifically for the motion picture theatre.

James Frank, Jr., New York branch manager of National Theatre Supply, has just been elected president of his Greek letter fraternity, Zeta Beta Tau.

REFRESHMENT counter at a drive-in theatre—the Fabian-Hellman "Mohawk" in New York State between Schenectady and Albany.

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Handy for Papas Is
New Strong Booklet

Harry H. Strong, president of Strong Electric Corp., and one of the pioneers in modern projection lighting, contributes another interesting item to the bookshelf of the exhibitor with the publication of a booklet entitled "Fascinating Hands." The booklet will be a boon to the papas who, when they receive their copy (It will be distributed by Strong to theatremen), will be in possession of a source-book for many clever and amusing tricks performed via the ancient art of "shadowgraphy" to delight and entertain the kiddies.

"Fascinating Hands" illustrates, with photos by James Strong, ways and means of creating shadows representing rabbits, dogs, and a variety of characters easily accomplished by means of a pair of hands working before a candle in a darkened room with white, or at least light-colored walls. In a foreword, Strong—who is a business man as well as an interesting contributor to the literature of the film industry—says: "We would like to be able to recommend a Strong Projection Arc Lamp," but admits that a candle will be less expensive, and will work well.
Football Fanfare

(Good)

20th-Fox (7301) Sports Review 9 mins.

Some of 1945's football highlights are shown, with McAllen telling audiences just what is happening and who happens to whom. Early sequences shows some of the games' "greats," including Red Grange, Jim Thorpe, Krute Rockne, Don Hutson, Sammy Baugh, etc. Good for showing soon with the opening of the new football season.

Winning the West

(Good)

20th-Fox (407) Mighty Mouse 7 mins.

Mighty Mouse single handedly (as per usual) delivers a group of western pioneers from a bloodthirsty band of marauding Indians, therefore making the West safe for law, order and what have you. The Mighty Mouse's antics are just as amusing as usual and that's plenty amusing. Terrytoon in Technicolor.

Highway Mania

(Excellent)

RKO (63,111) This Is America 17 mins.

The latest This is America emphasizes two points in its exposition of the country's enormous volume of road traffic and its resulting accidents: the lack of uniform laws in the various states and the different forms of licensing for automobile drivers. Indeed, believe it or not, in some states no driver's license is necessary at all, and youngsters hardly able to see over the dash board are permitted to drive potentially death-dealing motor vehicles. Many other reasons for traffic fatalities and other accidents highlighted in this excellent short include improper lighting, bad brakes and Jay-walking pedestrians. "Highway Mania" drives home an important lesson to everyone who sees it: that safety rules have been made for everyone to observe, not just for the other fellow. It is an enormously interesting and excellently done subject that has almost unlimited possibilities for exploitation.

Wet Point

(Funny)

RKO (64,109) Donald Duck 7 mins.

Donald Duck has just painted his car when a busy mother bird, searching for materials for her nest, drags a piece of string across the wet paint and then walks across it. Donald does a bright Technicolored rage. The struggle between the two and Donald's attempts to leave his car bright and shiny leads to inevitable laughter. Donald at last realizes what the bird is trying to do and helps.

You Can't Fool a Fool

(Fair)

Columbia (7411) Andy Clyde 17 mins.

This is 17 minutes of Andy Clyde doing the same things Andy Clyde always does. In this case the story is about Andy's wife wanting him to run for Mayor—but Andy wants to go fishing. His gaugist opponent starts to retaliate but everything works out all right for Andy. He finally goes fishing.

Motor Maniacs

(Good)

RKO (63,405) Edgar Kennedy 18 mins.

Edgar's brother-in-law has bought a part interest in the invention of a new type outboard motor—with Kennedy's money obtained through his wife. An old flame of Kennedy's mother-in-law appears on the scene, expresses interest in financing manufacture of the machine and Kennedy and the whole family prepare for experimental runs of the motor to show off its prowess. Kennedy acts as the boat, however inadvertently, and is pushed all over the lake, providing plenty of laughs. The whole deal blows up when mama's boy friend decides to finance the thing—just as soon as his first oil well comes in!

Bacall to Arms

(Novel)

Warner Bros. (2705) Technicolor Cartoon 7 mins.

The wolf goes to the movies, but is bored until Bacall and Bogart (cartooned, of course) do a scene from "To Have—to Have—etc." Then when Bacall and Bogart do that killing sequence the wolf tears up the theatre and finally lands on the stage before the screen where he dealt with by Bogart himself. Novel and amusing, especially for followers of the film couple. (Wonder how they'll like it themselves?)

Eager Beaver

(Very Good)

WB (2703) Technicolor Cartoon 7 mins.

Little Eager Beaver tries to help the lumberjacks as they begin leveling a forest to get logs for an unfinished dam, but they get rid of him by directing him to a large tree on the very top of one of those steep mountain hills. Just as he succeeds in dropping the tree a cloudburst above threatens to wipe out everything, but Eager lands with his log in the one empty space in the dam, thus saving the day. Excellent animation and good humorous touches make this a natural for any audience.

Big Piggy Bank Robbery

(Good)

WB (2704) Technicolor Cartoon 7 mins.

Daffy Duck, who follows Dick Tracy with great avidity, decides to look into the mystery of the stolen piggy banks. After many horrifying encounters with macabre characters and animals like you've never seen before, he locates the banks in a cave. It is all a dream, but don't worry—Daffy is as daffy as ever. Good anywhere, although there is some doubt about it for over-impressionable children.

New Cartoon Titled

Another best-seller has provided MGM's cartoon department with inspiration for a Technicolor subject. "Kitty Filled" will be the title of the latest Tom & Jerry cartoon, which is directed by William Hanna and Joseph Barbera. Some titles of past cartoons: "The Yeg and I," "The Mouse on 92nd Street" and "The Lost Squares-End."

...NEWS SYNOPSIS...

(Released Saturday, September 14)

MOVIEGUIDE (Vol. 26, No. 4)—Secretary of State Byrnes makes statement, U. S. policy on Mexico. General Eisenhower states, "good to go" as he signs U. S. Mexico treaty.

NEWS OF THE DAY (Vol. 18, No. 202)—Byrnes warns that U. S. won't quit Germany until peace is assured; tragic plight of refugees in Hafa harbor; Lord Montgomery visits Toronto; Strike paralyzes U. S. ports; Miss America of 1945 named at Atlantic City; Forest Hills scene of tennis championships; Mexico loses to U. S. team in polo matches at Westbury, Long Island.

PARAMOUNT (No. 3)—$10,000 prize money in Tom O'Brien golf tourney in C. C. C.; Canada-bound refugees diverted to Cyprus; Brain and beauty vie for Miss America title: Secretary Byrnes speaks on Germany.

RKO PATHE (Vol. 18, No. 7)—Polo Rivi has first native governor; Byrnes speaks at Brussels. Germany; Havanaaries attack Havana; Marilyn Baldwin of Hollywood; named Miss America of 1946; Pauline Betz and Jack Kramer win tennis championships.

UNIVERSAL (Vol. 19, No. 126)—Byrnes sees U. S. policy for Germany; Shipping strike ties up nation's ports; Puerto Rico has native governor for first time in history; California beauty named Miss America; International polo matches at Westbury, Long Island.

(Released Wednesday, September 11)

MOVIEGUIDE (Vol. 20, No. 3)—Yugoslavia delivers leaves to Greece, points result; succession to the Belgian throne; Eisenhower speaks to V.F.W., convention in Boston; Thousands watch National Air Races (Cleveland only).

Two drivers killed in auto race; Ice-caps of 1947 pays Pittsburgh; British film "The Beatles" releases record sales; Carrier Franklin D. Roosevelt visits Trinity; Byrnes speaks in Canada; Dick Tracy solves mystery; British screen star Phyllis Calvert arrives on Queen Mary; Ice-caps captivate huge crowd in Pitts- burg; Maria Montez greeted by fans at Paris air- port; Pittsburgh finals in Harvest Moon Ball; N. Y. Infenmary plans to expand (New York only); Atlanta auto race in tragic ending.

ALL-AMERICAN (Vol. 4, No. 258)—Annual South Side baby show and parade in Chicago; First Negro US. A. joins Civil Service Commission; Aged Kentucky distiller.collects "The Atlantic City" National Negro Business League convenes in Philadelphia; Record crowds at Artistic Open, Atlantic City; Benefit football game honors former All-American.
Trail to Vengeance
Universal Western (with music) 45 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Adult) Unusually grim stuff for a Western. Slow-moving picture that fails to hold certain interest.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Will mean nothing extra to the exhibitor and might suffer from bad word-of-mouth.


Plot: A cowboy, seeking to avenge his brother's death, suspects an innocent man. He eventually learns that his suspicions are false when he finds the real culprit, a shady undertaker in league with the town banker. The banker is an ex-convict, who has been forging names to deeds, confessions and what-have-you. The cowboy brings justice home triumphant.

Comment: This film is done in surprisingly bad taste. Firstly, it is permeated by a mood of sadness and sadness pervades. Secondly, there is a scene which is totally unfit for the average child, who helps form the bulk of Western audiences. One of the opening scenes is a funeral, which takes an uncommon amount of footage for the unusually short length of the offering. Then, there is another bit where the scrupulous undertaker is slowly poisoning a man suffering from a heart attack; this leads his benchmark down a quart of liquor, which is not the best lesson in the world for impressionable kids. Kirby Grant seems ill at ease in trying to portray cowboy histriences. Jane Adams, another case in point; she doesn't ring true as the cowgirl. This offering is definitely off the beam.

Little Laddie
United Artists Comedy 56 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) A favorite comic strip character comes to life in a picture that provides good, clean entertainment for the entire family.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: A program offering that should sell well, considering the pre-sold followers and the worth of the picture.


Plot: Laddie and her pal Horace create a domestic crisis with their well-meaning efforts to clear up what they believe is a triangle affair in her home. Because of their interference, Laddie loses her job, the romance of a young editor in the town is broken up and the meddling housewives in the town interfere before the kids can confess. Laddie finally explains and all ends happily.

Comment: This is the first offering from the combined efforts of Ralph Cohn and Buddy Rogers under the producing title of Comet Productions. And a good start it is. The picture is a very satisfactory comedy for the entire family. Based on the cartoon strip by Jimmy Hatlo, it is a program offering that will amuse the many millions of fans of the strip who will be happy with the visual picture of the now familiar characters. They will also like the choice of cast, for each member has been so well chosen that they seem the outcome of the drawings. Anne Marlowe as "Little Laddie," Irene Ryan as Mrs. Tremble, Hobart Cavan- augh as Tremble, Lanny Rees as Horace and Emory Parnell as Tremble's blustering boss are all fine in their respective parts, and this augurs well for the future, if for the public will find this first film as amusing as the comic strip, then there probably will be more of this kind of good, clean entertainment for the entire family's enjoyment. Other cast members who fill their roles capably are Marc Cramer, Eve Whitney and Leon Belasco.

Decoy
Monogram Drama 76 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Adult) A murder melodrama that will keep the average audience literally tied to its seats.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: If it correctly sold, this could be another hit all across the country.


Plot: An unscrupulous and unprincipled woman learns of a cache of money hidden in jail by a bank robber in jail. In order to find out where the cash is, she arranges for a doctor to bring the robber back to life after he is put in gas chamber. But her greed forces her to kill everyone who helped her and she eventually loses her own life.

Comment: In addition to being one of those tense, suspenseful thrillers that keep an audience literally tied to its seats, this picture introduces a new find in the person of Jean Gillis whose performance, more than any other, makes "Decoy" an offering that appears headed for good returns everywhere. Story gives her an opportunity to entertain the thrill-seekers with the diversified types of murder a thoroughly unprincipled and unscrupulous woman can perform. Though the plot revolves around her, there are many other fine portrayals by such players as Sheldon Leonard in the role of a detective, Herbert Rudley as an honest doctor forced to do wrong, Robert Armstrong as the jailed gangster and Edward Norris as Miss Gillis' partner in crime. This is the first picture produced by Jack Bernhard and Brandt Brandt for Monogram, and they deserve plaudits for their choice of story and other production elements. An extra credit goes to Jack Bernhard who handled the direction. Makes sure that your selling activities dovetail with the advance exploitation set up by the studio, so that the general public will be pre-sold correctly and the returns worthy of the picture.

The Bachelor's Daughters
United Artists Comedy 90 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) A merry comedy put together strictly for laughs that will amuse and delight the average audience in neighborhood and small-town theatres.


Plot: Four girls, looking to better themselves for the future, adopt a mother and father and set themselves up in a huge mansion. They have adopted the home especially with the father who is a floor-walker in a department store, a bachelor and stingy besides. But everything is straightened out for the girls when the man who marries them turns out to be a regular guy and helps each girl get the thing she desires.

Comment: "Bachelor's Daughters" is a light, merry comedy with ninety minutes of boisterous situations put together strictly for laughs. And it accomplishes its purpose. Very few patrons will stop to question the inconsistencies in the story when they find themselves in an almost constant state of laughter. The picture is just the type of screwy comedy that will delight an average audience in the small-town or neighborhood theatre. Adolphe Menjou's role of a stlgly old bachelor who is an adopted father of three grown daughters, and eventually the husband of Billie Burke, presents enough problems to interest and amuse the rank-and-file spectators. As usual, his performance is smooth and effective. Jane Wyatt, Claire Trevor, Ann Dvorak and Jane Wyatt are all very good in the daughter roles, Billie Burke's interpretation of the mother is very well done and the supporting cast is quite satisfactory too. Introduced in this film is Eugene List, who entertains with his splendid piano-playing. Credit for the production as a whole belongs to Andrew Stone, who not only produced and directed, but wrote the original screenplay.

The Thrill of Brazil
Columbia Musical 90 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) With the abundance of music and the outstanding production numbers, the songs of Tito Guizar, the comedy of Keenan Wynn, not to mention the charming Brazilian girls and the tap dancing of Ann Miller, this offers real enjoyment for all members of the family, who are bound to recommend it to their friends.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Exploiting the South American music and the film's numer-
BOY-OFFICE SLANTS

ous other entertaining elements, plus the name draw of Keenan Wynn and Evelyn Keys, should make this a good top attraction everywhere.


Plot: The producer of a revue in Rio de Janeiro, who is still in love with a wife who has divorced him, tries all means to keep her with him when she prevails on him to sign her divorce papers. He upsets her plans to marry another man and keeps her by his side, just as he wanted to do.

Comment: Outstanding about this picture are its production numbers. To say that they are worthy of better material might reflect against the stars. This but not for, each and every player is splendid in his individual role. The work of the Stars, and the Captain, are superb; the well-known South American music of Enric Maddrigan and his orchestra; the dancing of Ann Miller and an outstanding chorus troupe; and for laughs, Keenan Wynn. There are also songs by Tito Guizar and a torch song by Ann Miller that will leave quite an impression. So considering this abundance of specialty numbers, the story is an afterthought, with little consequence to the average patron, who will have such a good time that his word-of-mouth will help make this a top attraction everywhere. Dances were staged by Nick Castle and Eugene Loring, who deserve plaudits for the originality of most of the production numbers, and the direction is a tribute to the masterful handling of Sylvan Simon.

Her Sister's Secret

PRC Drama 83 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Adult) Slow in development, but the ladies will cry and thereby be entertained. Some men may like it, but the appeal is essentially feminine.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Not strong enough to play alone, but can lead double-bill programs in some spots. Good for a supporting feature in any case.


Plot: Nancy Coleman and Philip Reed meet on the Mardi Gras night in New Orleans. Just before Reed is to go overseas. Their brief love affair results in the birth of their son, and Margaret Lindsay, Nancy's sister, adopts the boy, leading her Naval Officer, Regis Toomey, to believe the child is his. Conflicts between Nancy and her sister develop three years later when Nancy wants the boy, regardless of consequences. Reed shows up again after the war and the situation clears, with the child remaining in the sister's custody.

Comment: The combined elements of a second-banana story, the lack of mystery and good production values have not been enough, in this case, to produce the really excellent motion picture that "Her Sister's Secret" certainly could have been. Either a poorly constructed screenplay, inept editing or an unimaginative direction, or a combination of the three, may have contributed to the fact that the picture just misses its mark. As it stands now, it is just another nice little picture instead of the fine adult dramatic fare that might have resulted. The early sequences are exceptionally well done, and until the scene when Reed is about to go away poderá continuar sua trajetória, com a irmã de volta. A história do filme e sua direção não são suficientes para formar um bom drama, mas a trama e os personagens são bem elaborados. A atriz Nancy Coleman e o ator Philip Reed desempenham seus papéis com eficiência, mas a falta de um guia forte no enredo impede que o filme alcance seu potencial.
STUDIO ROUNDPUP

With Units Humming Both at Studio and on Locations, Columbia Is Currently the Busiest Lot in Hollywood; Most Other Production Slow After Recent Fast Pace

Top award for accelerated production schedules at Columbia's units, both on the sound stages and on locations far and wide, is busier than the proverbial bee. Two productions are being made independently for the company's release. 

Ranking next to Columbia in the number of films actually before the cameras are Paramount and Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. Otherwise, the Hollywood production setup remains seasonably slow, now moving along at a trot after galloping away a month ago to production hights.

Columbia Starts More Films

Columbia started on its Dick Powell-Evelyn Keyes starrer, "Johnny O'Clock," but more than compensated with the start of several. The Powell picture was completed in its scheduled time of 60 days. Director Robert Gordon began a Chester Morris mystery drama, "Inside Story," on September 10, and Gunther V. Fritsch resumed his directorial career after two years in service by putting "Cigarette Girl" before the lensmen. Latter features Jimmy Lloyd and Leslie Brooks, with William Bloom producing.

Ellie E. Durangch is now on the latest "Darango Kid" on September 11, with Charles Starrett and Smiley Burnette costarred.

Edgar Buchanan was placed in "They Walk Alone" as chief support for Glenn Ford and Janis Carter. Jules Schermer is producing.

Sheila Ryan and Jacqueline DeWitt get the femme leads in "The Lone Wolf in Mexico," new tag for "The Lone Wolf's Invitation to Murder." Miss DeWitt is on loan-out from Universal-International. Two complete color camera units were used by independent producer Sam Katzman for locations on "The Last of the Redmen," one handled "close" shots with Jon Hall, Michael O'Shea and Evelyn Ankers, while the other did action sequences with Julie Bishop, Buster Crabbe and extras. Barbara Britton gets the co-starring honors in Harry Joe Brown's "Twin Sombreros." on location at Flagstaff, Arizona.

Next Columbia flicker to go is "The Hunter Is a Fugitive," set for September 16, with William Clemens directing Richard Dix in this latest "Whitler" film. Rudy Flohow continues as producer.

Selznick Prepares 'Women'

David O. Selznick is preparing "Little Women," scheduled to start shooting by mid-September. Florence Cunningham, speech expert, has been coaching Selznick's stars in 1861 New England dialect for the Technicolor picture, which Mervyn LeRoy will direct. Cast so far includes Jennifer Jones, Diana Lynn, Philip Friend, Charles Coburn and Ann Revere.


Backlog at Republic

With the postponement of the Red Ryder, "Outlaws of Sioux City," from September 9 to the following week, Republic is slow on the production front. Illness of Allan Lane's horse, "Thunder," caused the delay. This leaves the Roy Rogers' first Trucolor, "Apache Rose," and "Hit Parade." However, Republic has 34 films in its backlog, the greatest in the history of Yates' lot, according to the studio. These represent almost two-thirds of scheduled production for 1946-47, Allen Wilson, v.p., in charge of production, announced.

RKO Filming Six

RKO is now shooting six pictures, which is a good record. Danny Kaye returned to the Goldwyn lot to do added scenes for "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," which has been completed and is now being edited. Sharply Moffett, Jacqueline White, Una O'Connor and the dog, "Banjo," shot house interiors for "Banjo." Hakim-Livak's "A Time to Kill" returned from RKO Pathe to the main lot for scenes revolving around the household of Henry Fonda in a small industrial Pennsylvania town. Vincent Price and Anna Dvorak started work on the picture. Next RKO effort will be Sid Lesser's "Tarzan and the Huntress," set to start September 16 at Culver City.

Liberty Films announced the signing of Howard Koch to a long-term writing contract. Koch has scripted such standards as "Sergeant York," "Casablanca" and his latest, "Earth and High Heaven."

Allen Back at Monogram

Irving Allen, producer-director of "High Conquest" for Monogram, returned to the States from Switzerland, where he shot scenes for the (Continued on Page 40)

Screen Guild to Release 12 Screen Art Pictures

A deal was concluded last week under which Screen Art Pictures Corporation will produce a minimum of 12 pictures for Screen Guild release during the next two years. The newly-formed independent producing unit is owned principally by prominent eastern exhibitors and showmen headed by Arthur Lockwood and Lou Gordon of Boston. Lockwood is president; Robert L. Lippert, of San Francisco, vice-president; Gordon, secretary; and Morris Nunez, formerly an exhibitor in Boston and New Haven, treasurer.

First picture to go before the cameras under the Screen Art banner will be Edward Finney's production, "Queen of the Amazon," which was scheduled to start this week.

Signed for Western

Christine McIntyre has been signed for the feminine lead in "The Valley of Fear," Monogram western drama starring Johnny Mack Brown with Raymond Hatton. Others set for the cast are Eddie Parker, Pierce Lyden, Ed Cassidy and C. W. Mack. Lambert Hillyer directs under the supervision of Chas. J. Bigelow.

Role for Miss Rich

Irene Rich has been signed for an important featured role in Jules Levey's "New Orleans," scheduled to start shooting on the Hal Roach lot in Culver City on September 16. Miss Rich will portray a southern aristocrat who attempts to dissuade her concert-singing daughter from succumbing to the lure of jazz music.

Borrow Fleming, Calhoun

William Pine and William Thomas have engaged Rhonda Fleming to co-star with Rory Calhoun in "Adventure Island," based on the Robert Louis Stevenson south sea story. Production is slated to start this month at Catalina Island. Both Miss Fleming and Calhoun were borrowed from David O. Selznick for the Paramount release.

Model in 'Copacabana'

Merle McHugh, has been signed to a term contract by Beacon Productions and will play a role in "Copacabana," which Sam Coslow will produce for United Artists release.

DeMille to Rescue

Despite his many years of experience, Ray DeMille has never directed a soap-and-water sequence. So he has extended an invitation to Cecil B. DeMille, dean of bathub scene directors, to direct a bubble-bath sequence in "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," with Victor Moore sloshing around in the soap-suds. DeMille will try to change his M.G.M. schedule to permit him to supervise the bubble-bath scenes.
Bill Williams Gets Important Role in 'Alice Adams': Redgrave Opposite Bennett in New Diana Production

May McAvoy, star of silent films, will enact a role in "Meroton of the Movies," comedy of early Hollywood days, currently in production at MGM. Red Skelton is starred in the film in which Al Lewis is producing and Robert Alton directing.

Grant Withers was signed for a featured role in the Randolph Scott-Dorothy Hart starrer, "Twin Sonoreros" to be produced in color by Harry Joe Brown for Columbia release. Film's company is now on location at Arizona's Painted Desert.

Lambert Hillyer will direct "The Valley of Fear," Monogram western drama starring Johnny Mack Brown with Raymond Hatton.

Lloyd Nolan was signed by Paramount to co-star in "The Big Harum," with Alain Lallar, Dorothy Lamour and Robert Preston. Comedian Allen Jenkins also has an important role in the saga of wheat harvesting which Jack Garland directs for producer Robert Fellows.

English actress Patricia Roc will have a featured role in the Alliance film, "So Well Remembered," first picture to be produced in England under the RKO-Rank affiliation. She joins a cast in which Martha Scott and John Mills are co-starred and in which Richard Carlson has an important role. Filming is under way in London with Edward Dmytryk directing and Adrian Scott producing.

"Wyoming," the William Elliott-Fera Hamza Ralston starrer to be produced and directed by Joseph Kuo, has been set as the second Republic picture to be filmed in Technicolor. Budgeted at more than a million dollars, it is slated to begin shooting next month.

"Arizona Gold," a William Wellman production of the 20th-Fox to the second feminine lead in the murder mystery, "Eoomerang," which Elia Kazan will direct for producer Louis de Rochemont. The cast is headed by Dana Andrews, Jane Wyatt and Frank Lovejoy.

Michael Redgrave, British film star, was signed by Fritz Lang to co-star with Joan Bennett in "The Secret Behind the Door." This is the second of a series of Diana Productions which are to be released by Universal-International, the first being "Scarlet Street," Vincente Peletier will do the narration in Samuel Goldwyn's "Secret Life of Walter Mitty," Technicolor production starring Danny Kaye.

Lou Nova, heavyweight boxer, was set for a comedy role in Warner Bros. "Love and Learn," which stars Jack Carson, Robert Hutton, Martha Vickers and Jazie Gaige. Frederic de Cordova directs the film and William Jacobs is producing.

Bruce Conley has been given the role of Guy Kibbee's son in MGM's "Romance of Rody Ridge," starring Van Johnson. Roy Rowland directs.

Harry Van Zell gets his first feature picture assignment at Columbia, with the role of a reporter in "My Empty Heart," Roebid Russell-Melvyn Douglas starrer, currently in production with Charles Vidor directing.

Republic has purchased "Golden Stallion" by James Macar, and assigned Edward J. White to produce. Story, which will be filmed in Trucolor, traces the history of the Palomino horse since it was first brought here in the 16th Century by the Spaniards. James Glennon's script has been given one of the top roles in the 20th-Fox production, "My Heart Tells Me," which Gene Markey will produce. He joins a cast headed by Victor Mature, Nancy Guild and Helen Walker. Gregory Ratoff will direct.

Feodor Chaliapin, son of the late Russian star, has been set for a role with Ingrid Bergman and Charles Boyer in Enterprise's "Arch of Triumph." He will appear with Miss Bergman in "Gloves," for which Paul Parren was assigned with the addition of William Harrigan in the important role of a Western judge. He joins stage actors Burt Lancaster and Wendell Corey who, with John Hodiak, Elizabeth Scott and Mary Astor, head the cast of principals.

Bill Williams has been assigned one of the finest dramatic roles of his career, the part of Lorraine Day's brash and cocky brother in "Alice Adams," screen version of the late Booth Tarkington's Pulitzer Prize novel. Bert Granet will handle the production reins, with Jack J. Gross as executive producer for RKO.

Ann Savage was signed for the lead in "Renegade Girl," William Berke's second production for Screen Guild release. Filming starts this month.

Phil Biro's next starring picture for Monogram will be "Singing Along," which Jeffrey Bernard will produce.

Roger Hageness, noted composer and conductor of grand opera, joins the array of musical talent in Jules Levey's "New Orleans," which Arthur Lubin will direct for United Artists' release.

Eight 'Brooklyn' Songs

Eight songs have been written by Jule Styne and Sammy Cahn for MGM's "It Happened in Brooklyn," which stars Kathryn Grayson, Frank Sinatra, Johnnie Johnston and Jimmie Durante. Songs are The Song's Gotta Come From the Heart, The Brooklyn Bridge, Bach Invention, Time After Time, I Believe, It's a Wonderful Day for a Ball Game, Whose Baby Are You? and It's the Same Old Dream.

Author, Producer Confer

Producer Harriet Parsons conferred in Burbank, Calif., with author Kathryn Forbes on "Wanderful Day," the forthcoming RKO Radio picturization of the latter's hit play "I Remember Mama." It is slated to go before the cameras in the early Spring.
HOLLYWOOD

STUDIO ROUNDUP

(Continued from Page 38)

mountain climbing story. Allen brought back 60,000 feet of material never filmed before, and with it includes interior sets at the studio.

Grant Mitchell came to the studio after concluding a summer stock role in Boston, to join the cast of "It Happened on Fifth Avenue." He is the latest addition to a list of players for the Roy Del Ruth Production that includes Don DeFore, Victor Moore, Gale Storm, Ann Harding and Charles Ruggles. Del Ruth is also directing.

Four Going at Warners

The production situation remains fairly constant at Warner, with five films going, including "Deception," which is the latest in point of shooting time; "Possessed," Joan Crawford star; "Pursued," U. S. Pictures action drama; "Love and Learn" and the recently started "My Wild Irish Rose."

MGM Ends Summer Holiday

Walter Huston, Frank Morgan, Agnes Moorehead and Selena Roye completed their roles in MGM's "Summer Holiday," Technicolor musical version of the Eugene O'Neill play, "Ah Wilderness." The picture is being finished, with Mickey Rooney, Marilyn Maxwell, Gloria DeHaven and Butch Jenkins enacting final scenes. Miss Rooney, upon completion of her part, flew to Santa Cruz to begin her assignment in "The Romance of Rosy Ridge," in which she plays the wife of Thomas Mitchell. Roy Rowland is directing this post-Civil War drama, which stars Van Johnson. Metro has five other films going, including two Technicolor efforts, "Unfinished Dance" and "This Time for Keeps."

2oth Fox Signs Hathaway

Darryl F. Zanuck was so pleased with director Henry Hathaway's work on "13 Rue Madelaine" that he rewarded him with a new term contract. Hathaway specializes in news drama technique, emphasizing swiftly paced action. Zanuck is putting more money into his fifth independent production for 20th-Century Fox than before. He is currently making "Backlash" at the Sutherland studios, with Richard Travis as district attorney, Jean Rogers as the girl and Larry Blalke as a detective lieutenant. Others in the cast include Robert Shayne, Doug Fowley and John Eldredge. Eugene Forde is directing and Cliff R. Gans is serving as associate producer.

PRC Starts Dog Film

First company to use the new process, Vitacolor, Producers Releasing Corp., is utilizing it in "The Return of Rin-Tin-Tin." Producers are Romay Pictures, making the film independently for PRC release. The grandson of Rin-Tin-Tin is the star. Rest of cast includes Donald Woods, Bobby Blake and Claudia Drake. William Stephens is producing and Max Nossek is directing.

E-L Ends 'Devil Drives'

Eagle-Lion is completing "When the Devil Drives," its third production. The picture, beginning

New Mirrophonic Sound

JOE HORNSTEIN has it!

other U-I assignment was given Robert Low and Frederick R. Ritaledge to write the screenplay for Abbott & Costello's "Buck Privates Return." Ian McLellan Hunter, recently discharged veteran, was signed to a term writing deal.


New Color Process, Makes Debut

Vitacolor, a new color process, makes its debut with the release by PRC of "The Return of Rin Tin Tin." The newcomer, Vitacolor, emerged upon the Hollywood scene last week. The new color process is an outgrowth of the old Duplex Cinema Equipment Co., which was in business for 40 years. Vitacolor utilizes the bipack process.

Buy 'Song of Norway'

Screen rights to the Edward Greig operetta, "Song of Norway," which last week ended its Broadway run, have been purchased by Leo Spitz and William Coetz for production as a Technicolor film for Universal-International.

'Time Wife' to Paramount

Paramount has purchased the screen rights to "Make You A Fine Wife," forthcoming novel by Yolanda Folles. Lenore Coffee will write the screenplay and Van Lewton will produce. Miss Folles is also the author of "Golden Earrings," now in production at Paramount.

Evelyn Ankers Set

Evelyn Ankers, former Universal star now free-lancing, has been signed by Sam Katzman to share top feminine honors with Julie Bishop in Columbia's "Last of the Redmen." Jon Hall and Michael O'Shea star.

In 'Cigarette Girl'

Ludwig Donath, character actor, has been set for a top role in "Cigarette Girl," Columbia musical featuring Leslie Brooks and Jimmy Lloyd.

Nathaniel Curtis Signed

Producer William Cagney has signed Nathaniel Curtis, widely-known screen, stage and radio writer, to direct his forthcoming screen version of the Thorne Smith novel, "The Stray Lamb" which United Artists will release. This will represent Mr. Curtis' initial directorial assignment.

Ames to Mexico City

Stephen Ames, RKO Radio producer, was scheduled to leave this week for Mexico City in quest of location sites for the Technicolor picturization of "Tycoon," the novel by C. E. Scroog. The picture will be a screen chronicle of railroad building through the mountains of South America.

To Write Kaye Script

E. A. Ellington, author of "Gilda," has been engaged by Sammy Kaye to write the screenplay for the bandleader's production of "So You Want to Lead a Band." Michael Nidior and James Peppe will be associated with Kaye in the venture.
BOX-OFFICE SLANTS

Roll on Texas Moon
(Continued From Page 37)


Plot: Roy Rogers, an executive of a big-time cattle outfit, is sent from its Chicago office to Big Horn to solve a situation that might rear its head in a range war between shepherds and cattlemen. Dale Evans owns a sheep ranch, the foreman of which has been murdered, and Rogers, with her help, clears up a scheme by which Dale's accountant is trying to make ranch operations so unpleasant that Dale will sell out at a low price.

Comment: Republic has hit upon a happy formula for its Rogers musical westerns and evidently sees no reason to change. This is not to say that the formula is not an entertaining one because it certainly is, as evidenced by the healthy box-office returns the Rogers films have been establishing. Now, a man shoots at another in a Rogers film, nearly always the target is hi—and in these days of union actors that costs the producer plenty more than if he had missed. The western ranches, too, show that automobiles and trucks are used and that the ranch houses are not just shacks. All these touches contribute to the better entertainment that Rogers now gives his crew to stagers and others supply. There is a cute trained lamb in this one that might provide a couple of chances for that extra bit of exploitation, but the fact that you're playing a new Rogers musical will in itself provide plenty of draw. Good for any spot where westerns are popular and good for other spots where just light, simple entertainment is required to fill the bill. This one will do it.

So Dark the Night

Columbia Drama 70 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Adult) Well done in every respect, this should provide thorough entertainment for adult audiences. It is a "think" picture, however, and its finer shadings may escape some segments of the movie-going public.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: There are no cast names to provide initial draw, but well planned exploitation energetically carried out could build this film to stagers and others. Supply. There is a cute trained lamb in this one that might provide a couple of chances for that extra bit of exploitation, but the fact that you're playing a new Rogers musical will in itself provide plenty of draw. Good for any spot where westerns are popular and good for other spots where just light, simple entertainment is required to fill the bill. This one will do it.

have her. Micheline and Paul are murdered and Steven can find but one clue, a foot- print. Later Micheline's mother is murdered and Steven discovers to whom the circum- stantial evidence points.

Comment: This is an exceptionally well produced, beautifully directed and excellently acted production based on what psychiatrists call schizophrenia, or split personality. Although the players are not in the star catego- ry, mostly having appeared in supporting leads, they each and every one show to better advantage than in any previous film, evidencing much care and skill on the part of director Joseph H. Lewis. The picture is a brooding, moody thing that might not find complete favor with all audiences, but its excellence is unmistakable and should prove to be thoroughly entertaining in most cases. Although there is nothing immoral in the film, its theme is such that it classifies as a picture for adults. Well planned exploitation might build this better to than average business in some spots, but its run in any event it is excellent for double-bill programs.

Regional Newsreel
(Continued from Page 34)

Dells. Pete Mallers, head of the Mallers Cir- cuit, Ft. Wayne, Ind., has returned from an extended vacation in Atlantic City with his family. Roger Seherer, general manager, Mallers Theatres, has returned to his post after a two-week vacation in northern Canada.

Norma Geraghty, National Theatre Supply Co., is spending her vacation in New York City. Meta Abramson, head in- spectress at 20th-Fox, is spending her vacation in Buffalo, New York.

Visitors on Filmrow during the week were: A. McCarty, Rossy, Pendleton; J. St. Amand, Flora, Flora; Maurice Reinking, Idaho, Terre Haute; E. Vanforssum, Savoy, Terre Haute, and E. H. Austin, Versailles.

DES MOINES

TRI-STATES MANAGERS ENJOY BIG FROLIC AT LAKE OKOBOJI; CENTRAL CITY THEATRE SOLD

Some 60 managers from Tri-States Theatre Corp. spent three days frollicking at Lake Okoboji last week as a climax to the 13-week anniversary campaign which just closed. The men gathered at the lakes from Iowa, Nebraska and Illinois Tuesday morning, attended an outdoor barbecue that evening, a business session Wednesday evening at which time the $3,900 in prize money for the campaign, plus a special $500 for the 13th anniversary week drive, and five radios for the special Warner Bros contest were awarded. Other entertain- ment included a horseshoe tournament, trap shooting contests, speed boat races, golfing, fishing and swimming.

Mabel and Fay French are the new owners of the Central City Theatre at Central City, Ia., which is just being completed.

Celebrating their 20th year in the film business at Harlan, Ia., this month are Mr. and Mrs. Ray E. Brown of the Crazy and Harlan theatres.

The opening of the new Sioux Theatre at Sioux Rapids, Ia., has been set for September 12 by owners Edna and Don Gram. An opening night celebration will be held with branch managers, salesmen and bookers attending.

Stanley J. Mayer, veteran manager of 20th Century Fox exchange at Des Moines who is on a leave of absence to regain his health, returned to Des Moines after spending the sum- mer at Lake of Woods, Keokuk, Ontario. Mayer is showing some improvement but is still under the doctor's care.

Des Moines police are wondering how thieves managed to make a safe weighing 300 pounds out of the Roosevelt Theatre and escaped. If the burglars succeed in opening the safe they will find approx- imately $300 in receipts.

Leo Wolcott is having a family reunion at his home in Eldora. His son, daughter and son-in-law are now all back home from service and the family is together again for the first time in four years.

VANCOUVER

LARGEST NEON SIGN IN CANADA SET FOR CASCADES DRIVE-IN; TUNNY MORRISON NOW MANAGER

The new Cascades Drive-In Theatre, five miles outside Vancouver, will have the largest neon sign in the Dominion. Ten large panels, built on a 60-foot tower seven feet in diameter, will be painted at night with the changeable vari- colored neon and display lights. Hundreds of color combinations are said possible. The the- atre, now in operation, is doing swell business in spite of the fact that they have last run on pictures in the Vancouver and New West- minster zones. They expect to be able to run for at least eight months a year; the foggy season will be the only thing to stop 'em.

Tunny Morrison, assistant manager of the Orpheum, has been promoted to manager of the Victoria Road Theatre. He is succeeded at the Orpheum by Les Stratton from the Capitol; Captain Jim Fitz-Henry from the Army will be assistant at the Capitol Theatre, all famous Player situations.

Mike Goldin, for the past five years manager of the Vogue, Vancouver, has resigned to go into other business. Al Jenkins from the Plaza moves to the Vogue. Al Mitchell from the Paradise is promoted to the Plaza, and Jack Armstrong from the Lux takes over the Paradise. All are Odeon Circuit houses in downtown Vancouver.

Vancouver trade unions will in future run their own educational film circuits if plans laid at a meeting of representative union leaders with National Film Board representatives materialize. Union delegates will work out a formula for film content, offset local sections, and report back to their parent bodies.

At a Union Trades Board meeting the question of complete abolition of 'blue laws' was voted down when opposition came from the Motion Picture projectionists and Musicians unions. Instead the council endorsed the prin- cipal of "sports and recreations" on Sundays. The amusement business here is opposed to any Sabbath opening of theatres and other amusements, at present barred by the Lord's Day Act.

New Ideal Theatre Chairs

JOE HORNSTEIN has it!
### COLUMBIA (Continued)

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#### ENTERPRISE PRODUCTIONS

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#### FILM CLASSICS

**CURRENT 1945-1946**

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#### MGM

**Group No.**

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### COMING

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SHOWMEN’S TRADE REVIEW, September 14, 1946

MONOGRAM

Prod. No. Title
506 Allotment Wives (D) A
507 All That Matters (My) F
520 Below the Deadline
504 Black Market Babies (D) A
314 Blind Honeymoon
519 Dark Ali b (My) F
528 Face of Marble (H) A
513 Freddie Steps Out (DM) F
515 Get My Man• Freddle
514 High School Hero (C) F
510 In Fast Company (C D F)
547 Gentleman from Arizona
516 Winning Ticket (D) F
536 Shadows Over Chinatown
518 Spookhouse (C D F)
519 Strange Mr. Gregory (D) A
520 Strange Voyage
531 Sunbonnet Sue (M) F
686 Suspense (D) A
659 Swing Parade of 1946 (M) F

Current 1945-1946

Run
Kay Francis-Paul Kelly
C. H. Allen
Ralph Morgan-Tessa Loring
Either
S. Tolier-B. Fong-M. Moreland
John Gillie-Edward Arnold
T. M. 0.6/22/46
65. 0.6/22/46
68. 0.6/22/46
58. 0.6/22/46
75. 0.9/16/46
87. 0.9/16/46
3. 0.9/16/46
19. 0.9/16/46
11. 0.9/16/46
6. 0.9/16/46
24. 0.9/16/46
24. 0.9/16/46
12. 0.9/16/46
6. 0.9/16/46
24. 0.9/16/46
12. 0.9/16/46

G

SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, September 14, 1946

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SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, September 14, 1946

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SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, September 14, 1946

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**Title Company**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pillow of Death</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pirates of Monterey</td>
<td>Univ.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plan the Perfect Crime</td>
<td>UA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Planman &amp; the Lady</td>
<td>Rep.</td>
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<td>Poor Man of Monte</td>
<td>MGM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Possessed</td>
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<td>Poverty Always Rings Twice</td>
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<td>Prison Ship</td>
<td>Col.</td>
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<td>Private Affairs of Bel Ami</td>
<td>UA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pursued</td>
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**SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, September 14, 1946**

**RKO-RADIO (Continued)**

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<tr>
<td>A Likely Story</td>
<td>Bull Williams-Barbara Hale</td>
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<td>A Time to Kill</td>
<td>Henry Fonda-Barbara Bel Geddes</td>
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<td>Amazing Mr. Hammer, The</td>
<td>Paulette Goddard-James Cagney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bar on the Rajah</td>
<td>Errol Flynn-Dorothy Lamour</td>
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<td>Bar on the Range</td>
<td>Joel McCrea-Carole Landis</td>
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<td>2 Child of Divorce</td>
<td>Sharyn Moffett-Tregro Teasdale</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child of the West, The</td>
<td>Richard Waring-Mary Beth Beale</td>
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<td>Deadlier Than the Male</td>
<td>Trevor-T. Tierney-S. Finalski</td>
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<td>Devil Thumbs a Ride, The</td>
<td>Morgan Conway-Anne Jeffreys</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dick Tracy Versus Cueball</td>
<td>No Cast</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fiddler's Adventure</td>
<td>Temple-P. Tone-G. Madison</td>
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<tr>
<td>How Dear to My Heart</td>
<td>Luana Patten-Bobby Driscoll</td>
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<td>Katie for Congress</td>
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<td>Nocturne</td>
<td>Geo. Raft-Lynn Bari</td>
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<td>Prison Story</td>
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<td>Secret Life of Walter Marks, The</td>
<td>C. Barry-J. O'Hara</td>
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<td>2 Sinbad the Sailor</td>
<td>F. Darby-P. Cummins</td>
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<tr>
<td>They Won't Believe Me</td>
<td>Robert Young-Susan Hayward</td>
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<td>Trai Street</td>
<td>Scott-R. Ryan-A. Jeffreys</td>
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**VOTED BEST 1945-46**

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<tr>
<td>Queen of Burilongo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rage in Heaven</td>
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<td>Sailor's Edge</td>
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<td>Scarlet Street</td>
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<td>Searching Wind</td>
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<td>Silver Gloves of Love</td>
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<td>Secret Heart, The</td>
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<td>Sentimental Journey</td>
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<td>Seven Veil</td>
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<td>Shadowed Woman</td>
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<td>Shadow of Terror</td>
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<td>Shadows Over Christmas</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sailor Takes a Wife</td>
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<td>San Antonio</td>
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<td>Satisfied</td>
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<td>Searchers</td>
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<td>Searching Wind</td>
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<tr>
<td>504 G. I. War Bride (C)</td>
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<td>508 Girls of Big House (D)</td>
<td>RKO</td>
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<td>509 Glass Alley (D)</td>
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<td>510 Haunted House (D)</td>
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<td>511 In Old Sacramento (W)</td>
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<td>513 Man of Romance (D)</td>
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<td>515 Man from the North Pole (M)</td>
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<td>518 Night Train to Memphis (D)</td>
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<td>526 Roll on Texas Moon</td>
<td>UA</td>
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<td>449 Song of Arizona (W)</td>
<td>RKO</td>
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<td>500 Song of Mexico (M)</td>
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<td>524 Specter of the Rose (D)</td>
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**REP**

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Will Tomorrow Ever Come? 
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Without Reservations: 
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Woman of the World: 
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- M.G.M.

Woman Who Came Back The: 
- RKO  
- M.G.M.

Wonder Man: 
- RKO  
- M.G.M.
**ADVANCE DATA**

**On Forthcoming Product**

**BLOOMINGTON’S BIG MOMENT** (Col.)

Comedy, Principals: Penny Singleton, Arthur Lake, Anita Louise, Director, Alby Berlin. Plot: When the Bloomsteeds return from their vacation, they find that Mr. Dithers has sold his business and the office has a new boss. Dagwood gets in trouble right away and is denounced. He is finally fired but at the same moment, Dithers learns that Bloomsteed is the only man who can buy a building site which means a huge contract for the company. Bloomsteed steps in and dictates the terms: Dithers consents to buy the sale, but he must be given a private office. The boss hastily agrees.

**WINTER WONDERLAND** (Rep.)

Comedy, Principal: Lynne Roberts. Charles Drake, Roman Bohnen, Director, Bernard Vorhaus. Plot: The daughter of a poor farm family meets and falls in love with the handsome ski instructor at a luxurious hotel. On the day of the big ski festival, she eludes her father, and on the way home he discovers her in key lay-in. She is rescued by the instructor, who takes her to the lodge, and after a few parties, it is spread that she is the daughter of a millionaire. Her guilt is penetrated when the father appears, but he is revealed, and the young people admit their love for each other.

(Continued on Next Page)
ADVANCE DATA
On Forthcoming Product

(Continued from Preceding Page)
A TIME TO KILL (RKO Drama. Directed by John Ford. James, Barbara
Hopper. Lucille Ball, Robert Mitchum, Arthur
Van. Plot: A young mail worker
and his family, whose breadwinner was
barred to his around townhouse.
During the time that led to this hour: his romance
with a girl who is an opium like
that and that of a man; his murder of the
snowman. In the end the girl persuades him
as the story is a "happy ending for all."

I'LL BE YOURS (Univ.) Comedy.
Principals: Deanna Durbin, Tom
Drewe, William Bendix. Director,
William Satter. Plot: A girl goes to
New York and meets a young lawyer.
He is even more of a wealthy man
sane because of the young and
wrong, he is the rich man, entertains
the girl. The lawyer discovers the
truth but refuses to reveal his
interests in the company and refuses to see the girl.
The rich man then finds out that
the lawyer had saved his firm
several hundred thousand dollars and
will not be interested in any affai
at all.

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB) Comedy.
Drama. Principals: Irene Dunne.
Plot: A family man, entire life a
tutorial, sarcastic Father thinks he
is in love with his wife, but even his
wife and his four sons. His
Newspaperman, and his four sons. His
authorities upset the servants, and
his wife is always his, a matter of
much concern to the family.
However, when she dies, he realizes that
his son is a mere common man
in the face of death. She extracts a
death bed oath from him to be
baptized, and she recovers and
there is a happy ending for all.

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER
NOW (Fox) Technicolor. Principals: June
Haver, Mark Stevens. Director.
Fay Rooke. Plot: Told in an
America where anyone who
and-dance man struggles to gain
recognition and for his song. He falls
in love with a singer who leaves
him for another man. Discouraged,
he realizes he is not a showman.
He returns to his musical career,
with his wife, who he had once
married. In Alaska, he hears of the
success and begins to despair.
The man finds to find his little foster-sister, the
new group, and lovely, singing
her. He realizes the truth and
returns to his family.

HUMORESQUE (WB) Drama. Prin-
cipals: Joan Crawford. John Gar-
field. Director, Jean Negulesco. Plot:
Told in a story of a poor violinist
and his desire for a musical career. He is introduced to
a beautiful woman who tries to
forget her unhappy marriage by
courting, a showman, and by
drinking to excess. He resents her
efforts even though they further his
career, and his affair with her
causes an open break with his
family. On the eve of his greatest
concert, realizing he needs more
than she can give him, she dies from
her own treatment. In his sorrow,
he returns to his family.

THE BACHELOR'S DAUGHTERS
(Paramount-UA) Comedy. Principals:
Gail Russell, Claire Trevor, Ann
Dvorak, Adolphe Menjou. Director,
Andrew Stone. Plot: Four ex-artists
sell their resources, rent a Long Island
house, and then sell to a wealthy
West Family, with a retired screen
star as their wife. They gradually
embrace the store they work for
as their father. The idea is to
meet prospective buyers and
instead, they set into all sorts of
games and schemes to promote
their own. However, they manage
to extricate themselves from their
difficulties.
HELP WANTED

ASST. MGR. WITH PROJECTION EXPERIENCE, in Theatre sixty miles from N. Y. C. Good Salary. Write employed Where you are. Please address H. J. 36/4 Showmen's Trade Revue, 1501 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

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IMMEDIATE DELIVERY — LATEST 16-mm. AMPROARC Projectors—Include Strong High IntENSITY LAMPS, AUTOMATIC REEL CHANGER, 2 Heavy Duty Loudspeakers; spares and accessories. Practically new. Star Cinema Supply, $139.00; Deal, $239.00. S.O.S. Cinema Supply Corp., 449 West 42nd Street, New York, N. Y.

CRYSTAL BEADED SOUNDSCREENS, 495/4 square foot; Plastic-Coated guaranteed washable, 425¢; Marking material 75c yard; Small Theatre Stage Settings $55.00; General Electric 6 amp. Tungten, $2.95; Automatic Colorweeds with 400W. spotlights, $12.25; Stripette 11600 coated lenses, $7.50; Flashlight Batteries, 12—Dimmers—240W, $22.50; 2000W, $19.95; 1600W, $13.95; 1200W, $12.30. Write for Fall Catalog. S.O.S. Cinema Supply Corp., 440 W. 42nd St., New York 18, N. Y.

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SOUND

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MOTION PICTURE
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PRODUCT GUIDES
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Vol. 45 No. 10
SEPTEMBER 21, 1946

MANAGER SHOULD SET RIGHT EXAMPLE FOR HIS EMPLOYES
(See Page 14)
Announcing M-G-M
REPRINTS of MASTERPIECES

with gratitude for a suggestion from
our Friendly customers

Many of our accounts have told us of the constant
queries of their patrons concerning M-G-M
Masterpieces of All Time, great attractions which
have never lost their power and significance.

There has been a growing interest among a new
generation of picture-goers in many of the renowned
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer entertainments which
have enabled this company to be acclaimed by more
Academy Awards than all other companies.

Responsive as always to the showmanship guidance
of our alert customers who express the public wish,
we are therefore pleased to announce that from
time to time we will issue Reprints of previously
released M-G-M Masterpieces.

"YOU WERE RIGHT, MISTER EXHIBITOR!"

The first of M-G-M's Reprints of Masterpieces
"RAGE IN HEAVEN" is doing excellent business
in all 4 test engagements.

Next comes "CAPTAINS COURAGEOUS." The
idea in which you encouraged us so heartily
is off to a flying start. See next page.
INGRID BERGMAN AND ROBERT MONTGOMERY ARE SENSATIONAL!

In its tests at Indianapolis, Harrisburg, Dayton, Reading:

IT EQUALS "SAILOR TAKES A WIFE!"
IT BEATS "BAD BASCOMB!"
IT BEATS "VINES HAVE TENDER GRAPES!"
IT BEATS "HIGHNESS AND BELLBOY!"

M-G-M presents INGRID BERGMAN • ROBERT MONTGOMERY in "RAGE IN HEAVEN"
with George Sanders • Lucile Watson • Oscar Homolka • Screen Play by Christopher Isherwood
and Robert Thoeren • Based on the Novel by James Hilton • Directed by W. S. VAN DYKE II
Produced by GOTTFRIED REINHARDT • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Reprint
Everything it Takes to Make a Musical Great!

EALR CARROLL
SKETCHBOOK

Constance Moore - Marshall

With Vera Vague - Edw. Everett Horton

A Republic Picture

Directed by Albert S. Rogell - Screenplay by Frank Gill, Jr. and Don Levy

Original Story by Frank Gill, Jr. - Associate Producer, Robert North

Co-Starring William

Bill Goodwin - Johnny Coy

Hillaby Brooke

Songs

By Jule Styne and Sammy Cahn

"I've Never Forgotten"

"The Lady with the Map"

"What Makes You Beautiful, Beautiful?"

"Oh Henry"

and more!

A T tuneful Delight for Audiences Everywhere!
ANNA AND THE KING OF SIAM
Wins the Boxoffice Blue Ribbon Award for August!

Motion Picture Herald Acclaims SMOKY, in Technicolor, July Boxoffice Champion!

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE in Technicolor, Tops 20th's Greatest Grossing Musicals in Atlantic City and Philadelphia!

Today the Biggest Boxoffice Figures Are Being Made By the Biggest Figure in the Industry—20th Century-Fox!
Could Be....

According to the papers, MGM has appointed a special committee of studio executives to explore the possibilities of cutting production costs.

Based upon present production methods and technique, we do not see how anything but continuing increased costs can be expected for a long time to come. But there is nothing to prevent major studios from changing their methods so as to eliminate a great deal of the waste that exists and has existed in production for many years.

Picture costs seem to have gotten completely out of all control, with the resultant demand for higher rentals and percentage terms to bring back the tremendous costs and a profit besides. This latter angle is what most of the independent exhibitors are complaining about. And they are right. Especially those who must have a certain amount of reasonable, flat rental product to make their business profitable.

No one can really understand the problems and intricacies of production unless they know what it is all about. But those who are supposed to know what it is all about certainly should be able to do something to curb the rapidly mounting costs of turning out pictures.

It is very obvious that unless something is done about it the time will not be far off when it will be almost impossible to recoup the investment on the higher priced pictures. Then, financial necessity will bring about what MGM is attempting to achieve, and sensibly so, in advance of such a contingency.

All studios would be wise to follow the example of Leo the Lion and start taking stock of costs. We feel confident that, intelligently tackled, much can be accomplished to start bringing about the goal being sought. It is mighty important that these efforts meet with some measure of success.

Auction Bidding Too

Allied's alleged program for going into production poses a cute problem insofar as the court decision is concerned.

Suppose (and we are only supposing) that Allied did produce some pictures. Could they be made available to Allied members to the exclusion of all other exhibitors, would Allied have to offer them on the open market and sell them to the highest bidder?

And, if offered on the open market and bought by the Allied member's opposition, where would that leave the member who thought his product problems were going to be reduced through the availability of his organization's pictures.

It is a question whether any exhibitor organization need go into production on its own. They have little or no experience in this highly specialized phase of the industry. But if they are sincere and can work out the problem of conforming to the court decision on the release of their pictures, they can make some production deals with experienced producers now in business.

"The Jolson Story"

There is little question that Columbia has in this picture one of the great screen epics of all time. This might be screening-room enthusiasm or just a solid belief that certain types of pictures and stories are naturals from every angle.

If this estimate be accurate then it becomes the duty and responsibility of every manager and exhibitor who plays this picture to sell it to the hilt. It would be a crying shame if "The Jolson Story" came and went without every potential theatre-goer in the town having seen it.

Columbia took on a mighty big assignment when they tackled this one but they did a grand and noble job, and unless all reliable indicators fail, it will do top business in every situation.

You're Welcome

The recent addition of a section devoted to the classification of pictures by various important organizations whose function is to classify pictures and recommend them for age groups, has brought a healthy round of applause from theatremen subscribers to STR.

Again we pass along the compliments to those theatremen who made the original suggestion that such material should be carried.

It is interesting to note that practically all of the important departments of this trade journal were theatre-man-inspired. And that is as it should be because they are the men on the firing line and in the best position to know what they want and how they want it.

Our task is to dig deep into all such suggestions. This we believe we have done and will continue to do so long as constructive ideas are advanced that will be helpful to the large majority of theatres.

Which also accounts for the accuracy of the slogan that was also coined by some theatremen in describing STR:— "The Service Paper of the Industry."

—"CHICK" LEWIS
Columbia Would Outlaw All Booking Combines By Decree

Memorandum Submitted in Trust Case Challenges Authority to 'Regulate'

A request that the Statutory Court in the New York anti-trust case bar—under the decree—any dealings of the defendant companies with any and all booking combines, and the claim that the proposed method of competitive bidding is in violation of the company's rights under copyright law, are highlights of a memorandum submitted by Columbia Pictures to the Court last week.

The memorandum, which was prepared and submitted by Schwartz and Frosch, counsel for Columbia, asks for clarification of the issues raised by the decision with respect to booking power and claims that booking combinations which represent unaffiliated circuits or independent exhibitors shall enjoy no immunity from the restraints that will be imposed by the decree on affiliated circuit booking operations.

Columbia's position, according to the memorandum, is that it is not the function of the court to regulate an industry. "We believe," the memorandum states in this connection, "that it is the sole function of a Federal Court of Equity in a suit of this kind to enjoin the defendants only from continuing to do those acts which are in violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act. It is not the function of such court to regulate an industry, to police it and to force the defendants and others in the industry to adopt a given system of regulation and restrictions, particularly where the industry rests basically upon copyrights."

See Copyright Violation

The proposed method of competitive bidding, the memorandum states, "is an unwarranted interference with the monopoly inherent in Columbia's copyright," and it declares that should the final decree provide for such regulation it would be the first of its kind under which an owner may license whoever he pleases, by imposing upon him the necessity of licensing the highest bidder.

Columbia defends the system of block booking as a trade practice by stating that "there is no proof in this record that any exhibitor was ever hurt or injured in his business or property by reason of block-booking," and declares that should single-picture selling be enforced upon it, the company would have to revamp its entire financial base and greatly increase its overhead.

The memorandum claims that the complaint against the company should be dismissed; that 20 per cent rather than the 25 per cent cancellation as proposed by the Court should be provided for, and that it would not be possible for Columbia to readjust its affairs to comply with the proposed methods should such be imposed before July 1, 1947.

20th-Fox to Distribute Korda Films in Australia

One of the most important deals for the showing of independently produced British Films in Australia, New Zealand and Tasmania was announced Tuesday by Murray Silverstone, president of Twentieth Century-Fox International Corporation, in a joint statement with Sir Arthur Jarratt, deputy chairman and managing director of British Lion Film Corp., Ernest Turnbull, managing director of Hoyt's Theatres, Ltd.; Michael Moodie, managing director of Amalgamated Theatres, Ltd., New Zealand; and Sir Alexander Korda.

Under the terms of this deal British Films to be released by British Lion Film Corporation in the United Kingdom will be distributed through Twentieth Century-Fox in Australia, New Zealand and Tasmania and they will be exhibited in Australia's and New Zealand's most extensive circuits, namely, Hoyt's Circuit and the Amalgamated Theatre Circuit respectively.

Sperling Buys Bernhard Interest in U.S. Pictures

Milton Sperling this week stepped into the presidency of United States Pictures after acquiring the interest of his partner, Joseph Bernhard. The two had formed United States Pictures last year to produce several films annually for Warner Bros. release. Until now Bernhard has been president and Sperling vice-president and executive producer.

In announcing his withdrawal from the company Bernhard said he will continue to look after distribution matters for the company's first two releases, "Cloak and Dagger" (general release date Sept. 28) and "Pursued," still in production. He declared his future plans have not yet been determined.

Minneapolis Lifts Polio Ban; Theatre Grosses Up

With Minneapolis and other cities in the northwest district removing bans on children attending theatres because of the polio epidemic, business has improved. In fact, box-office grosses in many cases were above average following a six-week dearth of pictures for the kids.

ASCAP Suit Transferred

The suit of ASCAP against Mrs. Jessie Jen- sen of the Avalon Theatre, White Bear, Minn., for alleged infringement of non-payment of the "music license" fee has been transferred from St. Paul to the Minneapolis district court, it was learned this week, and probably will be put on the court calendar soon, along with the infringement suits being brought against the Berger Amusement Co.

Installment Plan

Part of the decree draft that will be submitted to the Department of Justice by the five theatre-owning distributors was received in Washington Monday. It was reported that the draft (the completing portions of which are to be delivered "soon") does not contain any proposals for restricting or banning cross-licensing and other protective devices, nor does the Department's proposals on auction selling.

Say Exhibitor Units Will Be 'Plaintiffs'

Thurman Arnold and Paul Williams, respective attorneys for the American Theatres Association and the Pacific Coast Conference of exhibitors, who are collaborating on an action through which their organizations will intervene in the New York anti-trust case, said in Washington this week that the exhibitor organizations would appear in the case as plaintiffs seeking to protect their interest. They said the sole purpose of the action would be to object to the distribution of pictures by competitive bidding.

Arnold and Williams scoffed at a report published in a trade paper that an unnamed counsel had advised two exhibitor organizations they would be bound as defendants in the case were they to intervene to protect the interest. "We have no faith in the law or fact, pointing out that the Government desires no relief against the independent owners, who are the victims of the conspiracy, not wrong-doers."

C. J. Latta

(Man on the Cover)

Zone manager for Warner Bros. Theatres for New York state outside New York City, who recently was elected Second Assistant National Chief Barker of the Variety Clubs of America. His election to national office in the Variety Clubs came as a natural consequence of his active, and availing, work in the organization of the Albany, Oneida and Jefferson County chapters, and as a result of his performance as Second Assistant Chief Barker in the state of New York. He served two terms in that office. Later he served as National Canvassman Mr. Latta, whose birthplace is New Providence, Iowa, entered the motion picture theatre field as an independent exhibitor in the Omaha territory, where he operated theaters for twelve years prior to his first association with Warner Bros. Theatres in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1925. Subsequently he transferred to Pittsburgh and became Assistant Zone Manager for the company in that territory. He assumed his present position with the Warner Theatre organization in 1941.

SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW

"Title and Trade MarkRegistered U. S. Patent Office
Published every Friday by Showmen's Trade Review Inc., 439 Broadway, New York City. Telephones: L.0 ngate 3-0231. Charles E. 'Chuck' Lewis, Editor and Publisher. Board of Directors: A. C. Reiner, Chairman; James A. Crox, General Manager; Ralph Colicky, Managing Editor; Jules Rosenberg, Treasurer and Assistant Manager. West Coast Office, 2777 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, 28, California, Telephone Hollywood 3035; Anna Lewis, manager, London Representative, Jack MacLean, Australian Representative, Gordon V. Curie, 1 Elliott St., Homely South, Sydney, Australia, and J. A. Worthington, New Zealand Representative. All contents copyright 1946 by Showmen's Trade Review, Inc. Address all correspondence to the New York office. Subscription rates: $2.00 per year in the United States and Canada; Foreign, $2.50. Single copies, ten cents.
Allied Adheres to Its Traditional Policy of 'Legislation and Litigation' to Gain Goals

Boston Meet Called Most Militant; Film Famine, Checkers Draw Heavy Fire

By BILL SPECHT

National Allied closed its three-day convention in Boston Wednesday committed to its traditional policy of legislation and litigation.

The resolutions introduced just before the close of the meet, aimed at product shortages, checkers, an Allied-drafted uniform contract, asserted trade abuses the nullification of selectivity by alleged monopolistic "artificial restricted film supply"—all either imply or recommend legal action. The Allied speakers during the various sessions, repeatedly urged legislation to obtain Allied ends, if other methods failed.

Observers who had attended other Allied conventions thought it was most militant since the Minneapolis trade practices convention and seemed impressed with the belief that Allied would push representations aggressively for action. Throughout the convention it was noticeable that many exhibitors—whose convention sessions were attended by more than 500—were seriously alarmed over the subject of product shortage.

While local checking, forced percentage pictures, forced playing time, increased flat rentals, auction selling brought reclassification and bitter debate, and while the statutory court opinion brought forth interest as well as apparent misunderstanding of its import (which general counsel Abram Myers tried to clear up in a speech Wednesday morning) the subject almost everyone returned to was product shortage.

The sense of the convention seemed definitely to be that some houses would have to close, eliminate changes, or buy everything in sight regardless of price, unless more pictures were made available. Distributors were afraid of creating artificial shortages to skyrocket prices and force their own terms.

Various solutions were offered to correct this in addition to a motion referring the question to the Department of Justice. Included: Allied President Jack Kirsch's suggestion to form a national booking and buying combine; production of new films and distribution of a national distribution system by Allied for independent producers; (ITOA President, Harry Brandt made this suggestion); breaking up of the alleged monopoly by divorce—a term which Allied seemed to completely divorce of theatres; several other plans such as returning to five cent admissions on percentage pictures.

All the resolutions presented to the convention's forum late Wednesday afternoon were carried unanimously.

They first authorized the Allied board to "all necessary action to delete checking provisions from present and future film contracts substituting ... an equitable plan ... to both distributor and exhibitor and providing for reference to counsel for legal action if such be necessary to accomplish the desired result...."

May File Charges

The second concerned the decrease in available product which has "shrunk ... beyond the danger point even to the extent that old releases are forced upon the public," claims that the majors' withholding of "product is a deliberate attempt to curtail artificially an already restricted market ... to raise film prices and terms." It authorizes the Association to seek relief through consultation with film executives and failing that to call this matter to the Department of Justice.

The third called upon Allied to prepare a uniform exhibiting contract for its members to replace the distributors' contract.

The fourth attacked "imposed obnoxious policies" among which were listed alleged prior sales to affiliated theatres along with lower rentals and higher terms. Those producers cleared for the obvious selection allegedly forced upon independents, placing "mediocre pictures" in the percentage bracket, and percentage or high rentals on re-releases. The resolution asked Allied's directors to take any action deemed appropriate.

The fifth stated the courts through outlawing compulsory block booking and granting cancellations, had sought to give the independent some selectivity in buying but that an "artificially restricted film supply" had nullified the selectivity. It suggested that the matter be called to the attention of the Department of Justice.

A sixth resolution called upon Columbia to admit Pete Harrison to its screenings. The editor reportedly had been barred.

An annual Allied convention opened an hour late Monday with Convention General Chairman Nathan Yamin delivering the welcome, and sounding the keynote when he said the purpose of the gathering in Boston was to get "order restored out of the chaos in the industry.... But, let me emphasize that not one of the Allied objectives is to be sacrificed or compromised to get order in the industry."

With President Kirsch as a keynote, he said he was not making anything in the nature of a "keynote speech because I do not wish to influence you."

Kirsch then opened the meeting for a discussion of trade practices and Col. H. A. Cole of Dallas aroused interest when he declared that MGM had planned to put a new clearance plan into effect in Texas and had desisted only when he had threatened to seek an injunction against it. From discussion which followed, it appeared that MGM, acting upon information furnished by Audience Research Bureau on the market possibilities of a picture, had planned to redistribute Texas into five clearance zones with pictures becoming available in accordance with the estimated revenue value of the respective market centers.

Under this plan, Cole said, Dallas would have immediate availability while the nearest town next town on the revenue list would get the picture two weeks later; the third town would have to wait another six weeks. He estimated that a town in which he had clients, which now plays within the same week as Dallas if prints are available, would have to wait five weeks after Dallas. Cole said this setup would...

Allied Production Plans Under Wraps

Allied apparently was keeping its plans to foster independent production under wraps, as President Jack Kirsch told the convention Tuesday that Allied had such plans, but that they would be presented to each unit by its directors who would be informed of the progress made to date.

"We hope," Kirsch said, "to have something concrete. But the only way we can advise you is through the directors who will report back to the units."

Later, after Abe Kramer of Western Pennsylvania had offered a plan to raise the funds for such production, Kirsch told the convention: "We don't have to have any money to produce pictures. We are negotiating and will look for you four stories, stars and producers." He then explained that a producing group was willing to produce the pictures in return for guaranteed playing time and asked the convention how many of its members present would go along with the plan if they knew what stories and stars were available. A poll of the hands showed better than three fourths of the meeting favored the idea.

Kramer, meanwhile, has outlined a plan whereby each Allied theatre seating a 1,000 or less would put up $100 yearly and houses seating over 1,000 would put up $200 yearly. This, he said, would go to a company which would agree to make such a picture. He estimated Allied could furnish 3,500 theatres and said:

Kirsch later said that the Allied plan at present envisioned four pictures, with possibly eight more to follow during the first year.
Allied Stands by Its Guns for Divorcement

View Cross-Licensing As Acceptable Substitute; Yamins Ok's Percentage

(Continued from Page 9)

not affect Dallas subsequent runs, but Sid Samuelson retorted that, since the runs were based on revenue potentials, subsequent runs might find themselves pushed even further back.

Local checking was the next subject to come under heavy attack Monday, and brought out some of the more bitter comments of the day. Bill Blatt of Western Pennsylvania told of his fight against local checkers, and his final capitulation when he was faced by loss of product.

"It was a came to a showdown," he said, "what chance did we have. We had to have product, so what could we do but take the local checkers?"

Noting the floor after Blatt had finished to warn that individually an exhibitor could accomplish nothing.

Joseph Uvick of Michigan wanted Allied to be part of an action on the checking affair which would start a "proceeding in restraint of trade." Morris Finkel of Western Pennsylvania wanted Allied to go on record against the local checker system and to submit a plan of action. Attempts to introduce resolutions on the subject were abandoned when it was pointed out that Allied still had a committee which was discussing the matter with Con- fidential Representatives.

At Tuesday morning's session Jack Kirsch resumed the checker discussion saying that he regretted he had not been able to see a Confidential executive, who had been in Boston but who left, and added to the convention:

"The only thing I ask of you (in this matter) is your support. I don't mean conversation."

Irving Dollinger of New Jersey attacked the decrease of pictures being made and accused the producers of "creating a false shortage." Ernest Schwartz of Cleveland said his organization wanted Allied to know that it wanted action on film rentals, the number of percentage pictures and forced Sunday showings.

Jack Kirsch took the floor to say: "I don't think exhibitors need to buy from every motion picture company. If an exhibitor must depend on any one film company for his success, he has a very poor business."

Kirsch blasted at Columbia's attempt to get the courts to outlaw buying combines. The Allied president, who said he buys for over 200 houses, claimed that Columbia had painted a brilliant prospectus of what they were going to offer currently and then said: "We are very sorry, but can't deliver them. What are you going to do about it?" "Maybe," Kirsch suggested, "we ought to come back and tell Columbia that we won't buy their product because they haven't delivered—Gentlemen, I say, we don't need anymore."

Nate Yamins entered the discussion with the declaration that with reduced product it was impossible for a multiple-change house to ignore any company and said that the differences between distributor and exhibitor would not be solved "until they restore confidence not by words, but by deeds." He said there was some justification for increased profits since the dollar was worth less today than in 1934, but attacked the distributor policy of trying to tell a theater owner what his overhead should be.

"They tell you to pay less rent, to cut down on your amortization," Yamins declared. "Only three per cent of a theater's overhead is allowed for management. So your 25 per cent profit after disallowing any of the items the distributors don't like, drops to 15 per cent. That wouldn't be like what happens. The business shifts to the big houses, and the small houses hardly get by." Yamins urged legislation as the only solution.

Morriz Pouznner of Boston told the convention that when he was threatened with short product for his multiple-change house, he adopted a week-run policy and his profits returned. The same. He urged reduced running time rather than "break our necks to pay films rentals."

Leo Yassenoff of Columbus spoke of the inequality of "trading position," while Percy Friedman of Philadelphia suggested that the public might have the control of the distributors because higher rentals would mean higher admissions and less product meant inferior pictures.

Joseph Uvick suggested a buying combine to be sponsored by Allied. He also suggested that when buying time came the exhibitor insist that percentage pictures be listed with the flat rental pictures and that the exhibitors reject the percentage pictures and buy the flat rentals. He claimed the distributors could not refuse to sell since that would constitute "conditioning sale of one picture on another, and faked at 'putrid percentages' which he said does not exist in other legitimate businesses but are hangovers from 'carnivals, shows and assignment houses.'"

Booking Combine 'Utopia'

Kirsch then spoke on the possibility of a National booking and buying combine which would be an Allied project and would be open to independent exhibitors.

"I tell you men again," he said, "It would be Utopia if we had a National buying circuit to break any company, for we need the film companies, but to get some sort of 'national policy' in sales.

The buying combine question may be referred to the Allied Board. A resolutions committee consisting of Chairman Sid Samuelson, Leo Yassenoff, Truman Renbush of Indiana, Joseph Uvick and Col. Cole, was appointed.

The Wednesday morning session opened with general counsel Abram Myers' report on the court opinion. Myers said that the smoke arising from the explosion caused by the 'auction selling' phases of the opinion had blinded many to the fact that the opinion had many benefits for the independent exhibitor.

Speaking further on divorcement, Myers said:

"Retention of theatres while lack of product exists will nullify the court's intention to open up competition, because this lack would not have as much effect on them (affiliated or distributor-owned theatres) ... every effort should be made to open the screen to new products, new ideas and new companies."

He said that he felt the Attorney General was not bound to follow too closely on the court's plan since the government itself wanted divorcement and because the present department wrote opinion for the court had the virtue of clearing the way for a quick appeal to the United States Supreme Court.

Myers and other Allied speakers approved of cross-licensing as a substitute for divorce, stating that it would make pictures more generally available. The Allied General Counsel urged an appeal to consumers on auction selling, which he suggested, the contracts had to be, that it be confined only to localities where affiliated theatres were bidding one against the other. The declared purpose of the plan, he said, is to break up the combination among the defendants, to open up the runs now frozen in their hands. ... If the system has any value it is limited to its application to the affiliated theatres."

Myers said he did not know "what good, if any" could be accomplished by Allied becoming a party to the suit.

Harry Brandt, who attended the forum with an ITOA delegation came out against percentage pictures but did not favor divorcement. "The consent decree," he said, "worked in reverse. It started a government sponsored monopoly and handed the distributors a bonanza ... it came to pass only because we exhibitors were not united in a National organization ... now by government sponsored decree, the distributors are getting what the exhibitors would never give him—single selling and competitive bidding."

Call For United Front

Brandt urged a united front of independents, either by joining Allied or by some other national organization. Later he explained to STR that his object was to get unity, regardless of the organization, through a national unit but that he was not advocating a new body or a national office.

Kirsch followed Brandt with a plea for action that would keep up after the delegates left and to present a united fighting front. "If the distributors want us in court," he said, "let's go to court."

Myers then took over the forum question again. One question was for his opinion on deals with Columbia and Universal which had a year or two go. The query: were the contracts enforceable? Myers said no distributor had to break contracts until the court had entered its decree but felt it plain that neither exhibitor or distributor could be forced to carry out the contracts.

The Wednesday afternoon session opened with a plea from an American Legion representative to play its picture on job seeking "No Help Wanted". The motion picture industry would be viewed by the reviewing committee and if acceptable would undoubtedly get booking.

The Allied President then asked for some plans and projects for the future which was when Brandt suggested a National Distributors Organization. Delegate John Wolfberg from Denver applied to organize for Allied in that city as well

(Continued on Page 17)
THE LIFE STORY OF THE WOMAN IN WHOM MORE WOMEN ARE INTERESTED THAN IN ANY OTHER! SHE DID WHAT THEY’D LOVE TO DO: SHE FOUND HAPPINESS — WITHOUT MEN! ROMANCE, YES; BUT LOVE, FAMILY, HOME SHE SACRIFICED—TO WRITE IN THRILLING DEEDS ONE OF THE MOST GLORIOUS CONFLICTS IN ALL HUMAN HISTORY! …HER STORY IS EXCITING TRUTH…IT’S POWERFUL DRAMA — AND IT’S GREAT, POPULAR ENTERTAINMENT!
Sensation...

ROSALIND RUSSELL • ALEXANDER KNOX

"Sister Kenny"

with DEAN JAGGER

PHILIP MERIVALE • BEULAH BONDI
CHARLES DINGLE

Produced and Directed by DUDLEY NICHOLS
Screen Play by DUDLEY NICHOLS, ALEXANDER KDCH
and MARY McCARTHY

RKO RADIO PICTURES

MILLIONS ARE WAITING TO SEE IT!
and RKO advertises 'em BIG!

—Never bigger in the entire history of "The Showmanship Compa
... a national magazine advertising campaign to

104,436,793 CIRCULATION

—Not only in all the normal channels of big advertising, but reach out to bring in those BONUS MILLIONS of folks who make the effort see only the screen's outstanding attractions. Let the list speak for its

The Big Weeklies
Life (3 insertions)
Saturday Evening Post (3 insertions)
Look (3 insertions)
Time (3 insertions)
Collier's (3 insertions)
Newsweek
Liberty
New Yorker

The Big Monthlies
American
Ladies' Home Journal
McCall's
Woman's Home Companion
(3 insertions)
Good Housekeeping
Woman's Day
Household Magazine
Everywoman's
Family Circle
Parent's Magazine

The Big Farm Magazines
Capper's Farmer
Farm Journal (2 insertions)
Progressive Farmer
Successful Farmer (2 insertions)

The Big Specials
Country Gentleman
General Federation Clubwoman

The Big Newspaper Supplement
AMERICAN WEEKLY
appearing in the following newspapers:
Los Angeles Examiner
San Francisco Examiner
Washington Times-Herald
Miami Herald
Atlanta Journal
Chicago Herald-American
Baltimore American
Boston Sunday Advertiser
Detroit Times
Albany Times-Union
Buffalo Courier-Express
N. Y. Journal-American
Syracuse Herald-American
Cleveland Plain Dealer
Portland Oregonian
Philadelphia Record
Pittsburgh Sun-Telegraph
San Antonio Light
Seattle Post-Intelligencer
Milwaukee Sentinel

The Big Fan Magazines
Motion Picture
Movie Story
Movie Show
Screenland
Silver Screen
Movie Life
Movie Stars Parade

Movies
Modern Screen
Movieland
Photoplay
Screen Guide
Screen Romances
Screen Stars
Showmen's Trade Review, September 21, 1946

National Newsreel

Stage Show Big Draw
In Des Moines Area

Des Moines theatremen watched with interest and mixed emotions what was labeled “the greatest week in the legitimate theatre” when the show, “Oh, Oklahoma!” played to a gross of $113,000 for eight performances at the new KRNT Radio Theatre here.

The big gross was not so important to the theatremen as the unusual event, when a radio station took over the 4,200-seat Shrine Auditorium. The Cowles brothers, highly successful in the newspaper, radio and picture magazine field, purchased the auditorium this summer for a reported price of $175,000, presumably for the purpose of staging television shows. Although this is still probably the No. 1 purpose of the purchase, theatremen are wondering how much competition they face from stage attractions until video takes over. The Cowles interests have the Des Moines Register and Tribune as well as their radio station to ballyhoo the stage attractions.

A factor that especially impressed theatremen was the fact that the 33,000 persons who saw “Oh, Oklahoma!” came into Des Moines from all over the state. This was the attraction represented not only competition for the Des Moines houses but out-state picture theatres as well.

To get eight capacity houses for Oklahoma the KRNT radio theatre went all out on promotion. Spot announcements were used on the radio station, promotion was woven into radio shows and newscasts, ads and stories were carried in the Des Moines newspapers as well as daily papers over the state, 12,000 herald mail-outs and hand-outs were used, window displays, inside and outside street car posters and even spot announcements on radio station WXN at Yankton, S. D., another Cowles station.

Steps Up Organization
Drive for Chicago Union

Eugene Atkinson, business agent of the Chicago projectionists union, has distributed a bulletin to theatre personnel offering his help in organizing theatre workers involved in an AFL charter which he received in 1937 but which has lain dormant until the present. It is said that Atkinson recently received the green light from AFL headquarters to organize his union of all theatre employees.

There are about 350 theatres in the area comprised of a radius of 30 miles around Chicago in the territory covered by the union Atkinson is organizing.

Initial organization fees for the membership of the new union have been set at six dollars, and tentative plans are said to call for four divisions in the organization.

Raise for Cashiers

Cashiers of the Balaban and Katz circuit theatres in Chicago this week received a ten per cent wage increase, advancing the basic wage to $27.30 per week.

Wanger-Roach Producing
Deal With UA Complete

Walter Wanger and Hal Roach this week signed long-term producing contracts with United Artists, which were later approved by the UA board of directors. Wanger, who has been labeled “Canyon Passage” is hitting the big money around the country, still has three more pictures to make under his contract with Universal.

Low Limits Screen Ads

A Mason City, Iowa, ordinance which limits all advertising of theatres in that town to two minutes became effective upon publication Thursday. The ordinance does not affect previews or trailers of coming pictures at the theatres. It was passed by the City Council this week.

Bordonaro Bros. of Olean
Bring $489,000 Trust Suit

Bordonaro Bros., operators of the 1,434-seat Palace Theatre in Olean, N. Y., last Friday filed suit for triple damages against thirteen co-defendant distributors and exhibitors, alleging violation of both the Clayton Anti-Trust Acts and the Robinson-Patman Act. With a loss of $163,000 named, the treble damages come to $489,000. The defendants, served at the Buffalo exchanges, are Loew’s, Paramount, RKO Corp., RKO Radio Pictures, 20th Century-Fox, Universal Corp., Universal Pictures, Universal Film Exchanges, Big U Film Exchange, United Artists, Warner Bros., Vitagraph, and Warner Bros. Circuit Management Corp.

In the complaint Bordonaro Bros. states that prior to 1930 the two present Warner houses, the Haven and the State (both smaller than the Palace) were independently operated, and that the plaintiff was able to obtain a fair proportion of first run features. When Warner took over the houses, according to the charge, Bordonaro was unable to book sufficient first-run attractions on the part of the defendants to monopolize the first-run business in Olean and to fix prices.

Although admitting that it has been able in recent years to get half the product of Loew’s, 20th-Fox and Universal, the plaintiff charges discrimination in that the defendants have exacted rentals “in excess of those charged Warner Bros. for similar productions,” that they have required preferred playing time, and that they have “forced the plaintiff to accept and exhibit inferior and undesirable product.”

Producing Artists
In Deal With Eagle Lion

Under terms of a deal concluded in Hollywood last weekend, Producing Artists, headed by Arthur Lyons, will release its product through Eagle Lion. The deal was finalized after long negotiations following the arrival in Hollywood of Arthur Schwaberg, Eagle Lion sales manager, from his headquarters in New York. The agreement, announced by Eagle Lion president Arthur Krim, is for a period of three years.

Producing Artists will make a series of features, with the first picture set for distribution by Eagle Lion to go before the cameras in November. This will be titled “Prelude to Night” and will be directed by William Dieterle with Zachary Scott, Louis Hayward and Sidney Greenstreet featured. It is a biography of Napoleon’s sister Pauline Bonaparte, from the novel, “Imperial Venus.”

E. L. Signs Joan Leslie

Joan Leslie has been signed by Eagle Lion for the feminine lead in “Mr. Jow.”

Unions’ Tug,’O-War Is
Back to Plague Studios

Hollywood studios were in the grip of slowdowns and interruptions to production this week as jurisdictional dispute between AFL Local 946 carpenters and the IATSE Set Eectors flared into action, with the carpenters refusing to work on sets handled by the IATSE members.

The trouble started when the Carpenters gave the Producers a 6 a.m. ultimatum on Sept. 9, to oust IA Set Eectors from work the Carpenters claim is theirs. When the Producers didn’t take action, Carpenters refused to work on certain sets and were ordered to leave the lots.

Pat Casey, chairman of the Producers Labor Committee, in a letter to representatives of the Carpenters, said the Producers were “powerless to determine” the differences and hinted that 30,000 employees might be out of work because of the dispute. Representatives included Joseph L. Cambiano, international representative of United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners; C. A. Sproul, president of Local 946; and J. W. Vance, recording secretary of 946.

An agreement was involved in production under conditions where such slowdowns and work stoppages happen was given in a statement by William Cagney, head of Cagney Productions, in which he announced that filming of “The Straw Lamb,” in which James Cagney will star, had been postponed in view of the labor controversy. He said that his company has a pre-production investment to date of approximately $250,000 in the project, but that they were prepared to “maintain a required shooting schedule during an unsettled period of indeterminate duration might conceivably add $75,000 to a picture already budgeted at $1,700,000.”

W. Va. Managers Join
Allied at Session

Members of the West Virginia Theatre Managements Association, by a vote of 68 to 16, last week went Allied after spirited sessions in Charleston during which speakers for three national organizations—Allied, American Theatres Association and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America—outlined their aims and policies.

The association, which at the time was unincorporated but which had been an MPTOA unit, also re-elected the following:

President E. R. Caster; Vice-President E. L. Keeling; Secretary-Treasurer W. H. Holt; Directors L. E. Rogers (chairman), Louis Shore, R. J. Heible, Max Maier, W. B. Hines, Mrs. P. M. Thomas, Dr. C. F. Church, Grace Brinkman, N. B. Carlsdon, S. J. Hyman, M. E. Thalheimer, George S. Otte, J. H. Brownfield.

Speakers for Allied were Sidney Samuels and Trumen Rembusch, while Sl H. Fabian and Robert S. Coyne spoke for ATA and Jim Shanklin for MPTOA.

The Association also resolved against local checkers and moved to employ lawyers to fight discriminatory legislation.

Mrs. Wall Assumes New Duties

Mrs. Mildred Bishop Wall, who operates theatres in Lewiston, Idaho, has taken over her duties as the recently elected president of Independent Theatre Owners of Washington, Northern Idaho and Alaska.
Gradwell L. Sears, vice-president in charge of distribution for United Artists, arrived in New York from Hollywood on Monday in order to be present at a meeting of the company's board of directors.

Al Lichtman, MGM studio executive on the coast, is paying a short visit to Broadway and environs.

A group of RKO Radio district and branch managers are in Manhattan for the first of series of unit conferences. They include H. H. Greenblatt, E. J. Poliardi, Sam Gorelick, Lou Ilman, C. J. Dresell, Morris Leftko and Joe Breiten.

William Perlberg, 20th Century-Fox producer, arrived in New York this week with Mrs. Perlberg and their son. The family is here for about ten days. Perlberg just finished "The Shocking Miss Pilgrim."

Norman H. Moray, Warner short subject sales manager, is off on a three-week tour of the western exchanges. While on the coast he will talk things over with Jack L. Warner and Gordon Hollingshead, short subject producers.

Harry H. Thomas, president, and Lloyd L. Lind, vice-president of PRC, spent most of the week visiting the company's Albany and Boston exchanges.

Members of the trade press joined with a delegation from United Artists for a three-day junket to the Wayne Country Club in Tyler, Pa., last weekend in conjunction with the screening of "Devil's Playground," new Hopalong Cassidy film, which stars Bill Boyd. The picture was shown at the Park Theatre in Narrowsburg.

Among those present were Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., Howard Le Sieur, Francis Winigus, Lew Barach, Nat Lax, Phil Cowan, Simon Wolf and Joe Clair, all of UA, also Sam Berns, George Spire, Herb Golden, Charles Frank and Walter Walman, representing the trade press.

Ned E. Depinet, off on a European jaunt, was scheduled to attend the International Film Festival held at Cannes, France beginning Sept. 20.

James R. Grainger, Republic executive vice-president, made an all-inclusive visit to the coast and is now back in the New York home office. He spent two weeks at the Republic North Hollywood studio, then stayed a week at San Francisco and another week at Salt Lake City and Denver.

Joseph Mankiewicz, who used to live in New York, but has long been a "native" of Hollywood, is back in Manhattan for a three-week vacation. How does it look, Joe?

Scott R. Dunlap in Top Studio Spot With Brody

Scott R. Dunlap, who with W. Ray Johnston helped organize the new Monogram company in 1937, was this week appointed executive assistant to President Steve Brody at the studio. The new post will give Dunlap a say in all production matters and include actual operation of the Hollywood plant.

Entering films in 1915, Dunlap has worked in every capacity in motion picture production. He was an assistant director to D. W. Griffith, and later as a full-fledged director remained with Fox for eight years and then worked successively for Universal, RKO Radio and Warner Bros. Equally at home in straight dramatic fare and westerns, he has produced such pictures for Monogram as "Lady Let's Dance," "Oh What a Night," and "Sunbonnet Sue."

Monogram Plans Drive

A "March of Progress Drive" to clean up all 1945-46 accounts is planned for exchanges in the United States and Canada. It was announced by President Steve Brody this week.
Says 'Free Competition' Is Basis of Decision

Competitive bidding for films as ordered by the Court in the New York anti-trust case will make for free competition, Fred J. Schwartz, vice-president of Century Theatres, New York circuit, declared in a statement issued over the week-end.

Declarating that he is opposed to "needless government interference with business," the Century vice-president said, however, "I do not believe that the way to prevent such interference is to talk against it, on the one hand, while at the same time perpetuating the conditions which in the normal course of events make Government interference unnecessary.

Schwartz said that while the motion picture business "has many peculiarities and intricacies absent from other fields of industry, the underlying principles which apply to other business must also apply to the motion picture business. We cannot eat our cake and have it. We must have free competition."

The basis of the decision of the Court, as he reads it, Schwartz said, "is the creation and maintenance of free competition. "Competitive bidding in the final analysis is competition between buyers for goods and, in the case of our business, is competition between exhibitors for a particular picture or run. The fact that this thought seems so radical to us in the business, may well raise the question of whether unlimited free competition has in fact existed.

To be sure, there are many complications which will have to be worked out. I do not pretend to know the solution of all the problems, nor do I necessarily suggest that an auction block in the ordinary sense of the word is the answer. I do, however, maintain that the principle of free competition among the various theatres is a product should control and that rather than attempt to scrap that underlying thought, expressed by the Court, the same brains which have contributed to the progress which this industry has made, can offer constructive suggestions, based on practical experience, so that an equitable and workable plan of film distribution can be evolved. . . ."

Against Auctions

The poll conducted by the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America to sample exhibitor opinion on certain aspects of the federal statutory court anti-trust suit opinion, neared its end this week, with current results showing that exhibitors are against auctions sales and in favor of theatre divesture. The returns to date are: Auction selling—19 in favor, 233 against.

Arbitration of "bids, clearances, runs"—55 for, 183 against.

Use of non-industry arbitrators—38 for, 209 against.

Theatre divesture—158 for, 91 against.

The figures to date represent 789 theatres in 43 states.

**Fraud Suits 'Go West' and Midwest**

Ten additional suits charging fraud in connection with returns on percentage pictures had been filed this week, three of which were the first such suits known to be filed on the West Coast and the remaining seven thought to be the first filed against a Wisconsin circuit.

The West Coast suits were filed by Paramount, 20th Century-Fox and Loew's (MGM) in the central division of the United States district court for southern California against William E. Cox, operating the Forum Theatre in Buffalo, Calif.

Each of the suits charges fraudulent reports on percentage pictures through alleged submission of false statements on grosses, thereby decreasing the revenue to which the plaintiffs defendants were entitled or causing them to grant lower rentals on subsequent runs.

The suits further charge that checkers were "induced" to sign falsified box office statements and that the exhibitor defendants refused the plaintiffs the right to audit the Forum's records or to check admissions. Ordinary and exemplary damages are requested.

The Wisconsin suits were filed in federal court at Superior by Universal, United Artists, Loew's (MGM), 20th Century-Fox, Paramount and RKO against George Miner, the Isle Theatre Company and the Miner Amusement Company, involving seven suits, after six houses operating as the Miner Circuit.

They charge fraudulent returns in connection with percentage pictures with the purpose of paying lower rentals, to procure lower rentals on future pictures or to get reductions in terms for those already played and claim that defendant refused the plaintiffs the right to examine admissions reports or to cross admissions of his theatres last February. Ordinary and exemplary damages are requested.

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**Dipson Theatres of Buffalo Bring $2,561,833 Film Conspiracy Action**

In a suit for $2,561,833.02 against eleven defendants, Dipson Theatres, Inc. of Buffalo this week charged a monopolistic conspiracy that allegedly contrived, not only to prevent the Dipson theatres from receiving first-run product, but even included the erection of a new house in nearby Lackawanna in an effort to kill the business of the four Dipson theatres there. The defendants were Buffalo Theatres, Inc., Bison Theatres Corp., Vincent McPaul, and the following distributors: Loew's, Paramount, Vitagraph, Universal, 20th Century-Fox, Columbia, United Artists, and RKO Radio.

Charging illegal combination, the brief declared that Buffalo Theatres was a holding company for the operating circuit, Bison Theatres, and that one-third each of the stock was held by Paramount, Loew's and McPaul, who is president of both corporations. The Bison circuit owns or leases the Buffalo, Great Lakes, Hippodrome, Tech, Kensington, Elmwood, Seneca, North Park, Kenmore, Niagara, Roosevelt and Lackawanna.

The Dipson corporation came into the picture in 1939 when it acquired the Century Theatre in Buffalo from Bison. Immediately, the complaint states, the new owners found difficulty getting first-runs. Later when Dipson acquired the Franklin, Ridge, Hollywood, and Park in Lackawanna, according to the complaint, the Buffalo group induced Oscar Williams to build a theatre there which they called the Lackawanna.

"This," charges Dipson, "was for the sole purpose of injuring and destroying the business of the plaintiff in Lackawanna. This procedure of defendants was in retaliation for plaintiff's opposition to them at the Bailey and Century theatres in Buffalo." Dipson charges that in Lackawanna it suffered an operating loss of $38,816 between 1939 and the present and were deprived of a normal net income of approximately $85,221.

The brief also stated that when Dipson took over the theatres in Lackawanna contracts with leading film distributors were immediately cancelled except that with Vitagraph. In that case, the complaint charges, Vitagraph continued to license half its output, but that the better half was released to the Lackawanna Theatre. The suit was filed in Federal Court.

**Majors Face Another Suit, This Time for $1,200,000**

The eight majors found themselves on the defending end of another anti-trust suit this week in Detroit, this time for $1,200,000. It was brought by Joseph Miskinis, Sr. and Jr., who operate the Civic Theatre, against the majors plus the United Detroit, Wisper & Wesman and the Fred Dehodder circuits.

When the Civic opened in 1911, the Mis- kinises declare, distributors refused to grant key or sub-key runs, making the theatre in effect a fifth-run house; this despite the fact that the Civic is better appointed than many of the circuit houses. As a result, the complaint says, the theatre has suffered in patronage in the face of good box-office figures elsewhere. The father and son seek equality in booking with the circuit situations.

**Change Convention Date**

The mid-year convention of the Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa and Nebraska, previously announced to be held at the Hotel Fort Des Moines in Des Moines on Oct. 14-15, will now be called to order on Oct. 28-29, it was announced this week by T. J. Evans, executive secretary.
The Brass Tacks of Efficient
Picture Theatre Management
SETTING THE RIGHT EXAMPLE

By Jack Jackson

Every theatre mirrors the character, personality, ambitions and general attitude of its management personnel. In no other business are the materials of body and brain of the management so evident to customer and passerby alike. You, the manager, are the thermostat of the theatre organization and the more attention you pay to the way you think, act, dress and generally conduct yourself around the theatre the more your service and operating staffs will strive to duplicate your behavior and deportment. You are either a fountain of inspiration that spurs them to heights of accomplishment, or you are a drag on their enthusiasm and initiative. You either impel your staffs to better and more careful work by your own strength of purpose and vigor of effort, or you retard your ordinary duties by evidencing your own physical and mental sluggishness. Your employes breathe and reflect your atmosphere. It's up to you whether they evidence high spirit and keen perception of the needs of the theatre and its patrons or become mechanical robots, performing their duties listlessly and without thought.

You Are Leading Your Own Army

You are the commander of the employ army that man your theatre. They watch you. They look to you for advice and instruction, and whenever you allow one of their number to commit an indiscretion without taking steps to prevent recurrence you automatically sanction similar action on the part of the others. Your own example and constant manifestation of confidence, determination and enthusiasm to make your theatre a better operation today than yesterday, and tomorrow better than today, is the surest, quickest—yes, the only—way to make your followers bend their every effort to accomplish the goal. It can be done! It's up to you!

As I see it, there are three departments—projection, janitor, and service—whose activities are practically knitted to the customer's enjoyment. Setting down any hide-bound rules to cover the many kinds and classes of theatres is entirely out of the question, but I do believe that a few of the examples found practical in situations with which I have had personal contact will be of help in getting those who feel the need of closer alliance between theatre personnel started in the right direction.

Cleaning Crew Should Come First

Checking with the night cleaners and day maids and porters should be the first step, and I'd suggest that you not content yourself with a plain job of general fault-finding, but that you go over your theatre thoroughly before taking the crew to task. Then be specific. Take the overseer with you and point out each instance of neglect. Rub your fingers along those forgotten waistcoat strips, the picture frames, the banister rails, the mouldings, foyer display frames, ledges, etc. and insist that these be cared for every night. Show them the forgotten corners where the dust of months has accumulated—it's there all right—and the cobwebs that have gone undisturbed for indeterminate periods. Go into the rest rooms and point out the places where neglect has caused deterioration to the point of threatened rot, the dirty mirrors, wall fixtures, light bulbs, toilet bowls, seats, doors, as well as the furnishings that are so much in need of daily airing and thorough cleaning, but are only given "Ick and promise" attention.

Take a flashlight to show how the do-it-quick job of floor scrubbing or mopping fails to clean around the seat standards and of necessity causes an unpleasant odor in the theatre. Show them how to use naphtha to remove gum and candy smears from the carpets and be sure to insist on the light shields, lamp shades, drapes—and the bulbs in the wall brackets and lamps too—be thoroughly cleaned at least once each week.

When you've done all this make up a daily routine-of-duty chart and hold the overseer responsible for carrying out each of the duties set down. A morning check and as many meetings as are necessary to emphasize the importance of the work will bring about complete compliance. If it doesn't you'll have to get a new cleaning staff, and it might be advisable to include a woman or two for the detail work. Don't expect your cleaning staff to take care of ridding the hose of vermin. It takes trained experts to do this job and demands regular treatment at closely established periods that can grow less frequent—but never entirely discontinued—as the nuisance is gradually eliminated. Don't permit the use of perfume sprays to be used as a substitute for soap and water. If the good old soaps are used frequently and diligently you'll be able to throw away the pine-o-pine and wintergreen.

The Service Staff Next

Next in line for attention is the service staff. I'd suggest that corrections in this department be started with an "after show" party with the members of both day and night staffs present. Get "em in good humor and then start talking. Begin with a general organization talk, telling them how important they are to the success of the theatre and how the way in which they carry out their jobs affects the amount of enjoyment each customer gets from the programs they attend. Tell the cashiers how important it is to greet every customer with a smile and to acknowledge every ticket sale with a "Thank You." Instruct the pasteboard dispensers against any argument with the folks who lay their money on the line for tickets. If a fond mammy contends that a six-footer is only 11 years old let it go at that. You'll lose many times the value of the ticket by questioning her pettiness—after all, there are plenty of kids that are way too big for their years—and if she is "putting one over" you place her in an uncomfortable position because of the readiness with which you accept her declaration and make her a "friend of the house."

Caution the money changers against entertaining their friends at the ticket window.

Vancouver Turnover

Vancouver theatre men are yelling bloody murder about the staff turnover problem in British Columbia. They say it's worse than during the war years. The trouble is that the right type of girls for usherettes have been earning big money during the war and now find the low-salaried jobs unattractive. The belief is that theatres will have to hike wages to get proper help although some exhibitors report that with the summer resorts closing, many of the seasonal workers will become available.

*(Continued on Page 15)*
Exhibitors differ about most pictures...

But they'll agree about Angel...
They don't come any better!

Charles R. Rogers presents

"Angel On My Shoulder"

Paul Muni
in a role as memorable as "Scarface", as stirring as Academy Award "Louis Pasteur"!

Claude Rains
Hot, after "Caesar and Cleopatra."

Anne Baxter
Never more lovely, never more tempting!

Charles R. Rogers presents

so very good, so very UA
THEATRE MANAGEMENT

Set Right Example for Employees—Jackson

(Continued from Page 14)

Dow. This practice is annoying to customers, unfair to members of the management staff, who are constantly on the lookout for persons who hang around the box-office and, in addition, lends itself to inattention to care in handling tickets and change, as well as neglect of the courtesies due patrons.

Check on the Gum Chewing

Discourage gum chewing, reading of personal mail or newspapers, writing personal letters and any other activity that holds even a remote possibility of interfering with the essential guarantee that every sale and every inquiry be treated with the utmost politeness and cheerful-ness. Make your cashiers understand they are your first line of customer contact and that their appearance and demeanor are of vital importance to the success of the theatre. By all means arrange relief periods that are not in conflict with peak business hours to insure perfect handling of funds and patrons at times of heavy traffic, and be sure the girls are instructed to take care of their personal appearance during relief and not while on duty.

The usher usually feels that the niche he fills is not important. This is usually due to the lack of thoroughness with which instructions are given by the department heads. Actually the usher is the receiving host of the theatre and should be made to feel proud of his position and the importance of cheerful and thorough performance of the many duties that fall to his lot. Tell him the importance of alertness and that ready-to-serve you attitude that customers go away talking about. Let the usher know you are depending on his politeness, deportment, cheerfulness and careful attention to the wishes of your patrons to build a reputation for service that will guarantee repeat attendance of each and every customer. Above all be specific in your instructions about how he should conduct himself and, if at all possible, accompany your talk with sample performances waged by the more efficient staff members. Be sure to cover the subject of special attentions to the aged and infirm.

Those Door Attendants

Take special care in discussing the duties of the door attendants. Those folks who accept and tear tickets are your second line of customer attack and are in position to sabotage whatever cheerfulness the cashier's smile may have given a ticket purchaser. The door is the second step in readying the patron to be in the proper mood to thoroughly enjoy the entertainment in store. Personal cleanliness, alertness, courteous answers to inquiries regarding the length of shows, etc., together with smiles and the ever essential "Thank You" should be as much a part of the good door attendant as his ears. Demonstrations showing how the difficult customer should be handled at the door and specific instructions regarding the services to be rendered will go a long way toward getting perfection out of this important position.

That Booth Problem

The booth presents a more difficult problem, but it can be handled by mixing friendship with diplomacy. It is difficult to measure in what extent the enjoyment of patrons is affected by the manner in which film is handled by the projectionists. Certain it is that any evidence of poor light, bad changeovers, bad sound, or other mishandling interferes with smooth running of the show. And, nobody likes interruptions. After all, pictures are intended to take the onlookers into dreamland and it's impossible to indulge in dreams when you are constantly bumping into the human errors of reality.

Try spending a few moments each day with the different men manning your booth and gradually inculcating in them a pride in perfect presentation of screen material. Explain how important it is for every (Continued on Next Page)

THEATRE MANAGER'S NOTEBOOK

Maintenance

HEATING PLANTS 3

(From an Outline of Talks Presented to the Classes in the Wilby-Kinsey School of Maintenance)

Control Troubles

The majority of control complaints are traceable to causes other than the electrical operation of the control system. Sample troubles, and their commoner causes, are:

1. Thermostat exposed to local heat source such as sun lamp, warm pipe or warm duct in wall, etc.
2. Temperature was checked at a location remote from the thermostat.
3. Stoker in too small a feed.
4. Stoker too small.
5. Boiler or furnace too small.
6. Insufficient radiation.
7. Setting on limit regulator too low for prevailing weather.

Thermostat Control Trouble

TROUBLE: Thermostat control too critical; either overheats or underheats the theatre. Possible causes are:

1. Thermostat exposed to local sources of cold such as

OVER
THEATRE MANAGEMENT

Set Right Example for Your Employees

(Continued from Previous Page)

subject to go in with proper lighting and sound introduction; how the crescendos of the opening should drop to lower levels after the impression of "something new is happening" has been given in the opening footage; the need of keeping the monitor horn in action so they can themselves gauge the volume of sound; how essential it is that they respond promptly to signals from the floor manager or other person in charge of audibility in the theatre.

Asking for Cooperation

Let them know how you are trying to impress the customers with the perfection of your screen presentations and how impossible the task is unless they cooperate fully. Explain how vitally important it is to keep reserve parts on hand and how frequent inspection—thorough inspection of their equipment will help discover worn units and other evidences of impending breakdown. I know from experience that you'll find the average projectionist a willing and able assistant in your aim for finer presentations and that you'll get no end of valuable suggestions for improvement of sound and screen if you give about it with the right spirit and in the mood for friendly suggestion.

But you can't expect to make any headway whatever with any of the above-mentioned groups if you are yourself negligent in any way or lack the purposeful determination your good employees show. You can't very well ask the door attendants and ushers to keep spic and span if you are wearing a frayed shirt, have baggy trousers, a greasy vest and need a shave or haircut. You can't ask the cashiers to stop chewing gum if you are holding a cud of tobacco in your own jaw and looking for a place expressed...you can't demand friendly cooperation if you go about it with a frown on your face and a lash in your voice.

A Set of Rules

Your own self-development along lines best calculated to appeal to most people is the first and most important step. From some recently-read magazine I clipped the following rules. They were published as being the result of some poll or other by a sales executive of importance. I'd like to give proper credit, but I've lost the information. At any event, I'm sure you'll be doing nothing but good for yourself by using them as a chart to guide your personal discipline and then as a recommended procedure for your employees.

PERSONALITY TRAITS MOST PEOPLE DISLIKE

1. Cheerfulness, pleasantness, friendliness.
2. Sincerity, mental honesty and loyalty to principle.
3. Courtesy, kindness, consideration, thoughtfulness.
5. Optimism, with moderation, enthusiasm, helpfulness.
6. Tolerance, unselfishness, fair play.
7. Good manners, self control, poise.
8. A sense of humor, ability to laugh at yourself.
9. Modesty, but with confidence in your product and yourself.
10. Cooperation, a willingness to do your part.

Drafts from outside doors, or from basement through wiring hole in partition.
2. Temperature was checked at a location remote from the thermostat.
3. Too large a boiler or furnace.
4. Too high a stoker feed.
5. Limiting regulator set too high for prevailing weather.

TROUBLE: Thermostat lets temperature vary ten or twelve degrees. Possible causes are:
1. Thermostat located in corner, closed passageway, behind door or in other dead-air space where there is not enough circulation of air to reflect actual temperature changes of the rest of the building.
2. Thermostat located too high, where the temperature changes more slowly than at the four-to-five foot level.
3. Improperly installed limit regulator. If of the hot water type: installed in a series of reducers where it is out of contact with the actively circulated water; installed in the dead end of a heating circuit to a rusty or painted surface attached loosely; used on a forced flow system. If a furnace regulator, it will not feel temperature changes if it is installed in a pocketed corner of a fan-equipped furnace.
5. Large, sluggish hot water boiler which lets system temperature fall while itself is heating up to start circulating. Even continues the flow of stored heat after the thermostat is satisfied. Such boilers should be kept just below circulating temperature or, better yet, circulator pumps should be installed to speed up their action.

End of Season Care

All coal ash and soot has an acid content which will combine with moisture in the air and attack the interior of the furnace. In the off season this chemical action can cause serious damage. It is therefore imperative thoroughly to clean out all parts of the furnace at the end of the season.
1. Clean the furnace thoroughly, removing all soot, dirt and scale from flue and fire box surfaces.
2. Remove all ashes and unburned fuel from the grate and the ash pit.
3. Spray all heating surfaces, including grates and ash pit, with automobile crank case oil.
4. Clean out the smoke pipe.
5. Oil all door hinges.
6. Inspect grates, replace any that are warped, broken or worn out.
7. Check all valves for proper operation. Repair or replace any that are not in perfect working order.
8. With steam systems, drain and flush the system.
9. With hot water systems, drain and purge the air from all radiators.
10. Leave furnace doors open.
11. With stokers: remove all coal from the hopper and feed. Clean out the stoker thoroughly. Check operation of the blower and stoker motor; adjust it as necessary; adjust the driving belts as necessary. Clean the tuyeres, fire box and air chambers. Paint the inside of the hopper. Spray the interior surfaces of the hopper and of the worm feed housing with motor oil.

(All of the foregoing comprises verbatim quotation or paraphrase of a chapter in the book issued to members of classes in the School of Maintenance of Wilby-Kincey Theatres circuit. The book was made available to Showmen's Trade Review for such quotation by the company, which is headed by R. B. Wilby and H. F. Kincey, and is recognized as one of the most progressive and efficiently operated circuits in the United States. The book, according to Mr. Wilby, was prepared not as a manual, but merely to serve members of the classes (which are conducted for managers of the circuit) as a notebook to spare those attending the classes the effort of making their own notes during the talks and demonstrations.)
**Divorce Is Topic of Convention Debate**

(Continued from Page 10)

Jim Sharkey, representing Detroit’s Cooperative theatres. MPTOA General Counsel Herman Levy was the next speaker. Levy asserted that exhibitors were overlooking the fact that the court opinion legalized auction selling, thereby enabling the distributors to use it if they wished to. Levy said that the complaints of Allied and MPTOA against local checkers, auction selling, percentage pictures were identical, but that the approaches were different. He asked for tolerance of the other’s views and criticism, but told Allied that MPTOA was opposed to divorce and while it would like to work with Allied on common complaints, MPTOA could not back a divorce supporting move.

“We don’t believe,” he said, “that divorce will end the evils. We believe it will create a new set of evils. What we lose sight of is that the court has declared that auction bidding is legal,” which Levy added, leaves distributors free to use it anyway. The alternative, Levy added, is not divorce, but injunctions against industry “evils” and leaving exhibitors and distributors free to negotiate on the other points. This, he declared, would be a satisfac-
yory system.

To Sidney Samuelson’s question on how MPTOA stood on cross-licensing, Levy said he could not answer, since the matter had still to come to the MPTOA board.

**Kind Word for Percentage**

Yamin rose to defend divorce and declared that he had no objection to percentage pictures, declaring percentage was an old-theatrical custom. Levy brought Brandt back on his feet with a remark that Yamin’s percentage viewpoints aston-
ished him, and to say that the percentage was becoming consensautical. As to divorce, Brandt said, “I’d rather have Loew or RKO for opposi-
tion than an independent.” CIE President Jesse Stern outlined his organization’s aims and the meeting closed with submission of the resolution.

**MPTOA Declines, ITO Will Discuss Tie With Allied**

At a meeting of Allied’s board of directors Thursday morning, MPTOA’s Fred Wehrenberg declined an invitation to affiliate with Allied. The same invitation was held out to Harry Brandt’s ITO, New York exhibitor organization, and it was arranged for ITO to discuss the matter farther with a special Allied committee.

**Propose Union for Hearing**

A proposal that MPTOA and Allied join in action in the New York decree case provided the latter can find the way to obtain a hearing from the Statutory Court as independent exhibitors, was made to the Allied directors at Thursday’s meeting in Boston. Prexy Fred Wehrenberg of MPTOA, who made the pro-
posal, stated that his organization positively would not enter the case as an intervenor. On this latter point Allied and MPTOA are in complete agreement.

**Personal View of the Boston Scene**

**Says ‘Understanding Will End’ Feuding**

Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, addressed the banquet Wednesday night which concluded Allied convention. Mr. Johnston declared that the “feuding” in motion picture trade practices can never be finally settled until the industry develops a permanent basis of good will and understanding.

“Older industries,” he said, have all gone through similar periods of litigation and adj-
justment, and have come to realize that “they are not rivals, but partners in the same enter-
prise.” He said that the problem of current trade practices is in the hands of the courts of the United States.

The MPA head declared that the exhibitors have the same economic objective the producers have: “to get more people to go to see more pictures,” and, he reminded his hearers that as American citizens they have a direct stake in healthy international relations and that when “trade does well around the world, it means a dividend for the exhibitor in Elkhart, Indiana, and Elizabeth City, North Carolina.”

**CRI-MPTOA Huddle**

President Fred Wehrenberg of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America said in Boston Wednesday that he was hopeful that the ill-timed evils of the local checker system would be eliminated as a result of negotiations between his or-
ganization and Confidential Reports, Inc. Wehrenberg said that he had conferred in St. Louis last week with Jack Levin of CRI.

**Jack Kirsch related the instance of an exhibitor who considered of his very profitable candy counter—just refused to back a feature because “it’s not a candy picture.”**

**Viewing the many popcorn and candy ma-
chines, the display of bicycles, the cartoons being shown and various other candy and confection-
yon concessions on display one exhibitor re-
plied: “Do you know I remember when they also showed motion pictures.”**

**Arthur Howard of the Allied Theatres in Bos-
ton says there is nothing wrong with the indus-
try that the production of good pictures could not cure.**

**Harry Brouning chief of the Tab Thumbers, the outfit which started in Boston as an organiza-
ton of publicists, was on hand to greet his many friends. The Tab Thumbers elected Harry their Chief Tab.**

**This is the greatest town for parades. At mid-
night Tuesday there was a parade through down-
town streets of some patriotic organization with the drum corps lustily beating away a serenade on Boston’s historic Common. Perhaps they are Veterans left over from last week’s convention.”**

**Illinois United T. O. Delays Action on ATA Membership**

**The Illinois United Theatre Owners, in con-
vention this week at Springfield, side-stepped direct action on whether to join the American Theatres Association by passing a resolution commending the work of the ATA and then leaving further membership action up to the board of directors.**

**Edward G. Zorn of Pontiac was re-elected president in unanimous balloting; George Kerassotes of Springfield became vice-president, while John Balahan was made chairman of finances. Twenty-
two directors were also chosen.**

**Action After All Papers Are In, MPTOA’s Plan**

Directors of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America will meet in New York or Washington “about ten days” after all papers are filed in the New York anti-trust case and will then decide upon what action the organization will take with respect to the decree, Pres-
ident Fred Wehrenberg said in Boston Thurs-
day.”
Paramount Publicity Meet to Study Promotion Under New Selling System

Reorientation of Paramount's publicity, advertising and exploitation departments with a view to effecting such changes as might be demanded by current conditions of selling pictures will be undertaken by the company at a meeting to be held in New York at the Hotel Warwick September 30 to October 3. Studio and home office department heads, as well as field representatives, will attend. Keynote of the sessions, over which Curtis Mitchell, publicity, advertising and exploitation director will preside, will be the greater importance assumed by showmanship under the new sales system.

New promotion plans coming out of the conference will be put to the test immediately in connection with "Two Years Before the Mast" and "Blue Skies." The results of an analysis of the impact of spot announcements on communities where radio is being used (which is being conducted in collaboration with the Buchanan Advertising Agency), will determine Paramount's future employment of radio. Plans will also be outlined for more extensive use of stars and other talent on radio musical programs to boost musical numbers in the company's pictures. A plan for the extensive use of bill-posting in connection with key engagements will also be considered.

Paramount will attempt to bring the company's exploitation efforts closer to its men in the field by means of special material to be made available to its salesmen by the special representatives in their territory. This procedure, it is believed, will enhance the pre-selling of the company's product. Upon their return to the branch offices, the New York meeting the field men will hold discussions on the new publicity and exploitation program.

Plans expected to result in greater independence for field men, particularly in the local application of national tips, will be examined and adopted at the four-day meeting.

Short subjects will also receive special consideration. The company's representatives, for the first time, will be given responsibility in the field exploitation of shorts and Paramount News. The company will seek to create more institutional goodwill in such field promotion and will make an effort to realize the full exploitation possibilities of its more important shorts.

Among those expected to speak are Barney Balaban, president of Paramount; Charles M. Requa, vice-president in charge of sales; Adolph Zukor, chairman of the board; Oscar Morgan, shorts' subjects sales manager; Claude Lee, public relations director; Mitchell; Al Wilkie, publicity manager, and Stanley Shuford, advertising manager.

Attending from the studio will be George Brown, coast publicity head, and Test Carle, Martin Lewis, Rufus Blair, and James Barro, all members of his staff. Attending from the field will be Arnold Van Leer, Boston, New Haven; Edward J. Wall, Albany, Buffalo; Leonard Allen, Atlanta, Charlotte, New Orleans; William Brooker, Philadelphia, Washington; James Levinson, Pittsburgh; J. M. Jolles, Cleveland, Detroit; Charles Perry, Cincinnati, Indianapolis; E. G. Fogt, Chicago, Milwaukee; Everett N. Olsen, Minneapolis; George Hunger, Dallas, Oklahoma City, Memphis; Ralph Ravencroft, Los Angeles, San Francisco; Robert Blair, Seattle, Portland; Robert Quinn, Denver, Omaha, Salt Lake City; James Castle, Kansas City, St. Louis, Des Moines; Win Bairon, Canada.

Did YOU Do This?

An unusual exploitation device to drum up added interest in "Suspense" was thought up by the manager of a theatre somewhere in these United States. He purchased 500 nail files and gave them to patrons as they entered the theatre. Who was the manager and the theatre? Your guess is as good as ours. The line containing this vital information failed to register in the mimeographed release sent from Monogram's Hollywood publicity office.

Key Spot Exploiters to Launch 'Duel in Sun'

That David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" would have big league promotion was made certain last week when, following a series of conferences, Paul MacNamara and Sidney Alexander, publicity directors for the Vanguard Selznick organization, announced the formation of a special field exploitation staff to handle the openings in various key city situations.

First to be signed for the job is Ted Ted, former Warner field man, who has been assigned to the Chicago district with complete supervision over engagements in that territory. Additional men for other key spots will be engaged shortly.

Answering the Phone

Through a trip with the local telephone company Elton Benson of the Granada Theatre Norfolk, Va, was enabled to work it so that those people who on a certain day answered their phones with "Van Johnson is coming to town in 'Easy to Wed'" would receive guess tickets and photos of the star. The stunt worked fine after advance notices via radio and newspaper.
It's the "hot-licks" of point-of-contact advertising... that add "tempo" to your campaigns... and The PRIZE BABY is in there... beating the "skins"... with a patron-winning barrage of eye-and-ear-arresting TRAILERS and ACCESSORIES... that are tuned to PROFITS!

He's a "hep" lad... this PRIZE BABY... and when he beats the drum... your patrons Stop, Look and Listen... and get into the "groove"... The "groove" that leads right to your BOX OFFICE!
SELLING THE PICTURE

'Razor's Edge' Premiere Set For Nov. 19 as Formal Affair

The world premiere of Darryl F. Zanuck's production of W. Somerset Maugham's "The Razor's Edge"—and it will be a world premiere in every sense of the word, since the picture will not be shown anywhere else prior to its New York opening, not even in Hollywood—will be held at the Roxy Theatre on the evening of November 19. It was announced this week by Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox. The opening will be a formal affair, with admission by invitation only, and company officials have outlined plans to make it the biggest postwar premiere yet held in New York.

Zanuck, who personally produced the picture, will arrive in New York on November 17 and will bring the prints with him for the showing. National release of "The Razor's Edge" has been set for Christmas week when it will open on a day-and-date basis in 300 key cities.

Stars to Be Present

Arrangements are being made to have some of the stars of the picture come from Hollywood for the premiere. One of these is Clifton Webb, who will be on a try-out tour with his new Broadway play, "Present Laughter," will close this show on that night so that he and the play's cast can be present. Zanuck has also sent an invitation to Maugham asking him to fly from his home in southern France to New York for the premiere.

A meeting to coordinate plans for the premiere was held early this week at the Roxy Theatre when Charles Sclafani and his advertising and publicity staff conferred with A. J. Balahan, general manager, Irving Lesser, assistant general manager, and the theatre personnel on the procedure to be followed in handling the event.

An NBC television broadcast will be one of the features of the opening night program. There also will be radio broadcasts from the lobby as well as newsreel coverage of the premiere activities. High-powered searchlights will flood the marquee and lobby, and police lines will be established to facilitate handling of the crowd.

Of National Importance

The event will be of national importance, with New York state and city officials in attendance as well as prominent members of society and leaders in the motion picture industry from all parts of the country. Motion picture critics from leading newspapers throughout the United States will be brought to New York by 20th-Fox for the premiere, and in the invited audience also will be leading representatives of all New York newspapers, trade papers, magazines and leading radio commentators.

Nearly two years in the making, "The Razor's Edge" stars Tyrone Power, Gene Tierney, John Payne, Anne Baxter, Clifton Webb and Herbert Marshall, with 136 supporting players and 16,600 extras. It took 121 days for Director Edmund Goulding, the players and technical crew to actually film the picture, the longest shooting schedule in the history of the studio. Maugham, who has said that "The Razor's Edge" is his favorite out of all the books he has written, spent ten weeks at the 20th-Fox studio working with Zanuck and Lamar Troti on the screen treatment of his story.

The Roxy will be closed all day November 19 in preparation for the premiere that night. On the following morning "The Razor's Edge" will open for its first public showing and will continue for an extended run at the theatre.

'Sister Kenny' Premiere To Be Held Sept. 28

World premiere of "Sister Kenny," RKO Radio's film biography of the celebrated Australian nurse co-starring Rosalind Russell in the title role, will take place in New York at the Palace Theatre on September 28. Sister Kenny herself will make one of her rare public appearances at the special invitation presentation of the Dudley Nichols Production preceding the world premiere on the evening of September 27 at the same theatre. Leading public-spirited personalities and celebrities from stage, screen, radio and society will be present.

A Sudden Switch

A last-minute switch threw a couple of revivals into the Padre Theatre, San Jose, Calif. With only five hours notice, Manager Carroll Hannah went to work on "Wake Island." He obtained a jeep, some guns, and a couple of Marines from the local U. S. Marine recruiting office and with this set-up in front of the lobby pulled them in in great style.

O'Brien 'Double' Contest Gets Space in Boston

Widespread newspaper publicity followed in the wake of the contest to find a Margaret O'Brien double, staged by Joe Di Pesa and George Kraska in connection with the showing of MGM's "Three Wise Fools" at Loew's State and Orpheum theatres, Boston.

Forty-two finalists picked from the more than 800 entries were interviewed at Loew's State suitable odds. Judge, little girl chosen as "Boston's Own Margaret O'Brien" received a complete wardrobe of Margaret O'Brien clothes valued at $200. The fortunate youngster was also scheduled to make a personal appearance at Loew's State this week, be presented to Governor Maurice J. Tobin, and serve as hostess at an ice cream and theatre party—all in all, a thrilling experience for a little girl.

Judges of the contest were Helen Eager, motion picture editor, Boston Traveler; Charles E. Kurtzman, Loew's northeastern division manager, and Helen Walsh, personnel manager of the R. H. White Company—BO.

Goldwyn Girls to Tour Britain and S. America

The six Goldwyn Girls who are to tour Britain and South America arrived in New York this week for four days of shopping before departing September 28 for England on the S.S. Queen Mary. During their 17-day stay in Britain, they will be photographed at various expositions and public events; they will model new utility clothes and the gowns of London's well known designers. They will visit army hospitals in an informal entertainment and do a broadcast back to America.

In a kind of reciprocal arrangement, six of England's most famous beauties, managed by Lucie Clayton, will return with them in October for fashion shows and a tour of American key cities.

When this troupe of Goldwyn Girls return from London they will be refurbished and, after an indoctrination course, sent to South America for a six-week goodwill tour. Their first appearance on this leg of their travels will be in Mexico City on January 18.

Roy Rogers and Crew Top New Radio Program Series

With the first program set for Saturday October 5, Republic's Roy Rogers, Dale Evans, George "Gabby" Hayes, and the Sons of the Pioneers are to be the featured artists of a series of musical radio programs, hear each Saturday evening at nine p.m. over 13 stations of the National Broadcasting System. The initial broadcast will originate in St. Louis, and the program is being prepared by two of radio's top writers, Don Quin and Phil Leslie. Rogers and the other Republic personalities highlighted in these programs appear regularly in his series of outdoor musicals.

SHOWMAN SAM SAYS: Whatever happened to that idea of accompanying a picture with suitable odors, like a musical score? Stop—never mind—I know what you're going to say!
SELLING THE PICTURE

Gallant Bess Stars in Lexington Celebration

Schine, MGM Field Men Essay Ace Campaign For Film's World Premiere

MGM's master bunch of presenting the world premiere of its "Gallant Bess" in the "hoss country" of Lexington, Kentucky, paid off with several front page newspaper stories, important radio broadcasts, 44 full window displays on the town's Main Street and with the goodwill of residents of Lexington and other nearby cities. It was a regional penetration job executed by Schine Theatre's officials, in whose Kentucky Theatre the premiere took place, with the cooperation of MGM's William R. Ferguson and several members of his exploitation staff who jankedet to Lexington for the occasion. Oh, yes, Gallant Bess, in person, was the pivotal point around which the campaign was planned and carried out.

Donald Curtis, MGM player in the film, also was an important figure in the campaign which coincided with the Schine Circuit's Silver Jubilee Celebration.

Bess is No Lady

Just to get pronouns straight in reporting what took place, it is necessary to explain that although Gallant Bess is a gal's name in this case, Gallant Bess is no gal, but a gelding. So if Gallant Bess is called "her" it is just in keeping with the animal's name, not with its sex.

Anyhow, Gallant Bess arrived in Lexington Wednesday (11) and was quartered at Almahurst where such famous stallions as Gallahadion, Chance Play, Occupation and others are at stud. As soon as Bess became acclimated she embarked on a round of activities that nearly flooded the accompanying trade press representatives. She first visited Joe Reiser of the Louisville Courier Journal to make a series of photographs for the paper's Sunday Roto Section and then went to the University of Kentucky, reportedly to attempt to join a sorority. Upon arrival at the school, Bess was informed that she (?) would have to try a fraternity, things being what they are. Then she tried out for the football team and was eventually signed up to play basketball. Bess then made another call upon Fred Wach, editor and publisher of the Lexington Herald-Leader. And all of these activities were duly reported in Lexington newspapers in stories and pictures, giving subsequent activities and the film's coming premiere an enormously effective build-up.

Makes Social Debut

Then on Friday Bess made her social debut at the Almahurst Farm, where the "who's who" of horsemen in Central Kentucky arrived for a reception in her honor. Following luncheon for the guests Bess reversed the procedure and treated the famous stallions at the farm to a horse banquet consisting of choice eats and other favorite equine dishes. Radio station WLAP covered the event. Following ceremonies at Almahurst, Bess was taken to the studio of the station where she demonstrated another achievement: She played the piano, surprising even her trainer, Joe Atkinson.

Early Saturday morning details of the mammoth parade began to dovetail and promptly on time the cavalcade started down Lexington's Main Street led by Gallant Bess in her specially decorated trailer, followed by Donald Curtis with three of the Miss Jubilee contest winners. Bess demonstrated the tricks that bear out MGM's appellation, "The Horse With the Human Mind." Lexington's horse-wise kids were there by the thousands, and their parents also came in droves. The crowd of about 40,000 persons nearly over-run the courthouse steps where the demonstration took place, necessitating a slight curtailment of that section of the activities. Bess then was taken to the Shriners' Hospital for crippled children where she performed for the delighted youngsters and the same afternoon demonstrated her ability again at the United States Veteran's Hospital.

Next on the agenda, Gallant Bess made a photographic tour of the Sears Roebuck store, visiting many departments and being photographed in each, using some kind of apparatus or indulging in some other facetious activity. All of these photos were to be included in a double truck of cooperative advertising to appear in the Lexington Herald, the day the film opened at the Kentucky.

Details of the campaign on "Gallant Bess," and the activities of the animal are given here not only as a report of exploitation activity but to pass along ideas to theatres which will have the animal present on one or more days in connection with showings of the picture. During the next few months Bess is expected to travel as far north as Portland, Maine, and then start back down toward the south again, timing appearances in each town with the playing of the film.

Earlier appearances will be in Ohio and West Virginia with "Gallant Bess" having its second opening at the Orpheum Theatre, Huntington, September 26, a week after the horse visits the town. The animal's third appearance will be in Charleston, W. Va., September 29, and the picture will open at the Capitol Theatre there on September 25.

From Charleston the horse arrives in Cincinnati on the 21st, with the picture scheduled to open at Keith's September 25. Other visits for the animal in Ohio include Dayton, September 23 and Columbus, September 24, with the film set to open at Loew's, Dayton, September (Continued on Page 25)

GALLANT BESS RECEIVES. The famed steed (center, top photo), made her social debut at Almahurst Farm at Lexington, Kentucky, where MGM and Schine Circuit representatives arranged for her to be the guest of horsedom's "who's who." With her trainer Joe Atkinson, center, Bess' activities were arranged by (left to right) Bill Ornstein home office; Charles Baron, Pittsburgh; George Olsen, driver of the studio on wheels; Norman Linz, Indianapolis; Jack Gilmore, Buffalo; Capt. Volney Pfifer, in charge of Bess' nation-wide tour; C. C. Deardourff, Cleveland; W. R. Ferguson, MGM's director of exploitation; J. E. Watson Cincinnati; C. E. Carrier. MGM home office; Donald Curtis, who appears in "Gallant Bess," Bess and Atkinson. Kneeling are Hal Marshall, Indianapolis, and Howard Herty, Los Angeles, all of MGM. Schine representatives on the right of Bess and Atkinson are George Pugh, Ada Meade, Seymour Morris, circuit advertising and publicity head; Bob Cox, city manager for Lexington; Lew Henks, zone manager; Marvin Areni, Cincinnati booker; Jack Mitchell, John Hutchins. Kneeling, are Fred Barthel, J. T. Robertson and Clyde Dickerson. Lower photo shows part of the crowd of 40,000 who jammed Lexington's streets to see the parade and to see Bess demonstrate a few of her tricks on the court house steps.
SHOULDNT PARSONS KNOW WHEN 'JANIE GETS MARRIED'? Apparently Manager Arthur Turner of the Parsons Theatre thought so, as he let the Kansas town in on the information by using a street barker on the Warner film, "JaniG Gets Married." The "wedding" car, shown above, was followed on its rounds by tin cans and another car which had a loudspeaker system. If the cute "bride" above isn't married yet, something is wrong with the young men of Parsons.

Ableson 'Green Years' Ads Depend On Eye-Catching Copy for Results

Another ace newspaper advertising campaign embracing attention-getting copy surrounded by white space has been chalked up by A. E. Ableson, manager of the Lake Theatre, Devil's Lake, N. D., this time in connection with MGM's "The Green Years."

Now the nice thing about Ableson's ads is that they are pretty flexible; that is, they are good not only for the particular picture he uses them on, but also adaptable to other films. One layout forwarded us is three columns wide and eight inches deep. The copy, four inches wide and about six and one-half inches deep, is centered, thus permitting a frame of white space that makes the ad stand out, no matter where it happens to be placed on the page. Here is the copy Ableson used to call special attention to "The Green Years."

"Telephone Girls Say . . . Number Please! Filling Station Men Say . . . 'How Many Please?' Department Store Clerks Say . . . 'May I Help You Please?'

Elevator Operators Say . . . 'Going Up Please!' Conductors Say . . . 'Tickets Please!' Newspaper Reporters Say . . . 'Your Name Please!' Ushers Always Say . . . 'This Way Please!'

Policemen Sometimes Say . . . 'Come Along With Me Please!' But, Dear Patrons, We the Employees of the Lake Theatre All Say . . . 'Please Be Sure and See That Wonderful Motion Picture, "The Green Years."' A. J. Cronin's Wonderful Story, (Date), And You Too Will Say It Is a Wonderful Motion Picture.'

And here's another so-called type ad Ableson used:

"What Happens When the Manager of the Lake Theatre Sees a Picture Like A. J. Cronin's 'The Green Years'? He gets all excited about it. To make sure of his opinion, he reads the critics and finds them all raving and saying that 'The Green Years' is 'A Corker'—One of the Best!—'A Must See Picture'—'A Wonderful Motion Picture' etc. That's pretty good evidence. Then he reads where it is breaking records in New York, Chicago, Minneapolis, Denver, Los Angeles, in fact, everywhere. At this point he concludes he is right about 'The Green Years' and starts raving about it letting everyone know when it's coming. Then, if you don't heed his advice and see the picture, Art Ableson can always say 'I Told You So.' And now, just for a reminder, this so real, so human, so pleasing picture is coming next (date) to the Lake Theatre, of course."

Ableson was able (and no pun is intended) to see the results of his campaign during the film's engagement, and he had made no mistake. Business was excellent. And Ableson was happy.

Ad Ship Over Capital Gives Washington Thrill

Last week's maiden voyage of the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer ship over Washington "created the biggest sensation since Orson Welles' 'Men From Mars' scare," according to Carter T. Barron, Loew's eastern division manager. The strange sight of the world's largest electric running sign, floating over the nation's capital which is accustomed to Broadway spectaculars, jammed telephone switchboards of newspapers and radio stations, Barron said.

Douglas Leigh, creator of the spectacle, witnessed the display from the terrace of the Shoreham Hotel with General James A. Mollison, War Assets Administration, who arranged for the purchase of the huge Navy Type K ship, and Washington press at a dinner celebrating the 19th anniversary of Loew's Capital Theatre in Washington.

Unique Angles Exploit 'Rage' in Harrisburg

(Continued from Page 18)

related to personalities or action in the film, with small cash prizes and guest tickets to those first answering correctly.

Department stores cooperated with both windows and displays in their shops, and bought cooperative ad space. Bowman's Store ran a series of large co-op ads featuring toilettries. Several bookshops had windows and counter displays featuring novels on which Bergman movies on psychiatry have been made. Distributed to beauty and barber shops, taverns, railroad and bus stations were 5,000 heralds. More than 200 14 x 22s were placed in the downtown area.

Three vacant stores in the principal business area were bannered with a specially-made 40-foot silken flag. Green's Jamboree, a weekly radio show over WKBQ, selected the film as "picture of the week," and on Saturday before it opened gave a complete review and several spot announcements.

When Sam Gilman, regular manager of the Regent returned from three weeks' duty in Baltimore, he was presented with a complete campaign and box-office lines waiting to get into the already overburdened theatre.

Set Magazine Campaign on Berlin's 'Blue Skies'

As part of its extensive promotion plans for Irving Berlin's Technicolor musical, "Blue Skies," Paramount has launched a large-scale national magazine advertising campaign designed to reach 70,000,000 readers.

Publications being used in the campaign are Life, Look, Liberty, Woman's Home Companion, the New York Daily Mirror and Sunday magazine sections and This Week, which is carried in Sunday newspapers in 23 key cities. Except for a two-page spread in Life and another in Look, the ads in these publications are all full page. All are in four colors.

The campaign also provides for full-column ads in Life, Look, Liberty, American Magazine, Time, Collier's, Good Housekeeping, Cosmopolitan and Redbook.
LOUISIANA

REPORT'S PERSIST NATIONAL WILL BUILD PREFABRICATED THEATRE CHAIN IN MEXICO

Reports are rife that National Theatres will construct a prefabricated chain in Mexico. The Crest Theatre in Long Beach is nearing completion; it will serve as a model for future plans along prefabricated lines.

The series of West Coast district meetings launching Paramount's "34th and Greatest Year" celebration ended in Los Angeles on Sept. 16 and 17. Previously, Del Goodman, West Coast district manager; Al Taylor, local branch manager; and sales personnel attended sessions at Portland, Seattle and San Francisco. A. M. Kane, Boston district manager and celebration co-captain, came West to speak at the meetings. Sam K. Decker, franchise holder for Screen Guild in L. A., doesn't get around to the Row much these days, being occupied with his second picture for Affiliated Productions. Sam, who recently turned producer, also sells his product. His currentopus is "Renee Girl," which Bill Berke is producing and directing. Sam's partner, Bill Flemon, keeps things going at the exchange.

Florence Gottesfield was succeeded by Gladys Smith as secretary to assistant resident manager William Callihan, Sr., of MGM. Florence went to New York on her first plane trip following her resignation.

The Loyal Theatre on Sepulveda Blvd. and Manchester Ave. will open Oct. 3, under the management of Beach Abrams. Named after Loyola University, the new house will donate its premiere returns to the school. Fox-West Coast thus adds another first-run to its string. The theatre features a parking lot, seating capacity of 1,245 and the most up-to-date sound equipment.

Arnold Schaar, owner of the Ramona and Holly theatres, played host to Charley Ryan when the assistant Warner Bros. zone manager visited L. A. from Chicago. Schaar's piece de resistance for Ramona was a barbecue. Invited to L. A. included Bert Stearn, veteran film distributor, from Pittsburgh, Pa., and Ralph Goldberg, of the circuit of the same name in Omaha, Nebraska. Goldberg spent a two-week vacation here.

George Hickey, Pacific Coast sales manager for MGM, inspected his Seattle, Portland and San Francisco offices.

Every one is wishing Marty Solomon, manager, Monogram, a speedy recovery from his illness. Marty has been ailing for several weeks.

OMAHA

POLIO CASES IN NEBRASKA MORE THAN THREE HUNDRED; PARA. STAFF IN RADIO QUIZ

Polio cases in the state now have passed the three hundred mark.

Marie Brown is the new addition at the Warners' information desk.

Jerry McGlynn, the Metro branch chief here, entered St. Genieve's Hospital for an appendicitis check.

Vivian Shertz, who was pinch-hitting at 20th-Fox, has resigned.

Howard Clark, MGM salesman, is vacationing.

Members of the Omaha and Des Moines Paramount staffs will have fun on the radio, October 6. They will be featured in an inter-city quiz battle over WOW on Sunday at 3:30 p.m. Each exchange will first hold contests of its own to determine who will get the spots on the air.

Metro employes gave a crystal shower at the Athletic Club for Lucille Bentz, now Mrs. Weldon Halne. The MGM Club later added a set of plates to her crystal collection. She will return to the exchange after a three-week leave of absence.

Elizabeth Roberts and Alice Neal won top prizes in the drawings at the Warner Brothers' picnic.

Mildred Rye, 20th-Fox office manager who was recently married, has resigned. The couple will live in Mason City, Ia.

Newest RKO addition is Doris Jarrett, a secretary.

Herman Strowic, Abilene, Kansas, exhibitor, flew his own plane to Omaha for the Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa and Nebraska meeting.

Jim Castle, Paramount exploiter from Kansas City, spent several days here.

Co-Drive Captains Anna Mae Suffren and Jack Lorenz of Chicago held meetings with the 20th-Fox personnel here. Accompanying them to Omaha was District Manager M. A. Levy of Minneapilos. Lorenz entertained the men at the Athletic Club, while Miss Suffren treated the women at the Paxton Hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hintz, Tecumseh (Neb.) theatre owners, are vacationing in California.

REGIONAL NEWS INDEX

MEMPHIS

DAVID HUNT TAKES OVER AS REPUBLIC BRANCH MANAGER AT OKLAHOMA CITY SEPT. 27

David W. B. Hunt, Salesman here for Republic Pictures, is being transferred to Oklahoma City on Sept. 27 as branch manager, Norman J. Colquhoun, district manager of Dallas, announced here during a visit to Memphis last week.

Tom Kirk, branch manager of Republic, and Arthur Price, publicity man from New York, were hosts at a press preview of "I've Always Loved You" last Friday afternoon. The picture opened on Wednesday, Sept. 16, and the Malco also has been doing heavy exploitation for the picture. Included in the Malco exploitation have been piano concerts in the lobby of the theatre by Beryl Owanger, Memphis pianist, who has featured music from the film.

Walter Lee of Heber Springs, Ark.; John Staples of Piggott, Ark.; Forrest Dunlap, Dallas; Joel Brown, Fort Smith, Ark. and Ned Green of Mayfield, Ky., were among out-of-town exhibitors in Memphis last week.


W. Lawrence Landers, Batesville, Ark., exhibitor and Mrs. Landers, are parents of a new son.

Pete Dawson, salesman for Universal, and Mrs. Dawson, also are parents of a new boy.

Exhibitors reported at Loew's, Inc. the last week included Moses Shiman, Laxoxa, Ark.; W. F. Ruffin, Covington, Tenn.; C. W. Tipsom and son, Pinkie, exhibitors at Manila, Monette and Caraway, Ark.; J. F. Wofford, Emporia, Miss.; E. M. Monmger, Calhoun, Miss.; N. B. Fair, Somervell, Tenn.; Miss Luez Mask, Bolivar, Tenn.; B. F. Jackson, Ruleville, Miss. and C. J. Collier, Shaw and Drew, Miss.

PHILADELPHIA

M.P. ASSOCIATES TO HONOR DAVE KORSON AT LUNCHEON; WARNERS SHOW SAFETY REEL

Motion Picture Associates is paying tribute to Dave Korson, Columbia sales manager, and Jack Bergin, Paramount sales manager, in the form of a testimonial luncheon to be held on Monday, October 7, at the Ritz Carlton Hotel at 12:30 p.m. Tickets are selling for $1.50, with Sam Diamond of 20th Century-Fox acting as chairman.

Work on the new Warner Bros. exchange is going rapidly ahead. The roofers were busy this week laying down the covering for the new building.

Maurice Rosen, son of the late Sam Rosen, became a bridegroom last Sunday when he married Miss Ingrid Levy of Mazeri Beach. Rosen is a salesman at Monogram pictures.

Lester Wurtle, Columbia circuit sales manager, and Dave Saholsky have been named (Continued on Page 24)
REGIONAL NEWSREEL

(Continued from Page 23)

co-chairmen for the Father and Son night at the Rodolph Sholem Congregation in the Fall. A three-way deal arranged by the Warner Theatre, the City of Philadelphia, and the P.T.C. the local transit company, calls for 27 of the local theatres to show the safety reel "It's Wanton Murder" over a period of weeks. Film men in the area this week received invitations to the dedication of "Doc" Weller's new Weller Theatre in Athens, Pa. the 2nd of October. The affair combines an industry picnic in addition to the theatre dedication.

Bill Brooker, Paramount exploit, enjoying his long awaited vacation. He celebrated his sixteenth wedding anniversary before he started. For the first time since the war, the yacht "Two Smiles II," owned and operated by the Alexander Film Company, Colorado Springs, Colorado, dropped anchor at the Corinthian Yacht Club, Eastington, Pa. last week. During its stay in Philadelphia waters many exhibitors were entertained on board by Harry Cotton, general district manager in charge of sales in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York, who acted as host in the absence of J. Dan Alexander, president, who was called away on important business.

Irv Cooper smith, after a long spell of illness, has returned as manager of the Lindley Theatre. William Hargreen, who had been filling in for him, returns as a rotating manager in the Warner Circuit.

John Roach, Warner district manager, who has been a West Philadelphian nearly all his life, has been on the main streets recently when several theatres in North Philadelphia were added to his district as the result of Paul Castello moving into the office as a supervisor. Castello's district had been broken up, and the theatres in his group had been divided up.

The Variety Club of Philadelphia held its first golf tournament and dinner dance since before the war Friday at the Manufacturers Country Club, Glasside. Norman Ball was chairman for the event.

Frank L. McNamee, associate of Jay Emanuel in the operation of the Senate Theatre, Harrisburg, Falton Theatre, Lancaster, and Astor and Rajah Theatres, Reading, has been awarded the Medal of Merit and a citation from President Truman "in recognition of his exceptional and meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding public services to the United States as an official of the War Manpower Commission." The presentation was made Tuesday by Federal Security Administrator Watson Miller in the FSA Building, Washington.

HARRISBURG

USHER BREAKS ARM TRIPPING 
OVER STAND AT POST: STATE
MANAGER AIDS BOYS' CLUB

Victor Palese, State usher, broke his arm when he tripped over a standee post.

Visitors were Mike Weiss, Fox representative, Lon Golding and Joseph D. Egan, both of the New York office; and J. C. Young, of Loew's home office construction staff.

Returned from a holiday in Canada are Robert E. Miller, manager of the Strand and Standard, Steckion, and his mother, Mrs. Maude Miller, cashier at the Standard. Another returned Strand employee, Arlene Clouser, spent a week in New York City.

Jack O'Rear, manager of the Colonial, and Mrs. O'Rear, entertained Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Maury and Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Goth and their families, at the O'Rear summer home in Perry county.

Acting as assistant in the absence of Bob Sokol is John Sites, secretary at Loew's Regent. Wedding bells will ring for Romaine Long, cashier at Loew's Regent, who will wed Lester Turner this month.

Another assistant manager on holiday is Spike Todorov, State. Gerry Wollaston, State manager, as director of the Harrisburg Boys' Club, is aiding in the ticket sale for the Marine Band concert here this week under the sponsorship of the Harrisburg Telegraph. The Boys' Club will get all the proceeds.

Mrs. Midge Funk Breman, cashier for seven years at the Senate, who resigned to join her husband in Wilkes-Barre, is back at her parents' home here while the husband, Staff Sgt. Thomas Breman, U. S. Marine Corps, serves a hitch overseas. She and her infant son have come here to reside till the Sergeant's return. Midge's brother Buddy, also a brother to Genevieve Funk, Colonial secretary, has been sent overseas also by the Army.

George Hopple and Victor Reynolds have been added to the State staff.

BOSTON

ELECT ART MOCGER TO HEAD 
WARNER CLUBS OF BOSTON: 
$1,000 REW-ARP FOR KILLER

At the first meeting of the Boston Chapter of the Warner Clubs, Inc. for the 1946-47 season the officers elected were president, Art Moger; vice-president, John Mansfield; ch. of welfare, Lillian Stephenson; ch. of membership, Laura DuPerry; auditor, Aurelia Amoroski; treasurer, Grace Cardy. Besides providing benefits for sick members, presentation of purses on marriage of members, and insurance, the Club also holds several parties annually for worthy causes.

A newcomer to the local KKO staff is Richard Dobkins, Jr., son of Richard, Sr., office manager, of the Maine and New Hampshire Circuit office, who is a student booker. Theresa Long is also entering the KKO office where she is replacing Gloria Kamin as billing clerk. Gloria Kamin is now cashier's secretary.

William C. Purcell, of Somerset, who was formerly manager of the Empire, Durfee and Capitol Theatres in Fall River, and also of theatres in Woburn, Mass., has offered a $1,000 reward to anyone who can give him information which would lead to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the murder of his brother, John E. Purcell, on August 28, 1946.

The Center Theatre in Fall River was reopened recently. Closed last June for alterations, the theatre, of which Ray Allard is manager and James Andet is assistant manager, has been provided with new Hollywood style dressing room, in the lobby and at the sides of the box office.

The St. George and Gorman theatres in Framingham, which were forced to cancel scheduled shows for one day when motion picture projection operators and stagehands failed to report for work, resumed operations the next day after Local 505 of the Moving Picture Machine Operators' Union, AFL, furnished operators and stagehands. The failure of the regular employees to report was described by the management as an unauthorized walkout. Local 505, of which the employees are members, is negotiating with the theatres for a new wage contract.

Ace Bernstein, publicist at Columbia, was in New York last week at the home office. Local "Backy" Levin, booker at Columbia, has been transferred to the Columbia office in Buffalo, where he will be salesman.

John Patrick Byrne, MGM Divisional sales manager, visited the local office for four days last week.

Ben Abrams, manager at Monogram, was in New York last week to attend a meeting.

OKLAHOMA CITY

William Peter Sanet, 30, sentenced to life imprisonment September 9 when he pleaded guilty to robbing the Warner Theatre June 21 and shooting Police Detective George Leech in a running gun battle that followed the robbery. District Judge Lucius Babcock set the sentence after Sanet pleaded guilty and the county attorney made no recommendation. Sanet also was charged with assault with a dangerous weapon. He was given five for robbery of the theatre and 10 years for shooting Leech.

The new Will Rogers Theatre here, constructed by Griffith Consolidated, was opened Wednesday with L. C. Griffith and Robert A. Heifer, mayor of Oklahoma City making speeches.

Griffith transfers include Tiny Duvall to Duncan from Clinton; Woodrow Minor to Bartlesville from Duncan and Otis Mooney to Oklahoma City from Duncan.

Olive Green comes from Lincoln, Nebraska, to manage the Ritz Theatre here.

DENVER

ROCK SPRINGS, WYO, DEDICATES AIRPORT TO LATE TOM BERTA, CHAMPION WAR BOND SALESMAN

At Rock Springs, Wyo., an airport was dedicated as a memorial to a theatre manager who died in the line of duty during the war. The airport, city manager for Fox Mountain, who was given a citation for having sold more E bonds than anyone else in the nation, was killed when his car skidded on highway ice while escorting flyers back to the airport after they had taken part in a bond rally. In
REGIONAL NEWSREEL

attendance at the dedication were Charles P. Skorurs, president National Theatres; Frank H. Rickerson, Jr., president Fox Intermountain Theatres; Gov. Lester C. Hunt, Wyoming; U. S. Senator Joseph C. Mahoney, Wyoming; George Humphreys, president University of Wyoming; Judge Orrie Phillips, 10th circuit court of appeals; Al Gould, Fox Intermountain Theatre attorney, and numerous other dignitaries.

Flying to the United Artists regional sales meeting at Las Vegas, Nevada (some of them flying for the first time) were Clarence Olson, manager; George CoCo, office manager, and salesmen Bruce Marshall and Robert Riddle. The meeting is being held Sept. 20-21-22 at the Last Frontier Hotel.

Carl Larson, head booker at the 20th Century-Fox exchange, has been promoted to the newly-created post of office manager. This move Howard Metzger up a notch to head booker and brought Eillsworth Hayes, head shipper, out of the back room to be assistant booker.

Thomas Martinez expects to have his new El Cortez, 400-seat, at Rauches de Taos, N. M., open by Oct. 1.

With the severe polo epidemic apparently leveling off, some theatres have reopened and others have set dates for such. One other that the Joy, Grand Junction, Colo., has been closed. Those that have reopened or have set dates for same are the Alpine, Denver; Cactus, Limon, Colo.; Yuma, Yuma, Colo.; Kiowa, Kiowa, Colo.; Holy Rosary Mission, Phipps, S. D.

Melvin A. Hughes, S2, Fox Intermountain Theatres auditor, died at Fitzsimons army hospital after a lengthy illness. He was a veteran of World War I.

Alfred Trippeit has bought the Isis, Meeteetse, Wyo., from J. W. Carson.

George Ryder has been made manager of the Gen, Golden, Colo., succeeding Barney Dixon.


MILWAUKEE

SUMMER RESIDENT, EXHIBITOR, PLANS HOUSE FOR DELAFIELD, WHICH NEVER HAD A THEATRE

The village of Delafield, about 28 miles west of Milwaukee, has never had a regular film theatre, the only shows being those given occasionally at the hall of St. John's Military Academy, open to outsiders on certain days. Now Bert Fischer, who has a summer home on a lake nearby, is negotiating for a combination theatre and bowling alley. He expects to purchase a large garage building which is admirably suited for conversion to a theatre. He has been an operator in Milwaukee for many years.

At Brillton, Wis., Art Sontag, operator of the Brillton Theatre, is installing new sound equipment, and when this and remodeling is completed Sontag aims to make it one of the most completely equipped houses in this area. The latest in projectors are to be installed, Sontag says, and he also plans to have air conditioning.

A. P. Adler of Marshfield, Wis, has announced the purchase of a site in Wausau for a new theatre to seat about 500. Plans have been approved by the Wisconsin State Planning Board. Construction is to commence shortly.

The Omah Theatre, Sturgeon Bay, Wis., owned by Mrs. Frank Borchert, will be completed shortly, work now being done consisting of a new solid masonry front, covered with porcelain panels, the same as used in Standard Oil service stations. The concrete floor is now being laid, but there is some delay in getting steel. The rear of the building, for housing the screen and sound equipment has been completed, and opening some time this fall is expected.

Although a two-week run for the average film is considered long enough in downtown Milwaukee theatres for first run, "Notorious" is in its third week and the end is not as yet in sight.

CHICAGO

$67,500,000 SCHOENSTADT SUIT NOW SET FOR TRIAL ON NOV. 4.

HARRY KATZ STRICEN EN ROUTE

The $67,500,000 Schoenstadt anti-trust suit against eight major distributors and the B & K and Warner Theatres circuits has been set for trial on Nov. 4 in Federal Judge Phillip Selznick's court, it was announced this week by the plaintiff attorney, Aaron Stein.

Harry Katz of Monarch Theatres in New York was taken from the train here suffering from a heart attack. He and Mrs. Katz were returning from a western trip. Later reports were that he was resting easily at Michael Reese Hospital. Harry is the brother of Sam Katz, MGM executive.

James Booth, former chief Essaness circuit booker, is the guest of President Eddie Zorn of United at the Theatre Owners Convention this week at Springfield. Booking plans are under consideration.

Ted Tod, formerly with the Warner exchange, has been named Chicago publicity director for Selznick Pictures.

The Balaban & Katz circuit announces that, instead of the premiere of "Blue Skies" for its Silver Anniversary, the Chicago Theatre will premiere "Two Years Before the Mast" starting Oct. 18. Negotiations are under way for the use of Hollywood stars during the engagement.

Sam Soble, manager of the B & K Riviera, has returned from a vacation trip to the north woods.

Named to managements and assistant managements: Jack Chambers, Ardmore Theatre; Milton Canoff, Liberty; Ted Darlotis, American; Hap Meininger, Nortown; Walter Lyons, Biltmore; and Sam Brewer, Belmont.

H. C. Costello, formerly managing director of its theatrical theatre, is now living on his ranch in Hidden Valley at Big Horn, Wyoming.

Lou Dykeman of the Fern Theatre, Alexis, III, expects to open his 270-seat house by Oct. 1. Work is being rushed and equipment is going into the booth as quickly as received.

M. B. Lang of the Telenews Theatre has returned from a Florida vacation.

Mrs. Diana Lanansky, mother of Sam Lansky, IATSE business agent, died last week. She is survived by six daughters and a son.

Sol Horowitz, Selznick's midwestern manager, is attending the United Artists meeting in St. Louis.

Jack Schwartz has been named country sales manager for the PRC exchange.

Mrs. W. C. DeVry, wife of W. C. DeVry, head of the equipment company, is on the road to recovery at the Augustana Hospital after a recent operation.

Cities authority continues their drive to force theatres to observe building laws. The latest to comply was the Lawdale Theatre at 4015 Roosevelt Road, whose manager notified the building department he had installed a new water tank on the roof.

The Jones-Linich-Schafer circuit's LaSalle Theatre is now running single feature programs. The latest show, planned for next week, is the independent film, "While Nero Fiddles."

CLEVELAND

VARIETY LEGION POST MARKS TENTH ANNIVERSARY; OFFICE TURNOVER AT FILM CLASSICS

Variety Post, American Legion, will celebrate its tenth anniversary on September 21 with a banquet to be held at the Carter Hotel. Simultaneously the newly-elected officers will be installed. All ten past commanders plan to attend. They are Harry Long, Harry H. Goldstein, Howard Roth, John Himmelman, Dr. A. Bubis, Edwin R. Bergman, Lawrence Rich, Aaron Wayne, Myron Anton and A. M. Goodman. Dick Miller, Price premium representative is the only film man on the new slate.

Bob Snyder of Film Classics is busy installing a new office force. Elaine Sugar, who has (Continued on Page 26)
handled the office ever since its opening has resigned to go domestic, turning over her duties to Rosamund Garson. Frank Zinieke, booker, is leaving the industry. His successor is yet to be appointed.

Frank Kenton, manager of the Shore Theatre, is preparing for another manpower shortage in theatre operations. Last week he acquired a second son, Dean Francis Cost, who is already being tutored in the first principles of theatre management.

Bill Borack, Northio booker with headquarters in Cincinnati, was around the local exchanges looking for the houses in the northern Ohio area in the Northio group. Another visitor was Sara Abegglen, manager of the Post Theatre, Warren.

Lemotio Smith, owner of theatres in Warren, Ohio and Parkersburg, W. Va., has brought his Cleveland visit to an end and is now back at his home in Los Angeles.

Al Sunshine is now the sole owner and national distributor of Advandies and Dater Strips. He recently acquired the interests formerly owned by M. M. Jacobs and James Steckel.

Rudy Norton plans to build a new house in Kenton to take the place of his present Ohio Theatre. Sam Gorrel and Leonard Mishkind have purchased a complete National Theatre Supply equipment installation for their New Orr Theatre in Orrville. Both includes Simplex Sound and projection equipment, as well as American Seating Company chairs. The 700-seat house is nearing completion and is expected to open in October.

Victor Glass' Theatre, Akron, is also getting new Simplex E-7 sound with the Voice of the Theatre. Frank Mask, NTS local branch manager, is supervising these installations.

Martin Prinz has done a real job of modernizing his Alhambra Theatre lobby. Box office, instead of being in the center is at the extreme side at the entrance to the lobby. A modern popcorn and candy stand occupies the opposite wall. This treatment allows for extensive advertising space within the lobby, including five 40x60 foot and two 40x80 foot illuminated frames, installed by NTS. Prinz also installed new pitch black aluminum marquee letters to be installed locally.

**HARTFORD**

HARTFORD FILM MEN DRAFTED BY COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS: IATSE MEN ACTIVE AT MEET

Henry L. Needles, Hartford district manager for Warner Theatres, has been named chairman of a new motion picture sub-committee of the Fire Prevention Committee, Hartford Chapter, Committee. Walter Edger, who's manager of the M&P Allyn, has been appointed to the general information branch of the Hartford Citizens' Charter Committee.

A certificate of organization has been filed with the office of Secretary of State at State Capitol, Hartford, for a new New Haven corporation, Amalgamated Buying Service, Inc. Officers: President, Lewis G. Ginsberg; Treasurer, Bernard W. Levy; Secretary, Rita R. Ginsberg; and Directors, all officers and Alice B. Levy. Levy formerly was manager of the Proven Pictures Theatre, Hartford.

The 61st annual convention of the Conn. Federation of Labor was held last week at the Hotel Bond in Hartford. Thomas J. Shea, assistant to the president of IATSE, was scheduled to speak, but couldn't come to Hartford. William Scanlon of Lynn, Mass., an IATSE trustee, spoke in place of Shea.

Charlie Ober, stage manager, M&P Allyn, and president of Local 84, IATSE, Hartford, has returned from a vacation.

Douglas Amos, discharged veteran, has returned to the assistant manager's job at the M&P Paramount, New Haven. Russ Orway, who was assistant at New Haven, has been named assistant at the M&P Allyn in Hartford.

Continental Circuit, Inc., has reopened the Center Theatre in Hartford following extensive renovations. Arnold Leonard is the manager.

The Killeeфа Building, New Haven film distributing center, at Meadow and Commerce Streets, has been sold by Martin's, Inc., to Film Estates, Inc., of New York, for $380,000.

Quite a few Hartfordites made the trip up to Springfield, Mass., last week to attend the Community Wide Model cocktail party at the Sheraton Hotel.

The finals in Loew's Poli circuit model contest will be held on Sept. 23.

The Metro-Goldwyn-Maisharp, MGM's adverting dirigible, made its first stop in the Hartford territory over the weekend. The airship cruised over New Haven, Bridgeport, Waterbury, Meriden, and Hartford.

Lawrence McIndoe, who is handling U.S. sales for Prestige Pictures, British output, was in Hartford last week.

**MINNEAPOLIS**

CROSBY-HOPE TO PLAY GOLF TO AID SISTER KENNY FUND; POLIO RESTRICTIONS RAISED

The Twin Cities have been placed on the schedule for one of the benefit golf games between Bing Crosby and Bob Hope for the benefit of Sister Kenny Foundation for infantile paralysis here, but no dates have been announced.

Many theatres in the Northwest which were forced to close because of the polo epidemic have reopened and other towns, including Detroit Lakes and Owatonna, Minn., as well as St. Paul and Minneapolis, have dropped the restrictions against children attending public gatherings.

Among the late vacationists in the film exchanges are Lawtime Syverson, MGM assistant, spectress, who was out in Oregon; Gene Meredith, WB cashier, who stayed at home; Marjorie Ketcham, Columbia assistant cashier, who vacationed in California; Esther Turner, office manager at National Screen Service, who enjoyed the beauty of Northern Minnesota; as did Helen Manion, branch manager's secretary at Universal, and Harriet Johnson, preview shipper at NSS; Doris Osterhauer, 20th-Fox assistant cashier; and Glenn Roberts, 20th-Fox booker.

**WASHINGTON**

MARVIN GOLDMAN NOW WITH K-B UNIT AS EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT: CAPITOL CELEBRATES 19TH YEAR

Marvin Goldman, who on his release from the Navy early this year became an engineer for the Washington Refrigration Company, has joined the K-B Theatres as executive assistant to General Manager Frank M. Borner, it was announced this week. K-B controls the Apex, Atlas, MacArthur, Navy, Oak, L. C. Theatres, Golden Gate, New Yorker, enlisted in the Navy and rose to Lieutenant Commander, serv

With the showing of "Courage of Lassie" on the screen and Major Bowes' All-Star Guests on the stage, the Capitol Theatre celebrated its 19th anniversary. In reminiscing about its 19 years of entertainment, the Capitol recalls the names of celebrities who appeared on the stage. Among them were Jean Harlow, Robert Taylor, Mickey Rooney, Judy Garland, Walter Pidgeon, Denny Kaye, Van Johnson, and Frank Sinatra.

Mark N. Silver, former local branch manager of United Artists, recently promoted to the New York Exchange, was honored on September 9 with a testimonial dinner given by the Baltimore Variety Club.

A testimonial stag buffet was held in honor of Max Cohen, Universal branch manager, recently promoted to the Cleveland Exchange,
ATLANTA

NELSON TOWLER IS NEW PRC BRANCH MANAGER AT ATLANTA; JOHNSON, GRAHAM QUIT POSTS

Nelson Towler has been named manager of the Atlanta PRC branch, it was announced by Grover Parsons, southern district manager. Towler was formerly with the sales departments of Paramount and PRC.

Howard Wallace, sack Amusement Company branch manager, returned from a tour of the Carolinas.

Sara Montton, former Paramount booker, has transferred to PRC.

Frank and Ed Harris, who recently disposed of their chain of drive-in theatres, were in New York on business.

S. E. Johnson resigned as office manager at Paramount and Dixie Graham resigned from the same position at PRC. No successor for either has been named.

John Stillman, the Tennessee showman, in to say he will open his new theatre, the Gem, in Brownsville, Tenn., on September 23.

Bill Aiken is hastening construction of his new theatre at Norcross, Ga., for an October 1 opening. Bill was formerly house manager of Loew's here, later a sales representative for Columbia.

Mrs. Arthur C. Bromberg, wife of the president of Monogram Southern Exchanges, returned from a trip to Mobile, Ala., her former home.

John L. Grove, former manager of Atlanta's old Metropolitan Theatre, now manager of the Temple in Jacksonville, Fla., was a visitor.

Daniel Lambert, of College Park, Ga., has been appointed manager of the base theatre at Hunter Field, Savannah, Ga.

L. A. Stein, of Jacksonville, Fla., has been petitioned by citizens of Nashville, Ga., to cease showing movies on Sunday at his Majestic Theatre in that South Georgia tobacco city. Stein said the Sunday shows are under the auspices of the Berrien County Post of Veterans of Foreign Wars, which is banking the money toward erecting a clubhouse.

Atlanta Tent No. 21, Variety Club, has resumed its Saturday night bingo sessions and Monday night gin rummy tournaments. The club rooms are a hive of activity these days as the barkers put the finishing touches on plans for their charity football game to be played September 26 between the professional Miami Seashawks and Brooklyn Dodgers.

Babe Cohan, Monogram's branch manager (Continued on Page 28)

DALLAS

PATRONS SAFE, OPERATOR HURT IN THEATRE FIRE AT MONAHANS; BELDIA ATTENDS TURTLE DERBY

Patrons were conducted to safety when fire originating in a second floor office spread the Palace Theatre at Monahans, September 7, in the afternoon. John Scott, Jr., operator, suffered minor burns when the fire broke out. Beldia, Barry Sullivan, co-stars of "Suspense," made personal appearances at the Palace Theatre last week-end and Gene Autry came in to attend the Dublin, Texas, rodeo and from there went on to New York. The former stars made two appearances at the Variety Club's Turtle Derby at Fair Park Arena.

Herbert Schefelt and T. Denny Boardman, executives of Telenews, were visitors here last week from New York.

Gidney Talley has opened his third theatre in Mathis, the 430-seat It Theatre, built at a cost of $75,000. Leon Couch is the manager.

Martin Reese has sold the Nuplay Theatre at Grandview to S. Billingsley of Dallas, who in turn has sold the theatre to George H. Dowling.

C. F. Williams of Benjamin has purchased the Texas Theatre at Knox City.

George Henger, veteran theatre man, will succeed Bill Lansberg as Paramount exploiter in the Dallas office.

Two Fort Worth theatre managers were injured, one believed seriously, when they were struck by a car while unloading a ladder and some boards from a truck parked in front of the Ideal Theatre, Fort Worth. William E. LaNoue, manager of the new TCU Theatre, was pinned between the car and the truck and suffered several broken ribs and chest injuries. Thomas L. Polka, who had been transferred from the Azle Theatre to the Ideal, was struck by a board on the truck. He also was believed to have suffered abdominal injuries.

Col. H. A. Cole, Allied president in Texas, has announced that organization will hold its convention October 26-29 here.

A. D. Lawrence has opened the new Apex Theatre in Tioga.

D. Scifo, formerly owner of the Liberty in Hartshorne, Okla., has purchased the Depot Theatre at Depoe, Texas, from Roy Deviney.
PORTLAND

OREGON IS BECOMING FAVORITE LOCATION FOR FILM PRODUCERS; RACING HITS PORTLAND INTERSTATE

"Heaven Only Knows," another from the pen of Oregon's versatile writer Ernest Haycox, will be filmed in part in Oregon as soon as the proper background is decided upon.

A. S. Rogell, director for Nero Films, together with J. Voglin, assistant director and H. Nebenzal, production assistant, traveling in a twin-engined airplane, covered much of the Cascade area near Mt. Hood and Bend seeking locations. They will next fly to Helena, Mont, and back into the beauty spots of Washington to size up the scenery.

Charles C. Cook, 42, formerly of Portland and recently of Paramount studio publicity, died recently.

Box Anderson, manager of Portland's Liberty Theatre is on his annual vacation to the Northern Canadian wilds, with Ft. Rupert as temporary headquarters.

Adding to the outside attractions, which don't do the box offices of Portland theatres a bit of good, is the opening of the Meadows track for horse racing, plus night baseball and dog races.

Al Fernandez announces the opening of his new theatre at Montesaon, Wash.

Sara Film Exchange of Portland, is announcing an addition to their Oregon film distribution with Favorite Films.

Theatre Utilities Service (TUSCO) announces the opening of its theatre equipment home on Portland's film row, under direction of Messrs. McNabb and Stewart.

CINCINNATI

SUBURBAN LAND OWNERS BLOCK OPEN-AIR THEATRE PROJECT; FILM MEN PRAISE VA. MEET

Construction of an open-air theatre in Mt. Healthy, Cincinnati suburb, by Park-In Theatre, Inc., Cincinnati, was opposed by a group of property owners in a suit to halt the project filed last week in Common Pleas Court. They allege the theatre would become a nuisance.

Returning theatremen who attended the convention of the Virginia Theatre Owners' Association enthusiastically declare the meeting, attended by 71 exhibitors and 78 distributors' representatives, was a tremendous success.

Nate Wise, RKO publicity agent, is to take an early autumn vacation beginning September 20.

Harry McWilliams, Columbia exploiter and Sid Schaeffer, Director of Advertising, Columbia, both from New York were in town arranging for publicity on the mid-west premiere of "The Jolson Story" early in November.

MGM last week welcomed two new shipper's: Don Hall and Robert Moss.

Ann Milligan of Paramount's accounting department last week announced her engagement to Arthur Furse.

The Paramount family welcomed three more into their fold—Maggie Miller, biller; Marian Fortunato, general clerk; and Ruby Jones, ledger clerk.

Bad luck hit Charles Goodwin, assistant shipper at Columbia, last week when he fell and fractured his right elbow. He expects to be confined about four weeks.

James Herb has returned to his old position as booker for Semilroth Circuit, Dayton, Ohio.

John F. Bannan, Universal branch manager here, is to take over that position in Chicago at an early date. The announcement was made at a meeting of district and branch managers at the Drake Hotel in Chicago during the past week. Name of his successor in Cincinnati has not yet been announced.

Bob McNabb, 20th Century-Fox sales manager, became the father of a boy early Saturday morning. The mother is doing nicely, too.

In and out of Film Row early last week were Grant Thomas, Fayetteville, O.; Al Sugarman, Columbus, O.; Mrs. J. Stewart, Saylor Park, O.; Charles Behler, Lancaster, Ky.; James Howe, Carrollton, Ky.; Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Sexton, Jr., Ashland, Ky.; Bill Setton, Springfield, O.; Foster Lake, Williamsburg, Ky.; John Hewitt, Bethel, O.; Kenny Hill, Waynesville, O.; Ray Thelan, Cledenin, W. Va.; Frank Mandros, Kanawa City, W. Va.; C. E. Harvey, Greenfield, O.; Peter Chakares, Dayton, O.

KANSAS CITY

A five per cent ticket levy on motion picture shows and all other amusements in Springfield to bring in an estimated annual take of $45,000 to help balance the deficit in the 1947 city budget will probably be approved shortly by the city council.

The annual convention of the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association has been set for October 1 and 2 here, with the Hotel Muehlebach to be headquarters. S. H. Fabian, ATA president, and Robert W. Coyne, ATA secretary, will be on the program.

The St. John Theatre, suburban house, will be reopened immediately by Fox Midwest.

William Silver has renamed the theatre he now owns in Clarence, Mo. and opened it as The Silver.

W. A. Collins has started construction of a new theatre at LaGrange. He now operates the Canton Theatre.

Ralph C. LiBeau, Paramount district sales manager here, will be honored November 10-16 with a Ralph C. LiBeau Silver Anniversary week in honor of his 25th year in the business.

ST. LOUIS

ROSENTHAL WINS BRODY DRIVE DESPITE HANDICAPPED START; BETTER FILM COUNCIL MEETS

The announcement that the St. Louis exchange had won the top honors in Division No. 2 of Monogram Pictures' "Steve Brody Testimonial Drive," which ended on June 30 climax the greatest sales accomplishment in the long career of the office's manager, Barney Rosenthal, who dates his experience back to the very earliest days of the industry in St. Louis. Rosenthal, in the face of heart-breaking handicaps, started his stretch drive from last place by a substantial margin on March 22 to end the contest on June 30 with 93.26 per cent of sales quota sold, beating Pittsburgh in second place with 91.69 per cent, Buffalo third with 80.17 per cent, and Cleveland fourth with 79.50 per cent.

The Better Films Council of Greater St. Louis held its first meeting of the 1946-47 year on Friday, with Mrs. A. F. Burt, founder and honorary president, as the chief speaker. Her subject was: "The Ability of the Motion Picture to Establish Terms of Relationship." She is also national motion picture chairman of the Federated Women's Clubs of America. Mrs. Ambrose B. Harrington, newly elected president of the Council, presided. The Better Films Council, a non-sectarian group, was formed in 1929 to promote better films, especially for children and Family Night shows. Leaders of the film industry have given the council credit for doing much to protect film...
producers and distributors from national politi-
cracy.
The 750-seat $100,000 Esquire Theatre in
Cape Girardeau, Mo., headed by the Wilmot
and Roberts interests, is to open in March. The
building is being erected by the Cape Amusement
Company, Inc., and leased to Esquire Theatre, Inc.
The furnishings and equipment are be-
ing furnished by the National Theatre Supply
Company.
The Star Theatre in Bloomfield, N.J., a
300-seat house, has recently been sold by N. S.
Garner to the Tobin & Goldman Circuit of St.
Louis. The Tobin & GoldmanCircuit have changed
the name of the house to the Star Theatre.
They contemplate the installation of new equip-
ment and other improvements.
The Tobin & Goldman Circuit, owners of
the State Theatre in Columbia, Ill., a 300-seater,
contemplate the erection of a new house when
labor conditions warrant this step.
Lou H. Walters, president and general man-
ger of Cine Supply Company, St. Louis, is
celebrating the completion of one year of serv-
vice to the exhibitors of the St. Louis ter-
ritory. On September 15, 1945, Mr. Walters,
recently resigned as manager of the Cleveland
office of the National Theatre Supply Company,
opened his newly-formed St. Louis theatre equip-
ment concern, Cine Supply Company. He
had been in Cleveland with National Supply
Company as manager since 1936.

COLUMBUS

THEATRE BUILDING OWNERS WIN
$5,000 COURT JUDGMENT AGAINST
SHEA CORPORATION OF MARIETTA

Common pleas jury at Cambridge has award-
ed a verdict of $5,000 in favor of James G.
and Effie J. Nicholakis, owners of a motion
picture property in that city, against the Shea
Theatre Corporation of Marietta. The owners
charged the Marietta company with neglect of
the property and insisted the lease on it ex-
pired last October.

State Board of Tax Revision has granted
reduction in the evaluation of Loew's Broad
and Loew's Ohio, following last week's an-
ouncement of reduction in the Palace valu-
ation. The 1944-49 tax value of the Ohio was
lowered from $109,000 to $103,700. The evalua-
tion of the Broad was reduced from $279,920
to $232,290. The owners had sought a $124,210
reduction in the Ohio value and of $105,740
in the evaluation of the Broad.

Paper shortage caused the afternoon Dispatch
to drop all theatre ads on Thursday, Sept. 12,
but theatremen were little puzzled when large
department store and food ads plus many other
types of ads were still in the paper.

Mayor Rhodes has reappointed William C.
"Bubby" Crelley, manager of the Linden
Theatre, and Lloyd D. Schott, local projec-
tionist, as members of the board of examiners
of motion picture operators. Both terms run
until May 1947. His appointments are subject to
approval by the City Council.

Joseph P. Holleran, manager of the Beech-
wold, suffered no serious consequences except
a bump on the head when his car jumped a curb
and struck a lampost. He was treated at University Hospital and released.

Indoor competition on a large scale faces
local exhibitors during the nine-day period
starting Oct. 24 when the ice show, "Holiday
on Ice" opens in the State Fairgrounds Colli-
seum. This is the first time in five years that
the 10,000 capacity arena has been used for a
commercial attraction. The Army Air Corps
took over the fairgrounds at the start of the
war.

The Ohio and Broad PBX switchboard has
another new operator. She is Mrs. Virginia
Midlick, from Milwaukee.

Barbara Jean Grimes, 12-year-old 7A student
of Crestview Junior High School, won the
pedigree collie pup offered in the "Courage
of Lassie" color sketch contest conducted by
Loew's Ohio. . . . Mrs. Thomas J. Collins,
Worthington housewife, won a diamond ring
offered in the Danny Kaye contest held in con-
nection with "The Kid From Brooklyn."

FROM HOLLYWOOD. Producer Jack
Chertok and Mrs. Chertok arrive in New
York on a combined business and pleasure
trip. Chertok produced Hunt Stromberg's

VANCOUVER

CANADIAN PICTURE PIONEERS
PLAY BIG BALL IN NOVEMBER
FP MANAGERS ELECT OFFICERS

The Canadian Picture Pioneers, British
Columbia branch, at a meeting made arrange-
ments for a movie ball this fall, proceeds to
be turned over to the C.P.P. Benevolent Fund.
The committee in charge will be Ivan Ackery,
Orpahum; Maynard Johner, Famous Players;
and Harry Wolfe, manager of UA. The ball
will be held at the Hotel Vancouver in
November.

Jim Patterson, branch manager, and Bob
Cringan, salesman of 20th-Fox, are back from
a Dominion regional sales meeting at Toronto.
All Canadian branches were in attendance.
Tom Comerford and Bill Gehring came up from
New York to give the boys an idea of the
program for the coming season.

Officers of the Famous Players Theatre
Managers Association of British Columbia for
the coming year are: Joe Milliman, Kitsilano
Theatre, president; Eddie Zeteman, Columbia,
New Westminster, vice-president; Jack Rand-
dall, Capitol, secretary; and Jack Burdett of
the Stanley Theatre, Vancouver, treasurer.

The Odeon Circuit has made the following
manoeuvrable changes: Ernie Sauer from the
Circle to the Lux; Johnny Bernard from the
Odeon, North Vancouver, to the Circle, Van-
couver; Bob Hardy from the Rio to the
Fraser; Al Narrow from the Fraser to the
Lonsdale, North Vancouver; Carmen Gentile,
Lonsdale to Oak, Burnaby; Tom Backus, Oak,
Burnaby, to Kingsway, Vancouver; Donald
McLean, assistant manager at the
Plaza, promoted to manager of Rio; Wynn
Reay, relief manager, takes over as manager
of the Variety; Al Goodwin from Variety to
Odeon, North Vancouver.

Famous Players has announced a plan to
give all employees with more than five years
service an extra week vacation with pay,
making a two-week holiday yearly.

British Columbia exhibitors are not show-
ing any desire to dispute the new form of film
rental agreements of percentage features for
the coming 1946-1947 season, which at present
is causing plenty of excitement in Eastern
Canada. Exhibitors are buying the new prod-
uct, distributors report. British Columbia has
no exhibitor's organization since a former asso-
ciation folded four years ago.

Harry Page, former booker at UA who
served four years in the Navy, has leased the
Rio Theatre at Trail B.C. from Romeo
Rinaldi, owner, who is moving to Pentiction.
Rio is a 450-seat house and is in opposition
to both Famous Players and the Odeon cir-
cuit.

Willard Adamson, PRC Vancouver man-
ger, has announced that his company has
acquired the Dominion franchise of British
National Films and the Anglo-American Film
Co. of British producing company's first
release, "Meet the Navy," has been booked by
Famous Players in all 300 houses across
Canada. Part of all proceeds goes to the
Canadian Navy fund.

NEW ORLEANS

FILM GIRLS' CLUB INVITES
MANAGERS TO NEXT MEETING; PRC CONVENTIONEERS RETURN

The third meeting of the newly-formed Girls'
Club of Film Row was held last Monday
night at Film Row Grill and was well at-
tended in spite of rainy weather. Bea Adams
was put on a committee to extend invitations
to the managers and office managers of the
various exchanges to a get-together with light
refreshments and dancing after the next meet-
ing on the first Monday in October. Three
new members were recently added: Marie
Schaech, Gladys Villars, and Cecile Picone,
all of MGM's inspection department.

The PRC boys are back after attending the
national convention in Atlanta City. Manager
Milton Day, Jr., has returned from St. Cressly,
and Milton White, the booker, are jubilant
over their lineup of '46 and '47 product.

Turk Carter of Paramount Richards re-
turned after a short business trip to Atlanta.

Edna Carson of New York and her boss,
Sydney C. Haltiner, here on a promotion as-
signment for Life Magazine, and the L. J.
Cassells of Amarillo, Texas, being shown
(Continued on Page 30)
around the French Quarters by Mrs. John L. Herman, wife of the local Paramount News Reel cameraman.

Shirley Reach, after several years of service with New Joy Theatres as pay-roll clerk, resigned recently to join the personnel at Associated Theatres.

Hodges Theatre Supply Company is now located in its new, modernistic, air-conditioned quarters at 1309 Cleveland Ave.

Work is progressing well on the New Joy Theatre on Canal St. It looks like this grand cinema palace will be ready for opening long before scheduled time. L. C. Montgomery of Ritz Theatres says that the construction of his new theatre, the Arcadia in Rayne, La., and the Clark Theatre in Natchez is also moving along at a good rate of speed.

Rudolph Berger, Southern division sales manager of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, has left his New Orleans headquarters for a visit to the Dallas and Oklahoma City offices.

The usual cake and ice cream was enjoyed by MGM’ers at the birthday celebrations of three of its employees last week. They were Mary DeBaker, Nathalie Olson, and Georgia Pfeifer.

Fred Jacks, Southern district manager of United Artists with headquarters in Dallas is visiting the local office.

**DES Moines**

**A. G. STOLTE GETS SECOND MONEY IN TRI-STATES’ ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN**

William Miskell, district manager at Omaha, Neb., walked off with the lion’s share of the prize money in the 13th anniversary campaign for Tri-States Theatre Corp. Miskell’s district won $1,625 in prize money while A. G. Stolte of Des Moines won $1,055 and Herb Grove of Davenport finished third with his district taking $625. Top prize winners among the theatre managers were Nora Lewis of the Grand Island, Neb., Kermitt Carr of the Paramount at Waterloo, Ia., and Dick Stoddard of Essex at Davenport.

C. A. Myers has opened the Packwood Theatre at Packwood, Ia.

The Toy Theatre at Tipton, Ia., which has been closed for three years, has reopened and is now operating on Saturday and Sunday nights only. John Snyder of the Hardacre Theatre is managing the house.

Leo Robinson, veteran projectionist at the Strand Theatre at Dubuque, Ia., received a long story in the Iowa centennial issue of the Dubuque Telegraph-Herald with his story of early days in the theatre business. Robinson described how the operators hand-cranked the machines in the days of silent movies, besides sweeping out the house, repairing the film and performing a dozen other tasks.

M. L. Black, owner of the Knoxville Theatre, is in the hospital recovering from arm and leg injuries suffered in an automobile accident while returning from a booking trip to Des Moines.

Imogene Thomas, secretary to Art Stolte at Tri-States, has left her job and is preparing for her wedding, which will take place at Orient, Ia., on Sept. 22.

Nancy Branton, daughter of G. Ralph Branton, general manager of Tri-States, has returned to St. Mary’s of Notre Dame where she will be a sophomore this year.

Raymond McKiernick, formerly with RKO at Kansas City is the new salesman for RKO at Des Moines. He replaces Lou Kutna who recently resigned.

**ALLEBANY**

Visitors along Film Row included: Sam Rosenblatt of Watervliet; Mr. and Mrs. Jerry LaRocque of Warrensburg; Mr. and Mrs. John Rossi of Schroon Lake; Lou Jeffer of Watervliet; Sam Davis, Phoenixia; P. Baroudi, North Creek; W. Wertheim and Mrs. Flanagan of Chestertown; Julius Perlmutter of Schenectady; C. Kingsley Ryan of Ausable Forks; Ollie Mallory of Corinth.

Alvin Cassell, who has been student-training out of the Albany MGM office for the past several months, has been transferred to the Detroit office for additional training.

Genevieve Stanaszek, MGM contract clerk, is in the Cohoes Hospital recuperating after an emergency appendectomy.

The office of branch manager Ray Smith (WB) is being redecorated. RKO home office representative Jack Schnitzer is spending several weeks in the Albany exchange auditing.

Friends of Arthur Newman, Republic branch manager, are happy at the news that he is improving. Artie is still confined to the Albany hospital.

Peggy DeFrest, Fox booker’s stenographer, was married Saturday, Sept. 14 to Herman Fuchs at St. Paul’s Church, Rensselaer. Jack McGrath, manager of Albany Theatre Supply, just returned from a tour of Niagara Falls, Rochester and Buffalo where exhibitors report business booming. Incidentally, Jack is daddy again to son number three, who will be called Richard.

George Hasley, representative of the American Seating Company, dropped in to see friends and exhibitors along Film Row.

Congratulations to Jack Rubach, RKO salesman, who just became daddy of a six-pound daughter named Susan Jane. The office crew presented him with a complete layette.

Harry Thomas, PRC president, and Lloyd Lund, general sales manager, attended the Variety Club Tent No. 9 first fall Kings-for-a-Day dinner.

**INDIANAPOLIS**

**26TH-FOX HOLDS PRESIDENT’S DRIVE MEETING: ASSOCIATED CONVENTION SET FOR NOV. 19**

The 20th Century-Fox President’s Drive meeting, honoring Spyros P. Skouras, was held Tuesday at the local branch. J. H. Lorenz, president, accompanied by Anna Mae Suffern, booker at the Chicago exchange and leader of the Women’s Drive for the central division, J. J. Grady, district manager who attended the meeting, left for Cleveland at the close of the affair with Mr. Lorenz and Miss Suffern.

Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana will hold its annual convention Nov. 19 and 20 at the Hotel Severin here.

Howard Morin, Brookville, Ind. exhibitor, was killed instantly last Tuesday when he was thrown from a jeep which his son James was driving. Morin was a member of Affiliated Theatres. His son suffered minor injuries and was badly shaken.

Sam H. Abrams, PRC branch manager was the recipient of three cash awards by the home office in recognition of the business results obtained by him in three divisions of quotas. The presentation was held at the convention held recently in Atlantic City.

Peter Rosian, Universal district manager conducted a meeting at the local branch last Thursday at which awards were made for the distribution of the 1946 product. Salesmen and bookers were present.

Film Row visitors included: D. D. Lee, Rockville; J. E. Whiteley, Colonial, Kokomo; Louis Weinhard, Louisville, Ky.; R. Pynter, Ladoga; K. E. Maurice, Wabash, Clinton; John Wyckoff, American, Terre Haute; J. B. Stine, Garfield, Terre Haute and Mrs. Hilda Loun, Hippodrome, Sheridan.

William Sherman, PRC district manager for St. Louis and Indianapolis areas, arrived here last Friday and remained through Tuesday in conference with Sam H. Abrams, branch manager.

Carl Shalt, district manager, Columbia Pictures, accompanied by Lou Weinberg, home office representative, visited the local branch during the week on business.

**TORONTO**

**FAMOUS-PLAYERS FOURSOME WINS CANADIAN GOLF CUP: NEW CONTRACTS PROTESTED**

Three hundred representatives of the Canadian film industry, including 130 who actually took part in the competition, turned out for the Third Annual Canadian Motion Picture Golf (Continued on Page 37)
Be Kind to Animals (Hilarious)
Para. (Y-3-5) Speaking of Animals 10 min.
The short's title is merely an excuse for its narrator and animators to present some really very funny gags, perhaps, than any presented in this series of shorts, all of which to date have been delightfully amusing. Animal comedians include dogs, tigers, camels, buffaloes, turkeys and others. It's really hilarious. Audiences are sure to have one "good, fine time."

John Henry and the Inky Poo (Excellent)
Para. (U-5-6) Puppetoons 7 mins.
This is different—plenty different—than anything George Pal has attempted with his Puppetoons, in that it dips into American folklore to tell the story of fabulous John Henry who uses his heart and particularly his brain against a machine known as the Inky Poo, which did all the work of ten men driving railroad spikes. John Henry was "four foot wide and twelve foot long. He had made steel of a violin, a guitar, a harmonica's horn," and Pal's presentation of him is a fantastic, likable thing, Rex Ingram is the narrator and the voice of John Henry, and the Luenas Nash Singers provide the musical background to this excellent Technicolor short. Should delight all types of audiences, everywhere.

The Last Bomb (Tremendous)
Technicolor Special 20 mins.
Made in cooperation with the U. S. Army Air Forces, "The Last Bomb" depicts one of the last series of raids made over Tokyo, from the time the plan was set to the end of the flight. It shows the B-29's starting from the Guam group of islands, how the Mustangs pick them up in Iwo Jima, and the actual attack on Tokyo, where 4000 bombs are dropped on the objectives—two airplane plants and an air-drome. The cat fights between the Mustangs and defending Jap planes are shown in detail and the return of the bombers, some of which cannot get only to Iwo Jima. The first atom bomb explosion is shown to cap the climax. This is one of the best yet, and the color makes all the more impressive. It may be your last chance to show new air raid material, so go to it.

Film-Vodvil No. 7 (Fair)
Columbia (7597)
10 mins.
Saxi Dowell and his band play Three Little Fishes, sung by Saxi as he did the song with the late Hal Kemp's organization before the war. Esther Treu sings Blue and Jessie Elliot sings and dances a comedy number, Looza Me, I'm Dancing'. The entire aggregation concludes with Smiles.

Popular Science No. 6 (Good)
Para. (J-5-6) 10 mins.
How lead pellets are made for shot gun shells is the first sequence in this new color short. The scene shifts to the home of Ray Ellingwood, noted industrial engineer, in which buttons and motors have been so arranged that nearly every household task may be accomplished simply by pushing a button. In northern Chile's nitrate mines are shown scenes of how nitrate is processed to produce iodine, fertiliser and other products valuable to medicine and agriculture—and, incidentally, for the manufacture of explosives. Good entertainment.

Three Loon Wolves (Screw)
Columbia (7408) 3 Stooges 16¾ mins.
A gun girl escaping from the police paws her baby in the shop run by the Stooges. A gangster tries to murder them, they are hooded by the police, they get in and out of the usual jam but finally manage to set things straight, which is not normal for the Stooges.

Unusual Occupations (Interesting)
Para. (L-5-6) 10 mins.
Several of Bob Burns' hobbles are unveiled at the bazooka-playing comedian's San Fernando Valley ranch, including his wood-working shop where he turns out scale models. Bob's pigs and cattle also are shown. The scene shifts to the studio of Dorothy Liches where hand weaving of textile patterns depicts the high skill necessary for the creation of new designs. Then the workshop of Josef, Hollywood's master designer of exotic jewelry is shown. The red is in color.

The Housing Problem (Funny)
20th-Fox (7506) Terrytown 7 mins.
The worried pig family is destitute in the housing shortage. Every avenue explored produces nothing until finally a pre-fabricated house is magically put together. The pig family settles down when an army of termites causes all but a bit of the roof to fall in. The pigs are happy, however, satisfied just to have the roof over their heads. A funny treatment of a serious subject. In Technicolor.

Historic Capetown (Excellent)
20th-Fox (7255) Movietone Adventure 8 mins.
The fabulous city of Capetown, South Africa, is explored by the Technicolor camera as the first scene opens with views of the dizzy heights of Table Mountain. Scenes change to the Sturrock Dock, built during World War II to accommodate the largest ships afloat; the Cecil Rhodes Memorial, the Capetown Cathedral, Muizenburg Beach, Capetown Castle, the Prime Minister's residence and other fascinating views. Narrated by Lowell Thomas, the short is an interesting and revealing addition to any type of program.

Winter Holiday (Good)
20th-Fox (7351) Sports Review 8 mins.
While this is similar to many other shorts about winter sports, it is interesting through-out and thrilling during the bob sled sequences at Lake Placid. Skiing, ice-skating and even sight-seeing in sleighs at the winter resort are shown. In Technicolor with Mel Allen as narrator.

Cagey Bird (Good)
Columbia (7602) Flippy 6¾ mins.
Flippy has a cold and the doctor turns out to be the cat who tries to make and dinner of Flippy. Flippy's pal, the dog comes to the rescue, however, and Flippy is enabled to turn the tables—almost—with the cat vacating the premises—but quick. Good cartoon in Technicolor.

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... NEWSREEL SYNOPSIS ...

(Released Saturday, September 21)

MOVISTONE (Vol. 29, No. 5)—French hold reception at Versailles; Nazi gang in mass plot at Nuremberg; More trouble in Trustee; Destroying Siegfried Line; C-44 cattle ship; Modernistic baptism; Radon spills; Salmon derby; Water baby.

NEWS OF THE DAY (Vol. 18, No. 204)—War criminals' own song; Bodies of five U. S. airmen arrive in Washington as rioting continues in Telcette; French engineers dynamite Siegfried Line; Miss America models beach modes; Tennis stars at Forest Hills.

PARAMOUNT (No. 7)—Labor crisis grips U. S.; Burning plane makes crash landing; World's fastest man; Aftermath of Yugoslav incident; World serious.

RKO PATHÉ (Vol. 14, No. 9)—Cameras catches Cod crack-up; Dutch Queen feted on 65th birthday; Land yacht; LaGuardia tells of Europe; Amphibian for family pets; National amateur golf champ; Cause of mine explosions sought.

UNIVERSAL (Vol. 19, No. 39)—Married fliers case Miami; Illinois church is world's heaviest man; Egg brings home bacon for author of best-seller; Wild Life in Washington state; Tom Thumb playground; Golf match at Springfield, New Jersey; Canadian boy swimmer; Motorcycle race in England.

(Released Wednesday, September 18)

MOVISTONE (Vol. 29, No. 5)—London conference asks U. S. to mediate dispute between "ownership" of Alemania fleets West Pacific and Washington; French pilgrimage to Lourdes; Navy plane crashes to test new safety device; U. S. fashions sent to Brazil; Man flies from Atlantic City to Wyoming in loco; Model plane meet; Family of boomerang-throwers.

NEWS OF THE DAY (Vol. 18, No. 204)—President Truman welcomes Field Marshall Montgomery; French shrap at Lourdes visited by torture camp victims; Navy torpedo-bombers in test crash; London syraizes nine homes of aristocrats; French quadruplets in Paris; World's smallest man tries out in Rome; Man flies in a cake of ice.

PARAMOUNT (No. 6)—Great Clark Stark reports on Austria; Howard Hughes flies again after crash; Viscount Montgomery, hero of Alamein, tours U. S.; Henry Thomas, Viscount Viscount join in pilgrimage to Lourdes; Henry Arlitch, (Ryan担子) covers Dodgers-Cards game at Fenway Field.

RKO PATHÉ (Vol. 18, No. 8)—U. S. fleet visits Greece; France gives party for Peace Conference delegates; Field Marshal Montgomery visits Washington and West Point; Lourdes shrine scene of memorial sermon by former German prisoners; General Mark Clark arrives in Washington to discuss Austria; Howard Hughes flies across LA in B-23.

UNIVERSAL (Vol. 19, No. 37)—U. S. green "Betsy"; The Normandie great scrapping at New York pier; Grand Canal in Venice scene of festival; Japs reparation in ships manned by comrades; Brult man flies in a helicopter; James Cagney, John Ebbings; Washington, stages rodeo; New Pike's Peak record.

ALL-AMERICAN (Vol. 6, No. 204)—Detroit guest receives key to Atlantic City; Virginia mother can't tell twins apart; General Does revives sulkettes; New York sculptor in interview; Ohio State has new grid star in Eddy; France snags game at Comisky Park; Kentucky family strikes oil.
Landrush

Columbia Western 54 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Plenty of action for the western fans with some ticklish comedy by Smiley Burnette.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Good for any week-end program, this should do nicely where Westerns are popular and particularly where the Durango Kid series has caught on.


Plot: Charles Starrett, government surveyor, arrives in the Freckle Roundup known as the Spur and, strangely, the Durango Kid arrives at the same time and wars on the outlaws of the region. The landrush is on, and both the Kid and Starrett keep things cleaned up; the settlers may pick their sites for land.

Comment: This follows the accepted formula for so many other successful westerns with Charles Starrett "supermanning" himself into the westerner of the Durango Kid to keep things nice and lawful. He's a romantic character as the Durango Kid and shoots, fights and rides well—and the fans seem to like it that way. Good for any spot where westerns are popular.

United Artists Comedy Drama 100 mins.

Angel on My Shoulder

The Devil's Playground

United Artists Western 65 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Hopsalong Cassidy is back in a picture that will please his legion of fans.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: First in the new series should do well wherever Hopsalong and action pictures are liked.


Plot: Boyd and his pals get mixed up with a bank robbery and a killing when they try to help a young girl who has been shot by a gang of crooks out to get her, and the loot, which she is trying to return to her husband's name. When Boyd, his pals and the sheriff have rounded up the crooks, they go back to their daily duties.

Comment: Western fans will be happy to know that Hopsalong Cassidy is back again. In this new series, which Boyd is making under his own production banner for UA release, "Devil's Playground" is a very auspicious initial offering, for into it has been incorporated all the indispensable ingredients to make a western popular. Credit for the choice of the well-constructed story, plus the other believable, convincing occurrences goes to Boyd and his producer, Lew Rockwell. The story moves along at a rapid pace with a minimum of talk and the action should contain, have seen to it that the thrills and action are there, without any of the wild heroics most western heroes are usually called upon to perform. Scenarist Ted Wilson deserves a hand for writing such a smooth screenplay, from which Director Edward Ludwig has turned out a good action film. William Boyd is again excellent as Hopsy, and Andy Clyde, as comedy relief, and Rand Brooks are swell as his two buddies. Elaine Riley handles the feminine lead quite capably. All in all, the cast fill their assignments satisfactorily. Music and general production values are above par.

United Artists Mystery 50 mins.

Crime Doctor's Man Hunt

Columbia Western 54 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Entertaining addition to the popular series. Good for any double bill program.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Should do as well as preceding films about the main character. Some good exploitation angles.


Plot: The murder of a patient of psychia-trist Warner Baxter involves Ellen Drew, fiancee of the murdered man, who had called on Baxter previously to discuss his fiancee's condition. Baxter, and the police inspector, William Frawley, follow a few lunches and Baxter sets a trap for his suspect. She falls into the trap and the murderer turns out to be (you guessed it) Ellen Drew, who suffers from schizophrenia, or split personality.

Comment: Although the foregoing sketch of the plot is essentially what happens on the screen, it does not begin to tell of the good production, suspenseful direction and fine writing that constitutes this latest in the Crime Doctor series. The picture is really one of the better ones dreamed up by Eric Taylor, even though he has joined nearly every one of the film writers in the popular switch of stories by which the murderer is too nice to be just a plain murderer but must suffer from the most popular of all mental disorders, namely schizophrenia, which means in established psychiatry circles that the sufferer has a "type of psychosis characterized by loss of contact with environment and by disinintegration of personality." And that's what the fellow says that Ellen Drew has. Seriously, that contributes to retaining throughout and should satisfy all types of audiences. Several good exploitation angles are contained in the film and suggestions for capitalizing on them are contained in Columbia's pressbook.

Blondie Knows Best

Columbia Comedy 70 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) This new Blondie and Dagwood comedy should delight the regular fans and provide plenty of laughs for newcomers.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Good for wherever the series has built up a following and suitable for any double bill program. Provides plenty of angles for exploitation.


Plot: Dagwood's fumbling "good neighbor" approach to the new man next door results

AUDIENCE CLASSIFICATIONS
Will be Found on Page 45
in an accident to the neighbor's car, his garage and his person. And Dagwood's attempts to escape a process server in the inevitable suit for damages provides much of the plot's fun. In the meantime Dagwood's boss uses Dagwood to "front" for him, using his name. While posing as the head of the Dithers Construction Company, Dagwood messes up another scheme. He meets an entirely new prospect, however, and becomes involved with him. He experiments with truth serum, sells the new prospect who knows what Dagwood says about his boss must be the truth.

Comment: Although this is a little more involved than most of the Blondie and Dagwood shenanigans, all the parts fit together nicely. There are plenty of laughs, including Dagwood's flying from the house, knocking down whatever or whomever gets in his way. He goes to work on another Dagwood sandwich, and is just as fumbling and klutzy as usual. The Blondie and Dagwood fans will go to see it and laugh. All others who happen to laugh at it are a bonus. Good for wherever the series has built up a following and contains plenty of exploitation angles. Suitable in any case for double-bill programs as a supporting feature.

The Jolson Story

(Color)

Columbia Drama With Music 248 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) There's color and heart appeal, glamour of theatre and studio backgrounds as well as down-to-earth personal drama. Well singing by the Jolson voice in some of Jolson's greatest song hits. All that makes for sure-fire elements of mass appeal and audience pleasure.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: A sure thing for big money. Long runs at all types and classes of theatres.


Plot: Story follows the career of Al Jolson from boyhood environment in a very religious atmosphere presided over by his father, a cantor in a synagogue in Washington, D. C., to final triumph as one of the greatest entertainers of the stage and the screen. As a youngster he is impelled to seek the theatre as a means of expression for his love of singing. He goes on up the ladder of popularity, is persuaded to make a motion picture and wins great success in that, too. He leaves the movies and the theatre to make good on his promise to his wife, the woman he fell in love with at first sight, that they would retire to a quiet home and happily, little by little, she finds that his urge to sing and entertain people is overpowering. The final scene shows Jolson, after reluctantly responding to urging by patrons of a night club to sing for them, again under the old spell of the theatre as his young wife goes her way.

Comment: This is an attraction—one for the kids who know their showmanship to take, work on, and wrap up as something for the books as a money-getter that will long, and fondly, be remembered as a profit item. How near or far the story may come to or stray from the facts of life in the career of Al Jolson is something we don't even bother to discuss. Arthur W. Norton, who will pay to see the show is that the picture really has drive, pace, heart appeal, dramatic punch, ear and eye entertainment of the kind that adds up to an exhilarating evening evening in the theatre. Critics will yap about the "mawkishness" perhaps, but that's all in the game of making pictures. As things stand, this is a picture and a show it proves to be. The reviewer has his hands fully trying to cover even the highlights within the space afforded, when he writes a review of "The Jolson Story." There are so many things that stand out. But putting first things first, this reviewer (who has seen and heard Jolson in the "live" theatre, the movies, over the radio and behind the scenes of all three, to say), cannot recall that the lusty and emotion-stirring Jolson voice ever sounded more ringing and rousing than as it issues from the sound track of this sweet picture. And amazing to a degree even to startle an old timer at looking at films, is the pantomime of Larry Parks as closeups show his lips synchronous with vision sound to "pin-point" accuracy in a dubbing job to set a standard for all dubbing. Parks, not incidentally, is a tremendously effective actor in this role. He must have worked almost endlessly to effect so perfectly the Jolson speech and the Jolson mannerism (in minute detail) in putting over the songs—and they are songs to warm everybody's heart when delivered in the Al Jolson renditions that come across from screen to audience here. Columbia has done an outstanding job with the production of "The Jolson Story." Applause, of course, goes to Sidney Skolicky. And an occasion should go to Al Green for his direction. But who can say where, precisely, the major credit belongs when such a swell show is produced. The story and screenplay, the acting, the photography, the editing—everything when there is a click like this "The Jolson Story."

LONDON OBSERVATIONS

Contacts Teach Louis Jackson What Theatremen Want; Box Plans Technicolor Film on Discovery of America

By Jock MacGregor

Louis Jackson's day must be unique. As managing director of both Anglo-American Distributing Company and Arthur Stace Films, he spends his mornings actually selling pictures and afternoons making them. At 12:30 he leaves Wardour Street for his studio 15 miles away at Elstree. After seeing the "rushes," he is around until 7 o'clock putting into practice what he learns as a film salesman. He personally supervises every picture from inception to last booking.

The routine pays big dividends. Success follows as experience, bolstered by day-to-day contacts, has taught him what showmen will buy. He leaves, prestige pictures to others; his product, such as "Wanderer," "Meet the Navy," "London Story" and "Murder in Reverse," aimed mainly at the home market, have proved solid box-office.

With press representative Susan Storer, I visited the studios and found him refreshed after a vacation in Sweden, hard at work, with four pictures, including the Technicolor "Laughing Lady," in various stages of production. Jackson is hardly the word, for he sold his line-up while there and bought the English rights to a couple of Swedish color features. In his spare time, he is eying the Canadian market.

It would be easier to say who did not attend the Savoy hotel send-off for RKO-Alliance's "So Well Remembered" which Edward Dmytryk is directing at Denham with Martha Scott, Richard Carlson, Pat Roc and John Mills.

Bob Wolf was a genial host and the Rank Organization was well represented with John Davis and Earl St. John much in evidence. Plus old Rank producer Adrian Scott. John Adams was there with his wife, Anne Shirley. Though RKO's David Jones ran the reception, John Myers and his assistants Tony Downing, Ricky Shaw and Leonard Crookfield were present.

Another big turn-out of film people was for the showing by Irving Pierce of the English publishing bureau. Here Fred Hutchinson introduced us to James Perkins who is on a private visit to London before taking over Paramount in succession to Sir Constantine, who recently tipped as becoming Rank's chief producer. Approachable and of the type likely to succeed here, he made a big impression with the press and I look forward to getting better acquainted.

This was really a music show but Paramount's Peter Barnes, who is handling the publicity during Tony Reddin's absence in Hollywood, saw that nobody knew about the approaching "Blue Skies" premiere.

Stirring Box, British producer who turned out "The Seventh Veil" and "Daybreak" among others distinguished as Technicolor pictures, will film the story of the discovery of America. Box has acquired the screen rights to Raphael Sabatini's novel, "Christopher Columbus" and will produce it in Technicolor on an elaborate scale. Plans call for a large unit to do location shots on the Mediterranean and the assignment of several months shooting time for the story which Sabatini originally wrote as a screenplay and later rewrote as a novel.

Fay Alporti, of the MPA, back in town, having successfully influenced the Danish Government into throwing some million and a half dollars owing to American producers, and the remitting of all future earnings to the U.S. This will re-open the market to Hollywood.

Receiving a registered letter, I expected at least a writ. It was a summons to the press show of Rank's Arabian epic "Their's is the Glory." Jimmy Forsyth's souvenir ticket was cast in the metal from the crashed gliders which carried troops on that memorable day two years ago. A novel stunt.

Reg Bromhead, suffering from an attack of phlebitis, was unable to preside at the annual CIBF meeting.
STUDIO ROUNDPUP

Tension Evident on Nearly Every Lot as Strike Cloud Hovers Over Hollywood Studios; Sets Already Built, Locationing, Permit Current Activities to Continue

A strike cloud hovered once more over Hollywood last week as walkouts began on a gradual scale in place of picketing or general striking. Tension was in evidence on every lot, and the question of the week was "Will there be a strike?" Workers were unsure from one day to the next when they would be called off duty. Despite the situation, studios continued their activities because of previously built sets and locationing. But it was apparent that definite action would have to be taken soon—perhaps by the middle of this week—or shutdowns would occur.

RKO Starts Western
RKO, most strongly affected by the strike, closed its lot under its picket line. The plotters, not involving jurisdictional disputes. Cowboy star James Warren started another in his series on Sept. 16, called "To the Last Man." Lew Landers is directing for producer Herman Schlem. Included in the cast are Marla Hyer and Virginia Lee Owen. "Trail Street" was completed.

Louise Beavers was cast in an important role in "Banjo," starring Sharyn Moffett, Jacqueline White and Walter Reed. Martin Mooney and Gordon Douglas, who directed "San Quentin," went to that prison for 10 days of filming mob scenes within the penitentiary. These are added to the picture, recently completed. Ewing Scott is directing "Tarzan and the Huntress" for Sol Lesser, who is releasing it through RKO. Johnny Weismiller and Brenda Joyce are starred. Kurt Neumann is associate producer on the jungle thriller, which started Sept. 16.

WB Production Continues
Warners Burbank lot was one of the studios most seriously hit by walkouts in the early stages of the dispute. However, production goes on. Dennis Morgan's nine-year-old daughter, Kristin, made her screen debut in "My Wild Irish Rose." Morgan stars as Chauncey Olcott. George Tobias was set for a comedy role in the film, most recent starter at Warners.

No Change in U-U Situation
Universal-International continues with plenty of plans and a good deal of readjustments. However, the same situation prevails as far as actual shooting is concerned. Two pictures are going: The Technicolor costume drama, "Slave Girl," and Deanna Durbin's "I'll Be Yours.

Cagney Postpones Lamb
United Artists is busier than it has been in a long time, despite the fact that labor troubles caused William Cagney to postpone production of "The Stray Lamb" with his brother, James as star. "Little Women," David O. Selznick's high-budget production, began shooting, with director Mervyn LeRoy filming sequences around "Meg," who had not yet been cast. The Dorsey, Jimmy and Tommy, doubled in brass, playing a precedent-breaking orchestra engagement at a dance hall for two weeks at nights and working on "The Fabulous Dorseys" days. Hugh Herbert, "woo-woo" comedian, was added to the Fred MacMurray sequence in "A Miracle Can Happen," now over three-fourths completed. Jules Levey's production, "New Orleans," is being filmed at the Roach lot under Arthur Lubin's direction. Mead Lux Lewis, boogie-woogie pianist, was added, as was John Alexander for a character role. The seven-piece Dixieland band began recording at the Goldwyn studio Sept. 12, for the picture.

PRC Starts Another
PRC started production on "Lighthouse," on location at San Petro. Frank Gilbert is producing the picture, which features June Lang, Don Castle and John Liel. Frank Wishar is directing. "Return of Rin Tin Tin" company came in from location for two weeks of interior shooting at the Jerry Fairbanks studio.

Two in Work at SG
Screen Guild is making two pictures. Edward Brophy and Alan Curtis were added to William Berke's "Renegade Girl," which Allied Pictures is producing. Others featured are Alan Sango and Jack Molloy. Three weeks are set for location shots, after which the troupe will return for interiors. Ed Finney signed John Miljan and Amira Moutafa for top roles in his "Queen of the Amazons." The picture is being filmed at Audio Studios, following four days of jungle scenes shot on location.

Doc Merman and William P. David, formed a new producing company known as Mermans-David Pictures, Inc., to release through SG. Merman has been general production manager of Pine-Thomas for the last six years.

New Enterprise Stage
Enterprise, currently making "The Arch of Triumph," will boast the industry's first post-war sound stage on Sept. 27, when the stage is completed. Electric eye apparatus will be featured at all doors to the new stage. Counter-balanced doors will lock automatically when shooting is in progress.

20th-Fox Busy Casting
Twentieth-Century Fox added a number of players to various films. Edward Earle joined Cornel Wilde, Maureen O'Hara, Helen Walker, Glenn Langan and James Gleason in "The Mist." (Continued on Page 36)

Monogram Contract List
Now Includes 30 Players

With 30 players now under contract Monogram reaches the highest number of active persons in its history. The recent signing of Cathy Carter, who is making her debut in Roy Del Ruth's "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," brought the roster up to that figure.

The other contractees are: Belita, Billy Benedict, Johnny Mack Brown, Frankie Darro, Carole Donne, Leon Errol, Kay Francis, Martin Garralaga, David Gorcey, Leo Gorcey, Huntz Hall, Raymond Haton, Bobby Jordan, Joe Kirkwood, Elyse Knox, Ducky Louis, Mantan Moreland, June Preissier, Phil Regan, Duncan Renaldo, Kane Richmond, Gilbert Roland, Freddie Stewart, Gale Storm, Barry Sullivan, Sidney Toler, Jimmy Wakely, Lee White, and Dorothy Kent.

Star Films Formed by Raft and Bischoff

Formation of Star Films, Inc., which plans to begin actual shooting after January 1, was announced late last week by George Raft and Sam Bischoff, a veteran Hollywood producer now at Columbia Studios.

The company expects to make three features during the next two years at a cost of $3,500,000.

Mason in Exclusive David Rose Contract

Hopes of studios for the services of British star James Mason were dashed last week when it was made known that whatever pictures he makes in Hollywood will be done for David Rose Productions, inasmuch as Mason is a partner in the venture and has signed an agreement with this organization to give his services exclusively for the next five years.

Nugent-Montgomery Comedy to Columbia

Columbia Pictures has purchased the comedy, "Big Two," which Robert Montgomery and Elliott Nugent plan to produce on Broadway this fall as the first venture of their new company, Nugent-Montgomery, Inc.

Montgomery, whose long-term contract with MGM ends next August, is named as the top star to appear in film, and Nugent will probably direct it. Price for the screen rights depends on how long the play runs in New York.

Allbritton Added to 'Egg'

Louise Allbritton has been signed by co-producers Fred Finkelhoffer and Chester Erskine for an important role in "The Egg and I," which Erskine will direct for Universal-International. In addition to Claudette Colbert and Fred MacMurray, who will re-create Marjorie Main, Percy Kilbride and Billy House have been cast for top spots in the Betty MacDonald best-seller.
Universal-International Reveals Studio Changes

The Universal-International merger has reflected changes in the studio set-up. Morris Weiner becomes operations manager, with A. McDagostino as his assistant and Edward Tate head of the operations desk. Leslie Carey becomes assistant to Charles Felsted, newly appointed head of the sound department.

George Macom, with MGM's research department since 1936, comes into the U-I fold as head of the research department. Lawrence Crnkishank goes in as assistant to Ray Crosetti, head of the story and writing department.

L. A. Honors Warners

Jack L. Warner, representing the Warner Bros., recently received a scroll from the Chamber of Commerce of Los Angeles paying the community respect to the film-makers for forty years of achievement in the motion picture industry, with special credit for the introduction of talking pictures. Chamber of Commerce President James E. Shelton declared the award was a bow to the city, and the $4,500 persons working in the industry on the west coast.

Dailey Opposite Grable

Dan Dailey, Jr., has been assigned the leading male role opposite Betty Grable in 20th-Century-Fox's "Mother Wore Tights." Strange as it may seem, Miss Grable will be "mother" and Dailey the "father." Dailey, recently out of the Army, had previously been with MGM. He has now signed a long-term contract with 20th-Fox.

Blythe as Father

Lionel Barrymore has been cast as the father in the David O. Selznick Technicolor production of "Little Women," the Louisa M. Alcott classic. The girls will be Jennifer Jones, Diana Lynn, and Bambi Linn ("Oklahoma" player making her screen debut). Meg has not yet been cast.

Demarest for 'Miracle'

William Demarest and 12-year-old David Whorf (son of Richard Whorf) have been signed for the Fred MacMurray sequence of "A Miracle Can Happen," the Benedict Bogeaus-Burgess Meredith production which is made up of several sections, each with a different cast of stars. Others in the film are Charles Naughton, Meredith-Paulette Goddard, and James Stewart-Henry Fonda.

Fill 'Big Haircut' Cast

Latest member of "The Big Haircut" cast to be signed by Paramount is Dick Eddman, whose most recent picture was Bette Davis' "Deception." He will appear as a farm boy in the wheat harvesting saga, which has as its stars Alan Ladd, Dorothy Lamour, Robert Preston and Lloyd Nolan.

'Lamb' Will Be Bracken

When Jimmy Cagney starts hectoring the Lamb in Thorne Smith's fantasy "The Stray Lamb" the recipient of this attention will be noted actor of the sound department, for the star comedian has been signed for the role by William Cagney. Bracken had already made known his desire to play the part. The picture will be a United Artists release.

Option on Catherine McLeod Is Lifted by Republic;
Walter Pidgeon to Star in MGM's 'If Winter Comes'

Walter Pidgeon has been assigned one of the finest dramatic roles of his career, the starring spot in MGM's filmization of the A. S. M. Hutchinson novel, "If Winter Comes," Pandro S. Berman will produce.

Korey Morris was cast in an important role in Columbia's Glenn Ford-Janis Carter starrer, "They Walk Alone," which Richard Wallace is directing.

Warren Douglas, who portrayed the leading role in "Below the Deadline," which Lindsay Parsons produced for Monogram, has been signed to a long-term studio contract.

The role of a 23-year-old American officer in Cecil B. De Mille's "Gallant Defender," will be played by 34-year-old Russ Clark, old-time DeMille player, Constance Purdy, Trevor Bardette and William Hall have also been signed for the George Cooper-Paulette Goddard starrer at Paramount.

Jerry Thomas, recently made producer of PRC's Eddie Dean series of outdoor action musicals, will put the first, tentatively titled "Wild Country," before the cameras early in October.

Robert Mitchum has been given the starring spot in "Build My Gallows High," RKO screen version of Geoffrey Horn's best-seller which in France's Jacques Tourneur will direct. Jane Greer will have the leading feminine role.

Republic has lifted its option on Catherine McLeod, who is slated for the starring role opposite Don Amene in Frank Borzage's second picture for Republic, "Gallant Man." Upon completion of his role in 20th-Fox's "Forever Amber," Carmel Wilde will go to England to shoot background scenes for "The Romance of Lord Byron." He will star in the film which he co-authored with Robert Ternay, New York playwright.

Betty Caldwell has been borrowed by co-producers Raymond Humphrey and Burgess Meredith from Hunt Stromberg for the leading feminine role in the Fred MacMurray sequence of "A Miracle Can Happen." William Demarest is signed with MacMurray in the sequence directed by Leslie Fenton.

Agnes Moorehead and Jack Emery were signed for roles in Warners' "The Woman in White," starring Alexis Smith, Eleanor Parker, Sydney Greenstreet and Gay Young. Peter Godfrey will direct the film which Henry Blanke produces.

Edmund Gwenn and Gladys Cooper have been cast in the William Wyler-Saturday Evening Post production, "Every Other Sunday," dramatic love story by Arthur Nordhem, has been purchased by Monogram as a starring vehicle for Gale Storm.

Samuel Goldwyn has engaged Monty Woolley for a principal featured role in "The Bishop's Wife," starring Cary Grant, David Niven and Teresa Wright.

Nancy Stockman was assigned the feminine lead in the latest of Columbia's "Durango Kid" series, "West of Dodge City," starring Charles Starrett and Shirley Burnette. Colbert Clark produces.

Gerald Geraghty has been signed to write the screenplay of his original story, "The Old Spanish Trail," which will star William Elliott. Story of California in the 1830s will go into production early next year with Joseph Meehan producing and directing for Republic.

Sam Bischoff inked Charles Victor and his Orchestra to appear in his independent production for Columbia release, "The Corpse Came C.O.D." which will star George Brent. Veda Ann Borg and George Cleveland were assigned to top supporting roles in the 20th-Fox Technicolor production, "Mother Wore Tights," starring Betty Grable and Don Dailey. Fred. Producer Lauver Trott will put film before the cameras late this month, with Walter Lang directing.

Iris Adrian, George Lloyd and Grady Sutton will be given featured roles in Warners' "Love and Learn," which Frederick de Cordova directs. Jack Carson, Robert Hutton, Martha Vickers and Janis Paige are starred in the film.

Mikhail Kusnyr, Russian character actor, had his contract extended for a sixth year by Paramount.

Rawlinson's Daughter In DeMille Film Cast

Sally Rawlinson, daughter of Herbert Rawlinson, matinee idol and top screen favorite of silent days, had her option taken up by Paramount and has been cast in Cecil B. De Mille's Technicolor production, "Unconquered." Rawlinson's daughter, who is a brunet, was signed by Paramount last spring.

Another option taken up by Paramount was that of Milton Kibbee, the writer, who was signed after his release from the Army a year ago. He recently completed the screenplay on "Botany Bay" and is now working on "Sainted Sister." They're Together Again

Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall will co-star in "Dark Passage," melodramatic thriller which appeared serially in the Saturday Evening Post. David Goodis, author of "Dark Passage," which was purchased by Warner Bros. from gallery proofs before publication, has been assigned to prepare the screenplay of his own novel. Delmar Davis has been scheduled to direct the new Bogart-Bacall vehicle, which Jerry Wald will produce.

Sherman's Next Set

Second Harry Sherman production for Enterprise will be "Tennessee's Partner," from the classic short story by Bret Hart. Production is tentatively set for April on a $1,300,000 budget. Jackie Cooper, who appeared in Sherman's first for Enterprise, "Ramrod," will also star in the second film.

Siodmak Finishes Script

Curt Siodmak has completed the screenplay for "Berlin Express," which will be produced by Bert Graetz in Paris for RKO Radio.
STUDIO ROUNDPUP

(Continued from Page 34)

Homestretch. Arthur Kennedy and Sam Levene were added to "Boonengkap," which started Sept. 16. The picture will be filmed entirely in the vicinity of Stamford, Conn. Elia Kazan directs and Louis de Rochefort produces.

Options were lifted on Robert Cornell and Virginia Marlowe, who is working in George Jessel's Technicolor musical, "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now."

Republic Starts Red Ryder

After several postponements, Republic started its latest Red Ryder, "Outlaws of Sioux City," on Sept. 16. Roy Rogers finished "Apache Rose," and left for Philadelphia, St. Louis and other eastern points on a rodeo tour, with a going-away gift, the studio renewed his option for another year. William Frawley was added to the big-scale musical, "Hit Parade."

Republic's western "Rodeo Queens Rides Again," will start Sept. 20, with Linda Stirling and Clayton Moore in the leads. Mike Frankovich makes his bow as a producer of chapter-plays with this one, succeeding recently resigned Ron Davidson. Fred Brannon and Spencer Bennett will direct. For the third time, "Web of Danger" was set back—this time to Sept. 23. Fad Ford will direct when it gets going.

Gene Autry is on a two-month rodeo tour, going East like his fellow cowboy, Rogers. Republic is making two less westerns this season, with the omission of the Carson's. However, there will be two more Trocolos than before, with six on the schedule; series co-stars Monte Hale and Adrian Booth.

Columbia Still Busy

Although hard hit by the carpenter's walk-outs, Columbia kept right on producing aplenty. Joan Barton was added to "Cigarette Girl," as were Russ Morgan and his orchestra. "West of Dodge City," Charles Starrett-Smiley Burnette western, got under way Sept. 11, with Nancy Saunders as femme interest. George Wagner is directing. "Twin Sombreros," in Technicolor, on Arizona location; producer Harry Joe Brown added Bruce Cabot, Forrest Tucker and Charlie Grapewin to the cast. The "Hunter Is a Fugitive," Richard Dix starrer, began Sept. 18. John Kellogg, who plays second lead, had his option taken up.

"The Lone Wolf in Mexico" has been completed; also, "Alias Mr. Twilight." Both are being edited. More than 150 Indian extras were used by Sam Katzman on location for "The Last of the Redmen."

'Variety Girl!' Starts

Members of the Variety Clubs of America will be happy to learn that Paramount has started screening "Variety Girl!" with work before the cameras having been scheduled to begin in mid-October under the direction of George Marshall. Mary Hatcher will re-enact the role of the girl who gave the organization its reason for being. Every star on the lot is expected to appear. DeForest Kelley plays the hero in the musical, being produced by Daniel Dare. Patsy Thomas are shooting "Adventura Island," in color from Robert Louis Stevenson's "Ebb Tide." This is P-T's first color job and its highest budget production to date. C. B. DeMille spent a week on the King's Ball sequence of "Unconquered," using principals Gary Cooper and Paulette Goddard with Ward Bond and Henry Wilcoxon.

Monogram Ends Western

Monogram completed another Johnny Mack Brown, "The Valley of Fear," which Lambert Hillyer directed. Only film going is the super-budget "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," being produced and directed by Roy Del Ruth. Nearing shooting at Monogram's lot, production was temporarily halted one morning when heavy smog caused the cast to come down with a case of weeps. Production was resumed after atmosphere was cleared with wind machines.

Lindsley Parsons, producer of the forthcoming "Louisiana," left for Baton Rouge Sept. 14 to begin actual preparations for the picture. Based on the life of Jimmie Davis of that state, the film will mark the initial time a governor will be starred in a motion picture. Mitchell J. Hamlburg, long-time friend of Gov. Davis, and Steve Hesly, scenarist, accompanied Parsons. Knox Manning checked in for his narrating of a crew racing sequence in "The Sweatheart of Sigma Chi," which Joffrey Bernard produced.

Roach Unaffected

Hal Roach's lot was unaffected by labor trouble last week when the carpenter's started walking out. Production continued, unchecked, on "Who Killed Doc Robinson," Technicolor picture featuring a juvenile cast. Bernard Carr is directing.

MGM Continues Active

Mickey Rooney and Gloria DeHaven recorded a tune for "Summer Holiday," with George Stoll conducting the orchestra. Also recorded was Time After Time, sung by Kathryn Grayson for "It Happened in Brooklyn." The song is also warbled by Frank Sinatra as a solo. "Life's for the Living," which is now called "To Kiss and to Keep," is pushing into its third month before the lenses. Van Johnson's starrer, "Romance of Rosy Ridge," is now tagged "The Yankee."

Director Victor Saville left Sept. 12 for the Klamath River, in Northern California, location site for Metro's "Green Dolphin Street," which started work Sept. 16. Lana Turner, Richard Hart and Van Heflin are starred, with Carey Wilson producing.

Menzies to Produce 'Ivy'

Sann Wood has announced William Cameron Menzies as the producer of his next picture, "Ivy," and at the same time the purchase of a dramatic story, "Purgatory Street," by Roman McDonnell for Menzies to direct. Both properties will be known as Sann Wood productions, but there will be a switch on the producer credits as Wood will be the producer of "Purgatory Street." Both pictures will be made on the Universal-International lot for Universal-International release.

Nebenzal's 18-Month Production Schedule

With four story properties in work, Producer Seymour Nebenzal is mapping a production schedule that will keep him busy in front of the cameras for the next 18 months. Score for "The Chase" has been completed by Michel L. Michelet, and editing is expected to be completed late this week. Ernest Pascal is writing the screenplay of "Heaven Only Knows," with production to start in October under Albert S. Rogell's direction.

Screenplays have been completed on "The Testament," which will star Jozef Curtwittet, and "Mayerling."

'Cocaine' to Monogram;
Illegal Drug Traffic Tale

With the adoption by the Motion Picture Association of an amendment to the Production Code, liberalizing treatment of illegal drug traffic, Monogram has purchased "Cocaine," an original story by Cornell Woolrich, it is announced by president Steve Brody.

Walter Mirisch has been assigned as producer of the film, and Kane Richmond and Warren Douglas have already been set by Mirisch for co-starring roles. Picture is scheduled for release on the 1946-47 program. George Wallace Sayre has been engaged to write the screenplay.

Screenplay by MacArthur

Charles MacArthur, noted playwright, has been signed by Nunnally Johnson to write the screenplay of Edwin Lanham's Collier's magazine story, "The Senator Was Indiscreet." Picture will be known as a Nunnally Johnson production, and will be made for Universal-International.

Hutton, Raines Set

Robert Hutton and Ella Raines have been set by producer Jane Murfin to co-star with British player Phyllis Calvert in the screen version of Rachel Field's novel, "Time Out of Mind," which is scheduled to produce with Robert Siodmak directing. Universal-International will release.

Enterprise-Hurst Deal

Enterprise has concluded negotiations with Fannie Hurst for the purchase and production of one of the writer's most popular works, "She Walks in Beauty." Two top-ranking feminine stars and a male star of equal calibre are to be assigned to the picture.

Marshall in 'Mr. Jow'

Herbert Marshall has been signed by Eagle Lion Films for one of the top roles in "Mr. Jow," declared the most important film yet scheduled by this studio. The picture will have a budget of $1,600,000 and will be photographed in Technicolor with an all-star cast, it is scheduled to go before the cameras in January.

Atlantida' Bought

Screen rights to the Pierre Benoit book, "Atlantida" have been purchased by Seymour Nebenzal, who expects to put the picture into production in December under the title of "Atlantida" for United Artists release. Martin Morey has been signed for the role of Queen Atlantida.
REGIONAL NEWSREEL

NEW YORK

WORRY OVER TRUCK DELIVERY STRIKE LESSENS AS TRUCK SITUATION EASES IN N. Y.

Threats of trouble in film delivery appeared to be passed this week as the New York truck strike eased up. The deliveries had never been stopped, but bookers were waiting for that to happen any minute up to the end of last week.

Twenty-five per cent of the 10,000 weekly seating capacity for the new Park Theatre at Park Avenue and 29th Street, was announced as subscribed under its "club house" policy by owner Walter Reade this week. The house, which seats 600, and is located in one of the swankier areas of New York, will operate on a plan similar to the symphony or the opera, with subscribers selecting a certain night each week and the performance they wish to attend. A net, of nearly $200, was expected from general admission at the box office may be added.

Reade appointed David T. Kearney former manager of the Real circuit Paramount at Asbury Park, N. J., as manager, with Al Sandwane, formerly Translux manager, as assistant.

Spalding, Mich.—Plans have been completed by Alex Perry for a new theatre here to be called the Spalding Opera House, with a budget of $18,000. Work will start as soon as building materials are available. The structure will be about 45 x 90 feet.—MIL.

Powens, Mich.—Theodore A. Jaminec of Chicago has chosen a site here for a theatre, construction of which is expected to begin this fall. The theatre will cost about $20,000. Citizens of Powers and nearby Spalding have not had theatres for many years.—MIL.

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Jersey City

Business in Hudson County theatres, not only at the big first-run houses around Journal Square but also at the neighborhoods, has fallen off since Labor Day. Some managers ascribe this to the present wave of warm weather, others to the truck strike and the generally confused immediate business outlook. However, no matter what the cause, there is no question but that business at the theatres by theatre managers in different Ontario cities for the mutual consideration of plans. In Toronto the famous Players Theatre Managers Association held a luncheon at the King Edward Hotel under the direction of Lawrence Joyce, manager of the Runnymede Theatre. There was a large turnout of theatre men in the Hamilton, Ont. district for a luncheon meeting in the Royal Connaught Hotel, Hamilton, with President A. Kent Craig in the chair.

The vigorous protests of exhibitor organizations in Ontario, Quebec and elsewhere in the Dominion regarding new all-comprehensive provision of the 1946-7 licence for direct or sub-rental, met with no reply thus far from the Canadian Moving Picture Distributors Association. One reason for the absence of a statement from the film exchanges was said to be the fact that the secretary of the Distributors Association is away from Toronto on vacation and no meeting can be held until his return. The disputed clause grants the right to a distributor to participate in all theatre returns from any direct or sub-rental source, during the playing of a percentage picture. Meanwhile the signing of new season contracts is being deferred by circuits and individual exhibitors, it is stated.

Gainesville, Ga.—Georgia Theatres Company has opened a modern theatre for Negroes here. The house, seating 220, is under the management of Harry E. Martin, Richard Atkins is chief projectionist. —ATL.

Dallas—Gene Autry Enterprises were planning to open their new Beckley Theatre here this week. It is the organisation's second house here. Lloyd Rust and Ed Zlmenthal are associated with Autry.—DAL.

Brownsville, Texas—Dave J. Young, owner of the Theatre Mephisto, has now opened another house, the Iris.—DAL.

Gold Hill, Ore.—The Gold Hill Hotel has announced plans to convert part of the building into the city's first motion picture theatre. It is expected to seat 250.—PRT.

Quitman, Texas—Construction of a new brick theatre will be started here as soon as materials are available by Theo Miller, who also owns the Gem Theatre, Miller's lease on the Gem building has expired.

Yakima, Wash.—Plans for the development of an outdoor amusement center at an estimated cost of nearly $50,000 are disclosed by Frederick Mercy, Sr. pioneer theatre operator of the Yakima valley. First plans are for construction of a drive-in theatre, to start early next spring, and to cost $14,000. Additional land was also purchased, and the real estate document showed a total of $50,000. The deed was signed by another well-known pioneer theatre man, J. Von Herberg—PRT.

Waupeca, Wis.—Work on a new theatre here will start as soon as it can be done after lifting the building restrictions, according to J. P. Abler, plans for the new theatre have been approved by the state planning board. The theatre will have a seating capacity of about 890, with air conditioning and other modern features.—MIL.

Seven Brenner is publicity director.

Carter Friedman has been named chairman of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers fund raising committee, which comprises Charles Aliso, Phil Williams, Dave Eader, Arnold Scaife, Evelyn Koleman, Jerome Pickman and Ray Gallaguer. AMPA will have rotating chairmen at its regular meetings, it was announced with the one out of every three meetings to be held in closed session and the others to be open.

Fabian Staten Island General Manager Louis Goldberg is the chairman for the motion picture activities committee in the Staten Island Community Chest Drive. His assistant, Elias Schlenker, will handle advertising and publicity while the following Fabian managers will act as area captains:

Frank Rosana, George Kemp, Henry Suchman, Jack Trachtenberg, William Hambersky, Spencer Bregoff, Elise Fink.

Those who tossed Phyllis Calvert at the party Universal held for her at "21" during her Manhattan stopover were Helen to Holly, who were Charles D. Fratn, William Heiman, Bob Goldstein, Monroe Greenthal, A. I. O'Keefe, Jock Lawrence, Al Daff, Hank Lint, Al Horowitz, Phil Lauder.

New Theatres

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Hartford—The E. L. Realty Corp. has opened the new Lord Theatre a Norwich, Conn. Associated with the new corporation were Pauline Conrak, and Edward Lord. Theatre is on the site of the former Strand Theatre at Norwich.—HFD.

Indianapolis—T. N. Luckett, who operates the Dream Theatre at French Lick, Ind., announces plans for a modern $30,000 theatre on the main boulevard between French Lick and West Baden. The new building will be of fireproof construction, with a seating capacity of 600. A large portion of the material has been contracted for and is being placed on the building site waiting the "go" signal from CPA.—IND.

Winchester, Va.—Hereman Hable, who operates the Palace here, announces that he will build a $150,000 theatre with a seating capacity of 1400 as soon as restrictions are lifted.

West Vancouver, B. C.—A community-type theatre costing $20,000 and seating 900 persons will be constructed here by Odeon Theatres of Canada. The new theatre is expected to be ready in 1947.—VAN.

Oliver, B. C.—The Elks Club here has announced plans for the construction of a new theatre seating 350. At present the Canadian Legion Hall is being used for showing films.—VAN.
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<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>Beware (M/1/F)</td>
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<td>Beyond Tomorrow</td>
<td>Winnington-Carey-A. Aubrey Smith</td>
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<td>Sp. Birth of a Star</td>
<td>Danny Kaye</td>
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**COLUMBIA**

Current 1945-46

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<td>Day of the Badman (D/F)</td>
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<td>Gallant Journey (D/F)</td>
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<td>Hit the Haunt (M)</td>
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<td>Just Before Dawn (My/A)</td>
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<td>Last of the Blonde (C/F)</td>
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<td>Man Who Dared (My/A)</td>
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<td>Next Man on Badway (M/C)</td>
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<td>My Name Is Jeptha Dean (F)</td>
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<td>Mysterious Intruder (My/A)</td>
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<td>Not Out of the Depths (Wa/F)</td>
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<td>Pardon My Past</td>
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<td>The Prisoner (D/F)</td>
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<td>Sing While You Dance</td>
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<td>Tell a Lady (D/F)</td>
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<td>Wall Came Tumbling Down (The) (D/F)</td>
<td>70...</td>
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**COMING**

Alan Mr. Twilight | Michael Duane-Trudy Marshall |
Betty Boop vs. the Light | Penny Singleton-Arthur Lake |
Blonde Knows Best | Benny-Steve-Bowers-S. Mills |
Bop-Along Blonde | P. Darrow-George-Moore |
Boston Blackie and the Law | Chester Morris-Trudy Marshall |
Cigarette Girl | J. Brooks-Lloyd-J. Barton |
One Romantic Man Hunt | J. Brooks-J. Drew |
Down to Earth (T) | Rita Hayworth-Larry Parks |
Dow-Reigning Daffy (D) | Pat Hingle-Bill Williams |
Inside Story | Chester Morris-Constance Dowling |
Johnny O'Too | Colleen Moore-Howard Brophy |
Joise Story (T) | J. Parnell-E. Keyes-W. Demarest |
Last of the Redmen | Jon Hall-Michael O'Shea-Evelyn Ankers |
Long Wolf in a Short Coat | Craig-Steve-William Dooley |
Mr. District Attorney | Dennis-O'Keefe-M. Chapman |
Mr. Empty Heart | Renay-Sidney-Edward Brophy |
Return of Monte Cristo | L. Hayward-G. Macready-U. O'connor |
Secret of the Whistler | Richard Dix-Leslie Brooks |
Shadows of the Pacific | Marie Dressler-Stanwyck |
Sin in the Corn | Judy Canova-Alan Jenkins |
So Dark the Night (D) | Thomas-Henry | 6/28/46 |
They Walk Alone | Glenn Ford-Janis Carter |
Thrill of Brazil, The (M/F) | E. Keyes-Keenan Wynn-A. Miller |
Tom and Bob (C) | 8/25/46 |

**Westerns (Current 1945-46)**

Cowboy Blues | Ken Curtis-Donna Douglas |
Desert Horseman (W/F) | Charles Starrett-Smiley Burnette |

**FEATURES**

- Directors: *B* (Biographical) *C* (Comedy) *D* (Documentary) *G* (Gangster) *M* (Musical) *W* (Western)
- Audience Classification: *J* (Jr.) *C* (Complete) *P* (Partial) 
- Special Indicators: *S* (Serial) *R* (Reissues) *N* (New Releases)
### RKO-RADIO (Continued)

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<td>Bill Williams-Barbara Hale</td>
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<td>A Time to Kill</td>
<td>Henry Fonda-Barbara Bel Geddes</td>
<td>a9/14/46</td>
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<td>American In HisTwenties</td>
<td>Mr. Howard Hawks-William Powell</td>
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<td>Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer</td>
<td>C. Grant-St.Louis Temple</td>
<td>a8/31/46</td>
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<td>Bandit</td>
<td>S. Moffet-J. White-W. Reed</td>
<td>a9/24/46</td>
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<td>Best Years of Our Lives, The</td>
<td>D. Andrews-M. Loy-F. March</td>
<td>a9/7/46</td>
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<td>Chop Suey</td>
<td>D. O'Brien-S. Reynolds-E. Brown</td>
<td>a8/10/46</td>
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<td>Code of the West</td>
<td>James Warren-John Laurence</td>
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<td>Devil Than the Male</td>
<td>C. Trevor-L. Tierney-W. Siezka</td>
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<td>Devil Thumbs a Ride, The</td>
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<td>Morgan Conway-Anne Jeffreys</td>
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<td>Robert Young-Susan Hayward</td>
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<td>Trail Street</td>
<td>N. Scott-R. Young-J. Jeffries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vacation in Reno</td>
<td>Jack Haley-Anne Jeffreys</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woman on the Beach</td>
<td>J. Bennett-R. Ryan-C. Bickford</td>
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### REPUBLIC

#### From the Current 1945-46

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<td>An American Comes to Get You (CMF).</td>
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<td>Captain Tugboat Annie (CDF).</td>
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<td>513</td>
<td>Crime of the Century (My)A.</td>
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<td>G.I. War Brides (C)F.</td>
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<td>Girls in the Garden (W)F.</td>
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<td>Girls of the Big House (D)A.</td>
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<td>Girls of My Youth (W)F.</td>
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<td>Home of the Range (W)F.</td>
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<td>In Old Sacramento (W)F.</td>
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<td>Invisible Informer (My)A.</td>
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<td>Rendezvous With Annie (C)F.</td>
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<td>541</td>
<td>Woman Who Came Back, The (D)A.</td>
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### COMING

| Affairs of Geraldine. | Jane Withers-Jimmy Lydon | a3/2/46 |
| Angel and the Badman | Mike Mazurki-Busby Berkeley | a3/4/46 |
| Apache Rose | Roy Rogers-Dale Evans | a3/4/46 |
| Calendar Girl | J. Frazee-W. Marshall | a3/4/46 |
| Earl Carroll Spotlight (M1F). | C. Moore-W. Marshall | a10/46 |
| Fabulous Susanne | Barbara Britton-Rudy Vallee | a5/25/46 |
| Gibbs Girls of Gotham | James Cagney-A. Greene | a5/17/46 |
| Hulderado | Roy Rogers-Dale Evans-"Gabby" Hayes | a8/24/46 |
| Hit Parade | Eddie Albert-Constance Moore | a6/25/46 |
| I've Always Loved You "T" (DM)F. | Catherine McLeod-Philip Dorn | b8/31/46 |
| Last Frontier-American Frontier | Gene Tierney-Jeff Reiner | b6/25/46 |
| Magnificent Rogue | L. Roberts-W. Douglas | a10/22/46 |
| Out California Way "F." | Monte Hale-Adrian Booth | a6/25/46 |
| Pullover Lady | June Allyson-Royal Dano | a5/4/46 |
| Plainman and the Lady | W. Elliott-V. Rahlon-G. Patrick | a8/24/46 |
| Spiders of the North | Evelyn Ankers-Ken Murray | a5/17/46 |
| That Brennan Girl | James Dunn-Mona Freeman | a7/4/46 |
| That's My Gal "F." | Dick Powell-Myrna Loy | a5/4/46 |
| Tiltin' Tomorrow | Nelson Eddy-John Travilla | a10/4/46 |
| Winter Wonderland | L. Roberts-C. Drake | a3/24/46 |

### Western (Current 1945-46)

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<td>Deaf of Buffalo (W)F.</td>
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<td>Rough Riders of Cheyenne (W)F.</td>
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SHOWMEH'S TRADE REVIEW, September 21, 1946

REPUBLIC (Continued)

556 Sheriff of Redwood Valley (W). F. 
564 Sun Dust (W). F. 
565 Wagons Wheels Westward (W). F. 

Homesteaders of Paradise Valley 
Dunn Lane-Hobbs, Blake 
Allan Lane-Hobbs, Blake, 

Outlaws of Sioux City 
Allan Lane-Hobbs, Blake 

Sioux City Sue 
Gene Autry-Lynne Roberts 

Stagecoach to Bakersfield 
Allan Lane-Hobbs, Blake 

Tales of San Antonio 
Gene Autry 

Violances o/Boomtown 
Wild Bill Elliott-Blake 

SCREEN GUILD PRODUCTIONS

Prod. 

362 Death Valley, C, 
365 Flight to Nowhere, 
367 Rolling Home, 

God's Country, C, (D). F. 

369 North of the Border, 
370 Queen of the Amazon, 
371 Renegade Girl, 
376 Scared to Death, C, 

20TH-FOX

619 A Walk in the Sun, D, F. 
620 Hardboiled Woman, D, F. 
621 And Then There Were None, (My). F. 
624 Anna and the King of Siam, D, F. 
626 Black Beauty, D, F. 
627 Claudius and David, D, F. 
628 Cluny Brown, (C). F. 
629 Dark Corner, D, F. 
630 Barnaby Jones, D, F. 
631 Do You Love Me, T, (MC). F. 
637 Dell Pace, (C). D, F. 
641 Only Sisters, T, (MC). F. 
642 Dragonwyck, D, F. 
648 House on 52nd Street, The, (D). F. 
656 It Shouldn't Happen to a Dog, CDF. 
658 Jungle Jim, 

1945-46

Bill Elliott-Alice Fleming 
Wild Bill Elliott-Blake 

Current 1945-46

Dana Andrews-Richard Conte 
Joseph Cotten-Grace Zabriskie 
Carole Landis-William Gargan, 
Mona Freeman-Denry Duff 
Dorothy McGuire-Robert Young 
Parker Stockley-Frances Dee 
C. Coburn-J. Bennett-E. Eythe, 
Lucille Ball-William Bendix 
Bud Fraker-Ice Fergus 
M. O'Hara-D. Haymes-H. James, 
Bob Seger-N. Blaine-W. Toolan, 
Gracie Fields-Prince Kelly, 
Martha Stewart-Richard Crane 
G. Tierney-C. Crain-T. Wilde, 
Henry Fonda-Gene Tierney 
H. O'Malley-P. Marlowe 
Vincent Price-Lynn Bar, 
F. MacMurray-A. Baxter-I. Ives, 
Richard Conte-Faye Marlowe, 
D. Andrews-J. Crain-D. Haymes, 
Sissie Hagan-John Shepperd, 

COMING

Dana Andrews-Richard Conte 
Joseph Cotten-Grace Zabriskie 
Carole Landis-William Gargan, 
Mona Freeman-Denry Duff 
Dorothy McGuire-Robert Young 
Parker Stockley-Frances Dee 
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F. MacMurray-A. Baxter-I. Ives, 
Richard Conte-Faye Marlowe, 
D. Andrews-J. Crain-D. Haymes, 
Sissie Hagan-John Shepperd, 

UNITED ARTISTS

CURRENT

A Night in Casablanca, M, F. 
Marx-Bros-Church Dr. 
A Scandal in Paris, D, A, 
Allen Edwards, 
An Ais on My Shoulder, 
Bob. Schrader-T. 
Breakfast in Hollywood, CDF. 
Cesar and Cleopatra, T, (DA) 
Captain Blood, D, F. 
Diary of a Chambermaid, D, F. 
Get Smart, T, (DA) 
Hell in the Clouds, (DF) 
Mr. Ace, D, A, 
Duty Free, T, (DA) 
Johnny in the Clouds, (DF) 
George Raft-Sylvia Sidney 
Duty Free, T, (DA) 
L. Olivier-Jean Fontaine, 
San Francisco, D, A, 
Whitey Stop, D, A, 
Young Widow, D, A, 

A Miracle Can Happen 
James Stewart-Henry Fonda 
Abie's Irish Rose, 
Joanne Dru-Michael Checkov, 
Adventures of Don Coyote, C. 
Richard Martin-Frances Raftery 

U

Vacation from Marriage, M, F. 
Vacation in Reno, R, K, 
Valley of the Dolls, V, A, 
Verity Girl, M, A, 
Vigilantes Return, 
Vigilantes, T, (V, A, 

W

Wells Came Tumbling Down, C, 
Wanted for Murder, 20th-Fox 
Wedding Night, R, K, 
Weekend at the Waldorf, M, G, 
Welcome Stranger, M, G, 
White Groomed Bride, Para, 
Wild Cargo, Corporate Cargo, R, 
When the Devil Drives, E, 
Whitehead Takes a Life, R, 
Whitehead, Stop, U, I, 
White Peacock, R, C, 
Who Killed the Girl, R, C, 
Why Girls Leave Home, R, M, 
Wife of Monte Cristo, R, 
Wife of Monte Cristo, R, 
Widow, R, M, 
Widow West, M, G, 
Winter Wonderland, B, 
Women on the Ranch, R, K, 
Women of the South, R, K, 
Wonder Man, R, K, 

Y

Yankee, N, M, 
Yolanda, 
Young Widow, U, A, 

Z

Ziegfeld Follies of 1946, M, G, M.
PICTURES STARTED LAST WEEK

COLUMBIA

Inside Story—Principals: Chester Morris, Nina Deluise, Dorothy Gordon.

West of Dodge City—Principals: Charles Starrett, Smiley Burnette, Ray Nazarro.

PBC
Lightliess—Principals: June Lang, Don Castle, John Litel. Director, Frank Wisbar.

UNITED ARTISTS
The Story Lamb—Principals: James Cagney, Kay Johnson, Eddie Bracken. Director, Nathaniel Curtis.

SCREEN GUILD
Queen of the Amazon—Principals: Patricia Morison, Robert Lowery, J. Edward Bromberg, Director, Ed Jinney.


ADVANCE DATA
On Forthcoming Product

IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN (MGM) Comedy-Drama. Principals: Frank Sinatra, Peter Lawford, Kathryn Grayson, Director, Richard Whorf. Plot: While awaiting return to the United States, a soldier meets a Duke, who thinks the Yankee can make a man out of his grandson. At home in Brooklyn, the soldier meets a beautiful singing teacher. Meanwhile, it develops that a talented pupil must quit school to help his widowed mother, and the soldier and his new friends all pitch in and obtain a concert debut for the boy. Then the Duke appears with his grandson, who falls in love with the singing teacher, and the soldier returns to his first love—the Brooklyn Bridge.

TENTH AVENUE ANGEL (MGM) Drama. Principals: Margaret O'Brien, George Murphy, Phyllis Thaxter. Director, Roy Rowland. Plot: An imaginative little girl in New York's 10th Avenue. When her faith in her mother is shaken by an incident involving some stolen money which she found, the child is crushed. On Christmas Eve, with her mother very ill, the little girl rushes from home, seeking a miracle that will save her. It happens, just as she was told it would, and her mother recovers.

CONTINUED (On next Page)
WARNER BROS. (Continued from Preceding Page)

ADVANCE DATA On Forthcoming Product

THE MAGNIFICENT ROGUE (REP) Comedy-Drama. Principal: Lynne Roberts of the Cast: Jack Cellan Jones, Warren Douglas. Director, Albert Rogell, Executive Producer, Max Golding, Producer, Warren Golding. Written by Mort Gold, directed by Albert Rogell, for release by Warner Bros.-Eastern Pictures. The Magnificent Rogue is an action-adventure story set in the early 19th century, depicting the escapades of a dashing rogue who outwits his rivals and wins the heart of a beautiful heiress. The film promises to be a thrilling escapade filled with action, romance, and adventure.

THE YANKER (MGM) Drama. Principal: Marsha Hunt, Ivan Triesault, Robert Mitchum, Dean Stockwell. Director, Roy Rowland. Plot: A young man is separated from his family by World War II and must navigate the challenges of the war and the difficulties of reuniting with his loved ones. The film explores themes of love, loss, and the enduring power of family bonds.

JOHNNY DODD'S JUMBO JET (ST) Feature. Principal: Don DeFore, Barbara Stanwyck, and Vincent Price. Director, Richard Fleischer, for release by Warner Bros. Jumbo Jet is a thrilling adventure story set in the skies, where a group of pilots must race against time to win the prestigious air race. The film promises to be a heart-stopping journey filled with danger, excitement, and high-octane action.
NOW YOU CAN GIVE THE KIDS A SHOW — Every Saturday Morning!

NEW PRINTS

of the greatest favorites in two decades of sound in 316 film exchanges!

The CHILDREN'S FILM LIBRARY

28 TITLES FROM 10 DISTRIBUTORS

COLUMBIA

“Blondie Brings Up Baby”
“Five Little Peppers and How They Grew”
“Five Little Peppers in Trouble”

M-G-M

“Young Tom Edison”
“The Human Comedy”
“Adventures of Huckleberry Finn”

MONOGRAM

“The Hoosier Schoolboy”
“The Barefoot Boy”

REPUBLIC

“Sis Hopkins”
“Young Buffalo Bill”

RKO-RADIO

“Two Thoroughbreds”
“Anne of Windy Poplars”
“Anne of Green Gables”

WARNER BROS.

“Green Pastures”
“A Midsummer Night’s Dream”
“The Prince and the Pauper”

PARAMOUNT

“Alice in Wonderland”
“Little Miss Marker”
“Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch”

20th CENT.-FOX

“Jane Eyre”
“Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm”
“Poor Little Rich Girl”

UNIVERSAL

“The Underpup”
“Sandy Gets Her Man”
“The Mighty Treve”

UNITED ARTISTS

“Song of the Open Road”
“Knickerbocker Holiday”
“Three’s a Family”

The Cream of the Crop for Saturday Morning Show!

Approved by your community leaders, parents and teachers, all reviewing groups, and sponsored as a public service, by Eric Johnston, working through the Motion Picture Association with the above listed member and non-member companies.
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Begins on Page 38

Vol. 45 No. 11
SEPTEMBER 28, 1946

INDEPENDENTS ASK FOR HEARING
(See Page 5)

JACKSON ON AUCTION SELLING
(See Page 18)
THEY’RE GIVING THEIR SHIRTS TO SEE M-G-M HITS!

Sure, it’s: “THE BIG ONES COME FROM M-G-M”
CURRENT OBSERVATIONS

Seal or no seal you can take Harry Gold's word for it, "The Outlaw" continues to do turnaway business at every engagement.

Backlog of product, a bone of contention for many a month, may prove to be a life-saver if the present studio strike becomes a long, protracted affair as many on the coast fear it may.

"Dream Department"—the rumored possibility of a merger between ITOA and Allied. With all the leaders such a move would bring together, the exhibitor army would have too many generals and not enough privates.

And speaking of dreams; how about Czar Johnston's willingness to serve as moderator of an exhibitor-distributor forum aimed at bringing these two factions closer together? It should be quite a love-feast with the exhibitors looking for lower rental terms and the distributors looking for higher ditto.

Jack Levin of Confidential Reports maintains that there are very few complaints against his outfit that hold water. According to him, the whole controversy has been greatly exaggerated and, actually, everything is rolling along nice and smoothly.

Monroe Greenthal, ad-man extraordinary, now bounces into the advertising agency business and starts off with a group of clients consisting of the Winter Garden Theatre, Universal-International, The J. Arthur Rank Enterprises and the independent producers who will distribute through U-I. He starts off with the best wishes of most everybody in the industry who knows him—and that means the majority.

After a long period of inactivity, the Canadian Variety Club seems headed for a season of interesting events and fund-raising for charities. They are determined to make up for lost time and we again predict that Johnny Fitzgibbons' Barkers will be one of the best tents in the organization.

Speaking of the Variety Club, we hear that Luis Montez's good neighbor Barkers will soon be installed in their own elaborate club headquarters and launching their own charitable activity fashioned along the lines of the Tent north of the border.

After a life of comparative ease (?) Capt. Harold Auten is certainly getting around these days in connection with "Henry V" and Arthur Rank's affairs. If he keeps it up he's apt to start losing weight . . . and then he won't look like Auten.

Congratulations to Hye Bossin and his Film Weekly Golf Tournament up in Toronto. It brought out a capacity attendance of local filmites and visitors from the States.

Spontaneous applause broke out many times during the New York trade screening of Paramount's "Blue Skies." And to prove it wasn't a domestic reaction, STR's London manager reported the same thing from London by cable.

The motion picture industry, as represented by the Northwest Variety Club, again took the limelight when that Tent presented the wherewithal for a $250,000 heart hospital to be erected on the campus of the University of Minnesota. The National Tent was represented by Chief Barker Bob O'Donnell and Executive Director William McCraw.

Many exhibitors are again asking advice about increasing admission prices. We are very reluctant to offer such advice because no one knows better than the local exhibitor as to whether his theatre is getting a sufficient scale under existing conditions. He is best qualified to make the decision.

To all such inquiries, however, we can with confidence say this: If your admission scale is below the average for comparable situations and the community can afford an increase, by all means put it into effect without delay.

No amount of denial will put to rest the persistent rumors that the MGM studio set-up is due for a drastic reshuffling in the very near future. Trying to figure out what could happen in such a well-knit organization makes it all the more mysterious because it has been generally accepted by the industry that Leo has a great crew out in Culver City.

—"CHICK" LEWIS
March of Dimes Preparing Plans

The March of Dimes is proceeding with its plans for a collection drive in January of 1947 but the motion picture phase of the plans have been held in abeyance, it was reliably reported in New York this week.

While March of Dimes officials might not be taking action at present on the theatre phase of its collection, it was understood however that the president of a national theatre corporation was polling chairmen of former polo drives by wire to see how they stood on the subject of an infantile paralysis theatre collection for 1947 and what support they would generate for it.

The holding up of the motion picture collection drive was not indicative that such a collection would be abandoned, it was learned, but rather was a sign that further conference with industry heads and executives of the National Foundation of Infantile Paralysis were being awaited.

At the same time, the Foundation, meeting with its field force Atlanta, heard President Basil O'Connor say that the 1946 rise in the disease might be the second largest in this country's history.

In New York the Foundation's offices reported a lessening of the disease which had struck principally in the Mississippi Valley. The high rate of 1,850 cases in August had dropped to 1,823 by Sept. 14 of this year. Areas which apparently been hardest hit have been Minnesota, Illinois, Wisconsin and California.

CSU Calls Pickets Out As 'IA' Carpenter Fight Flares

Walsh Denounces AFL 'Clarification'; Advises Green He Will Ignore It

By JAY GOLDBERG

The Conference of Studio unions Thursday ordered picket lines around the Paramount, RKO, Columbia, 20th Century-Fox, Universal, Warners', and MGM studios as another bitter jurisdictional fight over sets between two American Federation of Labor unions—the CSU supported United Brother of Carpenters and Joiners and the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees—resulted in CSU units refusing to perform certain tasks and their ejection, in some instances, from the studios.

As the breakdown in the Byron Price arbitration plan for such disputes became evident, Price, vice-president of the Motion Picture Producers Association, termed the situation a jurisdictional strike and said:

"Only a few hours ago the studios told Sorrell (CSU President Herbert K. Sorrell) that carpenters and others would be put back if they would do work assigned to them, which they refused to do for purely jurisdictional reasons. "The strike is a result of a dispute between two AFL unions over which should do the work in the studios."

The studios meanwhile had started replacing CSU workers with IATSE and were continuing the replacement in an effort to keep open. Fear, however, was expressed, that attempts to cross CSU picket lines by non-CSU workers would lead to violence. Sorrell, who has called for 6,000 pickets, remains the president of the American Federation of Labor.

IATSE President Richard F. Walsh, charging that the American Federation of Labor had reversed itself in the "clarification" of a directive, bluntly told President William Green that he would "ignore" the clarification, because, among other reasons it was made by a committee whose power to act had expired.

Sets Involved

Crux of the dispute seems to be that the IATSE claims the right to build all sets, props, and miniature sets, within the studio, excepting the trim and mill work to be done thereon, and apparently is willing to grant the carpenters' right to build outdoor sets of a permanent or semi-permanent nature and to do all carpentry work about the studios, excepting that which involves interior sets.

In a "clarification" of an AFL directive which attempted to settle the jurisdictions of the two unions the committee gave "jurisdiction over the erection of sets on stage" to the IATSE but reserved "jurisdiction over the construction work on such sets" to the United Brotherhood of Carpenters. The IATSE refuses to accept this claim since the committee is twisting the meaning of the word "erect," and reversing the original directive. The carpenters are standing firm.

The Screen Actors Guild, an AFL affiliate has voted to ignore picket lines in jurisdictional fights and the directors of the Screen Extras Guild, which seems about to reach an agreement with the producers, has gone on record as recommending their members to do likewise.

Breakdown of the Price arbitration plan was said to have occurred when the Carpenters objected to the three-man AFL committee set up last October and to produce labor representative Pat Casey as arbitrator chairman.

N. Y. Strike Possible

In New York where the home office white collar workers and the screen publicists had finally settled their difficulties with the majors, new trouble seemed to be brewing with the

8 Companies Announce 22 Features for October

A fast moving week, which saw the nation's box-offices pick up from their slight school day sag and learned that releases for October 1946, would total 22, the same amount as released for the same month in 1945, found little product continuing to hold over and move over in widely scattered localities of the United States and Canada.

As far as a product shortage is concerned, though this national period last year, the difference is made up in three extra from Monogram, two extra from PKC, two more, including a reissue from 20th-Fox and two from United Artists.

Howard E. Brooking

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SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW

Title and Trade Mark Registered U. S. Patent Office 1941, renewed 1946. Published every Friday by Showmen's Trade Review, Inc., 1501 Broadway, New York 19, N. Y. Telephone Lagniappe 3-2821, Cable Address: "Chicco" Lewis, Editor, and Publisher; Tom Kennedy, Associate Editor; James A. Cron, Managing Editor; Harold Renchel, Employment Advertising Manager; West Coast Office, 1937 Hollywood Boulevard, Hollywood, California; Telephone Hollywood 5-3899; Ann Lewis, manager; Secretary, Margaret Mews; Les Linder, Mews; London, W. 2, Australian Representative, Gordon G. Custer; 125 E. St., Home Office, New York 10. The Showmen's Trade Review is the official organ of the Motion Picture Theater Owners of America, Inc. All contents copyright 1946 by Showmen's Trade Review, Inc. All rights reserved. Address all correspondence to the New York office. Subscription rates: $2.00 per year in the United States and Canada; Foreign, $3.00. Single copies, ten cents.
Exhibitor Groups Ask Court's Permission To Intervene Against Auction Sales Plan

**Interests Affected They Assert; Charge Lack of Representation in Suit**

Two separate groups of exhibitors this week asked for their day in court to fight the auction selling phases of the anti-trust suit as each filed a petition to intervene in the case with the United States District Court in New York.

The exhibitors' two petitions, which represent a wide spread of the nation's territory from Virginia to California, were filed by the American Theatre Owners Association and by exhibitors who are members of the recently organized Confederacy of Southern Associations. This action came in a week which saw:

- Attorney O'Brien, Driscoll and Raftery submit to the court a finding of fact urging the maintenance of a separate suit for Artists to Theatres United, that all selling of United Artists pictures should be dropped for failure to establish the part of that company in any conspiracy. (United Artists is expected to file its version of what the forthcoming decree should contain if this plea to drop action is denied. Universal's reply is reported in the making.)
- Announcement that the Conference of Exhibitors Associations would meet in Washington on Oct. 1-2, to decide what plans to formulate with regard to the court opinion.
- Announcement by the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America that it would hold a meeting between its board and officers of state regional units at the Willard Hotel in Washington Oct. 8-9 to study, among other things, whether the MP'TOA should ask to appear in court and if so whether it should offer an alternative plan to auction selling. (MP'TOA is already on record against auctions and wants the court to guarantee "some run" on all pictures and to prohibit overbuying.)

**UA Asks Dismissal**

The United Artists "proposed findings of fact," which urges that the complaint against the company be dismissed, submits that United Artists as a "general rule" sold pictures separately under separate agreement and that it did not indulge in conditioned selling.

It further contends that United Artists sold to all types of buyers, both affiliated, unaffiliated, chains and single houses, and that not since Oct. 1914, has there appeared any clause in its contract fixing admission prices. Another point is that United Artists was not in the position to be a monopoly since it never made more than five per cent of the nation's total of features.

The two exhibitor-filed petitions to intervene both center their complaint to the court opinion on auctioning but voice objections from different directions.

In that filed by the some 30 exhibitors of the Confederacy of Southern Associations and supported by such exhibitors' organizations as the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Virginia, the Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina, the Texas Theatre Owners and the Southeastern Theatre Owners Association, the petitioners assert the right to intervene because:

1. They have interests at stake; (2) the decree if enforced, will "cause irreparable damage to them and all others similarly situated"; (3) it will bind the petitioners since it will limit the defendants in their sales methods (assumably imposing auction selling and single selling) and the petitioners cannot conduct their business profitably without Exhibiting pictures licensed by one or more defendants."

The petition further claims that the petitioners were not properly represented in court.

Among the objections voiced to auction bidding are: (1) It will cause petitioners a loss by denying them the bargaining processes they have been using; (2) the exhibitor will be unable at time of bidding to determine the actual value of the picture to him; (3) the bidding system will create times when the exhibitor whose bid is unsuccessful will be without pictures and this in turn will lead to overbuying; (4) that auction bidding will take time and be confusing; (5) that it will favor the exhibitor with the greater resources and increase the admission price to the public; (6) that it will work against proper planning of programs and will give rise to an "endless stream of controversy and litigation."

**Favors 'Resources'**

Discussing the allegation that auctioning will favor the exhibitor with the most resources, the petition claims:

"Even without a larger theatre, a competitor with substantially greater resources can afford to make the highest bids for all of the outstanding features and drive out of business the competitor with the smaller resources."

The petition also recounts some of the "advantages of the present system of licensing" claiming that it permitted petitioners to get an adequate flow of features and shorts without "being required to be the highest bidder therefore."

It also lists as an advantage the ability to buy more than one picture at a time and to buy for more than one theatre at a time.

A "petitioner," the petition continues "which operates more than one theatre on the same run in a particular city or town has been able to license a feature for exhibition in such one of the theatres as he may thereafter select."

Each petitioner has also been . . . to have available for exhibition in his theatres, all of the pictures distributed by one or more of the defendants, over a period of years, either under agreements made annually, or under agreements made with respect to individual pictures or with respect to small blocks of pictures."

The petition is presented on behalf:


**ATA Attacks**

The ATA move to intervene, presented on behalf of ATA, the Southern California Theatre Owners Association and 10 others who are either exhibitors, exhibitor associations or buy- ers, is directed only against the auction or competitive bidding phase of the court opinion.

The petition claims the right to intervene because the petitioner: (1) interested parties;**Helps Monopoly?**

The following is from the ATA petition to intervene:

"...competitive bidding, if decreed by this court, will be competitive in name only. In result it will be merely a mechanism of distribution which can and will (1) deprive independent exhibitors of the protection which the anti-trust laws now provide against the use by defendants and their affiliates of their superior econom- ic and strategic power to monopolize the market; (2) legitimate the domination of the market already condemned by this court."

**Distinction and Difference**

The two exhibitor groups which this week asked to appear in court to fight auction selling both claim a right to intervene because their interests are affected and they have had no representation in court until now.

Both attack auction selling on the grounds that it will harm them, but the American Theatres Association claims it will further and legitimate monopoly thereby depriving the petitioners of the protection they have at present under the anti-trust laws, while the Confederacy of Southern Associations members in their petition lays more stress on the confusion and cost of auction selling and outlines the benefits of buying by block and for more than one house.

Both agree that auction selling will favor the man with the most resources.
Exhibitors Request Permission to Intervene

Claim Auctions Legalize Monopoly, Favor Exhibitor With ‘Greatest Resources’

(Continued from Page 5)

(2) that they will, as a practical matter be bound by the court decree though they are not parties to the suit at present; (3) that the rights of the petitioners are adversely affected by the proposed decree; (4) that the interests of the petitioners are now inadequately represented in the case; (5) that there is adequate authority to support intervention and that intervention for a limited scope, such as an attack on the auction phases, has legal precedent.

The petition levels the following attack on auction or competitive bidding: (1) that it will not carry out the purpose of the decree to create competition; (2) that the defendant-producers and their affiliates have resources for bidding upon pictures which far exceed those of the minor producers and that this plan of competitive bidding approved by the court authorizes them to use this superior bargaining power to strengthen their monopolistic position, thereby defeating the purposes of the court; (4) that legalizing competitive bidding will also deprive the petitioners of “existing protection and benefits under the anti-trust laws” without receiving proportionate protection from “monopolistic practices”; (5) that “competitive bidding . . . will be competitive in name only” with the alleged result of depriving the petitioners of anti-trust law protection from “monopoly” and will “legitimiz[e] the domination of the market already condemned by this court.”

In explaining its wish to intervene the ATA petition notes that if competitive bidding becomes law it will “drastically affect . . . the access (of the petitioners) to the films necessary to operate their theatres and the values of their property. It will likewise impair the competitive positions which many of these theatres hold in the industry.”

“Your petitioners,” the document continues, “are entitled to—intervene in these proceedings as of right, because otherwise they will be bound by a decree in the framing of which they will not have been represented and the effect of which upon their interests, as vital as those of the major producers, will not have been adequately presented to the court . . . .

“The proposal for competitive bidding will create a revolution in the business of all exhibitors. The overwhelming majority of exhibitors are convinced that the system of competitive bidding will reinforce and strengthen the monopoly power of the major distributors and will injure the independent exhibitors as to force many of them out of business, lead to their classification as lower run houses, or force them to become satellites of the majors. Even the strongest independent circuit will have difficulty facing the buying power of the majors under a competitive bidding system, and only the most optimistic face the prospect with anything but despair.”

The petitioner goes on to claim that the Attorney General’s views favor competitive bidding, which the exhibitors are against and claims that “no other party, whether in industry or within the government, can even claim to represent the interest of exhibitors.”

The ATA explains that because of the widespread interest in its membership, the actual defendants in the case appear among its membership and states that it does not represent these defendants in its petition and is not representing the non-defendant Screen Owners of New York, which apparently do not concur with the views expressed in the ATA petition. A further point is made that the majority of ATA membership approves the petition but acknowledged that a vice-president, presumably Fred Schwartz of Century, has expressed himself in favor of auction bidding.

Those included as petitioners are: ATA; Southern California Theatre Owners Association, an exhibitor association consisting of chains and single theatres; Joseph Mortiz, operator of the Victor, Los Angeles; South California Amusement Company, operating 40 theatres; Exhibitors Service, Inc., a buying outfit; Lawrence Capitol, Inc., operating five theatres; Bijou Amusement Company and Paul Realty Company, operating two theatres; Andy Anderson, operating three theatres; Arch and Milas L. Hurley, two theatres; Raymond Gervers and Willard Gervers, two theatres; Gamble Enterprises, Inc., two theatres; St. Louis Ambassador Theatre, Inc., Eden Theatre Company, St. Louis Missouri Theatre, Inc., and Fanchon and Marco Service Corporation, operators of first and subsequent run theatres in St. Louis.

MPTOA Extends Poll To Oct. 4

The Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America this week extended the closing date of the poll it is conducting to sample exhibitor opinion on certain aspects of the federal statutory court opinion, until Oct. 4.

The reason for extending the date of the poll, originally scheduled to end Sept. 15, was said to be because returns continued to pour in after that date and because the major distributor defendants had not filed their proposals for a decree.

Last week’s poll showed exhibitors continue strongly opposed to “auction” selling, certain types of arbitration, the use of non-industry arbitrators, and are in favor of complete divorce.

The latest returns, covering 836 theatres in 42 states and the District of Columbia, are:

- Auction selling—19 in favor, 249 against.
- Arbitration on “bids, clearances, runs”—60 in favor, 196 against.
- Use of non-industry arbitrators—38 in favor, 225 against.
- Theatre divorenciation—167 in favor, 98 against.

Theatre Tele, New Pickup Theme of SMPE Talks

“The Showmanship Side of Theatre Television” will be among the 34 technical and semi-technical discussions discussed by the assembled members of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers when they meet in Hollywood, October 21-25, for their 60th semi-annual convention.

Ralph B. Austrian of RKO Television Corporation will present a compilation of public events that would make good box-office fare if presented in the theatre via television; and will describe a number of new uses for theatre television adapted to attracting people to the box-office.

The engineers also will hear about and debate a new type of sound track consisting of magnetizable material applied to the film base instead of, as at present, an optical track. Pickup in the theatre will be effected magnetically instead of by a photoelectric cell. No less than four separate papers on the subject of this new track are scheduled; by representatives of Armour Research Foundation, of Brush Development Company, Indiana Steel Products Company and Magnecord, Inc.

A “super high intensity” projection arc lamp, and the latest model Magneto projector will be described at the convention and subjected to critical discussion by the experts present.

Other papers to be presented and discussed are scheduled to cover a wide range of topics in the fields of sound, projection and lighting, photography, and television.

Percentage

Claims of theatre and exhibitor representation in connection with four exhibitor associations supporting the 30 shown to seek to intervene against auction selling, follow as recorded in one of the petitions submitted to the court:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Associations</th>
<th>No. of Theatres</th>
<th>No. of Seats</th>
<th>Percentages of Theatres in Area</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MPTOA of Virginia</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>110,000</td>
<td>63%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theatre Owners of N. and S. Carolina, Inc.</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>2,200,000</td>
<td>61.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas Theatre Owners, Inc.</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>60,000,000</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeastern Theatre Owners Ass'n</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>56,500,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
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</table>
You'll see the BEST thing that ever happened happen here
Speculate on Griffith Entry into St. Louis

By DAVID BARRETT

Discussion of what plans J. H. Griffith might have to enter the exhibition field in St. Louis led down the rumor forum in that city this week as it became known that Theatre Enterprises, Inc., of Delaware, an organization in which Griffith reportedly has interests, had procured permission from the secretary of state to do business in Missouri.

The Griffith move, which ordinarily would cause a great deal of speculation, took on heightened importance because of unconfirmed reports that several companies were seeking to get control of the houses now operated by Fanchon and Marco for the St. Louis Amusement Company, as well as their first run Ambassador and Missouri Theatres.

These reports, which started even though the F & M contract to operate these houses has several months to go and F & M's Harry Arthur has given every indication that he does not plan to relinquish them, have been spiralling up ever since. Arthur, whose company owns 42 per cent of the St. Louis Amusement Company which in turn owns the houses, points to the record F & M has in operating some of the houses in St. Louis during the past 10 years and acknowledges frankly that he knows representatives of other companies have been talking to Clarence M. Turley, prominent St. Louis real estate operator and secretary of the St. Louis Amusement Company. Turley, along with the Skouras Bros.—Spyros, Charles and George—are personal guarantors for the bonds issued on the Ambassador Theatre and the Missouri Theatre with their office buildings.

Melrose Productions Join Screen Guild

Melrose Productions, Inc., a new producing unit headed by a group of midwestern exhibitors which has a schedule to turn out 12 pictures within the next three years, has been added to Fanchon and Marco's roster of Screen Guild Productions, Inc., it was announced in Hollywood this week.

The new addition raises the number of Screen Guild producers to 16 and gives that unit a possible program of from 64 to 72 pictures in a three year period, Screen Guild President John J. Jones said.

Order Pickets Out

(Continued from Page 4)

white collar workers in four New York exchanges. There the CIO Screen Office and Professional Workers were trying to reopen their contract to discuss a readjustment of wages with Loew's (MGM), Columbia, United Artists, and 20th Century-Fox. Discussions had started on July 22 and Tuesday the management authorized the executive board to call a strike if necessary. Other exchanges are AFL-manned.

Negotiators of United Office and Professional Workers and the Screen Publicists had reached an agreement with the home offices.

The office workers had signed contracts calling for a flat $6 or a 15 per cent increase, depending upon which were the higher, retroactive to July 29, expiration date of the former contracts. (United Artists, whose contract expired April 1, made its pay raise retroactive as of that date).

Working time was reduced from 40 hours to 37 1/2 hours with overtime starting after that, a "preferential" contract requiring three out of every four new employees to be union members, and a grievance board, were established. Messengers received a flat $5 weekly increase.

The Screen Publicists received the same working conditions with a 15 per cent increase, bringing minimum for apprentices up to $34.50 for junior publicists to $57.50, publicists $80.50, senior publicists $115. In addition employees as of May 4, 1946 were to get a graduated scale of raises ranging from $6 for apprentices to $15 for senior publicists.

Continuous Projection

The technical division of the J. Arthur Rank interests in England are experimenting with a new system for continuous projection, with mirrors replacing the intermittent movement and shutters for 35-mm. projectors, Showmen's Trade Review learns.

Experiments are reported nearing completion at the Taylor, Taylor Hobson Laboratories in Leicesher, a Rank subsidiary, on the new development.

According to Robert Montgomery a considerably brighter light is obtained in relation to the current consumed, since the screen is illuminated continuously and not intermittently as with standard projectors.

8 Companies Announce 22 Features for October

(Continued from Page 4)

which had released none in October last year. Universal which had three last year, has none announced for this year.

In 1945 Warner's offered two reissues; this year MGM offers one and 20th-Fox another.

The comparative record follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>1945</th>
<th>1946</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tr>
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<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republic</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th-Fox</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Artists</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universal</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warner Bros.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total 22 22

MGM announced three for October Wednesday. They are: "The Cockeyed Miracle" with Frank Morgan, Keenan Wynn, Cecil Kellaway, Audrey Totter, Richard Quine, Gladys Cooper and Marshall Thompson; "No Leave, No Love," with Van Johnston, Keenan Wynn, Pat Kirkwood, Guy Lombardo, Edward Arnold, Marie Wilson, Leon Ames, Marina Koshotz, and the reissues, "Rage in Heaven" with Ingrid Bergman and Robert Mitchum and "Blackboard Jungle." The nation's business appeared to have recovered from the slight recession which came with schools days.

Film Men Map Inaugural Arthritis Drive Dinner

Names identified with the film industry are prominently represented on the list of 50 New York business and civic leaders who will serve as sponsors of the inaugural dinner of the National Arthritis Foundation Research Foundation to be held October 7 at the Astor Hotel, New York. The sponsors were named by Spyros P. Skouras, 20th-Fox president, who is serving as chairman of the committee for the dinner.


Bounce Russian Movie on Policy

I. A. Preyev, editor of the Soviet motion picture magazine, Cinema Art, was not its editor this week when Pravda, official government mouthpiece, had fired a blast at the magazine's policies. Among the complaints made was that Editor Preyev had printed an article by Sergei Eisenstein, Russian producer who is also in the equivalent of the Soviet doghouse, advocating the "heresy" that art existed for its own sake.

Check Confidential

Despite reports to the contrary, the Department of Justice will press its investigation of Confidential Reports with a view towards taking legal action against the checking agency, Government sources said in Washington this week. Robert Wright, special assistant to the Attorney General, said the Department has no intention of dropping the investigation at this time.

Quits Audience Research

Albert E. Sildinger, executive vice-president of Audience Research, announced his resignation from the company. His duties will be taken over in part by Vice-President and General Manager James L. Wolcott and Vice-President Jack C. Sayers.

U Pays 50 Cents on Common

Universal's directors this week declared a regularly quarterly dividend of 50 cents a share on its common, payable Oct. 31 to stockholders of record on Oct. 15.

Happy Holiday, Hoosier!

Canada's federal government has added another holiday to the Dominion list of holidays in the Dominion, by proclaiming Remembrance Day, Nov. 11, as a day the average man can take off from work. What the exhibitors like about it is, in addition to the likelihood that it will bring increased crowds is that it is sure to bring increased prices, for under the price board regulations, they can hike their prices to the holiday level on Remembrance Day now—and put on midnight shows.
Church Movies

A plan for holding regular moving picture shows for children each Saturday in the Parish Hall of the All Saints Church at Windsor, Ontario, has been adopted by the management board this week.

The plan was adopted on the recommendation of the rector, Rev. Charles Brown, who told the board that he planned cooperation with the Windsor Board of Education and the local library. The clergyman said that the time had arrived for churches to enter the film field because the majority of theatre programs were classed as adult entertainment and were unsuitable for children. The move is said not to plan direct opposition to theatres.

Honor Wehrenberg at St. Louis Luncheon

Before an audience of some 300 film men, exhibitors and members of the city government gathered to honor him at a luncheon in the Coronado Hotel at St. Louis, Fred Wehrenberg, President of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America again pledged himself to seek harmony in the motion picture industry and renewed his plan for an eventual forum of exhibitors and distributors which would meet to settle disputes.

The veteran Wehrenberg, who started in St. Louis with a tent show, and now owns several theatres with part interests in several more, told his audience that while the exhibitors have just cause to complain about some producer and distributor practices, it must not be forgotten that they have a valued place in the industry since without motion pictures from Hollywood exhibitors could not operate on any scale.

Replying to the many tributes made by several speakers, Wehrenberg said that any success he may have attained as the leader of his organization of exhibitors was due entirely to the fine cooperation he had always received from his fellow exhibitors as well as from others within the industry.

Pickford-Cowan Merge

Formation of a new film company through the merging of story properties owned by Mary Pickford and Lester Cowan was announced in New York Monday. The new outfit as yet unnamed is said to be capitalized at between $2,500,000 and $3,000,000, and has a program of 15 pictures, seven of which are planned to be completed within the next two years. Production is to be in the Hal Roach studios.

Filmack Raises Trailer Fee

Claiming increased labor and material costs, Filmack Company this week announced an increase of trailer prices of three cents a word, making the total price 13 cents. This is the first time in 26 years, the company claims, that it has been forced to make an important price increase.

‘Dilatory’ Tactics Cost Exhibitors $$$--Schwartz

Charge that "dilatory" neglect of supplementary income producing eastern exhibitors "hundreds of thousands of dollars a year," was made in New York Tuesday by Leslie E. Schwartz, head of Andrews, Inc., the concession division of Century Theatres, as he defended popcorn and soft drink concessions.

Schwartz's statement, which came as Century, which operates 37 houses in Brooklyn and Long Island announced that it would hold a convention for its personnel at the Waldorf-Astoria on Oct. 8, was taken as a prelude to a campaign he will put on to push concession with the company employees as an "extra-profits" plan.

He believes that increased theatre competition from other sources such as sports events, the radio, increased use of 16-mm film, will require theatres to find extra income sources and said it might be that the "additional revenue from the sale of popcorn and soft drinks within the theatre might very well equalize this competition."

"We are not in accord," he continued, "with the pious expressions of theatre men who say that the sale of popcorn in a theatre is not show business or 'cheaps the theatres.'

"This to our way of thinking is pure dilatoryness and has cost exhibitors in this part of the country hundreds of thousands of dollars each year.

"And it is our conviction that the social event of going to the movies is made much more pleasurable, as any social event would, by the addition of something to eat. In short, for many reasons, we believe that extra profits will be a blood transfusion for eastern exhibition."--

Wolcott Warns City Taxes a Possibility

A warning that municipal taxes were a "limited and dangerous possibility," was issued this week to the members of Iowa and Nebraska Allied by Board Chairman Leo F. Wolcott in his current bulletin.

Wolcott hits on leaks which spread the amount of theatre grosses and attacks local checkers in this connection. The Iowa Nebraska Allied is also on record against any regulation of the film business without allowing those affected a voice in the matter and a demand on Confidential Reports that checkers have a complete copy of their final reports with each engagement with the manager for federal tax and record purposes.

Buy Kramer Interest

Interest of Stanley Kramer in Story Productions has been purchased by Hal Horne and Armand Deutsch, with Horne and Deutsch now owning 50 per cent each in the recently formed company.

Van Nomikos Named in Fraud Suits

Six suits charging fraud in return on percentage pictures were filed in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, eastern division, against Van A. Nomikos and several corporations said to be controlled by him Monday.

The suits, filed by United Artists, Paramount, Loew's for MGM, 20th Century-Fox and Warner Bros., claim a conspiracy to defraud the plaintiff distributors by regular submission of false box-office statements. Exemplary damages to be fixed by the court are asked.

The theatres mentioned in the complaints are: Chicago's Ace, Logan, Lincoln, Empress, Parkway, Rex and City; the Maywood Yale, the Antioch Antioch, the Savannah Orpheum and Web—all located in Illinois.

Up Go the Prices

Forty-two Warner Bros. Theatres in Washington, Maryland and Virginia, raised their prices this week, marking the first such move by Warners' in more than two years. The average raise, which affects 19 neighborhood theatres in the nation's capital alone, is three and one half cents an admission.

In St. Louis Loew's State has raised its houses to meet the increase put into effect by the Fanchon and Marco houses, and provide a night top of 75 cents, taxes included.

Monroe Greenthal Opens Own Ad Agency in Gotham

Organization of the Monroe Advertising Company, a new agency which will handle industrial and commercial as well as motion picture and theatre accounts, was announced in New York this week by Monroe W. Greenthal, former assistant-president as well as advertising and publicity director for United World Pictures, which have been absorbed by Universal Pictures.

Greenthal said the agency would open with initial business of Universal-International Pictures, the independent producers who are distributing through Universal-International, and the J. Arthur Rank Enterprise account. The agency is expected also to handle the theatre advertising for the units Universal is planning to acquire for its circuit. The Winter Garden in New York will be the agency's first theatre client.

Chapin Finder Dies

Adam Kessel, 50, who is credited with persuading Charles Chaplin to enter movies and who was a partner in the New York Motion Picture Corporation, the two Bison Companies, Kay-Bee and Keystone, the last of which was bought by Triangle Films in 1917, died in Keeseville, N. Y., last Saturday. He had been ill for a year. Surviving are his brothers, Charles and Nicholas, two sisters—Mrs. Anna Gerlach and Mrs. J. Zimmerman.

Murray, 73 Passes Away

Funeral services for Thomas Murray, 73, father of Columbia trade publist Ray Murray, were held from St. Patricks, Brooklyn, Monday, with interment in the Holy Cross Cemetery. In addition to his son, he is survived by a daughter, Elizabeth.
Paramount President Barney Balaban arrived in New York this week after talking to Henry Ginsberg out on the coast. A. M. Kane, Paramount co-capitan of the 34th year drive, is headed back to his New England post from Los Angeles, where he was putting pep in the movement.

Warner International Corporation Joseph S. Hummel, who is in charge of continental Europe, is in New York to talk over plans.

Joseph Bernhard, who sold his share of United States Pictures to Milton Sperling headed coastward this week to discuss a reportedly new project. Meanwhile his personal eastern office will be in New York's Drake Hotel.

Walter Wanger, who signed another long term contract to release through United Artists last week, flew into New York Monday.

March of Time's Richard de Rochemont left Paris this week for New York. He had been in the French capital for over a month.

United Artists has appointed Georges Soulat as Belgium manager to succeed Marcel Coppens, resigned.

Buddy Rogers and Ralph Cohn, who are the spark plugs behind Comet Productions, are visiting New York this week and of course will consult with United Artists over distribution plans for their forthcoming productions.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wanger were expected in New York this week, with the producer coming from the coast to sign his release deal with United Artists and to confer with Universal-International over "Canyon Passage," and "Smashup." Wanger still has three to make for U-I. Meanwhile Wanger Vice-President David Tannenbaum is to open headquarters in the new Culver City Studio.

Independent Artists President Fred Brisson is in New York right now trying to set a release deal for the pictures his company will make. The outfit was organized by Brisson, Rosalind Russell, Dudley Nichols and Frank Vincent to make five pictures in a 10 year period.

Herbert J. Yates, Jr., this week resigned as treasurer of Republic Pictures due to ill health. Prior to his Republic post young Yates had been a vice-president of Consolidated Film Industries.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Goldwyn flew back from Hawaii to Hollywood this week.

Warner Theatres Sound Director Frank E. Cahill this week was awarded the Army Commendation Ribbon for services during World War II, when he served in the Signal Corps and helped establish the Army, Navy and Marine Corps wartime film standards.

Fred S. Gulbransen has been appointed United Artists manager in Singapore while Henry H. Ronge goes into Puerto Rico as assistant manager. Both are Paramount alumni.

A luncheon in honor of Dave O'Brien, who writes, directs and acts in Pete Smith Specialties, was held last Friday by MGM at Toots Shor's in New York. A sneak preview of the latest Pete Smith short, "Sure Cures," was held at Loew's State preceding the luncheon.

WEDDING BELLS

Jerry Kaufman, Warner studio publicist, and Anita Burton, daughter of Universal producer Val Burton, were married Sunday.

Harris Filmack N. Y. Aide

Filmack this week appointed Milton S. Harris as its New York representative, President Irving Mack announced.

Women Want Re-issues

That there is a definite demand for re-issues by his audiences is the opinion of Robert Carney, manager of Loew's Lyric at Bridgeport. His house which plays vaudeville, as well as touring legitimate shows, will book re-issues of films which were major successes when first shown. The women just can't seem to understand why great successes are shelved. They believe they should be brought back periodically for public enjoyment, just as a popular book is re-read and enjoyed."
It's RKO again!

coming up with a
brand new Box-Office
surprise . . . . . . .
You win!

—when the girl who never gambles hurls a romantic challenge at the man who always takes a chance!...It's grand fun and a top screen love story—told among the gayest resorts of fun-famed Las Vegas—where the sky's the limit!
ROBERT
YOUNG
BARBARA
HALE
FRANK
MORGAN

81,247,429 COPIES OF NATIONAL MAGAZINES
are carrying ads on this swell show, including Life (6 insertions) — Woman's Home Companion (5 insertions) — Look (5 insertions) — Saturday Evening Post — Cosmopolitan — Redbook — Liberty — Collier's — Pie — Esquire — True Story — True and the Fan List.
Coming from RKO
SINBAD THE SAILOR
IN TECHNICOLOR
Merchant Marine Tribute At Premiere of 'Mast'

Leaders of the motion picture industry, persons high in naval and political affairs and representatives of the shipping industry paid tribute to the United States Merchant Marine at last Tuesday night on the stage of the Rivoli Theatre, New York, in conjunction with the Big City premiere of Paramount's "Two Years Before the Mast."

The cadets from the United States Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, L. I., led by their band of 125 pieces, which made an impressive appearance as it marched down the center aisles to take its place in the orchestra pit, staged a drill that won the admiration and applause of the large audience. The band's drum major revealed remarkable skill and agility in his maneuvering of batons.

The City of New York was represented by Mayor William O'Dwyer. Other important city officials invited were Police Commissioner Arthur W. Wallander, City Council President Vincent R. Impellitteri, Manhattan President Hugo E. Rogers, License Commissioner Benjamin Fielding, Deputy License Commissioner Patrick J. Meehan and Stanley B. Rose, assistant to Fielding.


Greene's New Gag

Century Circuit's Alhambra Theatre in Brooklyn has come up with a new gag for a lobby display of "Anna and the King of Siam," which can be used for any outstanding picture. Manager Murray Greene simply placed a water-filled can, wooden horses, loose boards and other construction material in the corner of the lobby and surmounted the display with a prominent card reading: "We're getting ready to enlarge the Alhambra. We hear that the crowds going to see "Anna and the King of Siam" are terrific! Starts here Thursday." The stunt is simple but stops plenty of people.

'Married' Contest in Memphis Scores Hit

Staged in connection with the showing of Republic's "I've Always Loved You," an essay contest on the subject, "How to Be Happy Though Married" brought several thousand letters to the Memphis (Tenn.) Press-Scimitar, each with the five rules set down by the writer for a happily married life. To be eligible to compete for a $100 war bond, contestants had to be married 10 years.

Judges of the contest were Tom Kirk, Republic branch manager; Mrs. W. R. Herstein, Memphis social leader, and Mrs. Lawrence Akers of the Better Films Council—ME.

Music Windows, Radio Sell 'Lucky' for O'Rear

The music angle served as the principal ploy for the exploitation campaign staged by Jack O'Rear, manager, and Frank Maury, his assistant, for the showing of 20th-Fox's "If I'm Lucky" at the Colonial Theatre, Harrisburg, Pa. Cards were placed in music store windows and at music counters of the Green and Murphy stores. On opening morning a 15-minute program featuring scenes and songs from the film was broadcast over WHGB. A large eight-foot setpiece was displayed in the lobby two weeks in advance.—HAK.

Theatremen to Attend 20th-Fox Ad Convention

Theatremen will have a prominent part in 20th Century-Fox's advertising and publicity convention to be held October 15-17 in New York. It was disclosed this week by Charles Schlaifer, the company's advertising and publicity head.

Many of the nation's top showmen, Schlaifer said, have been invited to participate in a session which will be devoted to discussions on newer and more up-to-date advertising methods that will give greater penetration in selling the company's new season pictures to the public.

"If, as it has been generally stated, there will be fewer pictures produced next year due to auction selling, then the problem both exhibitors and distributors face will be to get more playing time for each picture," Schlaifer explained. "To meet this contingency there must be complete unanimity of effort, based on local experience and knowledge. Advertising and publicity per se is not enough under the new system of selling. Decentralization of advertising campaigns to concentrate selling power, more progressive methods of exploitation and sustained publicity will be required to get the maximum box-office results out of each picture. Twentieth Century-Fox's future advertising-publicity plans to achieve these results will be discussed at the convention."

Included among top theatremen invited to speak at the convention are Charles Skouras, president of National Theatre; F. H. Kicketton, Jr., president of Fox Intermountain Theatres; George P. Skouras, president of Skouras Theatres; William White, vice-president of Skouras Theatres; Elmer Rhoden, president of Fox Midwest Theatres; David B. Izid, president of Fox Michigan Theatres; Dan Michalove, vice-president of National Theatres; Harold Seidenberg, managing director, Fox Philadelphia Theatre; Frank L. Newman, Sr., president of Evergreen State Amusement Corp.; A. J. Balaban, general manager of Loew's Theatre, New York, and Irving Lesser, associate general manager.

Invitations will also be sent to other circuit heads in key cities throughout the country, Schlaifer said, as well as to advertising and publicity directors for these circuits. Included in the latter group will be such prominent publicists as Harry Goldberg, of Warner Bros.; Ernest Emerling, of Loew's, and Harry Mandel, of RKO Theatres.

Collies Becoming Prolific

In light of the large number of collie pups being given away in connection with contests linked up with " Courage of Lassie" it would seem that the breed is—er—breeding. The latest case took place at the Smart Theatre, Lincoln, Neb., where Manager Ted Butterfield required contestants to identify dog breeds and write a short letter on "Why I want to own a dog like Lassie." The pup was displayed in the lobby before the opening and proved a show in itself.

Mairsipr Over Stadium

MGM's Mairsipr was right on hand for the Louis-Mauriello fight last week at Yankee Stadium, New York. During the early bouts it sailed over the stadium continually, flashing on its advertising running sign. Everyone in the stadium learned about MGM product.

MOBILE BALLYHOO PLUS GLAMOR SELLS 'ANNA.' Anyone seeing a mobile ballyhoo like that shown above coming down the street will take one look, then another, and even another—and not merely at the glamorous gal atop the float, either. The stunt was used in Miami, Fla., for the showing of 20th-Fox's "Anna and the King of Siam" at Art and Capital theatres. Credit Sonny Sheppard for smart showmanship. If you can't find the gals, or the weather's too cold for them, don't worry. Just the ballyhoo alone, with perhaps a loudspeaker, will garner plenty of interest.
'Killers' Ad Displays Feature Masculine, Feminine Appeal

stand out on any printed advertising page and the simplified copy sets up anticipation for the ensuing, conventional advertising. No teaser campaign can be more effective than its accomplishment of that selling factor.

Display ads that make no possible claim for any but male appeal contain copy designed to build up the picture's rugged, exciting ruthlessness, as told by Hemingway in his story. And that they succeed in building that kind of anticipation is a tribute to the copy writers. Headlines such as "Dynamite on Film! Told the Untamed Hemingway Way!" and body copy like "Blazing aside every excitement you've ever known...shattering your every memory of ruthless drama!" are not meant for consumption by the squeamish. Other alliterate headlines such as "Tense! Tough! Terrible!" and "Raw, Rugged! Ruthless!" accomplish what they set out to do...build interest among the male moviegoers.

In Universal's test switch of approach, which proved to be so successful, the appeal to the feminine contingent was effected by publishing a series of ads containing clinch illustrations between Burt Lancaster and Ava Gardner. The thematic threat is always shown in the background. In one display ad the clinch is shown full length, with the headline over the two cut-off gunmen reading "No retreat from this kind of danger," and across the grey and black illustration, "no escape from this kind of love." Another of the women appeal ads contains similar illustrations with display body copy superimposed on the illustration: "For one moment with her—he gambled his love, his life!" Another important ad in the series has a headline that reads, "Every Kiss Carved His Name on Another Bullet!" which kind of mixes up the appeal a little but is nevertheless tremendously effective.

In preparing its campaign Universal has not neglected to make up a series of small ads to (Continued on Page 13)

Ads shown here are greatly reduced. The layout (upper left) and the teaser just above (left) have straight male themes appeal while the two on the right illustrate Universal's technique in appealing for feminine patronage.
SELLING THE PICTURE

Canning Did It!
At least one theatreman who purchased 500 nail files and gave them to patrons entering the theatre as an exploitation device for Monogram's "Suspense" has been uncovered by Pearl Widem, STR representative in Hartford, Conn. Miss Widem, who checked with exhibitors in her territory, declares that the missing manager and theatre in last week's exploitation campaign were William S. Canning and the Empire Theatre, Fall River, Mass. Perhaps others used the same stunt. If so, step right up and take a bow.

'Killer' Ads Feature Male, Female Appeal
(Continued from Page 12)
run following the initial campaign. They are all illustrated and designed to stand out on the printed page.

Posters and other accessories follow the same theme, with emphasis placed on the title, with each style showing a clinic and the stylized gunman.

In adapting this campaign to their own use, showmen will do well to analyze the appeal of the picture in their own locality and carefully very carefully—select the ads that will probably do the most good. By watching opening-day audiences it is demonstrably possible to make a fast switch in appeal to change the trend in attendance. Advice from Universal's field representative is available in most territories.

Finding the Name
Tommy Grace, manager of the Eastwood, East Hartford, Conn., promoted a name-guessing contest in the East Hartford Gazette for "Easy to Wed." Names of a number of East Hartford residents were printed on a classified ad page. On the page also was a note stating that persons named would have to contact the theatre by a certain date to get guest tickets—HFD.

Schine Jubilee Starts With Exploitation Bang!
Schine's Post-War Silver Jubilee has started off with a roaring bang, with theatres in 46 cities of the circuit having arranged for at least one full page of cooperative advertising, including the outstanding promotion of Arnold Feldman in Middleboro who has set a double truck to run one day a week for four weeks! The same Mr. Feldman also has arranged for two single pages to run in four weekly papers for two weeks.

Other achievements of the circuit's managers and publicity men include mayor's proclamations about the Silver Jubilee from 19 cities and newspaper editorials from 10 cities, including one written by Ken Johnson, former governor of Kentucky and recently appointed under-secretary of Labor. Mr. Johnson's editorial was written in Washington and dispatched for publication in a Richmond, Kentucky, newspaper.

Rival Congratulations
A "noble gesture" came from the Schine opposition in Cumberland, Maryland, when Mrs. Grace M. Fisher of the Fisher Theatres bought space in the local newspapers to congratulate the Schine Circuit.

Another highlight of the Jubilee Campaign came when radio's Dr. I. Q. saluted the Schine Theatres on his broadcast from the stage of an opposition theatre. This program has a tremendous coast-to-coast listening audience and undoubtedly was heard in each of the Schine circuit's situations. Plugs from the same source have been heard on five successive weeks from five Schine Theatres, where the broadcasts took place.

The Schine Jubilee, originally scheduled to close October 8, has been extended through December 31, with one Schine showman in each of the circuit's zones to be awarded a pleasure trip with all expenses paid. Awards will be made on the basis of showmanship during the Jubilee.

Contest, Kiddie Show As Potent 'Lassie' Stunts
Through a "hidden names" contest planted by Manager Joe Boyle of the Loew-Poli Broadway, Norwich, Conn., local residents who saw their names in the classified section of the Bulletin became eligible for guest tickets to see MGM's "Courage of Lassie."

In New Haven, Harry F. Shaw, Loew-Poli New England division manager, and Sidney H. Klemer, manager of the Loew-Poli College Theatre, were hosts to 50 Children's Community Center kiddies at a performance of the picture.

Reviews BEFORE Showing
Mort Berman of the Orpheum Theatre, Springfield, Ill., pulled a fast one when, instead of handing out the usual press book reviews to local papers, he supplied them with the Chicago reviews of "The Green Years." These, being legitimate reviews, legitimately printed, made it possible for the papers to run them BEFORE opening. That is what is known as advertising in the news.

TRI-STATES MANAGERS HONORED FOR CAMPAIGNS: Holding the radios they received as prizes, these managers of Tri-States theatres were winners of the contest sponsored by the A. H. Blank circuit and Warner Bros. for the outstanding exploitation campaign on their pictures during the 20th Anniversary of Talking Pictures celebration. They are (1st) Wally King, Capitol, Grand Island, Neb.; (2nd) Moore, Paramount, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; (3rd) Lewis, Grand, Grand Island, Neb.; Dick Stoddard, formerly Rocket, Rocket Island, now Esquire Davenport; Henry Plude formerly Fort, Rock Island, now Capitol, Davenport.
Here's
The
COLUMBIA PICTURES
presents

NATIONALLY ADVERTISED
WITH COLOR PAGES
IN
LIFE · LOOK · FAN
MAGAZINES
AND IN LIBERTY

Screenplay by Allen Rivkin
Romantic Rio on a heart-to-heart hookup
with music... laughter... love... is for you!

OF BRAZIL

starring

EVELYN KEYES
KEENAN WYNN
ANN MILLER
ALLYN JOSLYN
TITO GUIZAR
VELOZ AND YOLANDA
ENRIC MADRIGUERA
AND HIS ORCHESTRA

and Devery Freeman • Directed by S. SYLVAN SIMON • Produced by SIDNEY BIDDELL
Premiere in Wisconsin Town
As Exploiter Pays Old Debt

The Wisconsin state premiere of MGM's "Boys' Ranch" was held in Merrill early last week. And with this honor going to that community, MGM Exploiter Louis W. Orlove has paid a debt of four years' standing. It had to be Merrill; otherwise poor Louie.

But let's go back a few years, back to 1942. Better still, let's let the Merrill Daily Herald columnist, "Norr," tell the story in his own words, since he was right on the scene:

"A frigid, typical Wisconsin winter evening was exhilarating the frosty breath upon the countryside back in the cradle days of '42 when Louie, on a routine business trip, checked in at the Badger Hotel. While others were holding their noses and ears, stamping their feet, and in general doing an esclamo version of the can-can, Louie went nonchalantly on his way.

"Being a fresh air fiend of the first water, this was just the climate for him. Just to prove it, he opened wide the window of his room and did a few simple exercises. Easy ones they were, for Louie prefers to get the major portion of his exercise jumping at conclusions and stretching his imagination.

Visions of MGM Stars

"Louie jumped into bed that night leaving his window wide open, and soon was wafted away in the arms of Morpheus. He was enjoying a perfect sleep until about 2 a.m. when he began feeling uneasy. Something was wrong, his subconscious mind kept telling him, so Louie finally pried his eyes lids apart to take a gander. But no, nothing was wrong, for there emerging from the ceiling in a soft buff-colored light was La Tosca. Turned on by Greer Garson, Judy Garland and other MGM stars. Louie closed his eyes in contentment, then opened them again to further enjoy the spectacle, but lo and behold! The visions of lovability were gone.

"The billowy cloud was still there, however, and Louie began to smell a rodent in the woodpile, for everything wasn't as it should be behind the line in old Wisconsin. Grabbing a bed sheet and tossing it around his shoulders, the exploiter groped blindly through the clouded room and grabbed a fire extinguisher. After pumping it for about five minutes, he decided he was getting nowhere, for the smoke, fog or whatever it was, became more and more dense. Finally he tossed his anti-fire weapon in the corner and made a dash for the Badger lobby.

'. . . Joint's on Fire'

"'Help, somebody,' yelled Louie. 'Something terrific has happened up in my room. I think the joint's on fire.'

"'Another MGM man, a night clerk and two guests who had been aroused by the commotion dashed to Louie's room to make an investigation. They found that the ice fear was erroneous. What had happened was that the frigid air blowing gaily through the open window had come in contact with the hot water pipes, causing them to burst and spraying the room with a steam mist.

"Relieved, the men returned to the desk to obtain a plumber to repair the pipes, but none were available. Finally it was decided that Walter Goetz, then general 'fixer-upper' at the hotel but now manager of the Badger Theatre, was to be the one. Now Wally, under ordinary circumstances, is a pretty easy-going gent, but having to climb out of a warm, comfortable bed to do repair work isn't exactly his idea of high class entertainment. Hence the things he mumbled under his breath weren't exactly blessings to Louie.

"Still, faithful employe that he is, Wally began his work on the pipes, and after four hours of hard labor everything was again serene. Everything, that is, except one thing. While work had been progressing, the steam from the pipes had condensed, seeped through the floor and loosened the plaster on the lobby ceiling, causing it to fall on the floor with a resounding plop.

"Naturally, Mr. L. Orlove was appropriately charged, embarrassed and apologetic. He promised the manager practically everything, including the premiere of some outstanding picture."

That settled it. If MGM could only have a premiere, the fallen plaster, the damaged ceiling would be forgotten. Now, after five years, Louie has fulfilled his obligation. That is why the statewide premiere of "Boys' Ranch" was held in Merrill, Wis., last week.

Prepare Selling Manual On Del Ruth Production

An elaborate exploitation manual, to be distributed shortly after completion of the Roy Del Ruth production, "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," is now being prepared at Monogram. Manual will include sample ads, stories on the picture, and a complete tabulation of exploitation and tie-up suggestions.

Hoel and Allen Plug 'Lucky' in Pittsburgh

An exploitation campaign which included free radio time, store tieups, photo ballyhoo and other tie-ups was staged by Ken Hoel, publicity director of the J. P. Harris theatres, Pittsburgh, assisted by Wally Allen, 20th Century-Fox's exploitation representative, for the opening of "If I'm Lucky" at the J. P. Harris theatres.

One of the highlights of the campaign was the Perry Como Avenue stunt by which a street in Canonsburg, Pa., where Perry was born, was renamed Perry Como Avenue. The event stirred up an editorial in the local paper and all Pittsburgh radio commentators discussed the civic stunt on their programs.

Other phases of the campaign included a tieup with RCA Victor Record dealers who were celebrating Perry Como Week which coincided with the Pittsburgh date. As a result of this, 75 window displays appeared in the greater Pittsburgh area. A $25 prize was offered for the best window, and a special showing of "If I'm Lucky" was screened for the dealers.

The record company dealers also bought advertising space in the Pittsburgh Sun Telegraph and Post on the amusement pages, plugging Perry's recordings and the film's playing at the Harris.

A photo ballyhoo was arranged, based upon the title of the picture. Two girls were sent around town taking random photos and handing out cards reading: "If You're Lucky and find your photo in front of the Harris Theatre you will see 'If I'm Lucky'."

In addition, radio station KDKA gave free spot announcements. They also used the music on live programs and Perry Como records on other shows with direct plugs.

2 Theatres Needed for Midnight Horror Show

A midnight horror show featuring Universal's "House of Dracula" went over with a big at the Lake Theatre, Delight's Lake, N. D., that Manager Art Ableson had to run the same show at another theatre—the Hollywood.

A special front in keeping with the spirit of the occasion was arranged by Ralph Watson, manager of the Hollywood, who is sign painter for both theatres and in charge of all advertising, except newspaper.

Highlight of the front was a coffin containing a dummy. Through a mechanical arrangement of Paul Putnam, Ableson's house manager at the Lake, the coffin lid would open and screams and moans emanate from within when a large crowd gathered. This stunt alone, worked via a switch, drew crowds from near and far, Ableson reports.

Putnam, by the way, is also in charge of all newspaper advertising and all maintenance at both theatres, Ableson is enthusiastic in his praise of the work done by both boys, generously crediting Putnam and Watson for the success of the midnight show.

Good Old Ballyhoo

An old-fashioned horse and wagon carrying a couple of old-fashioned girls—pretty ones—provided an old-fashioned street ballyhoo for "Two Sisters from Boston" when it reached Low's in Louisville, Ky.
New Subscription House Plans Children's Shows

A weekly Saturday morning Children's Show declared to differ from others in that "we will strive to acquire a well-rounded, complete bill," will be incorporated at the Park Avenue Theatre when that house opens within the next few weeks, it has been announced by Walter Reade, head of Walter Reade Theatres, operators of the new New York subscription house.

The juvenile shows will be previewed by the theatre's own advisory board, Reade said, and may also include specially reissued features of the major producers which are slated toward a young audience.

Equipped with 16-mm. projection equipment, the Park Avenue will also be able to offer educational and historical films borrowed from the U. S. Army, Museum of Modern Art, Film Board of Trade Libraries and other 16-mm. libraries.

Although tickets to the Saturday morning shows will be sold in advance, seats will not be reserved, Reade said.

Meanwhile, subscriptions for the Park Avenue have reached 67 per cent of the goal set by Reade, and an average of 38 people a day visit the theatre's office to consult the new theatre's manager, David Kearney, about price lists and other information. Daily mail requests have reached a peak of 903 letters, or an over-all average of 417 per day.

What About Your Reels?

How are your reels? Are they wobbly? Is it getting harder for the projectionist to attach the film to the hub in order to keep it from slipping out? Don't take any chances. Try to get the reels, if you can. Those made of aluminum are especially practical.

Use the Vacuum

Rugs should be cleaned daily with a vacuum cleaner AFTER the bare floor parts of the house have been cleaned with a push broom. Using a broom on carpets and rugs merely moves dust from one place to another.

Remove the Powder

Matrons in rest rooms should be instructed to wipe away all traces of face powder from make-up tables IMMEDIATELY after use by each patron.

Proper Handling of Crowds—Theatre Operation Requisite

The comprehensive series of articles on theatre management running in Loew's Theatres publication LO! apply particularly to the methods of operation as outlined by the circuit's executives and as they advocate application of information contained in the series to the theatres in the circuit. The latest article treats on the "Handling of Crowds" and is applicable to any theatre, anywhere.

LO! points out that there's gold in three little words, "Keep 'Em Moving" and states that "correct calculation of time schedules and the proper handling of crowds during busy week-ends can make a difference of from $1000 to $3000 in the weekly gross of the average first-run or key Loew neighborhood theatre!" And then it proceeds to tell just how to handle the crowds. But before any details are set down the author warns that "the theatre manager is to violate the law or to take any unnecessary chances in trying to pack too many people into his theatre. "We know," he writes, "that by filling all single, getting full capacities in our balconies, and by systematic handling of spills, we can increase our grosses on a busy day without running afoul of any city or fire department ordinance."

The author points out that by "Keeping Them Moving," he must or feel that they soon will be seated, But if the customer stands in one spot for any length of time there will be a very uneasy patron in the crowd. He is apt to take a pessimistic view of the matter.

To keep patrons moving requires "considerable planning, a well-trained, efficient and ultra-courteous service staff, and some smooth and shrewd strategy." And part of the strategy consists of removing all furniture than can readily be removed from the lobby where standees will be expected to congregate, an obvious way to utilize space where it counts most.

Then LO! points out that a series of unobtrusive signals should be arranged between various members of the service staff so that ushers at the head of aisles may immediately apprise of seat vacancies. A signal for a double or two seats together, another for a single seat and for other contingencies are simple to arrange but should not interfere in any way with the enjoyment of patrons already seated.

That the ushers are important in the feeding and emptying of houses cannot be too strongly emphasized. LO! says, and also points out that these same ushers should be thoroughly trained in the handling of overflow crowds in case of emergency.

How to discourage "crashers" who like to duck under tapes and beat the rest of the crowd and how the doorman can detect gate crashers who use the old "Joe has the tickets" gag are other points brought out in the article.

LO! argues that when the main floor is about half filled it is a good time to start pushing them upstairs by the simple expedient of announcing that "There is a better choice of seats in the balcony," thus taking pressure off the orchestra.

When the "break" or "spill" comes all exits of the theatre may be utilized so as to empty the auditorium as quickly as possible and, if the manager thinks it will aid a quicker spill, to "light up" completely. "More can be accomplished in two minutes with a lighted house than in several minutes with the theatre dark, and with far less confusion."

LO! gives its ideas of how courteous answers should be given to patrons in every case and brings out one phase that deserves repetition here. When a waiting patron asks, "How long do we wait?" the usher may advise the patron, "People are coming out all the time. . . . we will seat you as soon as possible."

One final adjuration: "The presence of the manager in the lobby helps convince the crowd that the theatre has the interests of its patrons very much in mind. The personal appearance of the manager is direct evidence that the theatre and its staff are doing everything possible to shorten the wait of their customers."

Glorifying the Mongrel

The old Matti and Mongrel Contest idea is always good and, because the owners have their animals and want to show them off, it is not hard to get entries. John Heffinger and his staff at the Park Theatre, Pasadena, Calif., recently ran one of these contests and won the kids. Prizes were given for biggest, smallest and smartest dogs.

Finish Cleaning on Time

Daily theatre cleaning should be completed at least an hour before the doors open for the matinee. The impression can hardly be favorable when the janitor gives the last few stripes of the mop to the lobby floor and removes the bucket as the first patrons make their way to the box-office.

Keep Lights Burning

Burned-out bulbs behind the glass on a marquee sign cause the sign to look shoddy and most unattractive. Replace them regularly.
Theatre Management

Jack Jackson interrupts his series of Showman-to-Showman talks on The Brass Tacks of Theatre Management to bring you details of an astonishing personal experience

Nightmare? Or Vision of Things to Come When We Get Auction Selling?

Illustrated by Dick Kirschbaum

By Jack Jackson

Golly but I'm saddle sore this morning. I was riding a night mare over the hills and valleys of my pet sleep spot last night and my posteriors feel as though it just came through a session with a mustard sprinkled horsehair sofa.

Most dreams—I've heard it said—have their basic cause in some impressive happening preceding slumber-time and I am forced to associate my present discomfort to that trade paper story about the New York firm of auctioneers who offered their services in all exchange centers to guarantee full and complete compliance with the Government's "auction" edict.

Since the threat of every theatremen's participation in a melee of this kind is becoming more and more ominous, it strikes me that you might like to give a listen to what happened to me in Dreamland last night. Here it is:

I had received the auctioneer's list of the pictures that were to be placed on the block the next day and was out in our old barn saddling up Speck for the journey down to the stock pens where the event was scheduled to take place. I remember very well talking things over with Speck, as I packed saddle bags with rations for both of us, and telling him about the long picture drought and how it would be necessary for him to put in his best gait if we were to arrive in time to get enough stock to be certain of oats for him and oatmeal for the rest of the family during the months to come.

We had quite a conversation, Speck and me, and he seemed to understand that a good deal depended on his giving out with lots of speed on the trip to town. It was still dark when we hit out through the woods, but a good horse like Speck can be depended on to keep a fellow out of trail trouble and I just kind of relaxed and kept going over my swap list in my mind as we clipped along. I had my mind made up that I'd even part with our flock of laying hens if I could just get enough celluloid to last through the winter. Before long the coming day began swinging hello shafts up in the East and soon the sun pecked over the brim of life and began kissing the tree tops by way of letting the dew on the grass and flowers know that it was time to dig in and get out of the heat. We didn't stop for chow but just kept galloping and before long we were in sight of the stock pens. Even from a distance one could tell that this was going to be an event.

As I slipped out of the saddle and lopped the reins over a handy fence post I could hear the buzzin' hum of excited conversation everywhere. I took my time looking over the crowd to see who was on hand that I should "bowdy" and quickly gave up any idea I ever had about visiting. There were too many folks—more than at any revival meeting I could remember.

I could see Bob O'Donnell's marble wave dancing in the wind. He was sitting atop the corral fence where he could get a good view of the square platform where the prize stock was to be presented. He had his heels caught on the middle rail and was whistling away on the Variety Club budget. Next to him was Karl Hoblitzelle with one arm wrapped around a post to hold balance while he polished the top of a dusty boot with a red bandana. Ed Rowley was standing with both arms resting on the top rail. He was doing his best to uphold the reputation of the R & R Circuit—which his late partner Harold Roby established—for proanity and tobacco juice. He wasn't doing so good and looked mighty pale and as though every spit would be his last.

There was a lot of other Texas folk on hand such as Johnny Long, Phil Isely, Rip Payne of the Griffith Circuit, Major G. and others that I didn't know so well, so I didn't pay 'em much mind.

At another corner of the sale corral was Bill Jenkins of Atlanta. He was massaging a Gene Talmadge rabbit's foot (you know that Gene got to be Governor of Georgia on a rabbit's foot platform and those things have high value in the cracker state this season), and Bob Willey was trying his best to swap Bill out of it and offered a pledge from Arthur Bromberg that "all Monogram releases would be super specials" and give something to boot, but Bill wouldn't go.

M. A. Lightman of Memphis sure looked out.

E. V. Richards kept snapping a whip until he had every man in the trading pens jumpin' and jittery.

Bill Rodgers was not at all abashed when Gallant Bess neighed at him.

(Continued on Page 19)
IT TAKES A HEAP O' KILLIN' TO MAKE A HOUSE A HOME!
NOW SCORING THE FIRST OF ITS HEAP O'KILLINGS AT BOXOFFICES EVERYWHERE!

CRAIG RICE'S
HOME SWEET HOMICIDE

with
Peggy Ann Garner · Randolph Scott · Lynn Bari
Dean Stockwell · Connie Marshall
and James Gleason · Anabel Shaw · Barbara Whiting · John Shepperd

Directed by
Produced by
LLOYD BACON · LOUIS D. LIGHTON
Screen Play by F. Hugh Herbert · Based on the Novel by Craig Rice

“A SOLID BOXOFFICE HIT!”
—D. T. Miller

“RARE ENTERTAINMENT!”
—Showmen’s Trade Review

“SOLID BOXOFFICE!”
—M. P. Daily

20TH CENTURY-FOX
Jackson Indulges in Auction-Selling Dream

(Continued from Page 18)
tickets on the winner of the second race at Belmont.

I was taking stock of the visitors' platform where the Yankees were gathered to see how the new fixin's worked and had waded to Phil Chakeres who was nibbling at a bag of almond cookies (my wife loves 'em) when I heard some commotion at the horse race. First off I could only see a big broad brimmed hat and hear the snap of a bull whip. But as the horses shifted I could see that it was E. V. Richards of New Orleans who was scaring the nags. He had on an old slave trader's outfit with the long black coat and kept snapping that whip till he had every film can in the trading pens jumpy and jittery. Looking back into the Yankee section I saw that Si Fabian, wearing a bright red shirt branded ATA, had Chakeres and Martin Smith cornered. I couldn't hear what he was saying but he kept jabbing one fist at Martin and Phil and pattering the shirt brand with the other. I did hear him shout about coin and I began looking all around to see who had any but he was talking about another Coney. John Friedel, Elmer Rhode and a lot of mid-west folk began clumping around in their big overcoats, so I decided to go over and take a peek at the nice new shiny film cans that would soon be put on the block and sold (for better or worse) to the highest bidder.

They had the old loading pens all decorated with ribbons and each pen had the brand of the company whose product it contained prominently displayed. I stopped at the 20th-Fox gate and there was Tom Connors with a curly comb in one hand and a polishing brush in the other giving a shiny black can a thorough going over. I knew without asking that it must contain "Black Beauty" and was more sure than ever when a "Smoky" can that looked as though it had seen considerable travel kept sliding up and nudging Connors out of position.

In the next pen Bill Scully was bustling around in "White Tie and Tails" trying to herd a fractions can that must have held "The Killers" into a corner while he served tiffin and skittles to a gathering of effete and decorous society cans who seemed to be comforting themselves in the strange surroundings by clanking in unison, "There'll Always Be An England." Bob Scull was walking around with the measured stride of a union picker carrying a sign reading "Beware." What'd he mean? I saw A. Montague heading for the Columbia pen. He was wearing an asbestos suit and carrying a white hot can that must have contained the sequel to "Gilda." Accompanying him was Ben Sergkowitz, shouting loud and lustily about their "Gallant Journey," and Harry McWilliams who was desperately wielding one of those long handled Egyptian fans in an attempt to keep Gilda's sequel from burning up the countryside.

Bennie Kalmanson of Warner's confided to some friends that he and "Two Guys From Milwaukee" had been traveling "Night and Day" with "A Stolen Life" in a "Saratoga Trunk" in order to meet "Three Strangers" with a "Clown and Dagger" who were "Too Young To Know" "Of Human Bondage," Bill Rodgers, Lee's keeper, stroking the neck of "The Yearling" and not at all abashed when "Gallant Bess" neighed at him—that's pretty democratic of a fellow who's been "yessed" as much as Bill.

Red Depinet—just back from dear old Lunn—spit a pipe as usual, and the auctioneer would have enough to sell "Heartbeat" and "Hotel Reserve."

Kysr Program Referee

I was mighty interested in the doings at the trading pens but the "Heard Ye" cry of the auctioneer made it necessary for me to break the auctioneer's silence and I now come to a minute I heard "au-aw-ei-ic-co-je-la-la-ya" that he was a refugee from Kay Kysr's radio program named Lnslf. He wasted no time getting down to business and the way he started yelling one'd never believe that he was advising folks to "be kind to their throats" a short time ago.

In a sorta confidential bellow he implored all and sundry to hold fast to their seats and loosen their wallets. A couple of bobbies were pounding away at a packing case and as it fell apart there stood a spanking brand new bathtub. Reaching into its porcelain insards Mr. Lnslf held up a be-ribboned can and began shouting about how this cleverly

(Continued on Next Page)

THEATRE MANAGER'S NOTEBOOK

TICKET MACHINES

(From an Outline of Talks Presented to the Classes in the Wilby-Kinney School of Maintenance)

MAINTENANCE

1. Brush the knife section free of ticket dust before use every day. A new 10 cent brush is just right for the job.

2. Clean the inside of the case of accumulated ticket dust once a week.

3. Put one drop of kerosene on each ticket flap once a week.

4. Fill the motor grease cups with clean vaseline once every two months. Except for this, never apply any oil or grease to the motor.

5. Whenever tickets are not cut sharp remove the knife and clean the knife bed. Knives are self-sharpening; they do not require grinding.

6. Rub the knives with an oily rag occasionally to keep them from rusting.

7. It is advisable to polish the top plate, but if you insist on having it polished, precautions must be taken. One ticket flap clogged or corroded from use of metal polish can ruin the timing of an accurate mechanism and result in expensive repairs. If you must have the top plate polished, be sure each ticket flap is first covered firmly and completely with tape. Not transparent tape—someone will forget to remove it.

8. Caution cashiers not to issue tickets while a coin is on a flap.

9. Replace flaps as often as needed to prevent dirt entering the machine.

10. Do not pin tickets with pins or clips. Use masking or Scotch tape.

11. Don't forget to punch a hole through the sticker when joining ticket bundles.

12. Check motor brushes and commutator every three months. Carbon dust should be removed from brush holders and commutator by wiping it off—not by blowing it off which may blow it into the interior of the motor. Black bands on the commutator, caused by the brushes, can be removed with carbon tetrachloride on a piece of clothe and cloth on the commutator.

13. Instruct the cashiers to pull out the wall plug if electrical or mechanical trouble develops. This may prevent a burned out motor.

TROUBLE SHOOTING

The operation of ticket mechanisms is highly technical and complicated. Theatre personnel are not expected to know the engineering details and should attempt minor repairs only.
THEATRE MANAGEMENT

Jackson Sees a Vision of Future Under Auction Selling

(Continued from Preceding Page)

presented item is the very last word in the cinema art from the stables of Cecil DeMille. In this show you'll find that the heroine takes her usual DeMille business—not in milk, not in water, not in bubbles, BUT in the shimmering froth of genuine hand-painted Alka-Seltzer. Think what a boon to the operators who arrive with a hang-over the morning of opening! Think of the wonderful benefits to customers who have been looking at pictures just like this one since the days of their diapers and nipped bottles. But, and let me emphasize this point forcefully, never before in any picture has there been such an emphatic suggestion as to what to do to ease the racking pain their heads will carry after eight long reels. Gentlemen you don't have to be told what alcohol (I mean Alka-Seltzer) will do to ease head and stomach pains. Now! What am I bid for this milestone on the highway of movie progress? Start the bidding high gentlemen. Alka-Seltzer—the hand-painted variety—is very, very expensive! I don't know who bought that one because most of us had been watching the flunks bring up a shapely looking can that had two well-rounded bulges protruding like bowls of Jell-O.

It was all explained when Mr. Lasmitt announced that the film starred Lana Turner without her sweater.

'Herbie's a Grand Old Guy'

The next few offerings were right out of the sageshure with a Republic item laying claims to distinction because Trigger reversed the customary procedure, mounted Roy Rogers' shoulders and rode the star onto the floor of a Night Club Rodeo snorting "Herbie's A Grand Old Guy" while Roy, simultaneously, used his six guns to stencil an outline drawing of Herbert Yates on the shirt front of the head waiter.

Bid for Lubitsch Touch

Mr. Lasmitt really got it in high when a uniformed escort brought in an immense silver tray holding a can all wrapped in cellophane and tied in multicolored baby ribbons. After exhausting the usual supply of laudatory adjectives he went on, "You all know what the Lubitsch touch has done for other pictures. The very finger tips of the great man possess some indefinable something that magnetically forces men to leave waving poker hands, unemptied glasses and unfinished blonde business to run—not walk—to theatres where the Lubitsch touch is to be found on the program. Women have left bargain counters, back yard gossiping and even parcel waving machines to experience the thrill of his unparalleled genius. Now in this fancy package we offer you an attraction that has been subjected to not only the Lubitsch touch and Lubitsch handling but one that has been smeared by his gifted hands and kicked around by his well poetured feet. Bid High gentlemen! Bid high!"

There was considerable of a flurry when some English film critics put up and the auctioneer offered "to have members of the cast appear in person and assist the house usher staffs by providing better service for the customers." The excitement died down to nothing when he cautioned that the word used was "battle" and not "butler" as most of the crowd understood.

The darndest commotion suddenly hit the place and I looked around to find everybody scurrying for some hideout. Even Mr. Lasmitt dived under the stand and as I took to my heels I saw—standing behind my eyepiece—Harry Gold leading Howard Hughes' kickin' jumpin' critic, "The Outlaw" toward the corridor.

I jumped on Speck, fell off twice, and lit out with three cans I had gathered from under the packing cases where I had been hiding till the jam cleared, and headed for home. I had left three dozen of last month's eggs as payment and was wondering whether or not I had gotten the worst of the hurried transaction when my wife started kicking me to get up and head for work.

Gee, but I'm sadle sore this morning.

Careful With That Screen

The theatre screen should be cleaned often. But never let an inexperienced cleaner touch it without instructions from the supply house. Methods vary according to the type of screen. Also, caution the cleaners never to clean the theatre unless the traveler is closed. Flying dust is apt to stick to the screen.

Pick Up Paper

If a theatre does not have a paying porter whose assignment it is to pick up bits of paper from the lobby and theatre floor, the ushers should be instructed to pick up any bit of refuse that comes within their sight.

1. WHEN TICKETS ARE RIPPED THROUGH THE CENTER OR CUT IN THE WRONG PLACE look for:
   a. Tickets not threaded properly; hole in ticket not over pin.
   b. Ticket magazine bent or pinched, free pull of ticket strips; or ticket strip held in check by improper placement or by some obstruction in the magazine.
   c. Ticket flap held too tightly, preventing tickets from issuing.
   d. Wrong ticket tension. Correct by slightly bending ear pieces, or by adjustments where the retaining rod runs through the holes in the upper end, according to the type of machine.
   2. WHEN BUTTON IS PRESSED AND MOTOR DOES NOT START:
      a. Check plug connection to wall receptacle.
      b. Check position of off-on switch (if any).
      c. Remove switch cover and check contact prongs (or points, according to the type of machine).
      d. Check action of off-on switch (if any).
      e. Check metal arm running from keyboard to motor switch. This may be bent, and failing to actuate the switch properly.
      f. Check motor brush contacts with commutator. Brush may be stuck in the brush holder.
   3. WHEN MOTOR STALLS:
      a. Check switch action, including cleanliness of contacts or points. Clean with carbon tetrachloride if necessary.
      b. Check motor brush contacts with commutator.
      c. Check for loose connection in wiring to motor.

(All of the foregoing comprises verbatim quotation or paraphrase of a chapter in the book issued to members of classes in the School of Maintenance at Wilby-Kincey Theatres circuit. The book was made of Wilby's to Showmen's Trade Review for such quotation by the company, which is headed by R. B. Wilby and H. F. Kincey, and is recognized as one of the most progressive and efficiently operated circuits in the United States. The book, according to Mr. Wilby, was prepared not as a manual, but merely to serve members of the classes (which are conducted for managers of the circuit) as a notebook to spare those attending the classes the effort of making their own notes during the talks and demonstrations.)
HARTFORD

NEW HAVEN FILM EMPLOYEES ELECT OFFICERS; CONNECTICUT DEMOCRATS FOR FINE ARTS

Westbrook Van Voorhis, “March of Time” commentator and narrator, and Phil Williams, “March of Time” advertising director, were in Hartford last week. Lou Cohen, Loew’s Poli manager, hosted the two at a luncheon, and at midnight Van Voorhis appeared on that theatre’s stage in connection with the latest “March of Time” release.

Down in New Haven, Film Employes Local B-41, New Haven, has installed the following new officers: Jimmy Mackin, Warner, president; Saul Stifflin, MGM, secretary and treasurer; Pete Januska, RKO, business agent; and Marie Smith, WB; William Nutile, Paramount; and Sam Zipkin, Universal, executive committee.

In Hartford, the Connecticut Democratic state delegates last week included the following paragraph in the state platform: “We favor the establishment of a Fine Arts Commission to develop a program for the enlargement of the opportunity of every Connecticut citizen to enjoy his cultural heritage in the fields of music, drama, and the plastic arts.”

Henry L. Needles, Hartford district manager for Warner circuits, has been appointed to the executive committee, Chamber of Commerce.

Latest Connecticut theatre to reopen following recent breakdown was the Alcazar, Naugatuck. The theatre was closed for several weeks. Oscar Doob, Harry Moskowitz, Harry F. Shaw, Lou Brown of Loew’s circuit were in Hartford, visiting the local Loew theatres.

Conferees: Jimmy Mackin, Warner, president; Saul Stifflin, MGM, secretary and treasurer; Pete Januska, RKO, business agent; and Marie Smith, WB; William Nutile, Paramount; and Sam Zipkin, Universal, executive committee.

WASHINGTON

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SHOWMEN FIGHT CITY 10 PER CENT TAX, VARIETY CLUB HONORS MARTIN

The first Washington, D. C. tax hearing since 1938, had two representatives from the motion picture industry on hand to discuss with the D.C. Commissioners and local civic leaders, the problems of raising additional revenue for the District of Columbia. The question of adding a 10 per cent tax to amusement tickets, brought opposition from Carter T. Barron, Loew’s Eastern Division Manager, and A. J. Brylawski, Warner Bros. Real Estate Head, and President of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of D.C. Carter Barron pointed out that an additional 10 per cent amusement tax would keep lower income families from their sole form of entertainment. He said an additional 10 per cent tax would make a “vicious” 30 per cent. A. J. Brylawski said: “The motion picture industry won’t shirk its share of the cost of Government, but we don’t want to pay it at the expense of our patrons.”

The Little Theatre, owned and operated by Louise Noxon Miller has been selected to road show “Henry V” starting Nov. 7.

Harry Martin and Max Cohen, whom he succeeds as Universal’s Washington branch manager, were co-honorees at a sitting buffet held at the Variety Club on September 20. The boys were saying so-long to Max and hello to Harry, the former moving up to management of the Cleveland branch, and the latter coming to the Capital from Universal’s New Haven branch.

MGM’s Student Booker Sandy Singer, was married on September 22 to Margery Dolphin, at the Southern Hotel, Baltimore, after which the couple flew to California for a month’s honeymoon.

A final luncheon-meeting of the football committee for the Washington Redskins-Chicago Bears game in Baltimore, sponsored by the combined Variety Clubs of Baltimore and Washington, was held in the Cabinet Room of the Willard Hotel, Presided over by Carter T. Barron, co-chairman with Sam Galanty, it was attended by William K. Saxton, Chief Barker of the Baltimore Variety Club and his committee, Spalding Albert, Fred Schubergber, Chauncey Wolf, Lou Becker and J. Fowler.

Among others in attendance were: Charles Stolberg, George Marshall, owner of the Red-stinks, Frank Boncher, Nathan D. Golden, Frank Le Fale, Sam Wheeler, Harry Backman, James Sandford, Harry Cooin, Dr. Sylvan Danzansky, Ben Strous, Sol Sorkin, Joseph Kromman, Sid Zins, George Dorsey, Bill Hoyle, Clark Davis.

Bob Folliard and J. B. Brecheen, of the local RKO Exchange, were recent visitors in New York attending Home Office conferences. John I’Leary, 20th Century Fox office manager, returned from his vacation in Webster, Mass.

Out-of-town exhibitors seen on Film Row this week were Morris Oakes, Windsor Theatre, Baltimore; Wilbur Brzozdine, Schauber Circuit, and Julius Goodman, Ideal Theatre, Baltimore; Ivan Rosenbaum, Feature Booker and Alec Rovdin, Short Subjects Booker, Neighborhood Theatres, Richmond, Virginia; and J. H. McLellan, Nelson Theatre, Livonia, Virginia.

OMAHA

NEBRASKA THEATRES TO HELP RAISE EMERGENCY PAY HIKES FOR COPS AND FIREMEN

Omaha Universal personnel were host to a trio of sales leaders: Charles Feldman, new western division manager, headquarters in New York; Edward Heiber, district manager, Chicago; and Joe Garrison, former Chicago district manager now at St. Louis.

Pauline Yates, ticket-taker at the RKO-Brandeis, was married here to Dale Pendleton. She will continue with the theatre.

It’s a boy for Frances Coe, former 20th-Fox saleswoman; and Mrs. Bradley, are en route to California for a vacation.

Hugh Dally, Paramount exploitier from Kansas City, spent several days here before going on to New York for a publicity meeting.

Jim Castle, Paramount exploitier from Kansas City, spent several days here before going on to New York for a publicity meeting.

Hugh Dally, Paramount branch manager from Denver and co-drive chairman, stopped here en route home. He held a sales meeting with the local staff.

Exhibitors in the territory can scratch the October 14-15 date on their calendars. New date of the Allied Independent Theatre Operators of Iowa and Nebraska meeting is October 28-29 at Des Moines.

United Artists key personnel from the Omaha territory is back from a district meeting in St. Louis. Those attending included Branch Manager Don McDouglas, Bookers-Office Manager Sid McArdle and the following salesmen: Carl Reece, Harry Barker, Ted Meidenhall, Ed Rostermund, and Tony Tedesco. Tedesco, former Monogram manager, recently joined UA.

Ruth Moberg, United Artists cashier, is vacationing.

Jerry McGlynn, Omaha Metro boss, will be out for sometime. He underwent an appendectomy.

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SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, September 28, 1946

REGIONAL NEWSREEL

(Continued from Page 21)

decently at St. Catherine’s Hospital.

Ralph Maw, MGM district manager from

Minneapolis, visited the local exchange.

Charles Lorenz, head shipper at MGM, has

left for four weeks in California.

Bill Mitchell, the Tri-States district chief,

has been named to a committee that will

collect $160,000 in the next two weeks to

provide an emergency raise for local police

and firemen. His job will be to hustle contri-

butions from local theatres.

Hazel McLaughlin, RKO inspector, is on

vacation.

Mary Reichenberg, 82, mother of Madeline

Schiller Kaufman who is a Tri-States partner

at Grand Island, died. Services were held in

Council Bluffs September 14.

The Ed Kugels celebrated a 25th wedding

anniversary at Holstein, Ia., one of the points

at which they own theatres.

CHICAGO

A fire at the Capitol Film Exchange caused

the death of Tony Lecan, elevator operator,

and severe burns for Betty Gilbrecht, film in-

spectress, and James Hudka, expressman.

Jack Springer, Alliance Theatres, and Elaine

Houston, of Kenosha, Wis., were married and

spent their honeymoon in Canada.

Dino Tubekis has joined the headquarters

staff of the Alliance circuit.

Nate Pultett was named temporary publici-

ty-advertising manager of RKO Theatres here,

succeeding Milton Woodward, resigned.

Frank Smith, western RKO Theatres man-

ager, is expected back from Oak Park Hospital

next week.

Cy Twery has been named publicity director

for Essaness’ Oriental Theatre here.

Frances Crosson, personnel director of the

Essaness circuit, has returned from a New York

vacation trip.

Charley McRoon, secretary to John Balaban,

is the proud father of a seven-pound baby boy

born at the Oak Park Hospital. The child has

been named Charles Gerald. This makes three

children in the family; other two are girls.

The Lavezzl Machine Works have moved to

their new factory at 4635 West Lake Street,

where they have 15,000 square feet of floor

space. All equipment is located on one floor.

Lou Harrison, service director, and Pete Pa-

nagis, promotion manager, leave next week

for Walla Walla, Wash., where they will attend

a meeting of the Midstate circuit on October 6.

S. J. Gregory will go there from Laguna Beach,

Calif., where he is on vacation.

AMONG THOSE PRESENT AT BOSTON MEET. The convention of National

Allied in Boston last week drew theatremen from all corners of the country. Among the

many who registered and participated actively in the meeting’s various sessions are

those shown above. Upper left: Martin Smith, Toledo, president of ITO of Ohio and

past president of National Allied; Jack Kirsch, Chicago, president of National Allied

and president of Allied Theatres of Illinois; Leon J. Bamberger, RKO Radio sales

promotion manager and goodwill ambassador for the company at the convention;

Harry Lowenstein, Newark, former president of Allied of New Jersey; right, Branch

president of Allied of Michigan. Upper right: Arthur K. Howard, Affiliated Theatres,

Boston; Leo Jones, Upper Sandusky, Ohio; Walter E. Mitchell, president, Independent

Exhibitors of New England. Lower left: Don Rossiter, secretary, and Truman T.

Rembusch, president, of Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana. Center: Russ Leddy,

Green Bay, Wis.; William Ainsworth, treasurer, Allied; RKO Radio’s Mr. Bamberger,

again; Ralph Baughan, RKO Radio field representative for New England; Jack Yeo,

Burlington, Wis.; Don Swartz, secretary, North Central Allied. Lower right: John

M. Wolfberg, Cinema Amusement Co., Denver; Irving Sochim, Theatre Owners

Association of Cincinnati.

LOS ANGELES

Howard Herty, MGM exploiter, is cur-

rently touring the country with “Gallant

Beast.”

Leon Hoss, veteran Universal exchange man,

and his wife celebrated their 35th anniversary.

New branch manager of Universal is L. W.

Marriott, who came over from Republic.

William Parker was switched to the “Frisco

office as branch manager of the Dino

Scholl is leaving Cooperative Thea-

tre as a booklet to enter the restaurant busi-

ness. Tom Quinn succeeds him.

The United Artists bunch returned from

Las Vegas following a Western district con-

farr. Included in the group were Jack

O’Loughlin, branch manager; Bert Pollard,

office manager; W. E. Callaway, district head

who presided; and salesmen Bill Warner,

Kenneth Mackaig, Lou Fink, Hal Shields, and

Jack Drum.

The UA female employees gave a surprise

shower for Jack O’Loughlin’s secretary, Gerre

Snyder, recently married.

MGM booker Howard Perrette is on his

vacation.

Ralph Carmichael, of Exhibitors Service,

was named Republic branch manager, to suc-

ceed Bill Marriott. Keith McCullum, Exhibi-

tors Service booker, returned from New York

with his wife and twin daughters. Lloyd

“Stony” Goad is going in for photography on

a big scale.

The Sunset Theatre is closed for remodelling

and is slated to change hands again when it

reopens.

Dan Johnson, of the Ritz and Pala in

Escondido, was in town. Also seen on the

RKO Circuit was Alex Cooperman, formerly

with Exhibitors Service, and now a big real

estate man.

Screen Guild moved from 1908 S. Vermont

to 1576 W. Washington Blvd. The move gives

Bill Fleming’s crew more space in a newly

remodeled office.

INDIANAPOLIS

Sam Oshry, formerly of the sales division

of RKO, Cincinnati, O., has succeeded Don

Hammer, of Universal sales organization.

Oshry will devote his time to the cities of

Indianapolis and Louisville, Ky., for Universal

Pictures.

K. L. Dotterer, of the 20th-Fox sales or-

ganization, was pronounced the “star” sales-

man of the week, having headed all other

salesmen on the percentage quota in the Sypros

P. Skouras Drive.

Jack Eward, former booker at RKO has

joined the shipping department at Republic.

Florence Wheelan, secretary to manager Ted

Mendelsohn, Universal Pictures, is confined to

her home by a severe cold.

W. R. Russell, manager at the Ritz Theatre,

one of the Marcus Enterprise houses, has been

appointed manager of the Ambassador, Cory

and Alamo Theatres in downtown Indianapolis.

He succeeds W. W. Chandler, who has gone to

Florida for his health.

Exhibitors on Filmrow: Lonnie Davis, Pix,

Louisville, Ky.; E. H. Austin, Austin, Ver-

sailles; J. E. Stucky, Warren, Warren; K. H.

Sink, Miami-Grand, Union City; Kenneth Law.

(Continued on Page 24)
The big drama is from Warners!
"A STOLEN LIFE"

The big musical is from Warners!
"NIGHT AND DAY"
IN TECHNICOLOR

The big comedy is from Warners!
"TWO GUYS FROM MILWAUKEE"

The big mystery is from Warners!
"THE BIG SLEEP"

The big adventure is from Warners!
"CLOAK AND DAGGER" (starts this week!!)

the Big dough is from

Jack L. Warner
Executive Producer
(Continued from Page 22)

COZY, Argus; Roger Scherer, Mullers Circuit, Ft. Wayne; A. McCarty, Rossy, Pendleton; Abe Kaufman, Fountain, Terre Haute; O. M. May, Dream, Corydon; Leo Ciacio, Downs, Louisville, Ky.; Sam Weinberg, Crescent-Sheimar, Louisville, Ky.

W. J. Kupper, sales manager, 20th-Fox, his son, W. J. Kupper, Jr., who represents Terry-toons, and J. J. Grady, district manager, Cincinnati, O., were business visitors at the local branch Thursday.

J. R. Neger, 20th-Fox branch manager, Milwaukee, Wis., and Ward E. Scott, Kansas City, were in the city Monday to attend the Variety Club’s Golf tournament, at the Broadmoore Country Club.

Mrs. Helen Bosch, bookkeeper at PRC is visiting her brother in Hot Springs, Ark., who has been ailing for many months.

The Princess Theatre, Cayuga, Ind., has been acquired by J. E. Stecky, who operates the Warren Theatre at Warren, Ind.

MILWAUKEE

The Columbia Theatre, one of the oldest show houses in Milwaukee, having originally been built for use as a turner hall, later a theatre for stock companies, and in recent years as a movie house, is being remodeled, according to designs of R. A. Messmer & Brothers, Thomas H. Bentley & Co. have the general contract.

A new theatre is being built for H. J. Buechel of Mantekan at Shaws, in the northern part of the state. Thus far only the excavation has been completed, the structure to go up when building materials are available. It is expected to be several months before the show house can be completed.

In a preliminary advertising campaign for the remodeled Miller Theatre, to be known as Towne Theatre, Milwaukee street cars carry on the outside (front) reading: “The Newest Thing in Towne.”

The Miller is now being redecorated for opening in a few weeks, having been taken over recently by a group headed by Andrew Spheers, a Milwaukee tobacco wholesaler. It has 1,800 seats, and is reported to be the house for exhibiting first-run pictures of United Artists.

Frank Koppelburger and Irwin Schwabbe, La Crosse, Wis., are reported to have sold their Strand and Riviera Theatres in that city to Ben Marcus. The Strand had been closed for some time and will now be remodeled and opened by Marcus. The Riviera is the largest show house in north La Crosse. Marcus has also taken over the Capitol Theatre in West Allis, a suburb of Milwaukee.

Publocki & Sons Co., Milwaukee, makers of box offices, marquees, etc., have built an addition to their plant to take care of increased business.

Ben Marcus is reported to be building a new show house at Tomah, in Western Wisconsin, and it is expected to be open for business by November 1st.

PUERTO RICO REPORT. Rafael Marti, president and general manager of Tropical Films, Inc., of San Juan, Puerto Rico, and Monogram representative for that territory, is seen above with Norton V. Ritchey, (right) president of Monogram International Corp., during a conference in New York last week. Marti reported that U. S. films are meeting with stiff competition in Puerto Rico from Spanish language pictures, especially those produced in Mexico and the Argentine. He said that Monogram’s “Dillingler,” which is still current in his territory, has broken records in all of its engagements so far.

Gallagher Film Service (Green Bay and Milwaukee), is finishing a color-sound movie for Ansul Chemical Co., of Marinette, Wis., which illustrates how to control various types of fires with a dry chemical. The film shows the actual extinguishing of fires in movie houses. The film is expected to be shown all over the country shortly after it is completed.

Irl M. Jeffries, formerly with Chevrolet Motors at Janesville, Wisconsin, has taken over the management of the Webb Theatre, Webster. Patrons of the Webb have complimented him right from the outset of his management, praising particularly the improved sound and projection. (Jeffries has installed a new Simplex sound system.)

BRIDGEPORT

LYRIC RESUMES WEEK-END PICTURE AND VAUDE POLICY

Oscar Dooh, general theatre executive of Loew’s Theatres, Inc., was in the city last week looking over the circuit’s four local houses. Accompanying him were Harry E. Shaw, New England division manager, and Lou Brown, publicity and advertising head for the division.

Loew’s, which also houses legitimate stage shows when they come to Bridgeport, has resumed its week-end picture and vaudeville policy.

In the past these vaudeville shows have been Saturday night features but Manager Robert Carney has decided to play them Sunday evenings this season. However, Carney has arranged to show a limited number of re-issues. “There is a growing demand for these re-issues,” said Carney, “particularly among women patrons for films which were major successes when first shown. The women just can’t seem to understand why great successes are shelved. They believe they should be brought back periodically for public enjoyment, just as a popular book is re-read and enjoyed.”

Alice Fox, secretary to Manager Matt L. Saunders of Loew’s-Poli, is being congratulated on her recent birthday.

Jack Schwartz, manager of the West End, has replaced his wartime staff of ushers with ushers. The new ushers are Clifford Allen, James O’Donnell, Vincent Kulkza and Louis Franko. Allen and O’Donnell, both war veterans, worked at the theatre before entering military service.

Two members of the staff of Loew’s-Poli are leaving show business to enter the priesthood. John McKiernan, an usher, will become a missionary priest after his ordination. Joseph Schovik will study at St. Mary’s Seminary, Baltimore, Md.

William Rogers, veteran staff member of Loew’s-Poli, had a 60th birthday.

The Klein Memorial presented a condensed version of Mike Todd’s “Star and Garter Revue.” Coupled with the stage attraction was the first Bridgeport showing of “One Hour Before Dawn.” Prices, tax included, were 40¢ for children and 76¢ for adults at matinees, and 60¢ for children and $1.20 for adults at evening shows.

Mrs. Jack Schwartz, who has been in the box office of her husband’s West End Theatre, has decided to relinquish her theatrical ac-

(Continued on Page 26)
REPUBLIC PICTURES
proudly presents
FRANK BORZAGE'S

WE ALWAYS LOVED YOU
in romantic TECHNICOLOR

with the girl who hit
the headlines in her
first major role!

Philip DORN • Catherine McLEOD
William CARTER
Mme. MARIA OUSPENSKAYA
FELIX BRESSART • FRITZ FELD • ELIZABETH PATTERSON
VANESSA BROWN • LEWIS HOWARD

Directed by FRANK BORZAGE

Screen Play by BORDEN CHASE • Adapted from his American Magazine Story "CONCERTO"

Piano Recordings by ARTUR RUBINSTEIN, World's Greatest Pianist

BOOKED IN
TOP THEATRES
EVERYWHERE

APOLLO • CHICAGO
CRITERION • NEW YORK CITY
MALCO • MEMPHIS
SAENGER • NEW ORLEANS
UPTOWN • SALT LAKE CITY
ALDINE • PHILADELPHIA
BROADWAY • PORTLAND, ORE.
CAPITOL • CINCINNATI
STATE • CLEVELAND
AMBASSADOR • ST. LOUIS
PALACE • DALLAS
METROPOLITAN • HOUSTON
PARAMOUNTS
HOLLYWOOD • HOLLYWOOD
AND
DOWNTOWN • LOS ANGELES

INDIANA • INDIANAPOLIS
RIALTO • LOUISVILLE
MAYFAIR • BALTIMORE
FULTON • PITTSBURGH
UPTOWN • TORONTO
WARNER • OKLAHOMA CITY
FOX • ATLANTA
WARNER • MILWAUKEE
UNITED ARTISTS • DETROIT
20TH CENTURY • BUFFALO
DENVER • DENVER
STATE • MINNEAPOLIS
PARAMOUNT • ST. PAUL
LOEW'S STATE AND
ORPHEUM • BOSTON
WARFIELD • SAN FRANCISCO
Activities to devote her time to rearing her children. She has been replaced as cashier by Doris Chapman, a former usherette at the house.

Harry Gulliver, projectionist at the Globe, is receiving birthday congratulations.

Ruth Smelter, advertising manager of the Strand Amusement Co., has won a scholarship to study theatre management at New York University. The scholarship permits Miss Smelter to commute to New York City to attend evening classes at the University while continuing her work with the Strand Amusement Co.

Pearl Rosen, assistant to Manager Robert Carney of the Lyric, will become a bride Columbus Day, Oct. 12.

Joseph Letezio, projectionist at the Rivoli, is back from a two-week fox and woodchuck hunting trip. He brought back 84 pounds of woodchucks. Two other hunters who laughed at Joe because he was using a .410 gauge shotgun while they were using rifles, ended up by buying three 'chucks from him so that they would not return home empty-handed.

Michael J. Carroll, manager of the American, is back from his annual vacation.

Tony Marsella, former assistant manager at Loew's Globe, is a visitor from New Haven to see his old colleague, Manager Al Domain.

BOSTON

SUMMER SCREEN SHOWS START TO CLOSE; 20TH-FOX THROWS WEEKEYE ROAST CELEBRATION

The Twentieth-Century Fox Family Club had a weenie roast, Sept. 16, held out at the Riverside Recreation Grounds in Auburndale. From all reports, a good time was had by all with a dance ending the outing.

Marian Poliner, whose husband is recently back from the service, has resigned as Twentieth-Century Fox' inspectress to assume her "housewife duties."

M & P's "Kiddee Manual" is nearing completion and will be given to theatre managers to aid them in their Saturday morning "kiddee" show which have the commendation of parents and others.

The summer time M & P Falmouth Theatre in Falmouth, Mass., is closed for the winter season as is also the Bayside Theatre in Hull, Mass.

Phyllis Hardy, of the Houghton Theatre in Houghton, Maine, has inaugurated a theatre column in the Houghton newspaper called "Screenings." Proving a success with every one in Houghton, the column consists of motion picture gossip and doings.

Herma Ritkin, who has been out on the Pacific Coast, was welcomed back in Boston, Friday.

Herbert Ascher has transferred from the Royal Theatre to the Olympia Theatre in Worcester. Nate Goldberg, who was at the Olympia Theatre, has transferred to the Plymouth Theatre in Worcester.

Nick Lavvish has resigned as manager of the Plymouth Theatre in Worcester, to attend Suffolk University Law School this year.

John Durvin, branch manager of Universal, was in Albany, N. Y., last week on company business.

Reason why Joe Plunkett, of M & P Theatre, has sworn off eating fish is because one fishbone stuck in his throat two weeks ago and still has not been dislodged.

HONOLULU BOUND. Marking his first vacation in many years, S. Barret McCormick, RKO Radio's director of advertising, publicity and exploitation, leaves hot and humid, New York, accompanied by Mrs. McCormick, for Honolulu.

Charles Caswell, who was a first lieutenant in the Ninth Air Force over France, is the new assistant manager of the Auditorium in Lynn, Mass.

An application made by Mrs. Fritz Strassberger in Springfield, to build a small theatre and one or two stores in the Pine Point district at estimated cost of $12,100, was turned down by the Civilian Production Administration. The application was denied, even though there is no theatre in that area, because of critical shortages in building materials.

Joe Anstead, who used to be manager of the Elm Street Peckers, in Worcester, Mass., is now in West Hollywood, California, as head of the Cinco Wood Company.

James Donovan, resigning from the Five Star Theatre, in Palmer, has entered Boston University.

Mrs. Doris Mollica has been appointed by the Village Improvement Society in Lebanon, New Hampshire, to succeed her husband, the late Vincent Mollica, as Opera House manager.

Fred J. Cantlin of Randolph, Vermont, Mrs. Mollica has assisted her husband since 1926 and her brother has had many years of experience as a projectionist.

The Burns Theatre in Newport, New Hampshire, is undergoing extensive alterations.

Fred Rouse, who was a former employee of the Paramount and Magnet Theatres in Barre, Vermont, is now manager of a theatre in Bath, Maine.

Manager Robert Knight, of the Grand Theatre in Rutland, Vermont, has suspended matinee performances in his theatre for one week in order to redecorate.

The Elite Theatre in Walpole, Mass., with a 300-seat capacity, was recently taken over by the Graphic Circuit.

Ernie Warren, owner of the Empire Theatre in Whitman, Mass., has installed a new heating system in his theatre which will do away with former heating problems.

The Island, newly built theatre in Ports- muth, Rhode Island, opened recently to a capacity crowd. Orville H. Smith is co-owner with Lon Vail, of the Lyric, Warren, and Pastime Theatres, in Bristol, Conn., who will do the buying and booking.

Booker, John Peck of the Twentieth-Century Fox, has been promoted to the sales forces and will now travel the northern Maine territory.

CINCINNATI

SEEK TO STOP OPEN AIR HOUSE AS NUISANCE: CINCINNATI GETS STAGE SHOWS AT THE ALBEE TUNNEL

The suit by a group of Mt. Healthy property owners to stop construction of an open-air theatre in that village is now under advisement. Those seeking the injunction allege that the theatre would become a nuisance.

Live flesh and blood will again tread the boards of the RKO Albee when vaudeville opens there October 17. The stage shows will be staged in conjunction with a full length movie. Vaudeville shows have been teamed with movies in various periods in the history of the Albee, the last time being from November, 1943 to June, 1944.

Sam Osbry, office manager with RKO for

SCHNITZER CONDUCTS NEW ENGLAND MEET. Sales forces of United Artists' New England division had a meeting of minds in Boston last week with the executives above presiding at the sessions. They are: Frank Meadows, New Haven manager; Jim Winn, New England; Ed. M. Schnitzer, eastern sales manager; Clayton Eastman, New England district manager; John J. Dervin, Boston manager.
A Team for Production Work

WITH their fine grain, their similar rates of development, and their speed relationship that permits apertures of the same order for both exteriors and interiors, these two films form an ideal team for production work...

... Eastman Plus-X ... for general studio use.
... Eastman Background-X ... for exterior use, under good lighting conditions.

And when little light is available ... when there's a need for increased depth of field without undue increase in illumination ... Super-XX, another member of the Eastman family of films, gives this team added versatility and usefulness.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY
ROCHESTER 4, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., DISTRIBUTORS
FORT LEE  CHICAGO  HOLLYWOOD
s six months, is leaving this position at the end of the week to take over as city salesman for Universal at Indianapolis.

Hugh MacKenzie, new field publicity director for RKO at St. Louis, was in town during the past week learning the ropes of his new job with Wally Heim, RKO publicity man here.

Stanley Jacques, branch manager and Gene Trivick, salesman from RKO; Ross Williams of United Artists, and Alan Moritz, branch manager of Columbia, were guests at the annual Dayton, Ohio, Variety Club picnic last Tuesday.

William J. Kupper, general sales manager of 20th Century-Fox, was in town Wednesday on business. He was accompanied by his son, William J. Kupper, Jr., sales manager of Terrytown.

Miss Irene Sagel, secretary to Lev Bugie, branch manager of 20th Century-Fox, entertained Mrs. Elvira Hill, formerly employed in that company's office, at a party Friday night.

Out of town exhibitors on Film Row during the week included John Woodard, Zanesville, O.; Joe Scanlon, Marketta, €; Ed Hieble, Zanesville, O.; Hal Suyder, Lancaster, O., and Frank King and Carroll Lawlor, of New York City, all of the Siao Circuit; Lloyd Rogers, Welch, W. Va.; Joe Lee, Covington, O.; H. J. Gilbert, Princeton, W. Va.; Dale Tysinger, Newcork, O.; C. B. Hule, Huntington, W. Va.; Mrs. Mary Smedroth and Jim Herb, her bookkeeper, Dayton, O.; Chris E. Davis, Corning, O.; Sylvester Moorman, Coldwater, O.; Carl Fitzpatrick, of McRoberts and Van Lear, Ky.; Jim Weddle, Lawrenceburg, Ind. and Max Goldberg, Falmouth, Ky.

COLUMBUS

BURLESQUE TO OPEN OCT. 1; KID MATINEES SCORE WITH PUP GIVE-HI-YI IN 'LASSIE' CONTEST

A continuous film-burlesque policy will start Oct. 17 at the Knickerbocker, now closed for reconditioning.

It was a big week for the kids downtown with the Palace having another of the popular Lone Ranger Saturday morning shows and the Ohio staging an opposition Poppy Party. Later included stage presentation of dog obedience by Ernie Wade, former K-9 instructor and his war dog Toby plus award of pedigree pup to winner of Lassie coloring contest.

Rene Kiano, stage and screen comedian, and star of Monogram's forthcoming "Bringing Up Father," based on George M. Cohan's famed

WELCOME TO THE BIG CITY. Producer Walter Wanger and his actress-wife, Joan Bennett, arrived this week in New York from Hollywood. Wanger recently signed a long-term producing contract with United Artists. Miss Bennett will soon be seen in Benedict Rogears "Without Honor," a forthcoming UA release.

comic strip characters, started off on her cross-country in advance of the national release of the comedy.

E. J. Heice, of the Shca theatres, Zanesville, said hello to friends at the Variety Club during a brief stopover on the way back from a backing trip to Cincinnati.

Helen Diefi is the new office assistant at the Broad. Mr. and Mrs. Carl Rogers are due back this week-end after a New York honeymoon. He's manager of the Broad. Joe Shain has been acting as relief manager of the Broad and will shift to the Ohio during the next two weeks while Manager Walter Kessler takes a delayed vacation to Havana.

Ray Miller announces that he's reopening his Fifth Avenue neighborhood theatre Oct. 1 after having been closed during the summer.

Bobby Jones, former chief booker of the Variety Club, writes from Miami that he's on the way to South America.

Iva Wynn has been operating the tiny King- dom theatre, Grove City, since the recent death of owner Ben Almond.

MINNEAPOLIS

Live entertainment, which had been missing from the RKO Orpheum for the past year, returned to the stage of the theatre this week with Cong Basie and his band as the first attraction. The next show scheduled is Orrin Tucker and his band. The Orpheum will follow the same intermittent-stage show policy which it had maintained for many years, according to John Redmond, district manager for RKO Theatres, in Minneapolis.

Ben Berger, president of Berger Amuse- ment Co. and head of North Central Allied, and his manager, Ted Bolnick, will bring Xavier Cugat and his orchestra to the Munici- pal Auditorium Oct. 21. The Chicago Civic Opera is booked for December.

Newscell cameramen representing MGM, Universal, Paramount, Fox and RKO-Pathé were in Minneapolis last Monday night to cover the Variety Club's heart hospital dinner on the campus of the University of Minnesota. Robert J. O'Donnell, national head of Variety Clubs, and William McGraw, executive di- rector of the national organization, who were in Minneapolis for the Variety Club dinner, were honored at a luncheon Monday at Nicollet Hotel by publishers of the Variety Club.

New faces on Film Row are James Mitchell, booker at MGM, Ann Teener, booking stenog- rapher at Paramount, and Helen Pearson, playdate clerk at Paramount. Rodger Norsette has left National Screen Service to go to California. Ben Marcus, Columbia Midwest division manager, was a recent visitor at the Minneapolis exchange.

The Minneapolis Monogram exchange placed first in sales in Division 3 in the recently concluded six-months Steve Brodity testimonial sales and collection drive. The exchange also won a special award of $500 for attaining the highest sales percentage on a quota basis. Total winnings amounted to $1,500.

Orville Reich has resigned as manager of the Chief Theatre at Red Wing, Minn., to enter the insurance field. Alfred Richardson of St. Cloud, Minn., has purchased the Fox Theatre at Nora Springs, Iowa, from M. J. S. Powell. The house will be managed by Richardson's son, Larry, a war veteran, Jenson and Johnson, who recently purchased the Grand Theatre at Dawson, Minn., from C. T. Vik will take possession on Nov. 1. St. Cloud's Brothers Theatre, which weekly shows in the school auditorium at Deer Creek, Minn. Dickinson, N. D., has returned from daylight saving to mountain standard time.

MEMPHIS

John Molerstatt, exhibitor at Hayti, Mo., is recuperating in Baptist Hospital at Memphis, following an operation.

Exhibitors noted on Film Row in Memphis this week included L. H. Bays, Grenada, Miss.; R. B. Cox, Batesville, Miss.; G. H. Goff, Parsons, Tenn.; Miss Mae Mask, Bolivar, Tenn.; Moses Siman, Lutara, Ark. and Jack Watson of Tunica, Miss.

Cecil Vogel, manager of Loew's Palace, has obtained the cooperation of the Memphis Safety Council, the Safety Director of the Public Schools and the Police Department in connection with the showing of the MGM safety short prepared in cooperation with the Los Angeles Police Department.

"Captains Courageous," MGM reissue opened at Loew's State here Thursday, Sept. 19, to enthusiastic re-reviews in the newspapers and excellent box office.

Perry Spencer, Universal Southeastern ex- plorer, has been in Memphis in connection with upcoming Universal subjects to be shown at the Malco.

DENVER

POLIO PEAK PASSES, THEATRE BUSINESS RETURNS TO NORMAL; PRC 3RD IN COMPANY DRIVE

With the polio epidemic past its peak the schools and colleges of the state opened Mon- day, and the ban against stage plays and under attending public gatherings and theatres was lifted. Theatre business consequently is getting back to its pre-polio level. Numerous theatres that had cancelled shows for children are busy booking for them again.

Rube Jacker, assistant sales manager, and Jerry Safron, district manager, were in Denver to deliver a nice-sized check to Eddie Akins, at present PRC branch manager here, for his
work as part of the Columbia 25th Silver Anniversary drive, Ashkins was city sales manager for Columbia in Los Angeles prior to coming to Denver, and the check was his share of third place money. The local PRC exchange has won third place in the PRC Employees Bonus Drive, and every employee was given a two-week salary check as their bonus. The exchange also won $250 for the work on "Enchanted Forest."

Mrs. Tillie Chalk, Paramount office manager, made her first plane trip when she flew to El Paso, Texas, for a week-end visit.

Nadine Ingalsbe, secretary to John McManus, Los Angeles city manager for Warner Bros. theatres, and former Federal and Granada cashier in Denver, spent her vacation here visiting Charlotte Stuever, Egyptian manager, and relatives.

Tom Breuman, city manager Fox Intermountain Theatres, Laramie, Wyo., is recovering from a recent operation.

Press Woods, purchasing department Fox Intermountain Theatres, Denver, is recovering from illness, and George Bleakley has been added to the auditing department.

Gala Stewart has sold the Delmar, Morrill, Neb., to Haus J. Peterson.

C. U. Yaeger has set Oct. 24th as the opening date for his new $175,000 900-seat Lamar, Lamar, Colo., and most of film row managers and salesmen are expected to attend.

Gilbert Cain, who was in the air force during the war and shot down over France, has gone into business with his father, Sam, owner of the Avalon, Pueblo, Colo.

MEDALIST. Ted R. Gamble, Portland, Oregon, theatreman and chairman of the Board of American Theatres Association, who served as Wartime Director of the War Finance Division of the Treasury Department, was awarded the Civilian Medal for Merit in Washington last week. The presentation is pictured above, with Secretary John W. Snyder, representing President Truman, pinning the medal on Mr. Gamble as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Fred M. Vinson looks on.

JERSEY CITY

Dominick F. Barreca, manager of the Orpheum, is the grandfather of Robert F. Barreca, Jr., child of Dominick's son, Robert, Sr., who resides at Woodside, L. I.

John A. Ogletti, formerly associated with his two brothers in the management of houses near Pittsburgh, Pa., is new owner-manager of the Astor, North Bergen, which he purchased from Herman Alpert. Ogletti, a native of Kansas, is playing matinees on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays only as his house is in a strictly residential neighborhood. On weekdays he opens his house at 5 p.m.

Seymour Binkow, of Weehawken, son of James Binkow, for many years owner of the Temple Theatre, Union City, and formerly one of the best known figures in show business in Hudson County, is new relief manager for the Jayer Theatres Management Circuit. The elder Binkow is now making his home in Florida, having retired.

According to The Sunday Bulletin, negotiations are under way by Hollywood interests to make talking pictures in the old Fort Lee film studios, in the Nungesser section of north Hudson County, part of which is still standing. The story said that the move was contemplated because of the high taxes imposed in California. The political leadership of Hudson County will give every possible cooperation to the establishment of talking picture studios here, it was indicated. The Bulletin story further asserted that motion pictures got their start in Hudson County, recalling that in the early 1900's David Horsey established the first motion picture film processing plant in the east at 46th street and Avenue E, Bayonne.

HARRISBURG

The first copy of "Action!" has hit the streets, getting a big response by the recipients. Put out single-handedly by Edgar Goth, publicity and advertising director of Fabian-
REGIONAL NEWSREEL

(Continued from Page 29)

Wilmer and Vincent theatres in Pennsylvania and Virginia, the publication will be distributed to managers and executive personnel of the 20 houses. The first issue contains a foreword by Lou Golbing, division manager, and sections for promotion, exploitation and selling ideas advanced by the various exhibitors in the chain. In addition an ad layout and personal items will be featured. The magazine will be published monthly.

A popular column every Wednesday and Friday in Patriot is the “New York— the big town column for home town folks,” written by Paul Walker of the Columbia Pictures exploitation staff in New York. Walker, former city newspaperman, wrote the movie column in the Telegraph for 20 years before going to New York.

The “Mainship,” the newest of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer’s advertising stunts, made its debut rising in the clouds above Harrisburg last Thursday night, in its inaugural journey from the Navy base at Lakeshurst, N. J., where the large dirigible was converted.

PORTLAND

FALL WEATHER BOOSTS BUSINESS DESPITE OUTDOOR COMPETITION; POLCHOK JOINS STERLING

Opening of the fall season with colder weather has increased business for Portland downtown houses, despite the continuation of outdoor attractions which include night baseball, dog races and horse races.

Zollie M. Volchok will join Sterling Theatres on Oct. 1 as Seattle supervising manager in charge of 24 theatres. A University of Oregon graduate, Volchok has been with Hammer- Evergreen theatres in Portland. During the war he served in the Navy.

Mickey Gross, formerly with RKO in Denver, is new manager of theatre operations for Sterling Theatres, President John Danz announced. Ted Halmi, also an RKO employee in Denver, will join the advertising department in charge of exploitation under Advertising Director Jack Engerman while Clinton McFarland becomes Engerman’s assistant and Jerome Perry stays on as layout artist.

Jane Powell, Portland movie star, has been selected Oregon’s first citizen by the Lion’s Club.

Miss Ray Telier, secretary to 20th-Fox Western Sales Manager Herman Wobber, is touring Portland and Seattle key houses in behalf of the woman’s division of the Spyros Skouras drive.

Ray Kaiser quit the 20th-Fox ad sales manager job he held in Seattle to join Film Classics under Jack Klopper.

TORONTO

PRIEST BLESSES NEW STUDIO; TORONTO POLIO BAN LIFTED

Something unusual for Canada’s film industry took place when the new studio of Quebec Production Corp. at St. Hyacinthe received the blessing of the Roman Catholic Church in a ceremony performed by Mgr. Leon Fortin, in the presence of civic and religious representatives.

The King Theatre, a Toronto neighborhood house operated in alliance with Odeon Theatres of Canada, has been acquired by Norman Clavir, who has instituted a new policy of specializing in Soviet product.

For two weeks juveniles were not permitted to attend Windsor, Ont., theatres because of the poliomyelitis epidemic under an order of the local health department, but the ban has been raised. The Saturday juvenile shows have been resumed.

Graydon Matthews, formerly of Winnipeg, has been named Toronto branch manager for Monogram.

The first Canadian branch, Toronto Tent No. 28, of the Variety Clubs of America, started its fall activities September 23 at the King Edward Hotel here, when there was a further study of plans for permanent headquarters, for which there has been a search for a year. Although the Tent is homeless, Chief Barker J. J. Fitzgibbon officiated at the initiation of more members.

President I. H. Allen of Astral Films, new independent film exchange here, has announced the appointment of Ben Sommers, formerly with United Artists, for his office at Winnipeg.

CHARLOTTE

LION CIRCUIT ADDS 2 HOUSES IN PORTSMOUTH, VA.; EXHIBITOR HENRY COOK DROWNS FISHING

The Delta and Elio theatres of Portsmouth, Va., have been added to the Lion Theatre circuit of Franklin, it was announced this week by General Manager F. L. Fowler. This brings the circuit’s total up to six. In 1930 it started with the Franklin at Franklin, added the Boykins at Boykins in 1935, the Franklin State in 1937 and the Waverly Lyon in 1941.

C. S. Voake, Columbia Auditor, has returned to his company’s Home Office after spending...
The Magic Bow
(Reviewed in London)
GFD-Universal Drama with Music 105 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Colorful period romance plus great music superbly played by Yehudi Menuhin and fine production values do not combine well for complete audience favor.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Doubtful, since the novelistic plot and classical music may neutralize each other's drawing power. Play up Yehudi Menuhin to draw the non-attending music enthusiasts and plug it as the "loves of Paganini" to attract the others.


Plot: (Granger), a penniless violinist, meets Phyllis, a rich aristocrat, to the disgust of Jean, his childhood sweetheart. With Phyllis as his inspiration he becomes famous, but learn that Napoleon has decreed that she shall marry Price, a nobleman. In Paris at the peak of his career Paganini is challenged to a duel by Price. Defeated, Paganini returns heartbroken to Italy, abandoned by his lover, but an invitation to play for the Pope is accepted. In the Vatican, he meets Phyllis again. Price, realizing her true love, retires gracefully.

Comment: Maurice Ostrer attempts to combine his success formula for robust, period romances with the great music of the masters and the brilliant violin playing of Yehudi Menuhin. But the combination fails to jell. The music retards the novelistic plot of the poor fiddler's love for the aristocrat and in turn those who are attracted by the music will be little impressed by the trimmings. The production made little more than a hint of Paganini's alleged Satanic powers and the result is an altogether costume drama. Despite poor studio "exterior," the production values are on a lavish scale. Particularly impressive are those depicting the Vatican. Yehudi Menuhin doubles for Granger in the violin sequences and this should be turned to good account in exploitation. Stewart Granger who scored in "Cesar and Cleopatra," should be a drawing card while Phyllis Calvert is building up quite a following and is present in Hollywood. The outstanding performance, however, is that of Cecil Parker, as Phyllis's brother, who is becoming something of an expert as a scene stealer. Sell the film as the loves of Paganini, but exploitation must be handled with the utmost care to the non-attending groups who will go for the music, and at the same time appeal to the general public.

Blue Skies
(Color)
Paramount Musical 104 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Lovely on the eyes, ears and intelligence—in short, thoroughly delightful entertainment for everyone.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Bing Crosby, Fred Astaire and Joan Caulfield for the marquee, Technicolor and Irving Berlin's music make a combination that should make the ticket machine sing, probably will be one of the season's top grossers.


Plot: Bing Crosby is a night club owner and entertainer whose pleasure in life is selling his successful night clubs and planning and starting new ones. Fred Astaire is a musical show dancing star and Joan Caulfield is a Dillingham show girl whom Astaire is trying to marry. Joan meets Bing at a party and decides that he's for her and always will be. They marry and have a few happy years, but Bing's habit of moving on to greener pastures causes them to split up in spite of their love. Astaire, having been injured in a fall from the stage is now a radio entertainer, and it is his story of Bing, Joan and himself told over the air in an attempt to locate Joan, that is unfolded in flashback. Joan comes to the radio studio and she and Bing are reunited.

Comment: It is the stars and Irving Berlin's music, plus the outstanding beautifully Technicolor production that makes "Blue Skies" more than just another musical. While the story is interesting, it is just an idea that serves to bring forth Berlin's most famous numbers from the very early Roaring Twenties until not very long ago. Crosby sings as Crosby always does, which should be sufficient for any music fan, and Astaire dances several numbers in the manner that has made him the foremost terpsichorean of his time. Miss Caulfield is beautiful and she can act convincingly. One of the outstanding comedy bits of the film is an interlude by Billy De Wolfe that should roll audiences into the aisles and Mr. De Wolfe's presence is noticeable throughout the action. Another comparative newcomer is Olga San Juan, who rolls those eyes and the rest of her anatomy in a manner calculated to elicit wolf whistles but which is, nevertheless, not offensive but vastly entertaining. Miss San Juan, De Wolfe and company will be much heard from in the near future. In Joan Caulfield Paramount has come up with a young lady whose talents cannot help but place her in the future star class. With all its attributes, the film is the answer to a showman's prayer. Here is a picture that should do top business wherever it plays.

Correction
Through a typographical error, the running time of Columbia's "The Jolson Story" was incorrectly listed in the review of that picture which appeared in the department last week. Correct running time: 128 minutes.

Outlaw of the Plains
PBC Western 54 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) A better-than-average story in the Buster Keaton Jr. series, with sufficient action to please western fans.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Should do as well as any of the others.


Plot: Fuzzy St. John believes he is psychic and peculiarly enough some of his predications have turned out favorably in money matters. So when he follows his "voice" and discovers gold, his rancher friends hurry to invest with him so he can buy the site on which gold was discovered, Buster Crabbe finds out that the whole thing is a swindle on gullible Fuzzy and the ranchers are about to get their money back when a land agent for the inevitable railroad turns up with an offer that gives them the idea of a quick buck.

Comment: The plot seems a little too complex for a western of this type but it provides plenty of opportunity for the kind of action and comedy to be expected in this series. It should provide satisfactory entertainment for western fans. Suitable for the lower half of week-end double-bill situations.

The Overlanders
(Reviewed in London)
Eagle Lion Western 91 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) A refreshing western, with an Australian setting, that packs a neat punch and builds to a terrific climax.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Plenty of action for the action fans, and this angle will have to be emphasized in American exploitation, since there are no marquees names to provide drawing power.


Plot: When the Japanese invasion threatened northern Australia, a million head of cattle were condemned to death as part of a scorched earth policy. Rafferty, a drover, is convinced, despite opposition, that he could overland them 2000 miles. With difficulty he gathers a motley crowd and they set out with a thousand head. Crocodile-infested rivers, bogs, scorching heat, dried-up wells and stampeding herds are among the difficulties which face them, but they get through. As they fly North again to collect more cattle, they see below that others have followed their example.

Comment: Based on fact, this is to all intents and purposes a western with an Australian setting. All the ingredients are here, together with several new twists. The crocodiles attacking the party as they cross a river provide a thrilling sequence and the climax, (Continued on Page 35).
Hollywood Jurisdictional Dispute With Its Possible Strike, Places the Studios in a 'To Be or Not to Be' Position in Setting Production Plans for the Future

Studios from one end of the vast terrain covered by the "Hollywood film colony" were in a dither last week and at the beginning of this week (when this report was being written) as to whether on the morrow they were "to be" or "not to be" in action at their jobs of making pictures. For a strike threat that hung over the land like a huge cloud of potential downpour that not only would dampen but entirely wash out everything resembling activity and turn the place into a ghost town.

U-I May Start 'Egg'

If a strike does not occur, Universal-International's next to roll should be the filming of Betty MacDonald's best-seller, "The Egg and I." Cast lines up thus far as Claudette Colbert, Fred MacMurray, Louise Allbritton, Marjorie Main, Percy Kilbride and Billy House. Lena Goldstein will serve as executive producer and Chester Erskine and Fred Finkelhoffe, Jr. will be producers. Erskine and Finkelhoffe also wrote the screenplay. Erskine will direct.

The Technicolor drama, "Slave Girl," is back to the title of "Flame of Tripoli," Yvonne De Carlo and George Brent co-star, with Charles Lamont directing. The other U-I film going is "I'll Be Yours," with Deanna Durbin, Tom Drake and Bill Bendix.

Big MGM Shooting Schedule

If normal conditions exist on the production front, MGM ought to be very busy with a large shooting schedule. "Green Dolphin Street," winner of Metro's first annual contest for the outstanding novel of 1944, has been shooting on location just south of the Oregon border. Director Victor Saville and a troupe of 150 are quartered in a camp constructed among the giant redwoods.

The studio added a group of former vaudeville villains and silent stars to Red Skelton's "Merton of the Movies," including Chester Conklin, Vernon Dent, Clarence Henneke and Tommy Dugan. "Summer Holiday" has been completed, with Bob Hope and Bing Crosby off on a p.a. tour. Peter Lawford danced for the first time in films when he spoofed it with Frank Sinatra and Jimmy Durante in "It Happened in Brooklyn."

Leonard Picker, who only recently came to MGM from Columbia, resigned his post there.

Columbia's 'Heart' Trouble

Columbia continues to be plagued with difficulties on "My Empty Heart," now titled "The Guit of Janet Ames." Previously, the film was delayed several weeks because of rewriting following the collapse of Virginia Van Upp. Her successor, Helen Deutsch, was reportedly at odds with director Charles Vidor over supervision of the picture. It has almost a month to go yet.

With a strike possible, plans are in the balance in connection with two new flickers set to roll. They are "The Hunter Is a Fugitive," postponed to September 26, and "Love Hand Texan," Charlie Starrett-Smiley Burnett western, scheduled to start September 27. The western stars finished "West of Dodge City," Bad weather retarded shooting on the Arizona location of "Twin Sombreros," but other Columbia pictures proceeded on widespread sites. These included "They Walk Alone" at Bronson Canyon, "Cigarette Girl" at the studio's ranch, and "Last of the Redmen" at the Corrigan Ranch.

Character comedian Sid Tomack, because of his work in "They Walk Alone," was given a choice part in "Inside Story." Robert Gordon is directing the mystery drama starring Chester Morris.

20th-Fox Finishes Two

Managing to get under the wire before any possible labor strike were two 20th-Fox films, "Bob, Son of Battle" and "The Brasher Doubloon," which were edited and are now being edited.

In a site distant from Hollywood's troubles is "Boomerang," being shot in Stanford, Conn. William Mayberry, casting director, has been in New York recruiting actors from the stage. Elia Kazan is directing the picture, which stars Dana Andrews and Jane Wyatt.

SG Wraps Up Duo

Screen Guild put two more films to bed with the completion of "Renegade Girl" and "Queen of the Amazon." The former, a story of the Missouri frontier in the last days of the Civil War, was produced and directed by William Berke. Last addition to the cast was Claudia Drake. Picture finished shooting at the Headquarters Ranch, near Hollywood.

For Small Spaces

By modifying a standard camera dolly so that it is also a high-speed lift, Harry LeMay laid the head gear for Monogram's "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," has increased the scope of motion picture camera work in confined spaces. When producer-director Roy Del Ruth called for several unusual shots in a narrow passageway, the standard camera boom was found to be too large for the particular set. Henry Sharp, cameraman and Lewis then devised the new dolly. It allows for shots from floor level to eight feet high in the narrowest confines.

Queen of the Amazon's," an exploitation-type vehicle, starred Patricia Morison, Robert Lowery and J. Edward Bromberg—also, Jimmy the Talking Raven and Jackie, the Lion. Former silent star Wesley Barry assisted producer-director Edward Finlay in the picture.

Enterprise Sets Another

Depending on the outcome of labor headaches, Enterprise may start another film September 20. With "Ramrod" being edited and "Arch of Triumph" before the cameras, "The Other Love" joins the parade. Barbara Stanwyck and David Niven will be co-starring. Andre de Toth, who directed "Ramrod," will also handle this one. A huge Alpine set to occupy 15,000 feet of floor space has been built inside Enterprise's new stage for use in the film.

Republic Defers Several

Because of labor trouble, Republic postponed "Outlaws of Sioux City" and "Web of Danger," both were supposed to start some time ago. "Hit Parade" is now "Hit Parade of 1947." The Yates lot also postponed its serial, "Jesse James Rides Again."

Two Start at UA

William Boyd began another Hopalong Cassidy, with Mary Ware getting the female lead. George Archainbaud is directing "Hoppy's Holiday," which began on location. Andy Clyde is featured as Hoppy's comic sidekick. "Little Women," supposedly started, has not. The picture still has preliminary work and casting to be done. Monterey Productions started "Red River," featuring John Wayne, Montgomery Clift, Walter Brennan, John Ireland and Noel Beery, Jr. Howard Hawks is producing and directing.

Charles R. Rogers finished "The Fabulous Dorseys." Still shooting was Fred MacMurray's sequence in the Bogart-Meredith production, "A Miracle Can Happen." Fortunio Bonanova was signed by Preston Sturges to a top role in "Vendetta." Sturges overtook Bonanova at El Paso, where he was on his way to Mexico City for a starring role in a film. "The Stray Lamb" is still straying. The picture was all set to go when the Cagneys said "no dice" because of the hazardous labor situation.

Paramount Active

If no strike has occurred by the time you read this, Paramount will be the busiest lot in town. Director Lewis Allen held Hal Wallis' Technicolor production, "Desert Town," going despite the hospitalization of star John Hodiak due to an injury. Frank Fenton was added to the cast as a professional gambler and Johnny Farrell was given the role of a comic drunk. "Variety Girl," to be produced by Daniel Dare and directed by George Marshall, was to start September 25. Pearl Bailey, Negro singer, makes her movie debut in the picture.

"Dear Ruth" had trouble for a spell because of the "smog" on location, obscuring the

(Continued on Page 34)
'Washington Flyer' As
Susan Hayward Vehicle

"The Washington Flyer," an original story by George Oppenheimer, has been purchased by Walter Wanger as a starring vehicle for Susan Hayward, who recently completed "Smash-Up" for him.

Martin Gabel, former New York radio actor and now a producer-director, will direct the romantic mystery drama in which all the action occurs aboard a train between New York and Washington. Robert Yates is working on the screenplay, with production scheduled to start around the middle of December.

'Unfaithful' Set As
Ann Sheridan's Next

Ann Sheridan's next starring vehicle for Warner Bros. will be "The Unfaithful," a story of post-war domestic problems. David Goodis, author of "Dark Passage," current Saturday Evening Post story, is doing the screenplay, and Jerry Wald will produce.

"Serendipitously," in which Miss Sheridan will costar with Dennis Morgan, has been moved to a later starring date after Morgan finishes "My Wild Irish Rose."

Hoffman Schedule Builds

Three more story properties have been assigned to Charles Hoffman, producer, giving him a current schedule of five pictures on the Warner program. New assignments include "The Hasty Heart," from the Broadway stage hit; "For Sentimental Reasons" and "A Kiss in the Dark," Hoffman already has "Ships in the River" and "The Unsuspected."

Borrows Dorothy Patrick

Producer Jules Levy has borrowed Dorothy Patrick from MGM to play the leading feminine role opposite Arturo de Cordova in "New Orleans," his forthcoming United Artists release being directed by Arthur Lubin. The Associate producer is Herbert Biberman.

First Shirley, Now Sharyn

Herbert Evans, English actor who won recognition through 11 roles with Shirley Temple during the height of her juvenile popularity, has been cast in the second most important male role in Columbia's new Technicolor picture "Barajo," supporting 10-year-old Sharyn Moffett.

Wilson Associate Producer

Warren Wilson will serve as associate producer to Eddie Cantor on the latter's RKO Radio feature, "Rich Man, Poor Man." Cantor will co-star with Joan Davis.

As Famed Balladeer

William Frawley will play William Scalan, famed balladeer of the Gay Nineties, in Warner's "My Wild Irish Rose," starring Dennis Morgan as Chaucerie Oclott. Andrea King has the coveted role of Lillian Russell.

Basket in Disney Film

James Baskett, new to films but a name in other fields of show business and a favorite voice on the radio, will play Uncle Remus in "Song of the South," forthcoming Walt Disney feature to be released by RKO Radio. "Song" is Disney's first full-length live action drama.

BEACON SIGNS ALFRED GREEN TO DIRECT 'COPEACABANA';
ANN BLYTH JOINS CAST OF U-I'S 'TIME OUT OF MIND'

William Farnum, star of silent days, was cast in Columbia's Glenn Ford-Joan Carter starrer, "They Walk Alone," which Richard Wallace is directing.

Bert Halden and Don Kerr, ex-vaudeville team, are reunited for MGM's "Merton of the Movies." They play a Hollywood screenwriting team of 1915, the comedy which stars Red Skelton with Virginia O'Brien.

Carolyn Baker, daughter of Frank Butker, Academy Award-winning scripter of "Going My Way," was signed to a seven-year acting contract with Universal-International.

William Marshall has been given his first dramatic part in Republic's "Wyoming," which will star William Elliott and Vera Ralston. Joseph Kane will produce and direct.

Town Talker, first picture 20th-Fox to an important supporting role in "My Heart Tells Me," which costars Victor Mature and Nancy Guild. Gregory Ratoff will direct the film for producer Gene Markey, who also wrote the screenplay.

Allene Roberts and Julie London, both of whom make their debuts in leading roles in "No Trespassing," starring Edward G. Robinson and Lon McCallister, were signed to a long-term contract by Sol Lesser.

Jean Leonard, whose singing career was interrupted by five years of army service, was signed to a long-term contract by Columbia and will be trained for straight acting as well as singing roles.

Phyllis Thaxter was cast as the young wife in "To Kiss and to Keep," MGM picture starring Gene Kelly with Marie McDonald, which Gregory Ratoff is directing.

Frank Fenton was given the role of a professional gambler in Hal Wallis' "Desert Town," Technicolor production at Paramount.

Jerry Thomas has signed Ray Taylor to direct "Willie's Country," first picture in his new Eddie Dean series of outdoor action musicals for PRC.

Ann Blyth has been added to the all-star cast of Universal-International's "Time Out of Mind," in which Douglas Fairbanks, Gloria Swanson, and Richard Arlen have top roles in the film.

First picture role for Gay Nelson, 19-year-old blonde who was signed to a term contract by Columbia, will be the top feminine role in "Mille's Daughter," screen adaptation of the Donald Harman Clark novel, which is scheduled to go into production early in October, with William Bloom producing.

Joseph Schnickraut has been given one of the top featured roles in Republic's Nelson Eddy-Joan Fontaine starrer, "Will Tomorrow Ever Come?" which Allin Dunn will produce and direct.

Dorothy Patrick gets the feminine starring role opposite Frank Lovejoy in Jules White's "Seven Days," saga of jazz age in production with Arthur Lubin directing. Also added to the cast were Joan Blair and Armando Rodriguez.

Vicent Lawrence was signed by Paramount as a writer and will be given the screenplay of "Eagles Have Flat Feet." Lawrence formerly was under contract to MGM and has written screenplays of such pictures as "Test Pilot," "Adventuring," "Moon Over Miami" and "Gentleman Jim."

Geraldine Wall is set for the important role of Nurse Eugenie in Enterprise Productions' "Arch of Triumph," Charles Boyer-Ingrid Bergman starrer which Lewis Milestone directs for producer David Lewls.

Emmett Vogan, veteran of the New York stage, was signed for the important role of a colonial soldier in "Last of the Redmen," which Sam Katzman is producing for Columbia. Adapted from James Fenimore Cooper's novel, "The Last of the Mohicans," the picture is being directed by Milton Rosson and stars Jon Hall and Michael O'Shea.

DONALD O'CONNOR SIGNS 7-YEAR CONTRACT WITH U-I

Out of pictures for more than two years while in the Army, Donald O'Connor, now 22, has signed a new seven-year contract with Universal-International and will return to the screen soon in a musical comedy with a Yale background, circa 1900, "Good Old Eli!"

According to present plans, the picture will be filmed in Technicolor and produced by Fred Finkelthoff and Chester Erskine. Much of the picture will be made at New Haven, Conn., where the cast and crew are scheduled to arrive around the first of next year.

CAN'T GO, SENDS DEPUTIES

Forced to cancel the trip because of pressure of editing and scoring duties on RKO Radio's "Sinbad the Sailor," Producer Stephen Ames deputized Edward Gilly, recently elevated as Ames' production assistant, and Walter Daniels, RKO production chief, to go to Mexico City to prepare the groundwork for "Tycoon," which is to be filmed in its entirety south of the border.

STILL PLANNING 'COCAINE'

Monogram is continuing to rush preparations for "Cocaine," despite recent bursts against the MPA for lifting its ban against drug films. Screenplay by George W. Sayre, from the Cornell Woolrich original, is nearing the half-way mark. Walter Mitich is reading the property for production.

JOIN 'HEART' CAST

Frank Latimore, Richard Lyon, Hobart Cavanaugh and Nylia Westman have been added to the cast of 20th-Fox's "My Heart Tells Me."

NEW IDEAL THEATRE CHAIRS

JOE HORNSTEIN HAS IT!
HOLLYWOOD

STUDIO ROUNDPAPER

(Continued from Page 32)

skies. Paramount did manage to finish what it terms its "most elaborate production since Pearl Harbor," when shooting was completed on "The Emperor Waltz." In Technicolor, the picture started May 31 at Jasper National Park in Canada.

E-L Plans 12 for PRC

A new development concerning Eagle Lion was divulged recently, with the announcement that Eagle Lion will make 12 pictures for PRC. The arrangement is understood to be that PRC will make the films on the Eagle Lion lot under the supervision of the E-L executive staff. These dozen flickers will be the "leaders" for PRC and will have budgets between $400,000 and $600,000, according to the terms. This PRC-E-L Previous vehicle, "The picture appeared to divorce itself from PRC activities. The idea now seems to be that since all are members of the Pathé Industries family, all work together. So far, "It's a Joke, Son" is the only PRC-E-L distribution; the other two, "Born to Speed" and "Devil On Wheels" (formerly "When The Devil Drives") are to be released by PRC, although made by E-L.

Just now, E-L is having a reconversion program during a lull in actual production. Buildings are being remodeled and general additions made.

Davis Film Ends at WB

Warners have finished "Deception," the Bette Davis starrer. However, another one was started. The Swedish importation, Viva Lindelof, is being starred with Ronald Reagan in "Night Unto Night." Bruce Bennett, formerly known as Herman Brix, and Rosemary DeCamp are featured. This dramatization of a Philby Wylie book started September 19. If the strike doesn't interfere, two more will get the green light presently: "My Wild Irish Rose" and "Woman in White." Latter will include in its line-up Sydney Greenstreet, Alexis Smith, Eleanor Parker, and Gig Young.

RKO Postpones Western

Because of the present difficulties, RKO postponed James Warren's western, "To the Last Man." "Banjo" was completed just under the wire. "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer" moved into its third month, while "A Time to Kill," Hakim-Litvak Production, has been a month in work.

Sol Lesser signed Jolmny Weissmuller to play a part in his upcoming western. "The Younger" was scheduled for sale to American- based studios who stocks were depleted as a result of the war.

Monogram Starts 'Cisco'

The fourth in the Monogram Cisco Kid series, starring Gilbert Roland, was scheduled to start September 23. "Cisco and the Angel" is the tag of the film, in which Teala Loring plays the femme lead. Others include Fred Yacconelli, Martin Garralaga and Frank Marlo. William Nigh directs with Charles J. Bigelow as supervisor.

Roy Del Ruth finished editing seven reels of "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," which he is producing and directing. "The rush is so the film will be released nationally before the end of the year. The "hurry" sign is also on for preparations on "Cocaine."

Aben Kandel is doing the script for James Ramsey Ullman's film, "High Conquest." Kandel and producer-director Irving Allen are editing 60,000 feet of film shot in Switzerland.

Two Completed at PRC

PRC finished "Lighthouse," featuring June Lang, John Litel, Don Castle and Marion Martin. The film is now at H & H Studios. It marked June Lang's return to the screen after being absent since 1943. Story is a love yarn centering around San Pedro's coastal waters. Also completed was "Return of Rin-Tin-Tin." If nothing intervenes, the company will start its big effort of the season, "The Red Stallion," on location up north on September 30. Noreen Nash, Robert Paige and Ted Donaldson are set as the line-up. Lesley Selander directs the picture; Ben Stoloff comes over from Eagle Lion to produce. The same day is supposed to see the kick-off of a Philo Vance picture, with Howard Welsh acting as executive producer.

Bailey in 'Variety Girl'

Paramount has added Pearl Bailey, Broadway singer, to the cast of "Variety Girl." Miss Bailey now at Universal, beautifully, appeared recently on the stage in "St. Louis Woman." Her role in "Variety Girl" marks her first screen appearance.

SYNOPSES...

(Released Saturday, September 28)

MOVIENTE (Vol. 29, No. 8)—Rescue of 18 in Newfoundland plane crash; President Truman fires Wallace from Cabinet; "Moonie" of Alainres return to England; General Mark Clark honored in Italy; Archbishop of Canossa visits America; Berlin re-builds; (except Boston, New Haven, Albany, Kansas City, Wash., D. C.); Honor guest at Hartford, (Boston, New Haven, Albany only); Golden Globe exhibition in Missouri; (Kansas City, St. Louis, Springfield); Football at West Point, Princeton; Variety Club charity game in Baltimore, (Wash., D. C. only).

NEWS OF THE DAY (Vol. 18, No. 209)—Air rescue of plane disaster victims; Wallace out of Cabinet; Football; College; Illinois; Red Sox vs. Bears; Demobilized eligible now flying for MGM.

PARAMOUNT (No. 9)—Wallace orders ends Capital cable; Reds blanco party for 15th anniversary of Bikaner; Newfoundland air rescue; West Point plays first football game with military; Kareem Abdul-Jabbar plays for Variety Club charity in Baltimore.

RKO PATHE (Vol. 18, No. 11)—General Clark honored at Bainbridge Island ceremony; "Cabin in the Sky" to open in New York; "The Thing" opened in New York; "Parasite" to open in New York.

UNIVERSAL (Vol. 19, No. 50)—18 rescued in crash of steller; Wallace ousted; General Mark Clark honored at Bainbridge Island ceremony; "I Am a Fugitive from a Chain Gang" will play Variety Club charity.

(Released Wednesday, September 25)

MOVIENTE (Vol. 29, No. 7)—Secretary Wallace visits President; Navy surveys Bikini bomb damage; Housing crisis in London; Thunderjet plane flies at 611 m.p.h.; Warehouse in Sydney, Australia, goes up in flames; Movie stars make air tour of South America; New surf-caster devises explained by Lew Lehr; Australian horse-jumping meet.

NEWS OF THE DAY (Vol. 18, No. 209)—Wallace-Baynes rift sizes nation; UNRRA works on; Squatter movement in London meets obstacles; Belgian religious fetes; freemasons celebrate liberation anniversary; Army: Olympic in Berlin; Bracken, Mass., sees thrill show on wheels.

PARAMOUNT (No. 8)—GIs and allied soldiers revive Olympic games in Berlin; Squatter's siege ends in London; Transair silences Wallace; Man meets gorilla in Rome Zoo; England selects Royal Air Force on 5th anniversary of Battle of Britain.

RKO PATHE (Vol. 18, No. 10)—Wallace sees Truman and concils speeches; Jet plane shaders speed record; Veterans' housing project opens in Washington D.C.; Australian "Parasite" to play in 200-day run; Bombed ship undergoes repairs in San Francisco; Japanese executive H. U. arnis; Korea observes year of freedom.

UNIVERSAL (Vol. 19, No. 259)—Wallace speaks circular to President; "Mutiny on the Bounty"; "I AM A FUGITIVE FROM A CHAIN GANG" opens in Minneapolis; Holyoke honor oldest member; Blind boxer hero of neighborhood youth; Baltimore purs on clean-up campaign; Kentucky wedding looks for rights on form; Norfolk man is both pilot and setman by vocation; Sleeping-car porters convene in Chicago.
SHOWMAN'S TRADE REVIEW, September 28, 1946

BOX-OFFICE SLANTS

The Overlanders

(Continued from Page 31)

with the herd being driven over a mountain pass with several falling into a ravine, is excellent suspense. Harry Watt has directed superbly and turned out a really convincing picture which will appeal to the discriminating patrons as well as the action addicts. A feature is Osmond Borradaile's brilliant photography which gives full scope to the spectacle and scenery. Of the players, all of whom are Australian, Chips Rafferty is a fine rugged type and Daphne Campbell, an excellent horsewoman, is a capable heroine. A minor love interest between Miss Campbell and a drover is introduced. Although John Farnside gives a neat characterization as an inept one of the film's faults is too much emphasis on alcohol. The picture is too long; cutting would speed up certain leisurely passages. In America, "The Overlanders" will have to be explicated strongly for its action, since there are no marquees names to provide drawing power.

Accomplish

PRC Mystery 68 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Adult) Mystery fans will find themselves satisfactorily entertained with the suspense and murders presented in this British mystery.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Will be acceptable to the murder-mystery fans as the secondary feature.


Plot: Attorney Richard Arlen turns private detective and is engaged by Veda Ann Borg to find her missing husband. Arlen and Miss Borg get themselves into all sorts of complications with the law when Miss Borg identifies the body of a murdered man as her husband, who then turns up alive. Miss Borg is killed by a stray shot from her husband who commits suicide, cleaning up the case.

Comment: Though this little mystery is a little slower on action than most of these offerings, it should be found acceptable fare by murder-mystery fans, for it has enough murders to satisfy their desire for such entertainment. The excitement and suspense of the chase is there, and the story has enough strange clues to hold the interest throughout and challenge the ability of the regular armchair detective. Richard Arlen turns in a capable performance as the private sleuth and Veda Ann Borg handles the co-starring role opposite him. A good cast of supporting players all turn in adequate performances. Direction by Walter Colmes; production was handled by John K. Tebbitt.

Nobody Lives Forever

Warner Bros. Drama 100 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Adult) Good dramatic fare for the grown-ups, with a special appeal for the feminine element.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Draw of the John Garfield and Geraldine Fitzgerald names should be a good beginning, Word-of-mouth, especially among the women, should build it into more than the average in returns.


Plot: After his discharge from service, a young confidence man finds one of his pals waiting for him. He meets all his own gang, and finds them all set to pull another racket; taking two million dollars from a lonesome widow. He agrees to the setup, but things ends much differently than they had planned, for he and the widow fall in love with each other.

Comment: Good dramatic fare with the draw of the John Garfield and Geraldine Fitzgerald names. Although the story embraces little action, except for a slam-bang ending, it is the direction of the principals and the smooth direction, backed by top production values, that make this satisfying entertainment for adult audiences. It is not a picture for the youngsters, for the situations and lack of swift pace places it outside their ken. In a role that suits him perfectly, Garfield essays the confidence-man with finesse and exceptional ability. Miss Fitzgerald's performance is unusually good, too, and George Tobias makes his delineation of Garfield's man Friday a believable and convincing character. Cast in other featured roles are Walter Brennan, Faye Emerson and George Coulouris, all of whom give outstanding performances. The understanding direction of Jean Negulesco plays the romance, which gives the picture a highly exploitable angle for feminine moviegoers. Production credit goes to Robert Buckner.

LONDON OBSERVATIONS

Spotlight Turns to Torquay Where Exhibitors Meet To Discuss New KRS Terms and Managers Agreement

By Jock MacGregor

Strictly speaking, these should be labelled "Torquay Observations," for that was where the work has been done.

With no summer conference, the Cinema Exhibitors Association accepted the local branch's invitation to hold the September General Council meeting at the West Country resort. With accommodation, travel and other difficulties, the proposal was not at first well received, but exhibitor Jackson Withers put his hotel at the delegates' disposal and there was an excellent turn out. The venture was an unqualified success.

It was the only American trade paper representative present and had gone to renew acquaintances. It was an unexpected pleasure and privilege when I was invited to attend the Council meeting which was held in a private room.

No fireworks were expected though the new Managers draft agreement and Kinematograph Readers Society terms were obvious points of argument.

Forcible speaking by Vice-President B. T. Davies, Dennis Walls and Sidney Lewis, combined with common sense resulted in agreement that, subject to a "major change," existing KRS terms should be doubled with the discount being increased from five to seven and one-half per cent rather than let the matter to go to arbitration.

A delegate asked the definition of "major change." Up popped the indefatigable Harry Mears with "Promotion to Lient. Colonel," Whereupon Col. Lewis said "That sounds like my cue." If only the dialogue in some films were as good!

Secretary W. R. Fuller read the speech which J. Arthur Rank will make when the trade meets the BBC on television. It was brilliant, to the point—and was described enthusiastically as "99½ per cent Fuller with the other half percent being the date."

The new managers agreement which will give better conditions and salaries from $30 to $85 a week was referred back to the branches. All realize that an agreement must be made and that the manager's salary must be such as to make him respected in the community. However, they must think of the small showman.

Numerous items presented by the General Purpose Committee were quickly settled and the number of requests from Government departments for trailers to be shown was surprising.

Votes of thanks were passed for all who made the meeting possible and at the conclusion President Fred Prior presented Charlie Rundle, the Devon and Cornwall secretary, with a barometer and check to celebrate 26 years in the post.

As an outsider I must express admiration for the way Mr. Fuller handled the meeting, overcome the most awkward moment with his broad, beaming smile. Indeed he is the CEA. Before leaving the business side his charming secretary Miss Scott who had no time for the social side must be mentioned. Retiring in the early hours, I looked into her "office" and she was still working.

The majority regarded the meeting as a social gathering and brought their families among whom were the B. T. Davies, George Scarboroughe, Berminals, Chamberlains of Bristol while those accompanied by the misues included Ralph Black, Leslie Hill, John Mather, Ken Jones, Sidney Lewis, A. B. Watts and E. H. Lumby. Many spent the week and some, like President Fred Prior, made it their summer holiday.

Unofficial host was Harry Adley of Younger's Advertising who ran party after party. This was much appreciated as, despite excellent service, the Docheister has no alcoholic license. With his co-director, Stanley Bell and assistant Laurie Ralston, he kept everybody happy.

One night there was a clash between the mayors reception and a screening of Hal B. Winton's "Piccadilly Incident." I managed to look in at both and the holidaymakers were lapping up the film. A pleasant reception followed with Sidney Lewis, Manny Gold, Manager John Harman and other ARCs concentrating on filing glasses.

Among the first to reach Torquay and last (Continued on Page 37)
REGIONAL NEWSREEL

(Continued from Page 30)

a few weeks at the Charlotte Branch. George Roscoe, Columbia Branch Manager, also promised to investigate the fact that his branch was placed second in the recently completed Silver Jubilee Drive.

Hal Keeter, who, for many years was a Warner salesman as well as a Wilby-Kinney manager, has assumed the duties of Branch Manager of the local PRC Branch, according to announcement made by Joe Gins, District Manager.

Harry Kerr, former Metro booker, has accepted a position as salesman for the newly established Kay Film Exchange.

Miss Dorothy Sappenfield, well-known Film Row girl who was, for some time secretary to W. G. Boling, Branch Manager of the national National Theatre Supply branch, was married on September 21. W. G. Miltwas, who has been serving as Boling's assistant at the local National Theatre Supply office, was the winter home of the company's Kansas City office; he will be succeeded in Charlotte by R. D. Turnbull, who has been connected with the company for several years.


CLEVELAND

REINHARD, VETERAN EXHIBITOR DIES; ALLEN THEATRE GOES INTO FIRST RUN POLICY

Harry Reinhard, owner of the Strand and Mozart Theatres, Canton, died last Wednesday at his home of a heart ailment. He had been suffering with pneumonia for 26 months. One of the best liked and most respected exhibitors in this territory, Reinhard had been active in the industry for the past fifteen years. Prior to that he was in the hardware business and with his brother, operated a brewery with Bill Max Young and it was through Max Young that Reinhard became interested in motion picture theatre. He is survived by his wife and two sons, Jerry and Irving, both of whom shared his theatre interests.

Funeral services were held Friday in Canton.

Nat L. Lefton, retired film executive who has been at his summer home in Burt Lake, Michigan, leaves the middle of October for his winter home in Venice, Florida.

Don Wolf, son of Warner zone manager Nat Wolf, a senior at Valley Forge Military School in Wayne, Pa., has been elevated to the rank of first lieutenant.

District manager Harry Schreiber, announces that the Allen Theatre, which has devoted the major portion of its playing time to move-overs, will henceforth be a single first-run house. Opening the new policy with "Three Little Girls in Blue," it is stated that 20th Century-Fox product will be shown exclusively at the Allen for the next several months at least. Outcome of this policy change will be continued runs at both the RKO Palace and the RKO Allen.

Charlie Deardouff is celebrating his 25th year with MGM as exploiter in the Cleveland exchange area.

Leonard Schlesinger, president and Harold Rodner, vice-president of Warner Bros. Service Corp., were in town to confer with Nat Wolf, zone manager, Dick Wright, assistant zone manager and Jack Beresin of Berlo Vending Company. Later in the week, Schlesinger, Rodner, Wright and Beresin made an inspection tour of the Warner Ohio theatres.

Mrs. Lucille Knopf and her son of Oak Harbor were among the week's out of town guests. Mr. Lamm was George Lamm, manager of the Adelphi Theatre, Chicago. He spent the week-end with his parents, Julius Lamm, manager of the Uptown Theatre, and Mrs. Lamm.

Milton Cohen, RKO district manager, was in from Detroit on business. The Cleveland Cinema Club, said to be the oldest club of its kind in the country, opened its fall season on Wednesday with a luncheon meeting in the club's rooms on the seventh floor of the Public Square Hotel, under the direction of Mrs. Paul Gebhart, included a series of French and German color slides representing the earliest efforts at motion production. Mrs. Ralph Kittle, president, presided.

Charles Col. of the district manager, spent the week in Cincinnati making personal calls on top flight exhibitors.

ATLANTA

GRAHAM QUITS "UP" FOR PRIVATE BUSINESS; FRIENDS FETE BILL JENKINS FOR HIS BIRTHDAY

Harry Graham, veteran of the Universal organization, has resigned as manager of the Atlanta division. He plans to enter private business.

Friends of William K. Jenkins, president of the Georgia Theatres Company, flung a grand party in honor of his birthday on September 20.


Ralph McCoy, former division manager of Warner Bros., was in New York on business

Ed Ashmore has been appointed office manager of PRC Pictures, replacing Dixie Graham, who returned to open a "real restaurant that will serve real food." Ed was formerly in the booking department at Paramount.

Bob Bostick, district manager of the National Theatre Supply Company for Dallas and Memphis, visiting the city.

Constance Bennett, the star, and her husband, Colonel Jack Couler, now attending the Maxwell Field Air University, Montgomery, Ala., attended the Variety Club's charity football game here as guests of Jenkins and Colonel John Stembler, Jenkins' executive assistant, who served with Couler in the Pacific.

A year ago, DeForrest Turner, Atlanta lad, with friends, he was washing dishes in a cafe near the Paramount studios. The other day Paramount dished up for him the male lead in "Variety Girl."

Instead of flying a print of "Song of the South" to Atlanta for the two newspaper movie editors to preview, it is flown by Terry Turner are flying the editors to Hollywood for a private screening of the film. The editors, Fred D. Moon, of the Journal, and Paul Jones, of the Constitution, plans to see the latest feature on the picture, which used the fact of Joel Chandler Harris, Atlanta newspaper feature writer. The picture is to be premiered at the Fox Theatre here on November 12, with Disney and a flock of stars attending. The Atlanta Junior League and the Uncle Remus Memorial Association will split the profits, W. K. Jenkins, whose clan operates the Fox, has promised his mother, who is president of the Memorial Association, that this premiere is going to be even bigger that that of "Gone With the Wind."

DES MOINES

Dorman Hurdling, Newton theatre operator, has been elected president of the Newton Kiwanis club.

Ten pretty high school girls competed for the Des Moines milkmaid championship on a downtown street corner with radio stations broadcasting the event which was tied in with the film "The Kid from Brooklyn." Even the Mayor and other city officials served as contest judges.

The fall meeting of the Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa and Nebraska was held Monday and Tuesday, October 28 and 29 at Des Moines, instead of dates previously announced, it was reported by T. J. Evans, executive secretary of the organization.

Don Allens, head of the publicity and advertising department for Tri-State Theatre Corp. is on his vacation, spending most of his time fixing up his recently purchased home.

Imogene Thomas, former secretary for Art Stolte at Tri-State was married to Orlo Willmeth of Crescent, Ia., in ceremonies performed at Orient, Ia. Barbara Rogers is taking the bride's place at Tri-State.

Lou Levy, manager of Universal, will be glad to see the day when he can talk again. Levy underwent a second operation on his vocal cords and hasn't even allowed to whisper. Following his first operation all he could do was whisper. The doctors promise he will be able to talk in several more weeks.

The new Ringsted Theatre at Ringsted is now under the management of D. C. Caswell. The house recently opened.

PHILADELPHIA

NEW COLLEGE THEATRE OPENS WITH "WALTZ TIME"; $250,000 FIRE DESTROYS SCHNEE PLAZA

Harry Felt's New College Theatre, Fairview and Chester Beaver in the Old Filene's Block of Swarthmore, Pa., opened Sunday night, with the premiere showing in this area of the American Film Co. release "Waltz Time" featuring Richard Tauber. A gala opening was set for the premiere, with civic officials, lights, and personalities on hand to lend an air of festivity to the occasion. Hundreds of persons were turned away as the 820-seat house opened. The architectural design of the theatre is Colonial. The house has no electrical marquees. There is a sedate triangular
pillar, upon which current attraction signs are mounted. The seats are so arranged that persons do have to stand to allow other patrons to pass into the rows. There is no motion picture theatre in the town of Swarthmore proper, there being a local ordinance against them, which is the reason for the theatre's location over the border.

Herb Drake, national newspaper editor for the Columbia Picture studios, was due in this week from California to go over the local needs of the newspapers. He was to meet with Division Manager Harry E. Weiner, and Columbia exploiter Milt Young.

The Rosh Hashanah holidays pretty well cleaned out the exchanges.

German movies were shown in town this week, when Jack Haleshow took over the New Polpar theatre, a closed Warner house, for the exhibition of "Music for the Heart" a musical comedy in German. The 6c adult admission price was paid every Monday at $3.00.

The Plaza theatre in Milford, Delaware, was destroyed early Monday morning, by a $250,000 fire that endangered many of the other buildings in the business district. Owned by the Schie Circuit in New York, the 1,200-seat house was the largest on the Dela- ware peninsula south of Wilmington.

Bill Brooker, Paramount exploiter returned from vacation all peppe up for the big meet- ing in New York during the coming week.

VANCOUVER

FALL WEATHER BRINGS BUSINESS BACK TO NORMAL AND BETTER IN CANADIAN PROVINCE

With the advent of fall weather and return from beaches and mountains and our rapidly increasing population from Eastern Canada, both first-runs and suburbs are getting back to normal.

Harry Page reopened the Rio Theatre, Trail, B. C., Sept. 23. He recently leased it from Rometo Rinoldi veteran exhibitor who has retired from exhibition business.

Visitors along Film Row included Jimmy McAllister, Rio, Victoria and Edward Bickle of Cumberland-Courtney theatres. Bickle will open his new Cakiew Theatre in Novem- ber and the Judd Brothers who operate a 16-mm, circuit around Nakusp, B. C.

The Strand Theatre staff will tender Cashier Connie Brown a party before she leaves for Los Angeles to make a live.

The Orpheum Theatre started its fourth year with the popular Harmony House radio show from its stage. The show is broadcast over Western Canada Monday evenings every Monday at 8:30.

Frank Gou, Famous Players district head, and Maynard JOINER, supervisor of theatres, have left for Toronto to attend a meeting of all F-P executives in Canada.

The regular Movie Theatre with a combina- tion stage and films is doing excellent business, being Vancouver's only stage show since the Beacon closed for alterations.

The Steel-Johnson Amusement Co. is making a success of British Columbia's only drive in theatre, the Cascade near Vancouver.

Pete Egan, manager of the Palace Theatre, Calgary is on vacation, recuperating after a serious illness which kept him away from the theatre for a long spell.

Seating capacity in the fast growing Alberta City, Edmonton has been reduced by the sale of the Empire Theatre by Famous Players. The new owners are converting the old road show house into a night club, and will feature a floor show.

NEW YORK

EXHIBITORS SLOW BUYING TO AWAIT COURT OPINION RESULTS; NO PRODUCT SHORTAGE NOTED

Exhibitors have slowed down on their local buying here as well as their visits to film row with the general opinion being that noth- ing would pick up until the court opinion was converted into a decree and the road would be cleared for action.

Most companies reported that they had enough film in the vault which could be used up and that a product shortage seemed un- likely during the next month. The New York situation itself involves circuits almost entirely, with the result as they clear product it be- comes available for situations out of the city.

RKO theatres has moved into operation of the Midway at Forest Hills with Charles B. McDonald adding it to his division and Lee Koken as manager.

Jacket Harvey, daughter of Paramount Publicist George Harvey, has signed up as dancing mistress of ceremonies with a vaude- ville unit to tour the south. Act opens at the Academy Theatre at Lynchburg, Va.

MGM Producer Pandro Berman arrived in New York this week as did also Loew's at- torney Jay Eisenberg. Assistant General Sales Manager Edwin W. Aaron to Kansas City.

Walter M. Hawkins will assume his post as manager of the Times Square Branch of the Colonial Bank and Trust Company on October 1. Appointment of John J. Cumilffe, assistant vice-president, to the staff of the enlarged branch at East 14th Street, also was announced this week.

ALBANY

RENOPATED COLONIAL THEATRE OPENS WITH CEREMONIES

The formal opening of the Colonial Theatre, Albany, took place on Friday evening, Sept. 27. J. Steven Holt is new owner of the recently renovated 600-seat theatre which will have three changes a week. The theatre has a dropped ceil- ing effect, lit by neon, giving rosy glow. Front is in tile striping in blue and brown effect. Marquee has neon and candleighting. Win. P. Woods, assistant manager of the Repub- lic Pictures and Frank Dervin, district manager, out of Boston, visited the Albany Film Row as did Leon Herman, branch manager out of Buffalo.

Congratulations to W. Proctor, Eagle, Albany manager, who just became daddy of a girl born at the Brade Hospital.

Charles Wilson, owner of Bijou, Troy, has announced the marriage of his daughter, Bar- bara Rose to Ray Bowser, also of Troy.

LONDON OBSERVATIONS

(Continued from Page 25)

...to leave was Leslie Holderness of the Birmingham Odeon, who has done so much for the manager's agreement and lobbied unceasingly.

One afternoon I drove Treasurer Teddy Hinge to the new Torquay Film Studios and saw no signs of early activity. It was well worthwhile as Teddy is grand company and we discussed his theatrical side lines. This Xmas, he will have five pantomimes on the road includ- ing a new one, "Pied Piper," which he wrote.

I had a very entertaining time with Dennis Walls of the Emery Circuit and heard of the numerous stunts which have won him more British and international showmanship awards than any other in this country. Enthusiastic, popular he is obviously destined for high CEA office.

Tommy France made $50 or so for the CTBF with a sweepstake which was won by Llewellyn Edwards of Rhyd with Ernest Friedman as runner up.

Eastbourne's Randolph Richards would play 50% British films if he could get them. Enthus- iasm lessens as one goes North. The reason? Ask any American showman. The accent.

SIDELIGHTS ON MEETING

A true cinema enthusiast is C. E. West who started in the business in 1917 and is noted as- sociated with George Scarborough's circuit. He still owns a Newman Sinclair camera and is a specialist on screen music.

Dudley West with 26 years CEA service still being mistaken for Fred Prior and looking ex- tremely like Hugh Herbert. . . Mrs. Ralph Black swimming on key days . . . Leslie Holder- ness off salmon fishing . . . Laurie Ralston being mistaken for a local crooner . . . Stanley Bell's apple pie bed . . . Peter Myott, local showman, in his element, conducting deleges around the town and causing much envy through running "Theirs is the Glory" concurrent world premiere . . . Sorry Colonel Tho Fligelston was staying at the other end of the town and in consequence was not seen very much . . . Flowery words for Maurice Wines, "Speaker's" stories . . . the delegates who booked late and were accommodated in the local "Bel- sen." . . . Bob Godfrey's wager. . . Solicitor Norman Hart enjoying himself. . . Ernest Rogers proving himself a first class mechanic fixing my car. . . D. Heughan's anxiety as to whether I could spell his name correctly. . .

The walks before breakfast. . . The charming staff at the Dorchester—and in particular "Jean." . . Ken Jones defining the independent as the guy who, should a circuit representative venture a suggestion, no matter how good, con- siders it his duty to oppose it. . . The rumors that a premier may be let next year with the election of a past president as vice. . . Mollie and Clare at the Imperial Bar. . . Jackson Withers excellent cuisine. . . George Rees, reluctant on the weather and challenging all com- ers to a swimming race. . . But the greatest memory of this happy affair was Harry Adley's untiring efforts and lusc hospitality.

"Voice of Theatre Speakers" JOE HORNSTEIN has it!
**MONOGRAM**

**Prod. No.**

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<th>MONOGRAM</th>
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<td>101</td>
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**COMING**

Gilbert Roland-Ramsay Ames | 10/16/46 | b1/20/46 |

**Westerns (Current 1945-46)**

Drifting Along (W)F | J. Brown-Raymond Hatton | 69 | 12/25/46 | b5/11/46 |

**PARAMOUNT**

**Block No.**

4 Blue Dahlia (My)A | Ladd-T. Lake-W. Bendix | 106 | 4/19/46 | b2/2/46 |
| 559 | *Naked gypsum* | *Nancy Kelly* | 74 | 3/15/46 | b5/25/46 |
| 564 | Riders of the Dawn (W)F | Jimmy Wakely-Red White | 77 | 1/2/45 | b10/27/46 |
| 566 | Lonesome Trail | Jimmy Wakely-Lee White | 65 | 12/5/46 | b5/11/46 |
| 567 | Shadows on the Range (W)F | J. Brown-Raymond Hatton | 59 | 2/20/46 | b5/1/46 |
| 568 | Trail to Mexico (W)F | Jimmy Wakely-Red White | 59 | 5/22/46 | b7/13/46 |
| 569 | *Finger of Fright* | J. Brown-Raymond Hatton | 69 | 12/25/46 | b5/11/46 |
| 571 | *West of the Alamo.* | Jimmy Wakely-Red White | 59 | 4/26/46 | b5/20/46 |

**Current 1945-46**

4 Blue Dahlia (My)A | Ladd-T. Lake-W. Bendix | 106 | 4/19/46 | b2/2/46 |

**Adventura Island* C | Ladd-D. Ladd-W. Bendix | 54 | 11/24/46 | b1/19/46 |
| 575 | *Road to Utopia (C)* | *Ladd-L. Ladd* | 54 | 11/24/46 | b1/19/46 |
| 577 | *Stork Club (C)A* | Betty Hutton-Barry Fitzgerald | 58 | 3/2/46 | b5/11/46 |
| 578 | *Shangri-La (D)F | J. Brown-Raymond Hatton | 59 | 12/25/46 | b5/11/46 |
| 579 | *Swamp Fire (D)A | Johnne Weisinger-Virginia Grey | 59 | 5/16/46 | b5/11/46 |
| 580 | *To Each His Own (D)A | J. Brown-Raymond Hatton | 69 | 12/25/46 | b5/11/46 |
| 582 | *Well-Groomed Bride (C)D.F. | J. Brown-Raymond Hatton | 65 | 1/26/46 | b5/11/46 |

**Swing for 1940 (F)** | Beltis-Barry Sullivan-L. Pallette | 101 | 6/15/46 | b5/30/46 |

**SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, September 28, 1946**
SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, September 28, 1946

RKO-RADIO (Continued)

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<td>G. I. War Brides (C)F</td>
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<td>Secret Life of Walter Mitty *TD</td>
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REPUBLIC

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<td>587</td>
<td>Home of the Brave (DG)</td>
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<td>The Locket</td>
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<td>Secret Life of Walter Mitty *TD</td>
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<td>Song of the South *T</td>
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<td>Trail Street</td>
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<td>Woman on the Beach</td>
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COMING

Affairs of Geraldine | Jane Withers-Jimmy Lydon |
Angel and the Badman | J. Wayne-G. Russell-I. Rich |
Angie Rooster | J. Frazee-W. Marshall |
Calamity Jane | Barbara Britton-Rudy Vallee |
Ghost Goes Wild | James Ellison-Ann Gwynne |
Hit Parade of 1947 | Eddie Albert-Consoloe Moore |
I've Always Loved You *T (DF)F | Catherine McLeod-Philip Dorn |
Last Frontier U.T | Marie-Stephen Arickin Booth |
Murder Pattern | Marie-Stephen Arickin Booth |
Our California Way *T | Marie-Stephen Arickin Booth |
Pilgrim's Lady | Virginia Dwyer-D. Brian |
Plainsman and the Lady | W. Elliott-V. Ralston-G. Patrick |
Spook | Evelyn Ankers-Paul Kelly |
That's My Gal *T | Don Barry-Lynne Roberts |
Vendetta Rides Again | Walter Winchell-John Loder |
Winter Wonderland | J. Roberts-Charles Drake |

Westerns (Current 1945-46)

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<td>595</td>
<td>Atlas Bully the Kid (W)F</td>
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<td>Rodeo Rendezvous (W)F</td>
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Source: SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, September 28, 1946
Spoonerag
Backlash
Bob, Son of Battle
Bridge
Carnival in Costa Rica
Dangerous Millions
Dedalos
Return of Frank James
Silent Office
Shock (D)
Smokey (T)
Home Sweet Homicides (M/C/F)
I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now
Late George Apley, The
Margie *T*
My Darling Clementine
Razor's Edge, The
Shocking Miss Pilgrim
Silver Youngster
Three Little Girls in Blue

UNITED ARTISTS
A Night in Casablanca (M/F)
A Scandal in Paris (D/A)
Angel on My Shoulder (C-D/A)
Bachelor's Daughter, The (C)
Brother -in- Law
Caucasian Stalwart
Diary of a Chambermaid (D/A)
Goldeneye's Gunner (C/A)
Johnny in the Clouds (D/F)
Mr. Ace (D/A)
Rebecca
Spirited Away
Whistle Stop (D/A)
Young Widow (D/A)

SCREEN GUILD PRODUCTIONS

COMING

GRAND STAND

TALK OF THE TOWN

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
TITLE CHANGES

“My Empty Heart” (Col) now TELL THE GUILT OF JANET ANES
Untitled Cisco Kid (Mono.) now BEAUTY AND THE BANDIT
“Lady Killer” (PRC) now LADY CHASER
“Hit Parade” (Rep) now HIT PARADE OF 1947
“The Short Happy Life of Francis Macomber” (UA) now WITHOUT HONOR

PICTURES STARTED LAST WEEK

MGM

MONOGRAM
Casio and the Angel—Principals: Gilbert Roland, Yul Brynner, Paul Kelly, Director, Peter Stewart.

PARAMOUNT
Adventure Island (Cinecolor)—Principals: John Wayne, Vera Ralston, Director, Will Crannell.

RKO
Tarzan and the Huntress—Principals: John Wayne, Brenda Joyce, Johnny Sheffield, Director, Ewing Scott.

20TH-FOX

UNITED ARTISTS
Hoppy’s Holiday—Principals: William Boyd, Mary Wayne, Director, George Archainbaud.

WARNER BROS.
Night into Night—Principals: Viveca Lindfors, Ronald Reagan, Bruce Bennett, Director, Don Siegel.

ADVANCE DATA
On Forcoming Product

BOB, SON OF BATTLE (Fox) Technicolor—Principals: Peggie Ann Garner, Lon McCallister, Director, Louis King. Plot: This is the story of a young farm boy and his beloved dog, who is accosted by the sheep herds of killing their flock. When the boy quarrels with his father, he goes to a neighbor’s home for help. The old man is forced to kill his dog, and father and son pack up their differences.

THAT’S MY GAL (Rep) Tracolor—Principals: Lynne Roberts, Donald Barry, Director, George Blair. Plot: Three criminal crooks buy a burlesque show in a small town, making it a vale for selling 250 per cent of the stock in it, knowing that the mob can’t afford to buy—open and the three men will have all the dough. Their plans backfire when one of them falls for a girl who makes a success of the show, and he goes straight for her but he gives out their financial troubles by buying up all the phoney stock they sold.

CONT. ON NEXT PAGE

CONT. ON NEXT PAGE
### MISCELLANEOUS

- **Comings**: Appointment in Tokyo (Wa)
  - Documentary: 54 /b2/45

- **Beast With Five Fingers**: H. A. Alpert
  - Kipps, L. L. 74 /b12/45

- **Cry Wolf**: Errol Flynn-Barbara Stanwyck
  - Prescott: 74 /b23/45

- **Escape Me Never**: E. Flynn-Lupino-G. Young
  - Zanuck: 74 /b23/45

- **Honeymoon**: Errol Flynn-William Powell
  - Alpert: 75 /b23/45

- **Love and Learn**: Jack Carson-Robert Hutton
  - Zanuck: 75 /b28/45

- **My Man Jeeves**: Campbell
  - Zanuck: 76 /b26/45

- **Never Say Goodbye**: Errol Flynn-Eleanor Parker
  - Zanuck: 76 /b23/45

- **Orange Blossom Trail**: Richard Egan
  - Zanuck: 76 /b23/45

- **Pastorale**: T. J. B. 96 /b23/45

- **Peyton Place**: F. E. Grant
  - Zanuck: 77 /b28/45

- **The Time, the Place & the Girl**: D. Morgan-J. Carson-W. Smith
  - Zanuck: 77 /b28/45

### AIDEDNESS CLASSIFICATIONS OF NATIONAL REVIEW COMMITTEES

This is a new service feature which will be expanded. Its purpose is to supply theatremen with the classification data, in aid of selection, of national reviews of pictures in the industry. This information should be filed for reference when a picture is played in order to that in advertising, as well as for protection of local groups or individuals, in cases where it may involve the suitability of a given feature for showing to children as determined not by himself or any industry agency but by organizations maintained for the public.

<table>
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<th>Feature</th>
<th>National Board of Review</th>
<th>Schools M. P. Committee</th>
<th>National Legion of Decency</th>
<th>General Federation of Women's Clubs</th>
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<td>Objectionable in Part</td>
<td>Mature Family</td>
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<td>G. I. War D.</td>
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<td>Objectionable in Part</td>
<td>Mature Family</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roll on Texas M.</td>
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<td>General Patronage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Invisible Informer</td>
<td>Nature</td>
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</table>

### NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW

- **Photo Color**: Louie Oberlander-W. Ward 74 /b20/45
- **Battle for Music**: Philadelphia 74 /b20/45
- **Curley**: Frances O'Callery-Hal Roach 12-12/45
- **Fabulous Joe**: William Beaudine-H. Hooper 12-12/45
- **Here Comes Trouble**: H. Hooper 12-12/45
- **Journey Together**: G. Robinson-B. Love 12-12/45
- **Love on the Door**: Deborah Kerr-Clifford Evans 12-12/45
- **Open City**: P. Weir 12-12/45
- **Pecadillo Incident**: Anna Neagle-M. Wilding 12-12/45
- **Swing, Cowboy, Swing**: Dean L. Sykes 12-12/45
- **Who Killed Doc Robins**: E. S. T. 12-12/45

### NATIONAL LEGION OF DECENCY

- **Photo Color**: W. Ward 74 /b20/45
- **Battle for Music**: Philadelphia 74 /b20/45
- **Curley**: H. Hooper 12-12/45
- **Fabulous Joe**: H. Hooper 12-12/45
- **Here Comes Trouble**: H. Hooper 12-12/45
- **Journey Together**: G. Robinson-B. Love 12-12/45
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- **Swing, Cowboy, Swing**: Dean L. Sykes 12-12/45
- **Who Killed Doc Robins**: E. S. T. 12-12/45
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